

## WHERE TO TURN TO FOR HELP & ANSWERS

**Card Ministry** | Barbara Florence

**Change of Contact Information** | Janine Miller

**Children's Church** | Sarah White

**Church Calendar** | Janine Miller

**Deacons** | Fred Berge, Jim Lightle, Steve Paugh, Christy Routzahn, Dan Smith, Brad Timmons, Paul Webb, Bob Entler

**Events** | Katie Mitchell

**Food Pantry** | Jim Lightle, Fred Berge, Dan Smith

**Membership** | Pastor Aaron White

**Music Ministry** | Carol Wildman, Deanna Mattinson

**Newsletter** | Janine Miller

**Nursery** | Ashley Woods

**Pioneer Clubs** | Jodi Smith

**Prayer Chain** | Janine Miller

**Rental, Church Facilities** | Janine Miller

**Session** | Pastor Aaron White, Rob Vaughn, Jim Hildebrand, Greg Rice, Todd Severt, Chris Cain, Jeff Miller

**Small Groups** | Don Grigorenko, Aaron Baldauff

**Thursday Morning Breakfast Club** | A. J. Woods

**Technology & Website** | Mindy Wildman

## HOW TO RECEIVE CHRIST

ADMIT YOUR NEED.  
"I am a sinner."

BE WILLING TO TURN FROM  
YOUR SINS.  
"I am sorry for my sins, Lord.  
Please forgive me."

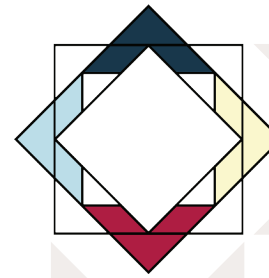
BELIEVE THAT JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR  
YOU ON THE CROSS AND ROSE FROM  
THE GRAVE.  
"I believe you did what you said you did—  
that you died on the cross then rose from  
the dead and have the power to save me."

THROUGH PRAYER, INVITE JESUS  
CHRIST TO COME IN AND CONTROL  
YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT.  
"Please come into my life and change me.  
Make me a new person."

IF YOU HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED  
CHRIST, WE WOULD LIKE TO GIVE YOU  
A BIBLE. CONTACT PASTOR AARON IF  
YOU ARE INTERESTED.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
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Phone: 937-462-8479  
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[www.FPCconnect.org](http://www.FPCconnect.org)



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

## GUEST SPEAKER REV. DR. ERIC LAVERENTZ

On Sunday, May 16, we have the honor of hearing Rev. Dr. Eric Laverentz speak at both worship services plus offer two seminars: one during the Sunday School hour and one over lunch following the 11:00 service.

Dr. Laverentz, who formerly served as Senior Pastor at Kirkmont Presbytery Church in Beavercreek, is currently Lead Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Edmond, Oklahoma, Coordinator of the Elder Leadership Institute, and a Flourishing Leaders coach. He is a published author and a conference speaker on church leadership.

Our Session has been studying his article series entitled "Recovering the Office of Elder: The Shepherd Model" over the past two years. Dr. Laverentz and his wife, Jen, have four children ages 5-13.

## NEW PARTNERSHIP CLASS

Beginning April 18, 2021

If you are not yet a member, but would like to be or would just like to learn more about FPC, here's your chance!

Pastor Aaron will be teaching a 6-week New Members' Class beginning Sunday, April 18th, during the Sunday School hour.

Please contact Pastor Aaron if you're interested in joining.

April 11, 2021

# A SEASON OF RESURRECTION!

Written By

THE Rev. Aaron W. White, Ph.D.

In this season of Easter, we are reminded of the new life that the resurrection brings. We are completely changed by Jesus being raised from the dead for our new life, and world history

is completely altered by this historical event for believer and unbeliever alike. Jesus rose, and everything changes! Praise God!

Hebrew 13:20-21 says,

*Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

At First Pres. we are entering into a busy season of Resurrection that I am very enthusiastic about. I wanted to take this opportunity to talk about the many, many things happening at FPC in the run up to summer and what they mean for our life together.

**New Members Class:** April 18th we kick off another New Members Class, that as many of you know, we call Partnership Class. This is an important first step into the life of FPC and a way for individuals and families to explore what it means, not only to be a member, but a partner at FPC. Pray for those going through this class, that the Spirit would meet them there and that the time would be fruitful.

**Elder Retreat:** Over the weekend of April 24th, the elders will retreat to pray, plan, and fellowship. The goal of these bi-annual retreats is to model rest as Jesus did when he would go to the wilderness and pray away from the hustle and bustle of ministry life. It is also a time for your elders to seek God's face concerning where He'd have us as ministries continue to move forward. Pray for God's clear guidance and rest for your shepherds.

**Golf Outing:** On Sunday, May 2nd, FPC is rebooting its golf outing at Locust Hills. This nine-hole outing followed up by a potluck will be a good time of reconnection and fellowship for many in the congregation that have not seen each other in maybe over a year because of COVID. Pray that our reconnection and fellowship would be sweet and encouraging.

**Presbytery:** The weekend of May 14th, Presbytery meets in Brighton, MI. The gathering of our region of churches will consider again the ordinary life of the elder and spend time discussing business of the mission of the broader church. Pray that business would be productive, and that the elders from many other churches would come with encouraging news of the Kingdom expanding.

