



Lord of the Sabbath

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. ~Exodus 20:8

One Sabbath, Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?" He answered, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions." Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath." ~Mark 2:23-28

Our strange days continue. Some of us are still going in to work as essential employees. Some are working from home. Some have been laid off, or have been furloughed. Some are in retirement, but have had to step away from volunteer or social activities. Some have become home-schooling parents. For all, this is a struggle. Our way of life socially, spiritually, physically, psychologically, and financially has been altered, and we do not know when our situations will normalize. There are times I struggle seeing this through Christ's eyes.

The familiar story of creation describes how God created the heavens, the earth, and all that is in them in six days. On the seventh day, God rested. He set this day aside and called it holy. Later, when God gave Moses the Ten Commandments, the practice of observing the Sabbath with rest and holiness was codified.

During Jesus' ministry, he would, on more than one occasion, anger the religious authorities by engaging in ministry on the Sabbath. Sometimes his disciples would glean grain in fields. Other times, Jesus would perform a healing. The religious authorities would condemn him for breaking God's Law. Jesus pointed out that these things were needful and holy. Then he said that "the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath", and declared himself the Lord of the Sabbath.

We Americans don't like Sabbath much. We are a nation of people who value a hard day's work for a wage. We like to see results, whether it be bringing in a bumper crop at harvest time, watching our students as they grow, learn, and become productive members of society, seeing our sales figures skyrocket one quarter, or boosting our productivity levels. We work hard, but we don't rest easy. I'm one of these people.

As I grow frustrated with these days, I am trying my best to view them as Sabbath days. Much of our busy-ness has been stripped away, and now we have an abundance of something we used to wish we had more of--time. What are we making of all this extra time? Are we using it wisely? Are we using it to rest in our Lord of the Sabbath?

What does it mean to rest in the Lord? I think it means to focus on who we are in Christ. So much of our identity stems from our work or activities. We spend a lot of time "resting on our laurels". The gift of this isolation can be to find our rest not in how the world sees us, but how Christ sees us. We are held in high regard by Christ, though we are sinners. He died for us. That is how much YOU are valued.

Take the extra time to talk to Jesus in prayer, to read Scripture, to read devotionals. Just rest in him. And then, when things get back to something closer to normal, carry that identity with you back to your workplace, your volunteer work, and your social activities. Who we are in Jesus is far more important than who the world thinks we are. Amen.

VBS Planning



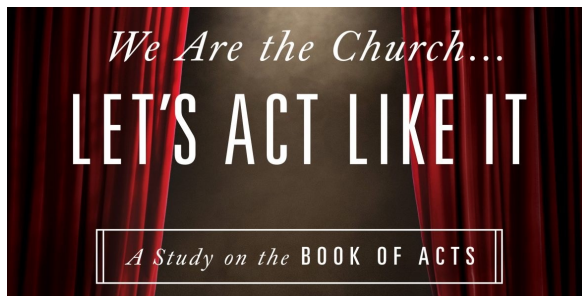
Get ready for our VBS Adventure! Our Vacation Bible School is still tentatively scheduled for July 27-31. Plans are being made to have a virtual VBS if large groups are still not allowed to congregate. Stay tuned for sign-up opportunities to volunteer and/or participate!



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|----------|-------------------|
| April 5 | Nancy Luke |
| April 6 | Judi Perry |
| April 10 | Guinevere Bihun |
| April 13 | Paul Todd |
| April 15 | Kimberly Ryu |
| April 19 | Beverly Johnson |
| April 19 | Victor Nikolajevs |
| April 21 | Sarah Prout |
| April 24 | Clark Culbertson |
| April 26 | Ethan Ransom |
| April 29 | Jann Glann |
| April 29 | Missy Sprankel |

Tuesday Night Bible Study

We have started a Tuesday evening Zoom study group. For the next two weeks we will be studying Paul's letter to the Philippians. After that, we will be studying "We Are the Church...Let's Act Like It" by Linda Tower Pevey. The books can be ordered via Amazon for \$7.99 in either Kindle or Paperback. If you are unable to order via Amazon yourself, or if you cannot afford the book, please let the church office know by Wednesday, April 22nd. We can order one for you and have it sent to your home address. To sign up for the study group, please let the church office know you are interested so you may be given the link and password to join the virtual study. It begins at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings.



The famous teacher and evangelist Oswald Chambers stated, "Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work."

