

First Presbyterian News

March 2024

401 Lincolnway East

Mishawaka, IN. 46544

As we step into the heart of March, a month brimming with spiritual significance, I am reminded of a poignant film that encapsulates the essence of embracing life's journey. Perhaps you've seen it—"The Bucket List", starring Morgan Freeman and Jack Nicholson. In this heartwarming comedy-drama, Jack Nicholson takes on the role of Edward Cole, a wealthy businessman, while Morgan Freeman portrays Carter Chambers, a blue-collar worker. Faced with a terminal illness, these two unlikely friends set out on a global adventure to fulfill their bucket lists.

The cinematic story not only entertains but also prompts us to think about our own bucket lists. If your time on Earth was limited, how would you want to live and what dreams would you include on your bucket list?

Before the festive Passover celebration, Jesus sensed that the time had come for Him to leave this world and return to the Father. He deeply cherished those who were with him, loving them wholeheartedly until the end. As they gathered for supper, Jesus rose from the table, took off his outer robe, and wrapped a towel around Himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around Him.

Upon witnessing this, Peter found it hard to believe what was unfolding before him.

Turning to Jesus, he asked, "**Lord, are going to wash my feet?**" Jesus answered, "**You do not know what I am doing, but later you will understand.**" Peter protested, saying, "**I won't let you wash my feet.**"

Jesus replied in a gentle voice, "**Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.**"

Once Jesus finished washing their feet, put on his robe, and returned to the table, He addressed them saying, "**Do you understand what I've just done for you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and rightly so, for that is who I am. If I, your Teacher and Lord have washed your feet, you should also wash one another's feet.**"

On the evening before His crucifixion, which marked His final hours on earth, Jesus humbly washed His disciples' feet. Foot washing might be considered a significant item on Jesus' spiritual "bucket list". He washed His disciples' feet with the intention of expressing His love for them.

Jesus' love for His disciples extends beyond the end of His earthly life; it is timeless and boundless, knowing no limits. Later Jesus said to His disciples, "**I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you should also love one another.**"

In the spirit of Jesus' commandment to love one another, what actions can we take to demonstrate love to those around us? As we progress through Lent and approach Holy Week, let's ponder the significance of Jesus' actions and words: "**I have washed your feet, I have loved you; therefore, you should also wash one another's feet and love one another.**"

The common notion of a bucket list often revolves around personal aspirations, but Jesus encourages a life dedicated to serving and sacrificing for others.

Now, what's on your spiritual bucket list?

Blessings, Pastor Daniel



Presbyterian Women at First Presbyterian Church, Mishawaka



Presbyterian Women Circles

Each Circle meets once a month—Elizabeth is on the 3rd Monday of each month, Ruth is on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Circles meet at 7 p.m.

A list of dates and times can be found on the church bulletin board. If you find yourself free, you are welcome to join us.

March 16th we have our joint Bible study at 10 a.m. with a Carry in brunch. PWCT will meet at 9 a.m. for our monthly meeting.

Gifts of women Sunday will be April 7th. Our speaker will be Jennifer Burns Lewis. PW will host fellowship.

We will also be collecting for our birthday offering and for school supplies for our daughter, Rica, in the Philippines.

Upcoming Purse Project



Presbyterian Women's Purse Project was a huge success last year! We donated purses, filled with all kinds of goodies, to St. Margaret's House for homeless and abused women. We are doing it again this year. Please clean out your purse collection and donate your gently used purses for this worthwhile project. Ask your friends as well! There will be a box in Fellowship Hall for your donated purses. PW will be handing out purses on April 7th and will collect the filled purses on April 14th. Below is a suggested list of items for the purse:

soap or shower gel, deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste, Kleenex, feminine products, nail polish, chap stick, shampoo and conditioner, travel aspirin, comb, brush, notepad and pen, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, gum, mints, hand cream, and sunglasses.

Thanks so much for supporting PW and their mission projects.

Upper Room News

Thank You to all who helped make the 2023 Season a huge success. We made \$5,174 with our Upper Room sales and we brought in \$4,760 with our Bake Sale. Because of this huge success, we donated \$4,400 back to the community and we upped our Celebration Giving to \$3,000 for the 2024 year.

The Community Groups that we donated to included:

MAC Food Pantry, Mishawaka Food Pantry, St. Margaret's House, Unity Gardens, Busy Hands, Sew Loved, Resale to the Rescue, Ronald McDonald House, Malawi Matters, Cultivate Food Rescue, Hope Ministry, Rosie's Place, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.



We are now accepting items for the upcoming Upper Room sale in March.

Our Upper Room sales are a big success and now we need more stuff, so we are accepting items for the upper room sale!! Please remember that when you donate items, be sure to check them to make sure that they are clean and damage free.

