



March 4,
2026

FROM THE PASATOR'S DESK

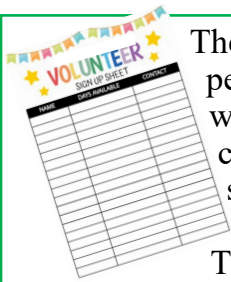
I shared this Sunday about visiting a museum with my nephews. Everything was going great until we spotted something... well, a bit scary. After a moment of frozen observation, my youngest nephew ran back to put me between him and what was frightening. And without considering his independence or wondering if he looked cool, he reached up and grabbed my hand. In that moment, my nephew wasn't being *childish*, he was being *childlike*. There's a massive difference. Childishness is about throwing a tantrum when you don't get your way; childlikeness is the instinct to trust because you know you aren't the adult in the room.

We spend a lot of our adult lives worrying about our status in the world, or desiring to be some form of "great". In the language of the New Testament, being great implied eminence in power, skill or authority. We want that importance, too. We like to be the ones with the answers, the ones in control and the ones who seem to have it all together and who can cope with any obstacle.

Even the disciples, though they were around Jesus all the time, resorted to bickering about who was the greatest in God's Kingdom and even who was the greatest amongst themselves! They were measuring greatness by human standards: prominence, influence and status. But Jesus didn't measure things the way they did. Instead, He insisted that greatness was childlikeness! In that culture, a child didn't have a high social status; they were small, weak, and entirely dependent. Jesus told His followers that unless they changed and became like that child, they wouldn't even enter the Kingdom, let alone be the greatest in it. When we accept our position as children in God's Kingdom, we start acknowledging our weakness, dependence and neediness. We realize that because God is so "big," it's actually quite natural for us to be "little". True Kingdom greatness is simply knowing who the Greatest One is. It's the trust that allows us to reach for His hand the moment we feel overwhelmed, knowing He's the one actually in charge.

Here are some ways you could try to live out a little childlikeness this season of Lent:

1. An instinct audit: The next time a "scary" situation pops up, like a stressful email, a health concern or a financial tight spot, pay attention to your first move. Do you immediately try to "fix and control," or do you take a breath and reach for God's hand in prayer first?
2. Practice being a good receiver: Children love gifts and don't feel the need to return the favor. The next time someone offers you a compliment or a hand with a task, simply say "Thank you" without trying to "reciprocate" or put on false humility.
3. Admit the road is closed: If you've been pursuing a version of "greatness" based on status or approval, pray for the courage to turn around. Acknowledge to God that your ambition has been exhausting and ask Him to help you embrace humility and dependence instead.
4. Look ahead to Good Friday: Remember that Jesus Himself took the "lowly position". When you feel the pressure to be "significant," remind yourself that your worth is already secured by His "greatest act of humility" on the cross.




The Deacons are putting together a list of people in the church willing to assist with funeral meals in **2026**. Assisting comes in the form of providing a specific food item or helping with the set-up, or the serving or the clean-up.

The Deacons are also putting together a list of people who would be willing to provide a meal in case of a special need such as surgery, births or other special occasions. You can sign-up for either or both on the sheets on the table in the Gallery



Move your
clocks ahead
this Saturday,
or you'll be
late for
church!

The pop-up Lenten-study with Pastor Jos is continuing every Monday evening throughout Lent. This study, entitled "He Has Become My Salvation" is from the Book of Exodus, ranging from the burning bush to the parted sea. In this study we're look at the events surrounding God's liberating work as he saves His people from slavery in Egypt, and considering how God is still at work liberating His people from slavery to the greatest of enemies: sin and death. All are welcome. We meet in the GLOW classroom. At 7 p.m.

 **Easter Music** We are considering having a choir of people sing one number during the Easter Sunday service. Would you like to participate in that choir if we move ahead with the plan? Practice would begin soon, and would be on Wednesday evenings. You can let us know on the Friendship Register, or let Pastor Jos, Secretary Jeann or one of the Music Team people know of your interest.

PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers. The prayer needs listed in **BOLD** are new to the list.