Submitted by the FPC Huron
Prayer Group

Tithes and Offerings

If you are able, please do not forget your tithes and offerings. The church is still functioning and ministering in the community, and bills still need to be paid. Online giving is now an option on our website. Look for the donation button on the front page at firstpresbychurchhuron.org. Or if you are able, please consider mailing your tithes and offerings to the church. Thanks!



Pandemic

I am here among them, with them, between them,
in thought but not in body.
I hear their togetherness, laughter,
conversations, kids at play.
I can feel their hugs and kisses all around.
I close my eyes and see their faces
filled with smiles, their body positions
in activated mode, I smile too.
This ugly, deadly virus separates us,
forces necessary social distance,
with needed "stay home" orders.
I feel the vulnerability, the
potential for more disorder, more loss.
The recovery seems too slow, anemic.
I can feel my impatience.
I want it to be over with, stop the dying.
I look at photographs, some framed, hanging on walls,
others in albums. I spend time on each page
to allow my recall to function.
I read poems I wrote to document
their growing up years, mine as well.
A knot in my throat begins to assemble,
I swallow it back as best I can.
I tell myself, "I am fine. We all
are going to be fine.
God has us in his hands."
A smile creases my face as a
sense of peace rises within me
and calms me down. I can feel
my heart rate slow.
My urge returns to capture the
will to write another poem.

Written by Ronald M. Ruble

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Online Worship Opportunities

As we continue to quarantine at home, we still have the ability to worship together as a church family through the church's Facebook page. Each week, Pastor Sara will be uploading the Worship Service video to Facebook by 10 am on Sundays. Our secretary, Becky, will continue to email the link to each video as well on Sunday mornings.



You can also access the videos by going to the church's Facebook page at "First Presbyterian Church, Huron, OH" or by entering this web address: <https://www.facebook.com/First-Presbyterian-Church-Huron-OH-136551623028209/>. We'll be pinning the most current Worship Service Video towards the top of the Facebook page each Sunday.

Hymn Requests?

Do you have a favorite hymn you would like to hear during our virtual worship service? Email or call the church office to let us know, and we will try to include it in one of our upcoming services.



Adopt-a-Bike Program

As a part of the Matthew 25 Church initiative, our goal is to repair and refurbish bikes then give them to those in need. The bicycles in need of repair are pictured below with their repair information. If you are interested in “adopting” a bike to fix, please contact the church office at 419-433-5018.

RACING RIVER FREE SPIRIT – 20”(?) – 15 SPEED



- Generally good condition
- Tires okay, some cracking
- Chains a tad rusty, could use oil spray or oil soak
- Rims just need clean-up
- Bakes need adjustment
- Need to check tire tubes
- Need to ride test to check gears/shifting, etc.

SCHWINN HIGH TIMBER – BLUE-GREY/YELLOW HIGHLIGHTS – 22”(?) – 21 SPEED



- Good condition
- Tires, rims, bakes look to be in good shape
- Seat could use some creative repairs or replacement
- Check crank shaft, may need tightening
- Need to check tire tubes
- Need to ride test to check gears/shifting, etc.
- Could use kick stand

NISHIKI (SILVER) – 26”(?) – 10 SPEED



- Good condition
- Tires & rims look to be in good shape
- Need to check tire tubes
- Brakes need adjustment
- Need to ride test to check gears/shifting, etc.

RALEIGH (WHITE w/BLACK) – 26”(?) – 10 SPEED



- Good condition
- Tires & rims look to be in good shape
- Brakes need adjustment
- Seat might need replacement (uncomfortable racing street)
- Need to check tire tubes
- Need to ride test to check gears/shifting, etc.
- Broken gear shift handle could be replaced
- Could use kick stand

SCHWINN (GREEN) – 22” – 1 SPEED



- Solid bike
- Needs major clean and polishing all over
- Tires & rims look to be in good shape
- Chain needs to be oiled
- Need to check tire tubes

MOSSBERG (BLUE) – 22” – 1 SPEED



- Solid bike
- Needs major clean and polishing all over
- Tires & rims look to be in good shape
- Chain needs to be oiled
- Need to check tire tubes
- Perfect bike to add a basket

MOSSBERG (RED) – 22” – 1 SPEED



- Solid bike
- Needs major clean and polishing all over
- Tires & rims look to be in good shape
- Chain needs to be oiled
- Need to check tire tubes
- Perfect bike to add a basket

