

# The Evangel

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CHRISTIANITY  
IS ONE BEGGAR  
TELLING ANOTHER  
BEGGAR WHERE HE FOUND BREAD

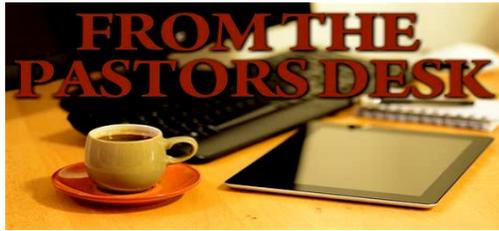
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THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 2026



## “The Roman Road”

The season of Lent is upon us – a season in which we take time to prepare ourselves to again celebrate that greatest gift that God has ever given us – the death and resurrection of His Son Jesus for us and for our salvation! I hope you are making the most of this six-week season, spending time each day with the Lord in prayer and reading Scripture.

But do you fully understand what that salvation really means? And would you be able to explain briefly what you believe about Jesus – i.e., could you give an “elevator speech” (if you were in an elevator with someone and they asked you about your faith, would you be able to explain it in the time you rode up to your floor?) I think many of us would struggle to do just that.

Over the years, many of those who have gone before us in the Faith have put together ways to help us to do exactly this. One of those is called the “Roman Road” – a series of verses from Paul’s letter to the Romans which explain the steps of salvation. Here’s one version of that classic word picture:

- \*The road begins with our problem: *Sin*. Romans 3 tells us that “no one is righteous – no, not one!” (3:10) for “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (3:23). This spells out our *need* for salvation.
- \*That problem, if left unsolved, leads to *terrible* consequences, for Romans 6 tells us that “the wages of sin is death” (6:23a). In other words, the proper punishment for sin is death – both spiritual and physical, eternally! If our sin problem is not taken care of, we face a terrible punishment.
- \*And yet, that problem has been taken care of through the *love of God*. Romans 5 tells us that “God demonstrates His own love for us, in that while we were yet sinners, Jesus Christ died for us” (5:8). Paul also gives us this Good News in the second half of 6:23: “the wages of sin is death, *but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord!*” The Good News is that God, through His Son Jesus Christ, has taken away our sin and has borne its wretched consequences in Himself on the cross. This is why we make such a big deal out of Lent and Resurrection Sunday!
- \*That gift of salvation, that love of God, has to be *accepted*. It has to be *received*. Romans goes on to say that “If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved!” (10:9). Paul also writes that “everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord will be saved!” (10:13). Salvation is free, but that gift has to be opened – it has to be received. And of course, Paul does write extensively how this acceptance will lead to a change of heart and life.

Here's my question for us this month: Have you walked this Roman road yourself? Do you understand what this means for your life? And would you be able to explain this briefly to someone else to invite them to become a believer? The key to sharing our faith well is not stressing about getting every detail correct – in the end, we are simply “beggars telling other beggars where to find bread.”<sup>1</sup> The Roman road can help you give some structure to sharing your faith, but what really matters is being able to point others to Jesus and to say, “this is what He did for me – I once was a beggar, and He gave me the Bread of Life. I once was lost, but now I'm found. I once was dead in my sins, but now He has brought me to life!” In other words, we can only tell others about Jesus if we ourselves have “tasted and seen that He is good” (Psalm 34:8). Or, to put it another way, we can only commend what we cherish. And if we really do cherish Him, we will want others to do the same.

This month, let's commit this “Roman road” to memory (look for the illustration elsewhere in the *Evangel*) and let's commit to inviting others to come hear about the Good News it spells out. We have great opportunities coming up at the end of March and the beginning April in our special Holy Week services – why not invite someone to come worship with you? Let's be salt and light – let's tell others about this Jesus, who has saved us from the wretched consequences of sin by His great love and grace! After all, while we were yet sinners, He gave us Jesus to live and to die for us – and now He lives again! Hallelujah!

To Him alone be the glory!

In Christ's Love,

Joshua

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<sup>1</sup>I'm not sure who originally said this, but it's a quote that gets used a lot.



**Online Giving** is available for First Presbyterian Church. The account is on our website: [harrisonpresbyterian.com](http://harrisonpresbyterian.com) at the GIVE NOW button. This is the new QR Code.



