

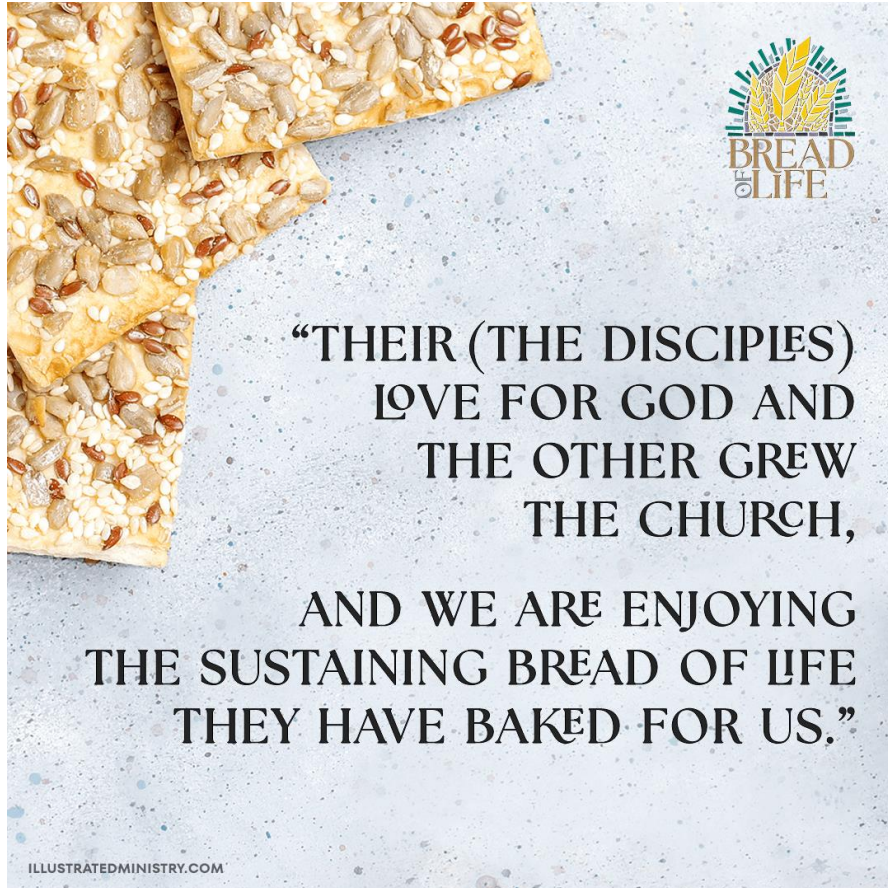
# First Presbyterian Church

Ninth at Washington, Michigan City, Indiana

March 16, 2025

10:00 A.M.

2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT



## THE WORSHIP OF OUR LORD

† † †

*\* Indicates those who are able, please stand*

† † †

## WE GATHER BEFORE GOD

† WELCOME – WORSHIP – CELEBRATE – SERVE †

PRELUDE: “Lamentation”

H. Purcell

### WELCOME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP: (Please join in unison)

One: Calling all who are hungry for the goodness of life!

**All: *The bread of life satisfies our hunger and thirst.***

One: Come with empty pockets and open hands!

**All: *The bread of life loves us and knows our needs.***

One: Let us gather from all walks of life, celebrating in unity our common needs and singular purpose.

**All: *The bread of life has come to sustain us. Believing this promise, let us worship together!***

\*HYMN #2236 “Gather Us In” (Sing the Faith hymnal)

OPENING PRAYER (Please join in unison)

***God, our mother hen, we gather beneath your ever-expanding wings to see how you will meet us today. Though we grow and mature, we cannot outgrow your love. Though our belief grows more complex, your mysteries always outpace our imaginations. Help us grow and mature today as we worship, delighting in new understanding and greater depth of meditation. Cause our hearts, empowered by your Spirit, to expand like dough becoming bread. Amen.***

## WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD’S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION (Spoken by liturgist)

Often, we allow our imaginations and our work to be confined, limiting the scope of God’s reach. Let us confess our sins and commit ourselves to God’s ever-expanding purposes.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Please join in unison)

***God Most High, who knows the highest heights and deepest valleys of this universe, we confess we have limited your work because of our small thinking. While you long for the bread of life to expand and nourish all creation, our fears and worries keep us contained. While you long to create kingdoms of peace and reconciliation, we draw lines between us. While you make space for everyone, we worry about sharing too much or being too vulnerable. While you search tirelessly for lost lambs, we focus our concern inward on our own issues. Forgive us for our small perspective, and open our minds to the big ideas you have for our future. Amen.***

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Paul writes, “There is no one who is righteous, not even one.”

