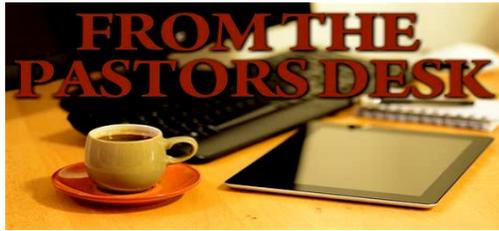


The Evangel



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOVEMBER 2025



“Be Bold!”

I recently read a wonderful story about Helen Roseveare, a British woman who served as a missionary doctor in the Congo for twenty years, from 1953-1973. While there, she helped build a medical college and three different hospitals, two of which were destroyed during the Congo Crisis, a period of intense violence and political unrest in the early 1960s. During this time, Roseveare herself was taken prisoner and faced terrible violence and abuse for five months. Nevertheless, after a period of healing in England following her release, she returned to the Congo to continue her mission work and practice of medicine.¹

During her time in Africa, one of Roseveare’s patients died in labor, leaving behind a premature baby and a two-year-old girl. She knew that the baby needed to be kept warm, and so sent a nurse to fetch a hot water bottle – only to learn that the bottle had burst upon being filled, and that there were no other hot water bottles available. Facing the prospect of another terrible death, Roseveare asked those around her, including orphans who were being cared for at the hospital, to pray. A ten-year-old girl named Ruth then began to pray: *Please, God, send us a hot water bottle. It’ll be no good tomorrow, God, as the baby’ll be dead, so please send it this afternoon. And while You are about it, would you please send a dolly for the little two-year-old sister so she’ll know You really love her?*²

Roseveare knew that this was a bold prayer – a prayer that could only be answered by a parcel arriving from home. And yet, after four years thus far at the hospital, she had never received a single package! And even if one did come – who was going to send a hot water bottle to the equator?

And yet, that very afternoon, a twenty-two pound package arrived! Calling the children together, they opened the parcel, finding bandages, jerseys, raisins, sultanas . . . and a brand new hot water bottle! Also, at the bottom of the box was a doll for a little girl! The parcel had been shipped five months earlier, packed by Roseveare’s former Sunday School class, whose leader had heard God’s prompting to send the hot water bottle and had obeyed.³ God had already answered Ruth’s prayer long before she even prayed it! Our God is so good!

Have you ever prayed a bold prayer like little ten-year-old Ruth? Do you believe that God welcomes our prayers and that He “knows what (we) need before we ask Him” (Matthew 6:8, ESV)? Do you believe that our Heavenly Father “knows how to give good things to those who ask Him”

¹See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helen_Roseveare. Accessed 10/21/25.

²Max Lucado, *Stories For Your Soul: Ordinary People, Extraordinary God*. (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2024), 129-130.

³Ibid.

(Matthew 7:11, ESV)? True, God doesn't always give us what we ask for, for we don't always ask for things that are good for us – or, perhaps more precisely, we don't always ask for the things that are *best* for us. And true, sometimes we have to wait for God to answer our prayers, for He has better timing than we do. But at the same time, how many times have we *not* received something good because we failed to pray, because we were too timid to pray, or because we offered weak, faithless prayers?

Our God is good, and He loves us. And like all good parents, He delights in hearing from His children. Let us be bold in our prayers, my friends – for He knows what we need even before we ask, and He knows how to give good gifts to those who ask! And while we are at it, especially as this is the month of Thanksgiving, let us also remember to lift up our gratitude to Him for all the times He has answered our prayers and given us what we need when we need it! For a God who can send a hot water bottle to the equator on just the right day when it is needed can surely take care of us, whatever our need might be!

Let's pray boldly, and let's pray with love and gratitude to our marvelous God! Hallelujah! To Him alone be the glory!

In Christ's Love,

Joshua



Library News

By the time you read this our Library Book Club has met and some interesting reports were given. You should join us! Our next meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2026. FYI, our church library has lots of books covering many topics. If you would be interested in joining our book club or being a library helper, please contact Phyllis Pridemore.





Coffee & Tea With the Pastor

Coffee and Tea with the Pastor on a New Day! Coffee and Tea with the Pastor has moved now to the *third* Wednesday of each month - so join us on Wednesday, **November 19** from 2-4pm at the Coffee Peddler downtown (112 Harrison Avenue). We meet from 2pm - 4pm (you are welcome for all of that time, or can come and go for a portion of it!) when we will enjoy fellowship, good discussion, and delicious caffeineated beverages! All are welcome!

The **Stuff Sale** made \$4,881! Thanks to all who donated their stuff and time and energy to make this a success! Our Thank Offering meeting is Thursday, **November 6** at noon in the Conference Room. Please bring your sack lunch.



Calling All Prayer Warriors!

Join us each Wednesday at noon in the church library as we lift up our world, our church, and all our other joys and concerns in prayer. All are welcome! See you here!