**Eric Laverentz's visit:** On Sunday, May 16th, Eric Laverentz will come to preach and to teach. Many of you probably do not know who Eric is, but you are aware that your elders have been working on what it means to be shepherds. Well, Eric wrote much of the material we have been utilizing as part of grasping what it means to shepherd our congregation more effectively. Eric will preach at both services, and he will give two seminars on Sunday—one during Sunday school hour and a lunch time seminar after the second service. Consider coming! Pray that this will be an edifying time for our congregation.

## Events in Our Church Family

COME JOIN US!

### TODAY

8:30AM

WORSHIP SERVICE

10:00AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

11:00AM

WORSHIP SERVICE

6:30PM

CAMPAIGNERS (GILBERT'S)

### MONDAY

6:00PM

MENS DISCIPLESHIP

### TUESDAY

3:00PM

FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVED

### WEDNESDAY

6:00AM

IRONMEN FELLOWSHIP (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

### THURSDAY

6:30AM

THURS. BREAKFAST CLUB (GILBERT'S)

5:30PM

PRAISE BAND PRACTICE

### SUNDAY (4/18)

8:30AM

WORSHIP SERVICE

10:00AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00AM

NEW PARTNERSHIP CLASS

11:00AM

WORSHIP SERVICE

6:30PM

CAMPAIGNERS (GILBERT'S)

### WEDNESDAY (4/21)

6:00AM

IRONMEN FELLOWSHIP (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

## Thursday Breakfast Club

It's Back!

All High School students are invited to come join us for breakfast, fellowship, and discipleship during Thursday Breakfast Club. We will meet Thursdays beginning this week at 6:30am and running through May 6th.

If you are interested in helping prepare breakfast contact A.J. Woods.

## Pioneer Club & Graduation Sunday

Every year we like to honor our students. This year we had an amazing turnout of K-6th grade students participate in Pioneer Clubs. We would like to share some of that experience with our church family during Pioneer Club Sunday.

We would also like to honor our graduating Seniors as they prepare for their next journey.

Join us and invite a friend for a special combined outdoor service and donuts.

9:30a | Donuts    10:00a | Combined Service

# THANK YOU

Dear Church Members,  
I deeply appreciate the card, note, and prayers from the congregation.

Sincerely, Barbara Ridenour

**Pioneer Club Sunday:** May 23rd is one of my favorite Sundays of the year. It caps off a ministry that I truly believe is guiding the direction of our community in a clearly gospel-centered way. Pray for Jodi as she prepares for this important day and pray for the unchurched families that come to church for this Sunday, that they might hear the gospel and that it would change them!

**Graduate Sunday:** May 23rd is also the Sunday that we get to commission and send our graduates. We delight in this moment because we know that the Lord has given us these graduates as a stewardship, and we hope that we have done what God has called us to do with them by equipping them to own their faith. Pray that this Sunday would be a time of celebration and sending of these individuals.

As you can see, there is a lot happening in two short months! God is good! Let us come together and celebrate how He is choosing to use us as a congregation and pray that He'd continue to do so.

God bless you and your family,

PA

## Holy Land Tour 2022

One event scheduled for the church's 200th celebration is a tour of the Holy Land. This is the first time for such an undertaking by our church. The itinerary and cost will come soon but the dates are set: June 4 – 13, 2022. The group size will be 15 to 25 individuals as we wanted this to mirror a small group. The group will be led by Dr. Mark Ziese, Dean of School of Bible and Theology, Johnson University. You can learn more about Dr. Ziese on his website: [markziese.com](http://markziese.com).

We will visit such places as Caesarea, Jericho, Masada, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jerusalem and so much more.

In anticipation of this wonderful opportunity, make sure your passport is current through December 2022. Continue saving money!

More information to come.

If you have any questions, contact Diane Eichelberger.

## MARCH *Anniversaries*

April 5 | Aaron and Rachel Baldauff | 13 Years

April 6 | Ernie & Jeannine Erwin | 30 Years

April 25 | Paul & Erin Webb | 6 Years

## Golf Outing and Potluck

Whether you love to golf or you just miss fellowshiping with your church family, come and join us! The golf outing will be at Locust Hills, May 2, followed by a potluck.

If you are interested in golfing, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall beginning next week. Golfers should be at the golf course by 1:15p, and the cost is \$20. Prepay by cash or checks (made out to the church) by April 25th. Please mark your payment for the Golf Outing and place it in the offering.

Everyone is invited to join us for a potluck following the golf outing. The potluck will be held in the Locust Hills Pavilion at 4:30p. We will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, and paper supplies. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

If you are able to bring a grill or have any questions, please contact Bodie (Jim) Lightle, Christy Routzahn, or Paul Webb.

## THANK YOU TO OUR NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

Apr. 11 Sarah Burton

Apr. 18 Monica Mitchell

Apr. 25 Christy Routzahn

May 2 TBD

## NURSERY

Every effort will be made to keep the nursery clean and sanitized, but parents who leave their children in the nursery need to be aware that there will be other children there, as well as toys that other children have touched.

**Our nursery director, Ashley Woods, is asking those who would be willing to serve to please contact her at 740-505-2331.** All volunteers must wear a mask and would be serving at their own health risk.

## Food Pantry Donations

Help us support our community by donating non-perishables food items to the Manna Food Pantry.

April | Peanut Butter & Jelly  
May | Tuna Helper & Hamburger Helper  
June | Canned Fruit & Applesauce  
July | Pork N Beans & Canned Beans  
August | Canned Tuna & Beef Stew