

Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church

Weekly Update January 24, 2024

You guys. I found it. After a little internet sleuthing I dug up a picture of the Cleveland Indians hat I loved as a teenager. Here it is. As I told you on Sunday, the primary reason I loved the hat is that it matched my favorite shirt. (I didn't have any luck finding a picture of the shirt – bummer!)

I clearly remember the day I disappointed a Cleveland baseball fan by wearing that hat, while not knowing a single thing about the team. Honestly, I did feel a little sheepish in the moment. As a massive St. Louis Cardinals fan, I could imagine feeling a similar way to him if I spotted someone wearing the red and white StL for fashion purposes only.

From time to time over the years I have reflected on this experience. It occurred to me that there have been seasons in my life where I have worn my “Jesus” hat, while not really being committed to His team. Sometimes I have simply “attended” church instead of investing myself in “being” church.



Part of “Being Church” means that we find our identity in Jesus. The name on the front of our jerseys is His! We represent Christ and His Kingdom in the world; and we are teammates with each other – cheering each other on, partnering together to display His truth and love to others.

As we read on Sunday, Paul encourages us: “Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ.” (Philippians 1:27). Paul’s message to us is simple: no matter what, live your life so you represent that you belong to Jesus! Scripture is reminding us that we have a superseding membership in the family of God – and that now we are to live our lives committed to Christ’s team.

I couldn't be more excited to be on this team with all of you at Fredericksburg. I'm thrilled to wear the uniform of a Jesus-follower alongside all of you as we keep one thing front and center: to live our lives as those who belong to Jesus.

PLAY BALL!

- Pastor Jos



January 26 - Olivia Brown
 January 28 - Wyatt Wood
 January 31 - Matthew Smith

Second Hour Has Returned

“Make It Count” is the title of our 2nd hour study that started last Sunday and runs through Lent. This short series will focus on relationships. Starting with our relationship with God, our lives are defined by our ability to relate to others. The study will focus on enriching our skills in relationships and will help our church thrive in this coming season. Also, the youth are going to follow along in their second hour during this study

- Classroom 1 - Darcy and Nick
- Classroom 2 - Angie, Steve & Melinda Moffitt
- Classroom 3 - Barry and Paul

Don't want to join a fun group? That's ok too - the cafe will be available 2nd hour to just hang out and fellowship.



Attention Ladies

First Friday Feb. 2

at 6:30 pm at the home

of Shirley Swinehart. Bring a snack to share and a poem that you have written or

CALLING ALL COOKS!

Got a favorite chili recipe? We are planning a chili cook-off on March 16. There's a sign-up sheet in the Gallery with additional info.



ARE YOU SKILLED

IN COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY?

FPC is seeking to add a part-time (20 hours/month) Communications Director to the church staff. This role involves managing social media, updating our website, creating content, and work in graphic design. Reach out to Jeann in the FPC office soon to learn more and pick up a job

PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.

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

Praises

- **God's continual provision**

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 - Turkey

Prayer Needs

- Unspokens
- Israel

Health Concerns:

- Beth Miller - shoulder issues
- Theresa Smith - recovering from brain tumor
- Rob Striebe - complications from diabetes
- Jane Heilman

Battling Cancer

- Marianna Miller - recent diagnosis with aggressive form of cancer
- Jonathan Barker - Janine's cousin
- Kevin Hanna
- Mary Hardesty - colon cancer
- Tara
- Susan Halliday - Sherri Machamer's sister
- David Stoltzfus - Sherri Machamer's nephew
- Michael & Belinda Witt (Michael has cancer)
- Linda Snyder (ECO Pastor)
- Laurie Miller
- Dale James

Condolences

- The family of Judy Schlauch

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

PRAYER COVERAGE

The next few weeks will be busy ones for the church, and for Pastors Jos and Nancy. Let's keep them and us in prayer. Some areas for prayer:

- Pastor Jos (and several others from our congregation) will be attending the National Gathering in Greenville, South Carolina Jan. 29 - Feb. 1. Please keep this event in your prayers.
- Pastor Nancy's last day here in the 'burg will be Wednesday, Jan. 24.
- The safe and timely arrival of Jos's furniture.
- The repairs and maintenance currently going on at the manse
- The Trustees in charge of the repairs and maintenance.
- For the church and Pastor Jos that we would be supportive in all ways as we get to know one another. .
- For Pastor Jos, Session, Deacons and staff as they begin to learn about each other and form working relationships.

A word about the National Gathering: Along with Pastor Jos, Pastor Nancy, Beth & Nick Miller, Barry & Mary Ann Henderson, Angie Chapman, Earl & Vickie Rhamy, and Melodie & Roger Stroud are also attending.

ECO has named this Gathering, "Metanoia" And has this to say: *"Many leaders agree that the church is currently in crisis. We are desperate for transformation but most of us don't know where or how to begin. Yet, we know we can no longer do things the way we have always done them. Metanoia is a powerful Greek word that is often translated as repentance. However, metanoia goes so much deeper. It doesn't just mean repentance, but a true change of mind and heart. Metanoia is a complete transformation that calls us back to the heart of God and inspires us to live lives that are aligned with the life and teachings of Jesus. We are excited to seek out practical ways each of us in our churches can authentically live out God's call on our lives and ministries. Let's embrace metanoia together. It's time for change."*

YEAR END REPORTS

It's that time! Team Leaders and Board presidents, Year end reports are due in the church office by January 31. If you have questions, Please talk to Secretary Jeann.

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY

- January 28 - 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning worship
- January 29-February 1 - National Gathering in Greenville, South Carolina (ECO)
- January 31 - 10 am GLOW (women)
- January 31 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- February 2 - 6:30 Ladies First Friday
- February 4 - 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning worship and communion
- February 6 - 6:30 p.m. Discipleship Team Mtg
- February 7 - 10:00 a.m. Women's G.L.O.W.
- February 7 - 6:30 p.m. Music team
- February 10 - 6:00 p.m. Euchre

You are invited to reach out to our Church Elders if you have any questions or concerns about the church.

Angie Chapman	330-465-0963
Beth Miller	513-319-6447
Darcy Miller	330-440-4155
Paul Miller	330-465-8329
Earl Rhamy	330-988-4285
Steve Schlegel	330-317-3898
John Scott	330-466-0226
Adam Swinehart	330-641-1575
Claudia Ward	330-466-3417

To contact the church:

201 N. Mill St. Fredericksburg, Ohio 44627

Phone 330-695-2511

Email: fredpresby@gmail.com

Website: www.fredericksburgpres.org

Follow us on Facebook too!

Rev. Jocelyn Smolik
314-749-1315

jossmolik@gmail.com

* * * * *

Church office hours

Monday thru Friday 10:00 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Blaze Winter Youth Retreat

Join us February 9-11 at Camp Luz for a time of spiritual growth through Biblical teaching, worship and fun! Highlights from past retreats have included a game lounge, ice skating, snow tubing, indoor mini-golf and Luz Olympics- winter edition. Speakers include Matthew Reed, pastor at Beech Mennonite Church. See Veronica Styer for more details.