## Coffee & Tea With the Pastor



**Come Ask your Pastor Anything!** Do you have questions about the Bible or about some aspect of the Christian faith? Do you want to discuss something going on in the church or something from Sunday's sermon? Come join us at Coffee and Tea with the Pastor on Wednesday, **March 18** at the Coffee Peddler in downtown Harrison (112 Market Street). We meet every third Wednesday from 2-4pm (you are welcome for all of that time, or come and go for a portion of it!) Come join us for fellowship, good discussion, and delicious caffeinated beverages! All are welcome!

### Our March Memory Verse!

This month, we are together working on committing this wonderful verse to memory: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9, ESV)

### Women's Association

Our next gathering will be Thursday, March 5 at 10am. We will be cleaning and organizing the main kitchen. We will be there all afternoon too. Come when you can, stay as long as you can. Lunch of pizza will be provided. This is open to anyone who uses the kitchen. **Rummage Sale:** will be April 17 & 18. Setup starts on April 13.

**The Season of Lent** continues throughout the month of March. This season, as you prepare again to celebrate our Lord's saving work on the cross and at the empty tomb, be sure to use the free Lenten devotion materials we have provided for you. If you have not picked up a free Scripture bookmark or devotional booklet, or if you have any questions, please contact the church office!



### Updated Directory

The new directories are available in the church office if you haven't already gotten one. Please stop in or call the office for a new one.

# Lent



**"If I thought I could win one more soul for Christ by standing on my head and beating a tambourine with my feet, I would learn how to do it." - William Booth**



**Lenten Sermon Series!** This Lent, our pastor will continue preaching through a sampling of the “one another” passages in Scripture - where we are commanded to do something each for the other as an expression of our love for Jesus Christ and for each other. Join us in worship for the following sermons in February and March:

- **1 March:** “Don’t Bite One Another” (Galatians 5:13-15; Colossians 3:12-17)
- **8 March:** “Live in Harmony with One Another” (Romans 12:9-21; James 5:16)
- **15 March:** “Stir One Another Up to Love and Good Works” (1 Thessalonians 5:8-11; Hebrews 10:19-25)
- **22 March:** “Bear One Another’s Burdens” (Galatians 6:1-5; 1 Peter 4:7-11)
- **29 March (Palm Sunday):** “Love One Another” (John 13:1-20, 31-35)

### Westminster Sunday School Class

There is a new Sunday School class called the Westminster Sunday School Class. It is a detailed discussion class going over the Westminster Confessions, Larger Catechism and Bible references. This class meets in the classroom on the 2nd floor across from the Music Room at 9:30am. If you are interested in discovering and discussing more about what, why and where the Westminster Confessions and Catechism came from in the Bible, please join this adult Sunday school class. We are doing an in-depth discovery and discussion. If you have any questions, contact Mindy Sindiong.

### Library News



If you haven't visited our library, winter is the best time to check it out and pick up a book or two. There are approximately 5000 books, covering various topics. Last year alone, 20 new books were added! Plus, by chance, you may meet Library Helper Linda Lehrter! She is a Harrison library retiree and is actively reconciling the card catalog!! Also, we have an active Book Club that meets once a quarter with the next club meeting to be held April 21. Come join the fun! Phyllis or Linda are willing to help with any questions or more library information.

“In the cross of Christ I see three things: first, a description of the depth of man’s sin. Second, the overwhelming love of God. Third, the only way of salvation.” - Billy Graham

## Our Lenten Mission Project

This Lent, the Missions Committee is challenging our congregation to support an exciting mission cause - **Wycliffe Bible Translators**. WBT is named for John Wycliffe, who is credited as the first person to translate the Bible into English, and is continuing in that work by striving to translate the Bible into every known spoken or signed language in the world. To that end, WBT is currently engaged in projects in 2,918 languages; they support 2,747 staff in 65 different countries. \$35 supports the translation of 1 verse of the Bible in a new language - therefore, in addition to committing to pray for WBT's missionaries, translators and their work in general, we are also hoping to raise at least \$2,500, which would cover translation of the Book of Joel (73 verses) in a new language. If we are able to raise \$3,000, that would cover translation of the Book of Ruth (85 verses) or the Book of 2 Timothy (83 verses). Will you prayerfully consider how you can support us in this worthy project? Thank you!

