



# FREDERICKSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**The Weekly Update**  
**Fredericksburg Presbyterian  
Church**  
**April 24, 2024**

This past weekend four of us from FPC traveled to Ripley, Ohio for the spring meeting of Great Lakes Presbytery. More than fifty other ECO church leaders were there as we worshiped, prayed, learned and met together to encourage one another and to do the business of the Presbytery.

After being in a Presbyterian church for almost twenty years, I have noticed that we often don't do a great job explaining what presbyteries are and why our churches are organized into them. Let me tell you a little bit about presbyteries and why I think they are awesome.

In traditional Presbyterianism, a presbytery is comprised of the congregations and pastors from the churches of a set geographic area. Presbyteries are governed by the gathering of ordained teaching elders (pastors) and ruling elders (session members). In ECO there are 22 presbyteries. Our church is a member of the Great Lakes Presbytery which comprises all the fourteen ECO churches in Michigan and Ohio.

In our denomination (ECO) presbyteries have a certain set of responsibilities. Presbyteries are covenant communities that exercise authority over pastors and congregations so that they can flourish in building disciples. Specifically, this means that the presbytery has the duty to receive, dismiss, care for and discipline congregations and pastors. ECO presbyteries do this work through a set of teams comprised of pastors and elders who connect with, care for, serve and offer guidance to their churches and ordained ministers.

Here are the three biggest reasons I think being a part of a presbytery is AWESOME:

**Connection** – We aren't in this alone. We have more than a dozen other churches and pastors who are part of our faith family. That means we can hear about what they are doing, and share about our joys and struggles and get wisdom, feedback and insight from other experts and friends.

**Support** – It is good to know that when churches in our presbytery are facing challenges, other churches are there to help care and assist. Many times in our presbytery we have shared money, resources and time to help other churches; and they will do the same for us when/if we are ever in need.

**Accountability** – I am so glad to have other pastors and leaders to help us stay on mission and be focused on what God has called us to do. Being accountable means we are known, encouraged and challenged if needed. Every church can benefit from the accountability that comes from being in a covenant order of other congregations.

If you ever want to know more about our presbytery, or if you have never attended a presbytery meeting and would like to – let me know. You won't be disappointed!

Pastor Jos





## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

April 29 - Owen Walton

April 30 - Fritzi Nichols



**Ladies First Friday**  
May 3, 6:30 p.m. at the church. Bring something that you treasure; something that is important or

precious to you. And a snack to share.

## ATTENTION GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL and COLLEGE SENIORS...



...and their parents! It's almost that time.

If you are a graduating high school or college senior, or if you have a graduating high school or college senior in your immediate family, we want to know about it.

Write it on the Friendship Register, send an email - somehow let Secretary Jeann know. We will honor them during a worship service later this spring. (And if you could supply Secretary Jean with a Senior or recent photo, that would be great!). We'd also like to know what after graduation plans are - College? Trade school? Career plans?

## A Reminder About Scheduling

A reminder to all Ministry Teams and groups that meet at the church; please check with the office when scheduling a meeting. We'd like to know who is in the building and when. This avoids conflicts over space and facilities. We can also put your meeting in the newsletter/bulletin to serve as a reminder to people on your team.

Following your meeting, please be sure to turn off all the lights and make sure the door locks behind you. Your cooperation is much appreciated!

# PRAYER

**Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.**

The prayer needs listed in **BOLD** are new to the list.

### Military Service:

- Shannah Swinehart - Army National Guard
- Christa Nelson - Navy
- Tristan Burns - Air Force stationed in Africa
- Ryan Chabak - stationed in Alaska
- Isaiah Styer - stationed at Camp Lejeune in NC
- Matt Burkhardt - National Guard
- Gaven Bee - stationed in Dayton, OH

### Prayer Needs

- Yoder family - fire
- Annie Hines - going through tough times
- Unspokens
- Israel

### Health Concerns:

- Dorinda Hoff - fractured foot**
- Don Rutt - health concerns**
- Dan Rutt - health concerns**
- Carter Gasser - ATV accident/multiple surgeries to save his foot
- Lee Hunter
- Mike Rhamy's upcoming surgery
- Rick Spencer - heart issues, health concerns
- Melodie's mother Carol - fluid on lungs
- Pastor Cory - recovering from heart attack
- Kevin Walton recovering from open heart surgery
- Al Amstutz - Parkinson's Disease, & other issues.
- Jane Heilman

### Battling Cancer

- Unnamed person newly diagnosed/w cancer
- David
- Keylee recently diagnosed with leukemia
- Jonathan - stomach cancer
- Marianna Miller
- Kevin Hanna
- Mary Hardesty - colon cancer
- Tara
- Dale James

### Condolences

*The Deacons encourage you to send cards or notes of encouragement to those in the church family experiencing prayer needs.*

## PRAYER PARTNERS

FPC has a prayer group that is activated when notified of an immediate/serious need. Most members receive the request via email or text. Prayer Partners are asked to pray for these requests as they are received. Partners are also asked to be sensitive to confidentiality issues in the requests. If you would like to be a part of this group, let Secretary Jeann know.

The Children's Ministry Team has been at work cleaning up the nursery and children's classrooms. There are currently some items in the hallway that are no longer needed. You are invited to look through it and take anything you want. First come, first served.

## CALENDAR FOR APRIL/MAY

- April 28 - Sunday morning worship and 2nd Hour for all ages
- April 29 - 9-11 a.m. Wayne County Health mobile unit in parking lot
- April 29 - 7:00 p.m. Fredericksburg Elementary School Spring program at the church
- May 1 - 9-11a.m. Pomerene Mobile Unit
- May 1 - 10 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)
- May 1 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- May 5 - Sunday morning worship and Communion. 2nd Hour for all ages
- May 8 - 10 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)
- May 8 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- May 8 - 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting
- May 12 - Sunday morning worship and 2nd Hour for all ages
- May 12 - Happy Mother's Day
- May 13 - 6:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting
- May 15 - 10 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)
- May 15 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team

## CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

For those of you that have been using the CTRN Online Directory App, we just received updated information from the company regarding this app. If you had the original app downloaded and were using it to access FPC directory information, you may find that it is not working anymore OR that it is giving you problems. That original app has been "retired" and will eventually not function for you - even if it is working currently. If you aren't sure which app you have - the old app had a white background and listed the words CTRN Directory below it. The new, current app for our directory has a dark blue background and says Online Member Directory below the app. There are a couple options you have in continuing to use the CTRN online directory:

1. Download the new updated App from the App Store. It is called Online Member Directory App. This would be the easiest and smoothest operation of using the directory. It has a dark blue background and looks like this:



If you do not want to download the app on your phone, you can also access the directory instantly from your mobile browser and bookmark the link for future visits to the site. To use this options you would type into your browser: <http://fredericksburgpres.ctrn.co>

The directory will pop up. All our same data is secure and available just as it was with the old app. Apparently these apps become outdated and with new technology, it's necessary to use updated "apps" that work with all the fast changing technology. If you need assistance, Mary Ann Henderson is happy to help you.



### Morning Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,  
So far, today, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped or lost my temper. I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, or self centered. I'm really happy about that so far. But in a few minutes I'm going to be getting out of bed and then I'm going to need a lot of help. Thank you!  
Amen