**All: *Yet in Christ, we are forgiven, justified, and transformed to carry on in the way of love and justice.***

Pastor: Savor the good news of this pardon and be at peace.

**All: *Amen.***

\*SINGING GOD’S GLORY: Gloria Patri “Glory to the Father” #567 (Please join in unison)

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen Amen Amen.***

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF GOD (Please join in unison)

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us all forgive one another, and pass the peace of Christ to each other. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: *And also with you!***

## PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor: Beneath the mantle of peace, Jesus, the bread of life, provides a bounty of fellowship, care, and connection. May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Take a moment to greet others with the peace of Christ, which inspires us to care for the needs of our community.

(Worshippers are invited to turn to others and safely show signs of peace by giving a nod, a smile, or a hand gesture of peace).

## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Children's Sermon

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Please join in unison)

***God, may the scriptures we read today become living bread. May your Spirit empower them to shape us in Jesus' likeness. Give us wisdom as we interpret these words of scripture; may they nourish our minds and souls. Amen***

FIRST READING:

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Bread and Life"

SECOND READING:

Luke 13:18-21

SERMON: "Growing Faith"

Reverend Dr. Ericka Parkinson Kilbourne

Children are excused for Sunday school

Please join Ms. Judy and Ms. Sue in the lobby to walk up together as a group.

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (Join in unison)

***We believe the kingdom of God is like baker's yeast, thorough and unstoppable, spreading and rising over time. We believe the bread of life is enough for all creation, enough for the hungry, the weak, and the poor. We believe Jesus is the bread of life, broken and shared with all who will receive it. We believe the bread of life cannot be limited to our finite imaginations. The bread of life is making all things new. Thanks be to God! Amen.***

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE IN OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now"

E. Wyeth

Many ways to give and give back  paypal.com **click on link**

<https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/112574644767835624/charity/3545525>

OR [Scan here:](#)



**First time visitors**-we would love to connect with you.

Please text "welcome" to 219-300-9867 and share your contact information with us.

\*Doxology Song #592

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH (Announcements)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, ending with Our Lord's Prayer (together, using "debts")

**WE GO OUT IN GRATITUDE TO SERVE IN GOD'S NAME**

\*Hymn #2150 "Lord, Be Glorified" (Sing the Faith hymnal)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE: "Marche Solennelle"

*R. Koury*

SHARE OUR PRAYERS WITH:

For each of us to share the Gospel with someone this week:

- Don Bowman, Dave Dougherty, Sandy Dougherty, Levon McEwan, Johanna Miller, Barb Reichert, Mary Steider and Donna Wiseman for health needs.
- Pray for our Military and their families.
- AmeriCorps and Peace Corps workers and their families.

**GUESTS AND VISITORS**

We are delighted to welcome you and worship with you today!

**First time visitors** we would love to connect with you. Please text "welcome" to 219-300-9867 and share your contact information with us.



**The CHANCEL FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God from Peggy McAnally and Michele Bartels in celebration of St. Patrick's Day and their Irish heritage.

**SERVING TODAY**

Ministers  
Preacher  
Organist  
Liturgist  
Youth Liturgist  
Greeters  
Usher  
Video and Sound Team

All Members of the Congregation  
Reverend Dr. Ericka Parkinson Kilbourne  
Carol Garrett  
Ree Labaj  
Jerry Kilbourne  
Peggy McAnally  
Debbie Langley  
Stan Holdcraft, Rylie Thornton  
and Antoinette Jackson



**MEMORIALS/DONATION**

No donations were received this week.  
We are always thankful for your kindness.