### Young Youth Group

Come and join us on **March 8th** as we explore our faith. If you have any questions, contact Mary Craft.



Please fill out the form below if you would like to purchase a lily for Easter to be placed in the sanctuary for a loved one to be remembered or honored.

**We must have your order (with money) into the church office no later than Monday, March 30.** Each flower is \$15.00 and you may take your flowers with you after the Easter service. If paying by check, please make payable to "First Presbyterian Church" with "lilies" in the memo line.



**No. of flowers @ \$15.00 ea.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Enclosed \$** \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**TWO CENTS A MEAL COLLECTION IS  
March 8**

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*



**Church  
Secretary**



**Four ways to watch our service:**

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

**After the service is over:**

- Send an email to [video@harrisonpresbyterian.com](mailto: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, **March 7** from 11 am – 1 pm 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.

“Regret looks back. Worry looks around. Faith looks up.”

-John Mason

## Looking Ahead to...

- ◆ **Maundy Thursday** is April 2. Come join us that evening at 7pm for our traditional Tenebrae service (a service of shadows). The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated.
- ◆ **Good Friday** is April 3. Come worship with us and with our brothers and sisters from Providence Presbyterian here in our sanctuary at 7pm as we celebrate the finished work of our Lord Jesus Christ on the cross.
- ◆ **Resurrection Sunday** is April 5. Be sure to join us at 8:30 and 10:45am that Sunday for the most joyful worship of the year! He is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!
- ◆ **The Pastor will be on study leave** with his pastors' covenant group from Monday, April 13 - Sunday, April 19. If you have a pastoral care need during this time, please contact the church office, and our Administrative Assistant will put you in touch with a local pastor. NOTE: There will be NO PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY on April 13, and NO 8:30 SERVICE on Sunday, April 19. But be sure to join us at 10:45 that Sunday as we enjoy a sermon by a guest preacher!
- ◆ **The 7 Deadly Sins!** Beginning in late April, Joshua will begin a sermon series on the 7 Deadly Sins. These aren't sins that are necessarily worse than all the other sins - rather, these seven sins have been identified as sins that often lead to other sins. Join us throughout April, May and June as we talk about pride, envy, wrath, sloth, greed, gluttony, and lust! Watch this space for more details.



### Souper Bowl Results!

You all did it again! We beat last year's record and set a new high at 1,165 cans! Thank you for your continued generosity!!!

We have received a check from Kroger in the amount of \$112.73 for the period of November 1, 2025 thru January 31, 2026. We have 44 households shopping for us. **IT ONLY TAKES A FEW MINUTES.** You already swipe your Kroger Plus card when you shop so why not help our church earn money at the same time?! Please contact Reta Crone at 367-4917 for more info.



“Grace is love that stoops and rescues.” - John Stott



- 8 Judy Gibbs, Stephanie Loos
- 11 Barry Fury
- 16 Jenny Jones
- 18 Bev Hughes, Nancy Platt
- 20 Karen Greschel
- 24 Tim Corcoran
- 28 Ivan Hughes

**Office Hours:** 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Monday - Thursday  
**Bulletin Deadlines:** Wednesdays,  
10:00 a.m.

**April Evangel Deadline:**  
**March 16 by 12 Noon**

Send all bulletin and Evangel items to Judy at [office@harrisonpresbyterian.com](mailto: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.



### MARCH FELLOWSHIP TABLE

- 1 Open
- 8 Ken O'Connor
- 15 Nancy Platt
- 22 Open
- 29 Open



**Notice:** Our March Love Thy Neighbor mission is for **Christ's Loving Hands**. Items needed are: canned fruit (pineapple, mandarin oranges, peaches, pears), refried beans, ketchup, mustard, mayo, ranch dressing, barbecue sauce, small jars of peanut butter, cups of Chef Boyardee beef ravioli, Hamburger Helper cups,

Campbell soup cups, Spaghetti O's, Maruchan instant lunch chicken flavored ramen cups. I want to stress that the last items should be **individual cups**, as children take these for lunches and snacks. Thank you for your continued generosity in helping the poor and lost in our community.

