

BEHOLD,
HOW
Good
AND
Pleasant
IT IS WHEN
GOD'S PEOPLE
dwell IN *unity!*

PSALM 133:1

*First
Presbyterian
Church*



First Presbyterian Church

November 19, 2023

You are invited to stand if able

Items in **bold** are congregational responses

– ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME–

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

JOYS AND SORROWS

Bobbi Jo Huebner

PRELUDE AND PREPARATION

As we have gathered to thank and praise you, O God who calls us friends, we bring all those things that draw us away, that seek our attention, and lay them at your feet, that we might hear your words and be filled with your Spirit of mercy and grace. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Led by Liturgist

Leader: How good it is, and how lovely,
when friends live together as one.

**People: How lovely the home where your presence dwells,
God of all creation.**

Leader: Happy the people you have inspired, who journey
through life, with you in their heart.

**People: Who have known both sadness and tears, and covered
them with blessings, like springs of water.**

OPENING PRAYER

Liturgist

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and cherish all those we call friends. Amen.

HYMN: "We Gather Together" Blue 559

INVITATION TO RECONCILIATION Bobbi Jo Huebner
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins.

CHORUS "Spirit of the Living God" Blue 322

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION Led by Bobbi Jo Huebner**
Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what your created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***KYRIE: *Lord, have mercy upon us;
Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.***

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON Bobbi Jo Huebner**
Christ entered the world to rescue sinners.
God's mercy never ends.
I tell you, in the name of Jesus Christ,
We are forgiven. Amen

***GLORIA PATRI:**
***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.***

***SHARING THE PEACE:**

May the peace of God be with you.

And also with you.

FIVE-MINUTE FELLOWSHIP—Greet your neighbor.

GATHERING CHORUS “The Family of God” Screen

I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God.

I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood.

Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,

I'm a part of the family, the family of God.

– PROCLAIM THE WORD OF GOD –

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Led by Liturgist

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit that we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

PSALM

Psalm 133

Liturgist

GOSPEL:

John 15:9-17

Bobbi Jo Huebner

SERMON:

“Friendsgiving”

HYMN:

“I've Found a Friend”

Red #220

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles Creed

CHORUS “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” Screen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO STEWARDSHIP

There are many signs we claim for our faith, but ultimately it is our active love that reveals whom we worship. As the plate comes around commit to give your whole selves.

OFFERTORY

Joe Balogh

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God, above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Led by Liturgist

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us and what we have gathered in feeding the world with your love; through the One who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN:

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Blue 403

BENEDICTION

May Almighty God bless, preserve, and keep us today and forevermore. God in peace to love and serve the Lord. Amen!

RESPONSE: Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen!

– GO OUT TO SHARE THE WORD OF GOD –

Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Leroy Walters from the Walters family.



THOSE SERVING AMONG US TODAY

Liturgist today is Dave Neel

Greeter today was Patty Gillon

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

TODAY: Worship at 10 am

TUESDAY: Food & Fellowship from 11 am -1 pm

Valdessaeri's pickup from 12:30- 2 pm

THURSDAY: Free Thanksgiving dinner from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Workers needed between 9 am to 2 pm

FRIDAY: Office Closed

NEXT SUNDAY: Worship at 10 am; 2 cents a meal offering

Last Sunday's Attendance: 27

Last Sunday's Offering \$735



To make a onetime gift or to sign up for our online giving program, scan this QR code with your mobile device. All donations are processed through the Presbyterian Foundation and VANCO Giving Services is secure and protected.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Nov. 20- Bob Roskovich
Nov. 21- Erin Exley
Nov. 22- Barb Peters
Nov. 24- Joe Kosko
Nov. 26- Dennis Peters
Nov 29- Nora Gibson
Nancy Koons

Nov 29- Becky Moravec
Nov 30- J.T. Mateka
Dec. 1- Maxine Brownlee
Dec 1- Dave Neel
Dec 2- Judy Latchem
Dec 2- B. J. Thomas

Nov. 21- John & Nancy Koons
Nov. 23- Mike & Jennifer Metikosh
Nov. 23- Jeff & Kathy Bevan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR VACATION: Rev. Mary Kay will be on vacation, returning home late on Wednesday, November 22nd. If you need pastoral care, feel free to call Pastor Don Glunt at 724-912-9140. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: Poinsettia orders must be in as soon as possible or by November 26th, at the latest, to ensure availability. We will order from Martins once again. Poinsettias will be \$10 each, and the color choices are red, pink, white, and jingle bells (speckled). Please fill out a form and place it in the offering plate, call the church office and leave a message, or email Natalie at office@fpresbv.org. Susan Aten will be able to answer your questions, as well. Please send the message to those who aren't in worship today.



SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE: Once again this year we will be purchasing gifts for under-privileged children in our community through the Salvation Army. We will receive and display 25 tags which you can choose to bless a child at Christmas. All gifts will need to be at the church by Monday, December 10th. We will deliver them to the Salvation Army on Monday, Dec. 11th.



ANGEL TREE

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The congregational meeting has been postponed due to several circumstances. The new date for our meeting will be Sunday, December 10th, following worship. Please plan to be there. We will be electing deacons and elders and accepting the pastor's terms of call for 2024. Nominees will be published next week.

ROSTRAVER FOOD PANTRY: Donations to Westmoreland Food Bank (where we get our food) have been down recently. Anything you can donate to help your neighbors would be greatly appreciated, especially during this holiday season.