Daylight Saving Time Ends on Sunday, November 2! Remember to "fall back" an hour or you will be early to Sunday School and worship!



Election Day is Tuesday, November 4. as Christians, we have a duty to let our voices be heard for the Kingdom of Jesus Christ - so remember to vote!



Please return your 2026 Stewardship Pledge Card by November 1. This greatly helps in planning the coming year's budget.



Advent begins on Sunday, November 30. Plan to join us in worship as we again "prepare the way of the Lord" with worship and repentance!

Also be sure to pick up our free Advent devotions that Sunday to help you with your preparation. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

The Monthly Prayer Focus Continues!

Join us in prayer this month as we pray for the *families who will receive our Fill the Chancel baskets!* Let's remember to lift these families up - first and foremost that if they do not know Jesus, that they would come to know and love Him, and that if they do know Him, that they would go deeper in a relationship with Him. Then, let's pray for God's blessing to be upon them in every aspect of their lives. Let's join together on our knees before the Lord!

**“Thanksgiving is good. Thanks-living is better!”
-Author Unknown**



The Pastor's Bible Study Continues!

Studying God's Word is one of the most important –and most valuable!–things we do together as a congregation. Whether you're a Bible scholar or a Bible newbie, plan now to join us every Monday at 7pm in the Conference Room as we continue to study the Letter to the Hebrews. Our lessons are relaxed and (hopefully!) informative - and quite often, we have tasty treats to share! All are welcome.



Notice: Our October/November Love Thy Neighbor mission is for **Fill the Chancel**. We will be blessing 20 local families this year. We will be accepting bags of new, unopened, non-perishable foods thru **November 22nd**. The committee will box up items collected for the 20 families whose names have been provided by Harrison Elementary School. We look forward to your help as we reach out in the Name of Jesus Christ to feed his people! As always, the

Missions committee can't thank you enough for your continued generosity to those in our community who need a little help! If you have any questions, please see Judy Gibbs or Rebecca Scherzinger.

Suggested Food Items

- Mac & Cheese
- Canned fruit
- Applesauce (individual cups helps with limited fridge space)
- Pudding cups (non-refrigerated)
- Ravioli, spaghetti-o's
- Beans and canned veggies
- Pancake mix and syrup
- Soups
- Stove Top stuffing
- Boxes of Pasta (spaghetti, macaroni, noodles, etc.) and sauce
- Rice
- Condiments (ketchup, mustard, mayo)
- Cereal, oatmeal (boxes of individual packets)
- Canned meat (tuna, chicken, Spam, Beef Stew)
- Boxed potatoes
- Hamburger Helper
- Jelly

Small things done with
GREAT LOVE will change
the world!



**TWO CENTS A MEAL COLLECTION IS
November 9**

Please look for the gold pots at both entrances to the sanctuary to place your monthly donations. If you are not able to make it to a service, please feel free to mail your donation to the church. It goes to a good cause of helping feed the hungry. As always, thanks for your generous donations.

~ The Mission Committee



Four ways to watch our service:

**Church
Secretary**



During the service live-stream our 10:45 service each Sunday on our church website (harrisonpresbyterian.com) using the link.

After the service is over:

- Send an email to video@harrisonpresbyterian.com to receive a link to the full service.
- Watch the sermon on our YouTube channel- "First Presbyterian Church of Harrison, OH."
- Call the Office to have a DVD prepared for you.

Healing Prayer is available upon request. All who wish to receive anointing, the laying on of hands, and prayers for healing are welcome to call the church office.



Meal Ministry

Our free community meal, **Bountiful Hearts**, continues on the first Saturday of every month. Our next meal will be on Saturday, **November 1** from 11 am – 1pm here at our church.

We will need **donations of dessert items**, either homemade or from the bakery/grocery store. Please let Tamela Hinson or Christine Luca know if you would like to volunteer; **we also need drivers**. We greatly appreciate your donations, both of time and financial contributions; they are what make this meal possible.

“Oh! It is a glorious fact that prayers are noticed in heaven!”
- C.H. Spurgeon

Looking Ahead to...



- It's time to get ready for our annual **Christmas Program!** Make plans now to join us on Sunday, December 7 at 6pm in the Sanctuary as we see both kids and adults use their talents to help us get ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus. And if you have a talent to share (a song, a skit, a reading, or something else entirely!), see Beth Snape to get in the program. Light refreshments will follow in Faith Hall. If you have any questions, see Mary Craft or Rebecca Scherzinger.
- **Graduation Sunday** is December 14. Join us in worship at 10:45 as we celebrate our two college graduates - Charlie Steuver and Jenna Walton!
- Join us for our special **Christmas Eve Candlelight Services** this year! We will again offer two different services on December 24 - at 7pm and 11pm. During our 7pm service, Joshua will preach and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated; our 11pm service will feature Lessons and Carols, and a special anthem by the choir. Candlelighting will be featured at both services. Who will you invite to join you in worship this year? We hope to see you at one or both services this year!
- The **pastor will be on vacation** from December 25 - January 1. If you have a pastoral care need during this time, please contact the church office and Judy will put you in touch with a local pastor. Be sure to join us on Sunday, December 28 as our own Olivia Steuver fills the pulpit for us. Reminder - there is **NO 8:30 SERVICE ON 12/28** and **NO PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY** on 12/29.
- All are welcome to join in **Caroling at the Nursing home** at 9:30am on Saturday, December 6. Please consider joining our children in spreading the Christmas spirit.