**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**  
**Wishing you Very Happy Day!**

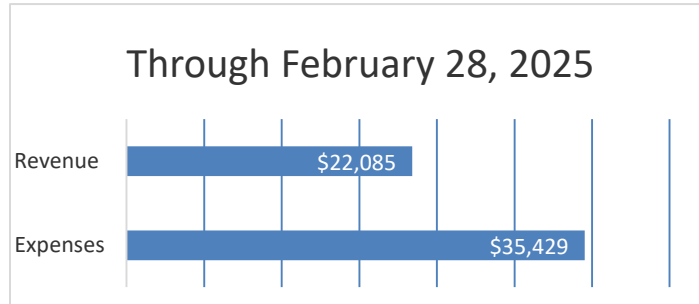
March 03 Brenda Branch  
March 06 Stan Holdcraft  
March 07 Amy McDaniel  
March 10 Mary Jo McDonald  
March 13 Jennifer Blank  
March 15 Rick Blank  
March 19 Joleen Jackson



March 20 Walt Barbknecht  
March 24 Thea Mosher  
March 25 Sean Towle  
March 26 Nicholas Simpson  
March 28 Andrea Gasaway  
March 29 Linda Jackson

# CHURCH CHAT

(Any or all information is subject to change without notification)



## EASTER LILY

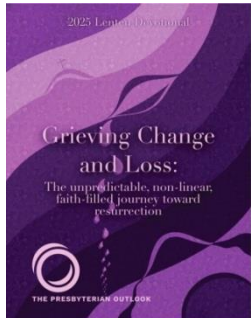
The order form to purchase a lily is by the usher's table. The cost this year is \$13.00 each. Unfortunately, the florist needs our order by March 18<sup>th</sup> so the **deadline** for you to turn your money and completed form into the office is **March 17<sup>th</sup>**. They will be in the sanctuary beginning April 19<sup>th</sup> and you take yours with you after service beginning April 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have questions, please contact the office.

## TODAY'S COFFEE HOUR



Two Irish lassies along with the Mission Committee invite you to an especially green coffee hour this morning. Look forward to seeing you all there for some treats and a wee bit o' banter!

## GRIEF GROUP



"For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance," (Ecclesiastes 3:1-4)

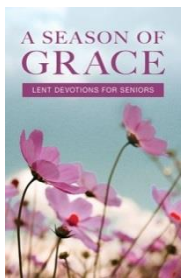
This spring, Pastor Ericka is hosting a Grief Group, which will meet twice a month on Sundays, after worship. Whether your grief is new or has been for many years, whether you are grieving a loved one or a situation, our God offers compassion through scripture, prayer, and through conversation with others. Copies of the "Grieving Change Loss" Lenten devotional are available in the Narthex for your personal use or for use in a group. If you would like to join and attend, please speak with Janice Casper, Brock Vinson, or Pastor Ericka.

## Presbyterian Coffee Project Relaunch!



The Mission Committee is excited to relaunch the *Presbyterian Coffee Project* through the Equal Exchange program! This **Fair Trade** initiative ensures that small-scale farmers receive fair prices, work in safe conditions, and sustain their communities. By choosing Fair Trade coffee, you're supporting ethical practices that align with our faith values. (Scan the QR code below!)

*"Speak out, judge righteously, and defend the rights of the poor and needy." —Proverbs 31:9*



## LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

The Outreach committee has a few extra Lenten Devotionals remaining from the bags we prepare for our senior at-home members. If you would like to purchase this little booklet for your own season of Lent, please see Michele Bartels or Peggy McAnally at church with \$2.00 in hand. First come, first served. Also, copies of Grieving Loss and Change Lenten Devotional and The Bread of Life Lenten Devotional (which corresponds with our Faith Formation classes and Sunday worship services) are also available in the Narthex.





- ❖ March 11 Tuesday 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 3B ( through March 27)
- ❖ March 12 Wednesday 10 a.m. Outreach meeting
- ❖ March 12 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
- ❖ March 13 Thursday 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 3B ( through March 27)
- ❖ March 13 Thursday 4:30 p.m. Mission meeting (Hybrid)
- ❖ March 14 Friday Office Closed **Pastor in by appointment**
- ❖ March 15 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ March 16 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ March 16 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent
- ❖ March 16 Sunday after worship, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Guest speaker, Dominique Edwards
- ❖ **March 17 Monday St. Patrick's Day**
- ❖ March 17 Monday PASTOR OFF
- ❖ March 17 Monday DEADLINE TO ORDER LILY(S)
- ❖ March 18 Tuesday 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 3B ( through March 27)
- ❖ March 18 Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Elizabeth Circle meeting
- ❖ March 19 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
- ❖ March 19 Wednesday 4 p.m. Deacon's meeting
- ❖ March 19 Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Session meeting
- ❖ March 20 Thursday 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 3B ( through March 27)
- ❖ March 20 Thursday 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts meeting
- ❖ March 21 Friday Office Closed **Pastor in by appointment**
- ❖ March 22 Saturday 9 a.m. visitation for Barbara Vinson, 11 a.m. service with a luncheon to follow
- ❖ March 22 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ March 23 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ March 23 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent-NOISY OFFERING
- ❖ March 23 Sunday Tweens meet after worship
- ❖ March 24 Monday PASTOR OFF
- ❖ March 25 Tuesday 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 3B ( through March 27)
- ❖ March 26 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
- ❖ March 27 Thursday 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 3B **(LAST FOR THIS SESSION)**
- ❖ March 28 Friday Office Closed **Pastor in by appointment**
- ❖ March 29 Saturday 9:30 a.m. Faith Formation bible study
- ❖ March 29 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ March 30 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ March 30 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