“Trust the past to God's mercy, the present to God's love, and the future to God's providence.” - Augustine of Hippo



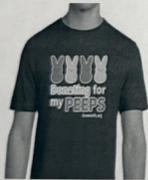
## UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE

First Presbyterian Church -  
Harrison

Saturday, March 21, 2026

8:00 am – 2:00 pm

Blood Drive held on the donor bus in parking lot  
115 S. Vine St. Harrison, OH 45030



To schedule your appointment, please visit:

[hoxworth.org/groups/fpcharrison](https://hoxworth.org/groups/fpcharrison)

or call Hoxworth at 513-451-0910 or

Scan the QR code



*All donors will receive a Free Spring T-shirt!*

Appointments Encouraged. Ask about Red Cell donation

# All Types Welcome.

**Hoxworth**  
BLOOD CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI



# SPRING CLEANING CLOTHING DRIVE

## 2026

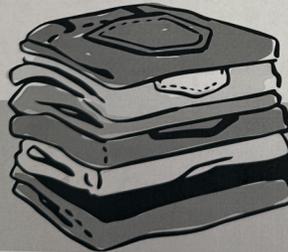
Accepting new and  
gently used clothing!

DONATION DROP OFF:

**MARCH 18th & 19th**

WHEN: 9-11am, 5-7pm

WHERE: First Presbyterian Church  
115 S Vine St  
Harrison, OH  
West Entrance



DISTRIBUTION DAY

When: MARCH 21st  
9AM-10:30AM

Where: First Presb. Church  
115 S Vine St  
Harrison, OH

 Christ's  
Loving Hands

Everything is free!

# Roman Road to Salvation

## 1. All have sinned

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

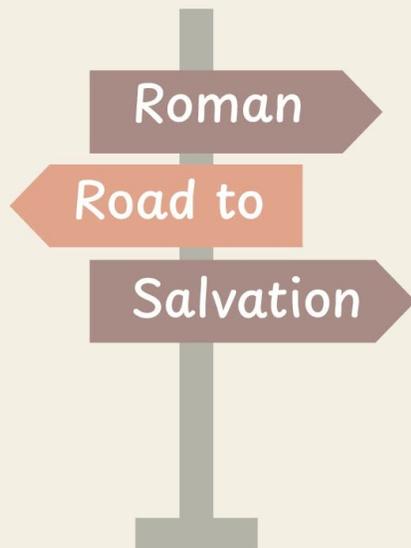
Romans 3:23

## 2. The penalty of sin

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23

## 3. Christ died for us

"But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8



## 4. Confess and believe

"If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

Romans 10:9

## 5. Assurance of salvation

"For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Romans 10:13



**Senior Saints**

Vivian Talley      Shirley Quinn      Fran Myers      Joy Riegel  
**Marian Brandenburg**

**Prayers For Our Church**

**Our Missionaries:** Warmuths, Garrigans & Joneses;  
**Marian Brandenburg:** in hospice care;  
**Erwin Hein:** recovering from shoulder surgery;  
**Teresa Gregg:** having testing done, possibility of cancer;  
**Karen Wolff:** prayers for healing;  
**Foster Harris:** continued prayers for healing;  
**Beth Snape:** recovering from a kidney stone;

**Ongoing Health**

**Needs**

Louanna Smith  
JoJean Kleinfeld  
**Arlene Anderson**  
Pam Mains  
Anne Troy  
**Pam Biddle**

**Prayers For Others**

**Deb Menninger:** for Joey and & Hank's health;  
**Marilyn Bourquein:** for grandson, Kent's health;  
**Mary Ann Pickens:** for her mental health and for brother, Paul's health;  
**Marcia Merse:** for husband, George, under special care at home;  
**For our loved ones with cancer:** Kelly Sebastian, Linda Schmidt, Rob Parsons, June Tucker, Carol Scott, Joy Benson McAdams and Beth Ann Willis;  
**Chris & Leah Wilson:** for strength and stamina as rebuilding of home after fire and losing a pet;  
**Tom Steuver:** for siblings, (Linda, Doug, and Joe), as they each undergo surgery;  
**Phyllis Pridemore:** for son, Brad Baldrige, has rare and severe eye infection;



**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.

**Minutes of Regular Session Meeting  
First Presbyterian Church  
Harrison, Ohio  
January 6, 2026**

Rev. Dr. Joshua Long opened the meeting with prayer at 6:32 pm in the Conference room. Elder attendance is marked below as present, absent or attended via Zoom. A quorum was declared present.