MINISTERIUM THANKSGIVING DINNER: The annual dinner will once again be at our facility on Thanksgiving Day, with the ability to eat in or take out. Pastor will be back and will join in with the event.

Help is needed as follows: Wednesday the 22nd, 2-4 pm—need help with preparing food, setting up tables and such, packaging rolls and other items for to-go orders, etc.

Thursday the 23rd. Beginning at 7:30 – 8 am, we will be making sides and packaging sides, setting up, etc. Dinner will be served 11:30 am-1:30 pm, so we need servers and “wait staff,” and we need help with cleanup after 1:30 so we can all get home to our families. If you cannot join us, financial donations to defray the cost would be welcomed. Thank you for your help and support as we reach out to those who are lonely and hungry on this special day.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING: We will be decorating the church for Christmas on the morning of Saturday, December 2nd. ***MEN: We need the decorations to be brought down between now and the 2nd.*** Contact Linda Aten (HOA) for decorating times.

HELPING ONE ANOTHER (HOA) CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON:

Ladies of the church, join us for our annual Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 7th at **1 pm** in the fellowship hall. This will be a covered dish luncheon, so feel free to bring your favorite dish. We will also have a gift exchange. Each women should bring a gift valued at \$10 to share. To register, or for questions, contact Donna Sichi or Linda Aten.

SESSION MEETING HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED TO Wednesday evening, November 29th at 6 pm. Please notify the office or pastor if you are not available to attend. Zoom will be available for those who wish to join in from home, and handouts will need to be in the office by Wednesday morning so they can be posted for the meeting.

Love one
♥ ANOTHER ♥
as I have
LOVED
you
-JOHN 15:12

PRAYER LIST

Please remember the following people in your thoughts and prayers.
Please call the office with prayer needs, updates, and questions
or e-mail the church at.

† Lisa Aten † Kaiden Bane † Nuncio Battista † Dolores Beatty †
Bill Behrens † Joann Bellora † Mary Lou Berish
† Bob & Carol Berish † Carl Boone † Garret Brigs † Frank Britton
† Cameron Burnardza † Joe Burnsworth † Colin † Sally Callaway †
Sally Campbell † Carol Carcella † Milana (Berish) Cerniga †
Chloe Chachaula † Rev. Ian Chikoti † Nancy Craig †
Glenn Crownover † Darla † Rich & Kathy Davies † Sandy Davis †
Carol Driver † Sandy Elder † MaryAnn Falk † Norm Floyd †
Howard Forsyth † Janis Garofalo † Louise Gerber † Glenn Hart †
Sarah Hepple & Baby † Brittany Heckathorn † Wayne Helster †
Frieda Hilman † Patti Huyck † Diane Johnston † Zoey Johnson †
Janet † June Kefover † Donna Kearns † Cameron Kennedy
† Irene Leyda † Mike Lemley † Vivian Grant Lewis † Gordon Lucas
† Ronnie Lynn † Laura Martin † J.T. Mateka † Taylor McGee †
Bruce Merritt † Dean Migliori † Phil Morrow † Lynette Murray
† Betsy Neel † Mary Caroline Nicholas † Jim Palfrey † Scott Palfrey
† Marguerite Patterson † Marge Pawlaski † Nora Pelezar †
Helen Pulgino † Dennis Raymer † Dorothy Rogers † Alina Shaw
† Linda Shuler † Chris Sicora † Rose Smarachek † Toi Smith
† Walter Smith † Gianna Smoyer † Ginger Thorp † Jared Tragemba
† Sandy Walters † Joseph Waywood †

**Pray for the safety and protection of First Responders
(police, fire, EMTs), Military Personnel, Medical Personnel,
Caregivers who deplete themselves caring for others,
those affected by senseless violence and war,
and those affected by natural disasters,
especially those on Maui affected by the fires and winds.**

*(If you have a prayer concern or to update the list, please call the office at
724-929-7616 or fill out a prayer card and place in the offering plate)*



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of Belle Vernon

501 Fayette Avenue, Rostraver Twp., PA 15012

Church Offices: 511 Fayette Avenue

Office Hours: M - F: 9:00 to 1:00

Church Phone: 724- 929-7616

Fax and Fellowship Hall Phone: 724-929-0209

Pastor's Cell Phone: 724-243-2871

Web: www.fpresbv.org **e-mail:** office@fpresbv.org

Pastor:	Mary Kay Glunt	243-2871
Clerk of Session:	Sharon Zunic	929-4463
Church Secretary:	Natalie Brewer	929-7616
Organist:	Joe Balogh	
Chairman of Deacons:	Susan Aten	929-6406
Head Usher:	Bill Callaway	929-5176
Custodian:	Patty Gillon	929-7616
H. O. A:	Linda Aten	929-6406

E L D E R S

Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Sharon Zunic Jane Bonari Mary Beth Burkley	Lori Lamberski Carol Tragesser David Burdis	

D E A C O N S

Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Marguerite Patterson Dennis Peters Patty Gillon Eileen Kunca	Jessica Phillabaum Dave Neel	Susan Aten Fred Exley June Exley Barb Moskala

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We live and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship, service, and witness.

As a Christ-centered church empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek God's plan for each of us and all of us. We welcome everyone to journey with us as we strive to grow in love, faith, trust, and discipleship.

(Adopted October 10, 1998; revised February 2, 2013)