

Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church
Weekly Update
April 8, 2026



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

This Easter Sunday we proclaimed together: Christ is risen!

And we responded: He is risen, indeed!

But did you know that when we say these words to one another on Easter Sunday we are taking part in one of the oldest and most widespread Christian liturgical traditions we know of? For more than 1500 years, and in hundreds of languages, Christians greet each other on Easter morning with these words announcing the resurrection of Jesus!

We know that the words “truly, He has risen” appear first in Scripture. In Luke 24:34, the Emmaus disciples return to Jerusalem with news for the others that the rumors are true – Christ is alive. It is probable that very early in the history of the church, this way of reporting the good news became common throughout worship practices. There are even ancient traditions that Mary Magdalene traveled to Rome after Jesus’ ascension and announced to Emperor Tiberias: “Christ is risen!”

Though these are just traditions, historians of Christian worship can trace the Greek call and response “Christ is risen” -- Χριστὸς ἀνέστη (Christos anesti) – and “Truly, He is risen” -- Ἀληθῶς ἀνέστη (Alethōs anesti, “Truly he is risen”) back to the fifth century and are fairly confident that they represent a far older worship practice in the life of the Church.

Historians marvel that this Easter greeting has “remained remarkably stable” over the centuries; going so far as to say it is one of the more concrete links between our forms of worship today, to the forms of worship in ancient Christianity. On Easter we stand in continuity with generations of Jesus followers who speak with conviction and hope of the risen Christ by “entering into a pattern of speech that has been repeated for almost two thousand years.”

I don’t know about you, but I find this AMAZING! When we greet each other in Easter with “Christ is risen!” we join our brothers and sisters throughout almost twenty centuries in proclaiming the good news of the empty tomb. Not only that, but we join with our brothers and sisters across faith traditions and in all other nations and languages in declaring the resurrection as well. Our fellow Jesus-followers in the Orthodox, Catholic and almost all other Protestant denominations share this liturgical tradition; which means in nations across the globe, in the wide variety of places of worship, we are united with our family in saying “He is risen”.

In this shared heritage are a host of beautiful Easter realities. In declaring together “Christ is Risen!” are reminded that the heart of Christian faith is belief in the physical resurrection of Jesus from the dead, and we share in the confession of that truth with all Christians everywhere and throughout all time. Our Easter greeting has endured through the centuries because it unites us around the truth of Jesus’ victory over death. It reminds us that we are STILL living in the aftereffects of the resurrection. And it reminds us that we have a sure hope in Jesus, who, through His resurrection, has assured us that life – not death – is the end of the story.

So friends, I say to you with billions of other believers throughout the world and throughout time, the good news: Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed!



Spring Into Action!

The Outreach Team, Church Trustees and Fredericksburg Community Park committee are hosting a spring clean up day on Saturday, April 18 from 9:00am-

noon to spruce up the community park and the church landscaping. All are encouraged to help out even if you can't stay the entire time.

Mulching, weeding, and cleaning are on the agenda. Please bring gloves and landscaping tools (rakes, shovels, etc) if you have them. We also need painters for the swing set in the park, paint

supplies will be provided- just wear old clothing Lunch will be provided! We have set Saturday, April 25 as a rain date if necessary. If you have any questions, talk to Frank, Michelle or Jenny.



Vacation Bible School



June 15-19. Be watching for more details!



April 9 - Jane Ann Heilman

April 10 - Debbie Hewitt

April 13 - Andi Schuch

April 20 - Erika Schuch



April 15- Jeann & Larry Burkey

April 17 - Michelle & Duane Wood

VOLUNTEERS FOR APRIL 12

Greeters	Jay & Val Haver Duane Wood
Ushers	Keith Hewitt Adam Swinehart
Café	Jenny Reed
Nursery (Worship)	Connie Herman
Nursery (2nd Hour)	Wendy McKelvey
Kidz Jam	Bridget Rhamy
Kids 2nd Hour	Bridget Rhamy
Safety Team	Nick Miller
Elder Assist	Claudia Ward

PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.

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

Praises

• For the Easter Services

Military Service: We have 7 young men & women serving in the Armed Forces. Please keep Abraham, Isaiah, Shannah, Christa, Steven, Ryan and Gaven in your prayers.

Prayer Needs

- Prayers for our military troops
- Prayers for our country
- Unspoken

Health Concerns

- Mike Covert
- Edna Wade - health concerns
- Susan (James) Halliday
- Pat Thomson
- Jane Heilman

Battling Cancer

- **Len - septic shock, amyloidosis, and multiple myeloma**
- Mike Sherrick - lung cancer
- Mariann Stutzman - pancreatic cancer
- Nicki
- Janet Lee
- Waldo - cont'd prayers for remainder of chemo
- Landon Sommers - Hodgkin's Lymphoma

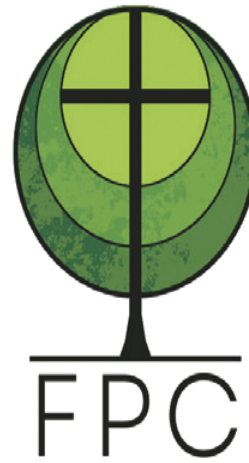
The Deacons encourage you to send cards or notes of encouragement to those in the church family experiencing prayer needs.

VOLUNTEERS FOR APRIL 19

Greeters	Genevieve & Beth Miller Bridget Rhamy
Ushers	Brent St. John Cody Daugherty
Café	Connie Herman
Nursery (Worship)	Shyler Swinehart
Nursery (2nd Hour)	Jenny Miller
Kidz Jam	Beth Miller
Kids 2nd Hour	Beth Miller
Safety Team	Angie Chapman
Elder Assist	Frank Morrow

You can make your tithes and contributions in a variety of ways:

- Use the box in the sanctuary on Sunday morning
- mail checks to P.O. Box 259 Fredericksburg, OH
- text to "Give" to 833-648-1702
- drop off your contributions during regular church office hours
- Use this link <https://give.tithe.ly/?formId=54989dfd-ce72-447c-bbc1-6109d5ecbd89>



Becoming
a community
that cultivates
faith and
faithfulness
to Christ

PRAYING FOR OUR PASTORS IN SIERRA LEONE



Adikalie Kamara
Village of Small Kamakwie

Pursuing: Diploma Course
Age: 21

This week (April 8 – April 14) we are praying for:

Adikalie Kamara with Small Kamakwie Church. Adikalie shares three prayer requests with us: "1. Prayers for the membership attendance in my church; 2. Pray against sickness, 3. Pray for the growth of the mission"

A significant portion of our church's mission budget goes to support students in a pastor training school in Sierra Leone. We have had a long-standing relationship with Pastor Albert (who coordinates these students) and his ministry efforts in his region of Sierra Leone. Among the support we offer are scholarships for students attending pastoral training. These pastors and ministers serve throughout the region, and FPC's support of these growing leaders means the good news will spread far beyond our little community here in Ohio. Your gifts to the church are helping cultivate faith and faithfulness to Christ all the way across the world!

But, our friends need more than just financial support – they need our prayers as well. Each week we will be featuring a different scholarship recipient and encouraging you to pray for them, their families and their training. The outreach team is also in touch with these pastors in training and is receiving personal prayer requests from each of them. How cool is it to know that we can support our friends in Sierra Leone through prayer and care?!? Please take some time each week to lift these fellow believers up in prayer.

Time for a
break



Secretary Jeann will be on vacation April 13-17. There will be no Weekly Update sent out April 15.

.....meeting..... Pastor Jos will be out of the office April 13 through the morning of April 15 (Monday through Wednesday morning) attending an ECO meeting in Dallas.