Sandra McCauley	P	Terry Frenz	P	Tamela Hinson	P
Jeff Sindiong	A	Jeff Anders	P	Rebecca Scherzinger	P
Becky Hayes-Heckman	P	Doug Jones	P	Tom Steuver	P
Rev. Dr. Joshua Long, Moderator					
Clerk of Session Doug Jones					

Also present: Deacon Representative Lisa Steuver and Active member Mindy Sindiong

Rev. Dr. Joshua Long led a devotion using Psalm 51: 1-19

**Call for additional Agenda items:** The agenda was approved as submitted.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Regular Session meeting minutes for Tuesday December 2, 2025 were approved with minor corrections.

**Report from the Clerk of Session:** No report

**Deacon's Report:** Deacon Representative Lisa Steuver reported that approximately 135 people were served communion in December. Approximately 80 calls and 40 conversations were completed in December. There have been many prayer requests received and cards sent in December.

**Pastor's Report:** Rev. Dr. Joshua Long distributed and reviewed the Pastor's Annual Report for 2025. **Elder Sandra McCauley moved, seconded by Elder Tom Steuver, to approve Rev. Dr. Joshua Long Vacation beginning February 9, 2026 thru February 15, 2026 with Rev. Tim McQuade to fill the Pulpit on Sunday February 15, 2026. Motion passed.**

**Continuing Business**

All Elders spent some time reviewing and planning the logistics for the upcoming Congregation meeting scheduled for Sunday January 25, 2026.



## **Continuing Business**

**Joy To Serve:** Rev. Dr. Long distributed and discussed the 2026 proposed committee organization based on Elder responses. **Elder Dr. Terry Frenz moved, seconded by Elder Tamela Hinson, to accept the proposed 2026 Session committee organization.** Following some discussion, **Motion passed.**

*Worship and Music – Tom Steuver Co-Chair / Terry Frenz Co-Chair  
Christian Education –Becky Hayes-Heckman, Co-Chair /  
Rebecca Scherzinger, Co-Chair*

*Outreach – Jeff Sindiong, Co-Chair / Jeff Anders Co-Chair  
Stewardship, Personnel & Administration (SPA) –Sandra McCauley, Chair /  
Tamela Hinson*

*Missions – Tamela Hinson, Chair*

*Facilities – Doug Jones, Chair / Tom Steuver / Jeff Sindiong*

*Nominating – Doug Jones, Co-Chair / Sandra McCauley, Co-Chair*

*2026 Pastor Review Team – Jeff Anders / Sandra McCauley / Terry Frenz*

*2025 EPC Midwest Presbytery Representative – Tamela Hinson / Jeff Anders /  
Tom Steuver / Jeff Sindiong*

## **New Business**

**Elder Tom Steuver moved, Seconded by Elder Sandra McCauley, to schedule an Elder Retreat for Tuesday February 3, 2026.** Following discussion, **motion passed.**

## **Committee Reports:**

**Worship and Music:** Elder Tom Steuver distributed and reviewed the December 10, 2025 Worship and Music minutes. Worship and Music has been very busy wrapping up the Christmas Season and beginning preparations for Lent 2026. The next Worship and Music meeting is scheduled for Wednesday January 14, 2026 at 6pm in the Library.

**Christian Education:** Christian Education did not meet in December. **Elder Doug Jones moved, seconded by Elder Tom Steuver, to approve a new adult Sunday School class for ages 18 to 108 called the Westminster Sunday School Class lead by Mindy Sindiong.** Following a time of discussion with Active Member Mindy Sindiong, **motion passed.**

**Outreach:** Outreach did not meet in December. The church has a new Website. Tom Steuver and Jeff Sindiong are working to update all church email accounts. Outreach has been planning a celebration that will follow the EPC Installation Worship Service scheduled for Sunday January 18, 2026.



**Stewardship/Personnel/Administration (SPA):** Financial Secretary Jeff Gibbs emailed the November 2025 Financial Reports prior to the Session meeting. SPA did not meet in December. Elder Sandra McCauley confirmed that Administrative Assistant Judy Gibbs last day will be April 17, 2026 and a search will begin soon to find a new Administrative Assistant.