Praises:

Welcoming new Covenant Partner Veronica

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 country
- Unspoken

Health Concerns

- **Mike Covert's grandson Spencer - surgery and recovery**
- Larry Oxenrider - surgery and recovery
- Cindi Doll - brain aneurysm
- Everleigh Jean - newborn with health issues.
- Kay-leigh Botha - 3yr old recovering heart surgery
- Ben Reed - health concerns
- Edna Wade - health concerns
- Bill Rock - low blood sugar w/heart issues
- Jessica - 3rd trimester high risk pregnancy
- Susan (James) Halliday
- Mark Lemon - cont'd prayers for progress
- Pat Thomson
- Jane Heilman

Battling Cancer

- John - end of life hospice care
- 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.





March 5 - Kristin Chabak
 March 7 - Sherri Machamer
 March 7 - Stacie Nelson
 March 9 - Adalyn Kidd
 March 10 - Mary Lee Wirick



Order Your Easter Flowers The order form is located on the sign-up table in the gallery. Details are on the table with the order form. Be sure to list who the flower is in honor or memory of. And please include payment with your order. Final day to order is Thursday, March 12.

The 2025 Annual Report & 2026 Budget

You can get a copy of the 2025 Annual Report and 2026 Budget on the table in the Gallery. If you notify Secretary Jeann in the church office, she can get you a copy.

Church Directory

A new up-to-date church directory is also available on the table in the Gallery. This will not be available on-line, but Secretary Jeann can get you a copy if requested.



If you are looking for something to do on Saturday night, March 14, the Congregational Life team will be hanging out at the church playing some board games and eating snacks. You are

welcome to bring your favorite game and snack and join us and join us. 6-9 p.m."

DID YOU KNOW?

March is named after **Mars**, the Roman god of war. Originally, *Martius* was the first month of the Roman calendar, marking the start of both the spring season and the military campaign season. It was a time for renewal, agricultural preparation, and embarking on, or "marching" into, new battles.

Questions or concerns or just curious about something within the church? You are welcome to reach out to our Church Elders:

Angie Chapman	330-465-0963
Beth Miller	513-319-6447
Darcy Miller	330-440-4155
Paul Miller	330-465-8329
Frank Morrow	330-201-4847
Earl Rhamy	330-988-4285
Steve Schlegel	330-317-3898
John Scott	330-466-0226
Claudia Ward	330-466-3417

VOLUNTEERS FOR MARCH 8

Greeters	Don & Joyce Rhamy Duane Wood
Ushers	Shad Swinehart Jerry Herman
Café	Adam Swinehart
Nursery (Worship)	Connie Herman
Nursery (2nd Hour)	Wendy McKelvey
Kidz Jam	Bridget Rhamy
Kids 2nd Hour	Bridget Rhamy
Safety Team	Tom Machamer
Elder Assist	Mike Rhamy

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



James Musa Kamara
Village of Kawula

Pursuing: Pastors Degree
Age: 31

This week (March 4 – March 10) we are praying for: **James Musa Kamara with the Kawula Church.** James has shared the following prayer requests with us: **1. Prayers for my family, 2. prayers for my Church members whatever challenges they are going through, 3. prayers for me for my movement every month is eighty (80) miles I walk to my church.**

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.



FREDERICKSBURG
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JOIN OUR TEAM!

NOW HIRING: Director of Music and Worship

FPC is looking for an enthusiastic and respectful Director of Music and Worship who demonstrates an active faith in Jesus that falls in line with ECO's theology, and is skilled in vocal and instrumental music leading. This role also requires good verbal and written communication skills and works well in a highly collaborative setting.

RESPONSIBILITIES (include but are not limited to):

- Coordinate worship experiences for the whole church; provide guidance for all worship experiences; work to incorporate worship in all areas of church life
- Coordinate music, media, and overall worship service with Pastor, Worship Team, Music Team, and Tech Team
- Lead music at regular Sunday morning worship services and other services of worship throughout the year
- Offer suggestions and observations which would improve FPC's music/worship ministries
- Assume other duties as may be assigned by the Pastor; participate in regular staff meetings

To learn more about this position and/or to apply, please email a cover letter and current resume to: jsmolik@fredericksburgpres.org

Becoming a community that cultivates faith and faithfulness to Christ



Please share
this
information
with anyone
you think
might be
interested in
joining our
team!