If you are interested in helping to sort, price, or work during the Work/Sale Days, please join us! We always welcome extra hands.

Work Days: *Saturday, March 2nd from 10-Noon, Wednesday, March 13th form 10-Noon*

Sale Days: *Friday, March 22nd and Saturday March 23rd from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.*

Thank you for your continued support in helping to make the Upper Room the best it can be!

Donations to the Food Pantry—we collected 19 lbs in January and 62.6 lbs in February.

Let’s not forget to add food to the shopping cart for MAC and Food Pantries

Generally, donations decrease during the summer months, but the USDA donations have also decreased, and some items they are not able to purchase at the Food Bank. This means paying more at stores.

Staple products:

Cereal, Soup, canned Vegetables and Fruit, Pasta, canned Beans, and easy to cook foods are the best donations. Jell-O is also a hard to get product. But all donations are appreciated, including toiletry items. They are feeding 60-75 families.

*Nothing perishable and please watch for expiration dates.



MAC Mishawaka

Mission—Our Faith in Action



Thank you for your donation to the **Christmas Joy Offering**, we collected \$794.

The **One Great Hour of Sharing** is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. This offering has been making a huge impact on the lives of so many here at home and around the globe! It has provided Presbyterians a way to share God’s love with our neighbors in need around the world.

We will collect the offering on Palm Sunday—April 24th.

Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing—*Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People*—all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Thank you in advance for your gifts given on Palm Sunday!!

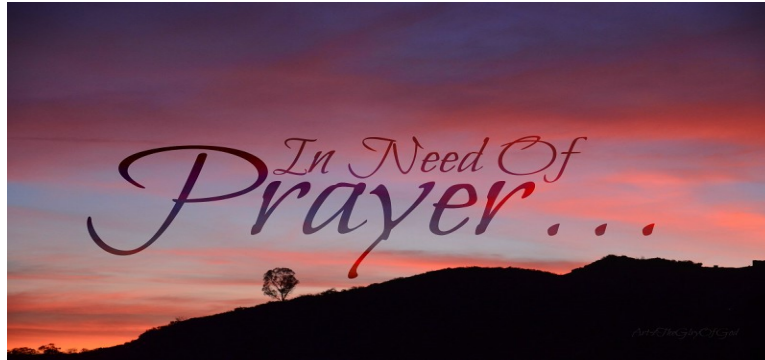
Mission Committee

We have been invited by FPC South Bend to participate in a “Living Matthew 25—2024” event:

Spring into Service—Welcome Kits for Guests of Residential Agencies. The goal is to prepare 150 kits, about 15-20 each for the following agencies: *Center for the Homeless, Dismas House, Hope Ministries, Our Lady of the Road, St. Margaret’s House, Upper Room Recovery Community, Men’s Residence & Women’s House, and the YWCA.*



Our donation to the welcome kits will be **150 bottles of Conditioner** (full size bottles can be found at the dollar stores). Bottles due by Sunday, March 17th. We are also invited to attend a Community Partners’ Lunch at FPCSB on Thursday, March 21 (with the theme of a hunger update) at 11:30 a.m.—**more info to come on that.** We are also invited to attend the packing day on Saturday, March 23rd from 1-3 p.m. at Holy Cross College—Administration Building—Ave Crew Café, 54515 SR933 N.



- * Prayers for Ukraine; for Israel, Gaza, and all who are suffering – for peace in this crisis, bravery for the coming days, protection & comfort for all those impacted, and for wisdom to all world leaders making decisions
- * For all those who have Covid
- *For those who experience emotional crises/mental distress or struggle with addictions, prayers for successful treatment/help with coping skills
- * For Elizabeth, Anna Bower’s sister, who was diagnosed with meningitis and also suffers with bone cancer. Prayers for correct treatment and God’s peace & comfort.
- *For Sam Watson, friend of Teresa Primmer & Lynett Heritz, who suffered a heart attack & collapsed. Prayers for complete & successful healing
- *For Mary Ann Dentino's mother, Betty and sister, Carol who were in the hospital with health issues. Prayers for healing, speedy recovery, and comfort; for Mary Ann as well the caregivers
- *Prayers for comfort & strength for Kevin Finley's family
- * For those with heart issues, including Kevin Finley and Joan Horvath – prayers for successful treatment, comfort, & healing
- * For those with cancer including Lynett Heritz's friend, Rex, Greg Phillips' friend, Jon, and Katie Robertson's friend, Sharon, and for Gary Beckett (Grandfather of Victoria Green’s boyfriend, Josh) -prayers for effective treatment, comfort, peace, and acceptance
- * For continued prayers for those who have ongoing needs including our homebound members – Jack Bruner, Janet Freeman, Esther Morrison, and Kathy Bellairs – who always appreciate cards or phone calls
- * Also prayers, we hold within our hearts, for those names we have left unspoken, but whom God knows.