**Missions:** Missions did not meet in December. 2 cents a meal collection for December was 82.00. Bountiful Hearts served approximately 100 people with 81 being guests in December.

**Facilities:** Elder Doug Jones distributed Facilities notes from December, Facilities was unable to meet in person in December. A serious electrical issue was found in the pantry related to the expired large fridge. Facilities request patience, as we begin reviewing and testing all electrical plugs and breakers before replacing or adding any new appliances. **Elder Tom Steuver moved, seconded by Elder Tamela Hinson, to approve a 12 Hour Prayer Vigil scheduled for Friday March 6, 2026 using Faith Hall, Chapel, and The Welcome Center from 6:30am to 6:30pm, approve Women's Association Stuff Sale scheduled for Friday April 17, 2026 and Saturday April 18, 2026 from 8:30am to 3pm each day using Sonrise hall, Conference room and Kitchen, approve Women's Association Stuff Sale Set up scheduled for Monday April 13, 2026 thru Thursday April 16, 2026 from 8:30am to 5pm each day using Sonrise hall and Kitchen, approve Women's Association Stuff Sale Set up scheduled for Tuesday April 14, 2026 thru Thursday April 16, 2026 from 8:30am to 5pm each day using the Conference Room. Motion Passed.**

**Future dates:**

Next Regular Session meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 3, 2026 at 6:30 pm in the Conference room.

Next Midwest Presbytery meeting scheduled for February 6 and 7, 2026.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned and closed in prayer by Rev. Dr. Joshua Long at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas V. Jones  
Clerk of Session

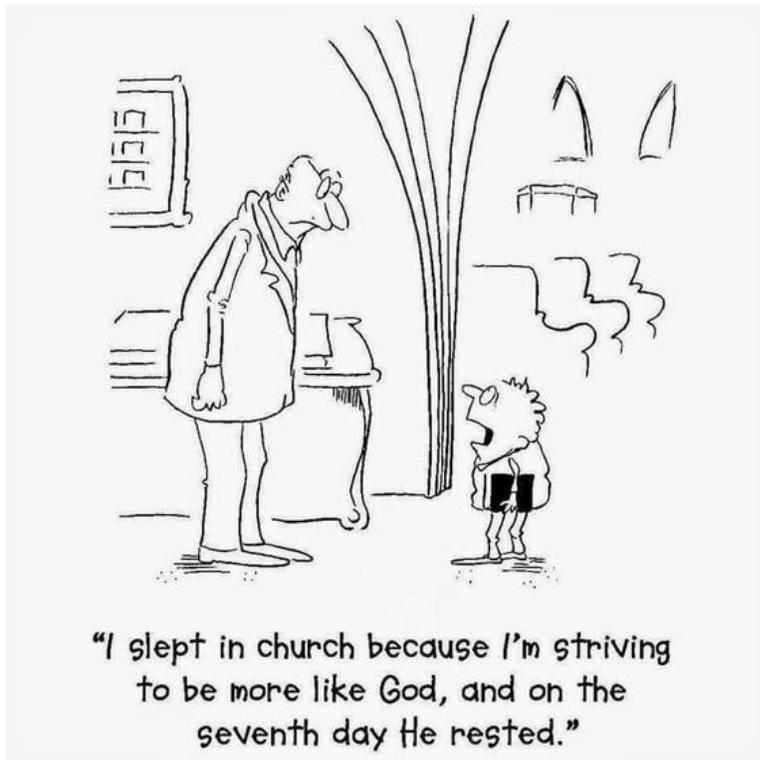
Rev. Dr. Joshua Long  
Moderator





This space is normally occupied by the financial report, however, due to circumstances beyond my control, it is empty this month. Check back next month and I will place 2 months worth of financial statements here. If you need the information before then, stop in the office and I will hook you up.

- Judy Gibbs



First Presbyterian Church  
115 S. Vine St.  
Harrison, OH 45030  
Pastor: Dr. Joshua Long  
Church Phone number: 367-4301  
Church email: [office@harrisonpresbyterian.com](mailto:office@harrisonpresbyterian.com)  
Pastor email: [jlong@harrisonpresbyterian.com](mailto:jlong@harrisonpresbyterian.com)  
Website: [www.harrisonpresbyterian.com](http://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.