Christ the King Sunday is November 23. be sure to join us in worship on this final Sunday of the liturgical year as we anticipate and celebrate the return of Jesus Christ and the coming of the fullness of His Kingdom!

The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 27 for Thanksgiving.



Young Youth Group

YYG will be meeting on November 9th and will be practicing for the pageant. On December 7th will be the Christmas program (there won't be a YYG meeting on December 14th). Any questions, see Mary Craft



GOBBLE

Happy Birthday

- 1 Charlie Steuver, Marcus Hasenohr
- 6 Ken O'Connor
- 9 Olivia Steuver
- 15 Joshua Long
- 21 Lisa Steuver, Alexis Hasenohr
- 24 Pamela Coleman
- 27 Doug Jones, Terren Frenz

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Monday - Thursday

Bulletin Deadlines: Wednesdays,
10:00 a.m.

December Evangel Deadline:
November 17 by 12 Noon

Send all bulletin and Evangel items to Judy at office@harrisonpresbyterian.com, call the office (367-4301) or drop by the office.

Please remember that Fridays are the pastor's Sabbath day. He is available for emergencies only on that day. Thank you.



NOVEMBER FELLOWSHIP TABLE

- 2 Bountiful Hearts
- 9 Nancy Platt
- 16 Barb Wolf
- 23 Debbie McCane
- 30 OPEN

A NOTE OF



Thank you to all of my church family! Thank you to Joshua for a meaningful service, thank you to Tom and Jeff for video expertise, thank you to the deacons for a delicious meal, thank you to Julie for adding beautiful music to our meal time. Thank you for all the hugs (I love hugs), prayers (love them too) and words of encouragement (we all need them sometimes). My church family sure did show up to help us honor my dad. I am so blessed to have had such amazing parents and a loving church family to mourn with me. He will be so very missed...but we will meet again in paradise. Thanks again,

Mary & the Barnes family

“Do we go to God in prayer because we see God alone as THE treasure or because we think He can offer us or give us treasure?” -David Hammond



Senior Saints

Dick Morris Vivian Talley Shirley Quinn Sherry Schlager
Fran Myers Joy Riegel Kathryn Pierson Marian Brandenburg

Ongoing Health

Needs

Prayers For Our Church

Our Missionaries: Warmuths, Garrigans & Joneses;
Monthly Prayer Focus: for the families blessed by Fill the Chancel;
Pam Biddle: scans went poorly;
Bill Gregg: recovering from cancer treatments;
Arlene Anderson: battling cancer;
Anne Troy: doing therapy;
Judy Gibbs: recovering from sinus surgery;
Ed Flick: has pneumonia;

Louanna Smith
JoJean Kleinfeld
Arlene Anderson
Pam Mains

Prayers For Others

Deb Menninger: for Joey and Hank's health;
Marilyn Bourquein: for grandson, Kent's health;
Mary Ann Pickens: for brother, Paul's health;
Marcia Merse: for husband, George, under special care at home;
For our loved ones with cancer: Kelly Sebastian, Valerie Blesser, Stacy Eckstein, Carol Elkins, Linda Schmidt and Beth Ann Willis;
Tracy Anders: For her son, Ryan, who is deployed overseas;
Ellen Puckett: recovering from back surgery, in pain;
Mary Tabor: for Bill, has breast cancer;
Reta Crone: for Syble Kindrid, awaiting surgery after a fall;
Esther Spencer: for the Kay Family, grieving loss of mother (Esther's granddaughter Jen's, mother-in-law);



PRAYER CHAIN CALLS: The Prayer Chain is a group of people who are committed to praying daily for those requesting prayer. This ministry is administered through our Board of Deacons. If you have a prayer request, please contact **Mindy Sindiong (513) 235-3778 during the day or Phyllis Wolfram 367-4578 during the evening.** For two weeks, the people on the chain will pray daily for the person or situation requested.

First Presbyterian Church
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Church Phone number: 367-4301
Church email: office@harrisonpresbyterian.com
Pastor email: jlong@harrisonpresbyterian.com
Website: www.harrisonpresbyterian.com

OUR CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

First Presbyterian Church of Harrison, Ohio is growing in faith by building stronger relationships with God and community through prayer and worship. The reading and understanding of God's Word strengthens our commitment to share the Good News of Jesus Christ through love and service to our neighbor so that all may experience God's grace.