### **THE CHANCEL FLOWERS**

If you are interested, as of now, we have open dates on March 30<sup>th</sup>, June 1, June 8, June 15 June 29, July 6, July 20, July 27, August 3, August 17, August 24, August 31, October 5, October 19, October 26, November 9 and November 30. If you are interested in any of these dates, please contact the office. The cost is \$35.00. Thank you.

### **Coffee Hour Sign-Up**

Our 2025 Coffee Hour sign-up chart is posted on the Edith Boyd Lounge door, ready for you along with your family, friends, or committee to pick a date to sponsor coffee hour. Remember, it doesn't have to be extravagant. Coffee, a drink for the kids, and a treat is all that's needed. Most of the year is covered by the Women's Circles, Deacons, and the Mission Committee but every other third Sunday and the fifth Sundays need volunteers. It would be really great if one group would volunteer for all the 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays, there are 4. If you are willing to do this, see Jeanette Tyrrell. In the meantime please consider serving your fellow congregants by signing up for a coffee hour Sunday.

### **FOUND IN THE SANTUARY DURING RENOVATION**



The above pictures are the front and back of a coin found in the sanctuary during renovation. It is a St. Michaels Patron Saint of Law Enforcement coin. If it belongs to you or you know who it belongs to, please contact the office.



## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

For over 70 years, Presbyterians have joined together through OGHS, responding to Christ's call to serve "the least of these." This offering supports the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development of People ministry—bringing hope and tangible assistance to communities in need.

Through your generous gifts, we help rebuild lives after natural disasters, combat hunger and poverty, and empower communities to create lasting change. When we give, we proclaim that "God's love is overflowing"—reaching those in need and transforming lives.

### Ways to Give:

- During Worship: Use the OGHS blue-colored envelope.
- Online: Give securely at [pcusa.org/oghs](https://pcusa.org/oghs).
- By Mail: Send a check to the church with "OGHS" in the memo line.
- Text-to-Give: Text OGHS to 91999 to make a donation.

### A Special Invitation for Kids!

Children are also invited to participate in this offering through the "Gracie" fish banks! These colorful fish-shaped banks help teach children about giving and compassion. Kids can collect coins throughout Lent and bring their filled fish banks on as an offering of love and generosity.

Join us in making a difference! When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

*"And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work." — 2 Corinthians 9:8*

### SOUP KITCHEN ITEM OF THE MONTH



Our item for March to keep up with our Soup Kitchen inventory—is—**dish soap**. Thank you all for donating canned fruit throughout February. Please drop off your in-kind donations at the table near the coat racks in the Narthex. Monetary donations are welcome by designating them to the Soup Kitchen Fund.

*"My dear friends, since we have these promises, let's cleanse ourselves from anything that contaminates our body or spirit so that we make our holiness complete in the fear of God." — 2 Corinthians 7:1 (CEB)*



### ELEVATOR FUND CAMPAIGN

As of March 10<sup>th</sup>, the numbers are:



We anticipate the final cost of the project is going to come in around \$142,000 (about 8K under the original budget).



We have raised \$133,019 (includes a \$50K grant).

In order to avoid dipping into our savings, we are still looking to raise an additional \$25,000.

Please continue to donate to the elevator fund, and/or buy a brick or two for our heritage garden. Bricks are \$100.00 each and can be purchased via this link. You can also pick up a paper form at the display by the garden door or contact Diane for one. Thank you for your generosity!

<https://form.jotform.com/241926284623157>



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For prayer requests  
Contact Brian Spiece at  
[jspiece@hotmail.com](mailto:jspiece@hotmail.com)

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WiFi password: 1holyGod!

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