INFORMATION



Teresa Primmer has a new e-mail address:
gigiprimmer@gmail.com

INFORMATION



Church Staff

Pastor Daniel Cho
vision80cho@gmail.com
Office Manager Katie Robertson
fpcmishawaka@gmail.com
Financial Secretary Joan Horvath
joanfpcmishawaka@gmail.com
Custodian John McLean
jmmclean52@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Pastor hours: Tuesday thru Thursday 9 to noon
Secretary hours: Tuesday thru Friday 9 to noon
Financial Secretary hours: Monday & Thursday 9 to noon;
June-September: Tuesday 9-noon
Custodian hours: Monday thru Friday 7 to noon
Contact us at (574) 259-7874 or fpcmishawaka@gmail.com
MAIL ADDRESS: First Presbyterian Church-Mishawaka
P.O. Box 744 Mishawaka, Indiana 46546

Church Officers and Committees

Session:

Clerk of Session: Teresa Primmer
Christian Education: Darlene Seufert
Facilities/Operations: Chuck Wukovits
Finance: John Rice, treasurer
Mission: Carole Polk
Personnel: Mary Watt
Worship and Music: Vicky Garret

Board of Deacons:

Moderator: Lynett Heritz
Bill Bellairs, Angela Bellinger, Jenn Frey,
Teresa Primmer, Jim Stanz

Book Club: Judy Green

Newsletter: Katie Robertson

Prayer Chain: Lynett Heritz

PW: Moderators—Chris Wukovits and
Judy Green

Special Gifts: Ron May

Book Club

Book Club: **March 24th** at 2:00 p.m. is TBD
at Judy Green's



Book Club: **April** at 2:00 p.m. is TBD

Thanks, Judy Green

Worship & Music

Greetings from worship and music,



With Holy Week and Easter upon us, this tends to be a busy time of the year liturgically. We will be having choir rehearsals at 9 a.m. on the following Sundays:

March 3rd, March 10th, March 17th, March 24th, and March 31st.



TODDLER ROOM SCHEDULE

March... Pam Martz

April... Angela Bellinger

Please Send information for the April Newsletter to Katie Robertson by March 15th. fpcmishawaka@gmail.com Thank you!

Palm Sunday is March 24th. Maundy Thursday Service, March 28th at 7:30 p.m.

We are also invited to a combined Good Friday Service on March 29th at 7p.m. This will be held at Grace United Methodist Church, 3012 S. Twyckenham Drive South Bend, IN.

They are also hoping to have a combined choir consisting of various choir members from each church. Please be on the lookout for more details.

Easter Sunday is March 31st

Blessings to all!
Worship & Music team



HOLY WEEK

Worship 10 am



March



Fellowship 11 am

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Upper Room workday 10-Noon
3 3rd Sunday of Lent Choir Rehearsal 9 a.m. Greeter..Bill Bellairs Usher..Ethan DeMaegd Michael Green W.L. Alan Camren	4	5	6 Lenten Book Study 6:15 p.m.	7	8 QoV 9 a.m. till 2 p.m.	9
10 4th Sunday of Lent Choir Rehearsal 9 a.m. Greeter..Teresa Primmer Usher..Carole Polk, Greg Phillips W.L. Judy Sulak Deacons Meeting after worship	11 C.E. Meeting at 6:30 p.m.	12	13 Upper Room workday 10-Noon Lenten Book Study 6:15 p.m.	14	15 * Newsletter Deadline	16 Joint PWCT Meeting 9 a.m. Joint Bible Study/Carry-in Brunch at 10 .m.
17 5th Sunday of Lent Choir Rehearsal 9 a.m. Greeter..Ethan DeMaegd Usher..Michael Green, Judy Sulak W.L. Pam Camren Worship & Music Meeting after worship Annual Congregational Meeting after worship Conditioner Bottles due	18	19	20 Lenten Book Study 6:15 p.m.	21 Community Partners' Lunch at FPCSB at 11:30 a.m.	22 Upper Room Sale 9 a.m. till 1 p.m.	23 Upper Room Sale 9 a.m. till 1 p.m. Packing day at Holy Cross College 1 p.m.—3 p.m.
24 Palm Sunday Choir Rehearsal 9 a.m. Greeter.. Usher..Ryan Frey W.L. Chris Wukovits	25	26	27 Lenten Book Study 6:15 p.m.	28 Communion * Maundy Thursday Service at 7:30 p.m. Usher..Carole Polk, Michael Green W.L. Dyan Phillips	29 	30
31 Easter Sunday Choir Rehearsal 9 a.m. Greeter.. Usher..Carole Polk, Greg Phillips W.L. Darlene Seufert						