

January 2025

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

P.O. BOX 682, 120 S. PARK AVE, FREMONT, OH 43420 419-334-7171 WWW.FREMONTFPC.ORG

Dear Members and Friends of First Presbyterian,

In the process of researching material for the January newsletter, I came across a reflection of some meditations in my copy of the *Daily Feast* that was written by Dr. Rev. Thomas Henry Troeger who passed away less than three years ago at the age of seventy-seven after a life of serving others.

During that time, he was a hymn writer, preacher, professor, theologian, poet, musician, columnist, author, and ordained first in the Presbyterian Church and later in the Episcopal Church, which made him one of the first ministers in our nation to be dually aligned with both traditions.

Dr. Troeger was reflecting on the bible passage of Matthew 2:13-23 The Escape to Egypt and The Return to Nazareth. This passage takes up about a half page in our pew bible so I won't include it here, but I suggest that you read it and refresh your memories. But I found his reflection on this writing of Matthew's to be interestingly timely. Dr. Troeger's reflection is as follows:

"It is the custom in most homes and churches that set up manger scenes to take them down after Christmas and store them until the season returns next year. Matthew's account of the Holy Family's trials suggests that this is wrong. Perhaps we should put away all the shepherds because they returned to their fields, and put away all the magi because they returned to their distant home, but we should keep out Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Just the three of them all alone facing the terrors of a brutal despot. No visitors. No sheltering barn. No cuddly looking sheep. No friendly oxen. Then we should move the Holy Family to another location in our church or home. Perhaps to a window looking on the larger world, the world where there is still violence and repression and terror, and where there are refugees fleeing, needing protection, human beings in whom the Christ is crying to us for protection."
Thomas H. Troeger

Possibly you have a nativity scene in your home or church and might remove all of the comforting figures that protect the Holy Family and then move it to an isolated place of danger.

God, let us rest in your protection as we face the Herods of this world. Amen.

Bill Taylor

Clerk of Session

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2025 PER CAPITA

\$40.29

Neighbors' News



In Matthew 25:35 & 40, Jesus says "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Thanks to all who choose to put extra items on your grocery list to fill the containers in the Social Room. As always, please look for sales and help only as you are able.

(optional) - Dish Soap and/or Liquid Laundry Soap

January

5 - potatoes flakes

12 - mixed vegetables

19 - peaches

26 - soup or chili

Thanks for your help neighbor!
Rod and Linda Combs

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

If you are moving, have changed phone numbers, or have a new email address, please email those changes to the office at:

fremontfpc@gmail.com.

Thank you! Amy Monk, FPC Administrative Assistant

SATELLITES

We are going to Denny's on January 8th at 11:30 am.

You can call or text Anne Humberger @ 716-640-0122 to RSVP or for directions. Bring a friend!



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Doug, former pastor of First Presbyterian Church, and LuAnn Nagel announce the December 2024 birth of Weston Brooks Nagel, son of Andrew and Alyssa.

Congratulations to the Nagel family!

THE NEWSLETTER IS CHANGING!

This will be the last issue of the newsletter that will be for The First Presbyterian Church news alone. Beginning with the February issue, the newsletter will be a joint publication for both First Presbyterian and East Side news, announcements, and events.

To change how you receive your newsletter or to unsubscribe from our mailing list, please email the church office at:

fremontfpc@gmail.com

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP

✝ All Sunday Worship Services for First Presbyterian and East Side congregations will now be held at the East Side building located at 1020 Kentucky Ave in Fremont. Worship begins @ 10:30 a.m.

NEW FPC OFFICE HOURS

The FPC office will now be open **only** on Tuesdays. Normal hours should be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. but hours may sometimes vary, so feel free to call in advance. If a major holiday falls on a Tuesday, or if the secretary is ill, the office will be closed. Thank you!



January 2025

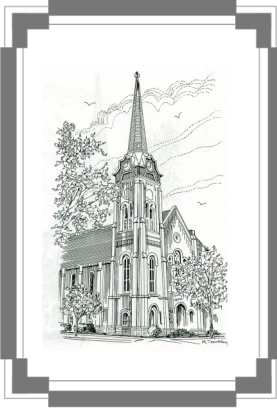
				1	2	3	4
5 10:30a - Worship @ East Side 5:00p - Vida Church @FPC	6 1:00p - Al-anon @FPC 7:00p - AA @FPC	7 5:00p - Vida Bible Study @FPC	8 11:30a - Satellites 7:00p - Session	9	10	11	
12 10:30a - Worship @ East Side 5:00p - Vida Church @FPC	13 1:00p - Al-anon @FPC 7:00p - AA @FPC	14 5:00p - Vida Bible Study @FPC	15 6:30p - Deacons	16	17	18	
19 10:30a - Worship @ East Side 5:00p - Vida Church @FPC	20 1:00p - Al-anon @FPC 7:00p - AA @FPC	21 5:00p - Vida Bible Study @FPC	22	23	24	25	
26 10:30a - Worship @ East Side 5:00p - Vida Church @FPC	27 1:00p - Al-anon @FPC 7:00p - AA @FPC	28 5:00p - Vida Bible Study @FPC	29	30	31		

Anniversaries

22 Larry & Barb Stout
28 Donn & Joyce Jones

Birthdays

3 Mary Ann Perry 15 Jeff Hall 26 Aaron Miarer
9 Courtney Miarer 17 Kyle Amor 28 Audine Leeper
11 Dick Adams 24 Jane Reinbolt 30 Helen Cominsky
13 Elizabeth Biller 25 Amanda Herman



First Presbyterian Church

THE SESSION

Dannita Cowdrey

Bob Gamble

Bob Humberger

Bill Taylor

Nicole Whetstone

THE CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM

Organist Emeritus

Paul Livingston

Secretary

Amy Monk

Children's Ministry
Coordinator

Nicole Whetstone

Co-Treasurers

Larry & Carol Van Dyne

Volunteer Parish Nurse

Linda Hamilton

Custodian

Scott Slatter

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

COORDINATING TEAM

Moderator

Dannita Cowdrey

Treasurer

Carol Van Dyne

Funeral Luncheon

Susan Myers

Rachel Circle

Dannita Cowdrey

At Large

Jo Elder

Lois Livingston

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Rod Combs

Melissa Detwiler

Anne Humberger

Susan Myers

Carolyn Taylor