



First Presbyterian Church

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www.firstpresbychurchhuron.org Facebook: First Presbyterian Church, Huron, Ohio

December 2021



<https://www.brookhollowcards.com/product/1318127/ blessings-christmas-card.aspx>

Church Staff

Pastor Sara Hodsden Administrative Assistant Dawn Fleming

Church Treasurer Donna Myers Director of Music Jann Glann

Little Wonders Preschool Teachers : Director Kim Hartnett, Lead Teacher Amber Rager.

Church Custodian: Judy Andrews

Session Members (Next meeting Wednesday December 8th @ 7 p.m.)

Pastor Sara Hodsden...Marcia Arthur—Clerk of Session....Phillip Hopkins—F& M Chair....Doug Quinn—F&M...

Chuck Kaman— Christian Education, Chair.....Francesca Lendrum—Stewardship, F&M.....Cynthia Brown Mathews—G&P, Worship

Sarah Blakeman.—N&M, nominating Chair ...Ellen Drumm —N&MCarolyn Culbertson—Nominating Chair... Marcie Muntz—PW, Christian Education.

A Message from Your Pastor

It was not yet the afternoon of Halloween as I wandered through the aisles at Discount Drug Mart when I noticed the “seasonal” area had changed from Jack-O-Lanterns to Santa Claus. It seemed so premature-- all the red and green, all the tinsel and stockings, all the Christmas trees out on the shelves. “Sheesh! Give us a chance to get through October and November!”

Maybe I was being a bit of a Scrooge, but as I was driving home I heard my first Christmas song on the radio. “Too soon!” I said to myself. “We haven’t even had time for our first pumpkin spice latte, and they already want me to drink the peppermint!” And then I saw the barrage of Advent calendars being advertised at Aldi, at Meijer, at Costco. The Advent calendars I used to have as a kid were very simple. You’d open a cardboard window or door on a house or other building, and there would be a picture of something of Christmas behind it--a tree, a cookie, a manger. These modern day Advent calendars are stuffed full of cheese, or wine, or beer, or dog or cat treats, or Lego figures. “Humbug!” I thought. “They’ve taken a symbol of patience and turned it into self-indulgence.”

Then I read an article by Timothy Larson in *Christianity Today* about how Christians should not be so concerned about Christmas being too secular in our culture. He has a good point. He writes: “...many Christians are worried that Christmas is becoming secular. I think this concern is looking at the holiday backwards. In our culture, Christmas is the least secular time of the entire year—and the Christmas season takes up 10 percent of the year! Our entire culture is geared up during the holiday season to make it easier to talk about Jesus.”

All of these early decorations, Christmas songs, peppermint lattes, and Advent calendars can be an entry into conversation about Christ with those around us. This is a time of year when people are particularly open to hearing about the miracle of God becoming incarnate, born in a manger, come to die for us and for our salvation. This is the only time of year you are likely to hear the words “O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray; Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today” over a loudspeaker in a shopping mall.

I still worry about consumerism and a lack of focus on Christ at Christmas. But I also realize now in a new way the opportunities this time of year gives for us not only to worship at his manger like the wise men, but to also run to the village like the shepherds and proclaim Christ’s birth.

Little Wonders Preschool

Littlewondershuron@gmail.com



Story time!

*I know an old lady who
lived in a shoe.*



Scooping pumpkins!

The Children are excited to start their Mitten Tree this year, a tree will be put up in the classroom, where student can bring in hats and gloves to be placed on the tree and later distributed to second harvest food bank for those children in need.



Christmas Happenings

- ** Christmas Program December 15th**
- ** Christmas Party will be held December 21st**



Prayer Corner

Prayer at Advent

*Advent is a season for each of us to take time to think about where we stand in our faith and to prepare our hearts through Scripture and **prayer** to receive his gift of love and life.*

May your Advent season be such a time of preparation that you may be ready to join in the joyful celebration when Jesus comes!

“Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.”

Romans 12:12 ESV



Next Prayer Group will be held Monday December 9th @ 1 p.m.

Contact Susan Martter for more information

Whats Happening

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Tuesday December 14th 6 p.m.—7 p.m.

Girlfriends & God

Women's Bible study

Wednesday December 1st and 15th

6 p.m.-7 p.m. — Youth room



Quilters group

Thursday's

@ 9 a.m.

**COMMUNITY
MEAL** 

ALL ARE WELCOME

Lunch every Monday @12 p.m.

Dinner held every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the Month.

December 8th & December 22nd @ 5:00 p.m.



**Holiday
Office
Hours**

Monday 12/20—8:15-3:15
Tuesday 12/21— 8:15—3:15
Wednesday 12/22— 8:00-12:00
Thursday 12/23— CLOSED
Friday 12/24 — CLOSED
Monday 12/27—8:30 -3:00
Tuesday 12/28—8:30-3:00
Wednesday 12/29—8:00-12:00
Thursday 12/30—CLOSED
Friday 12/31—CLOSED



Mark Your Calendar

Christmas Eve Worship Service

Friday, December 24th

11:00 p.m.

***Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Lord
with this special candlelight
Lessons and Carols service.***

Epiphany Home Blessing

This year, Pastor Sara will again be blessing homes on January 5th and 6th to mark the Epiphany of our Lord. You can sign up for a half-hour window on those days by calling Dawn at the church office, or by visiting the Sign Up Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040949AEA72AABF58-epiphany>



Stewardship Corner



End of Year Giving

We are so appreciative of all the generosity of the people of FPC Huron during 2021. As December begins, please note that any giving sent by mail must be postmarked by December 31st, and that any electronic giving must be transacted by 11:59 p.m. on December 31st.

Per Capita Giving

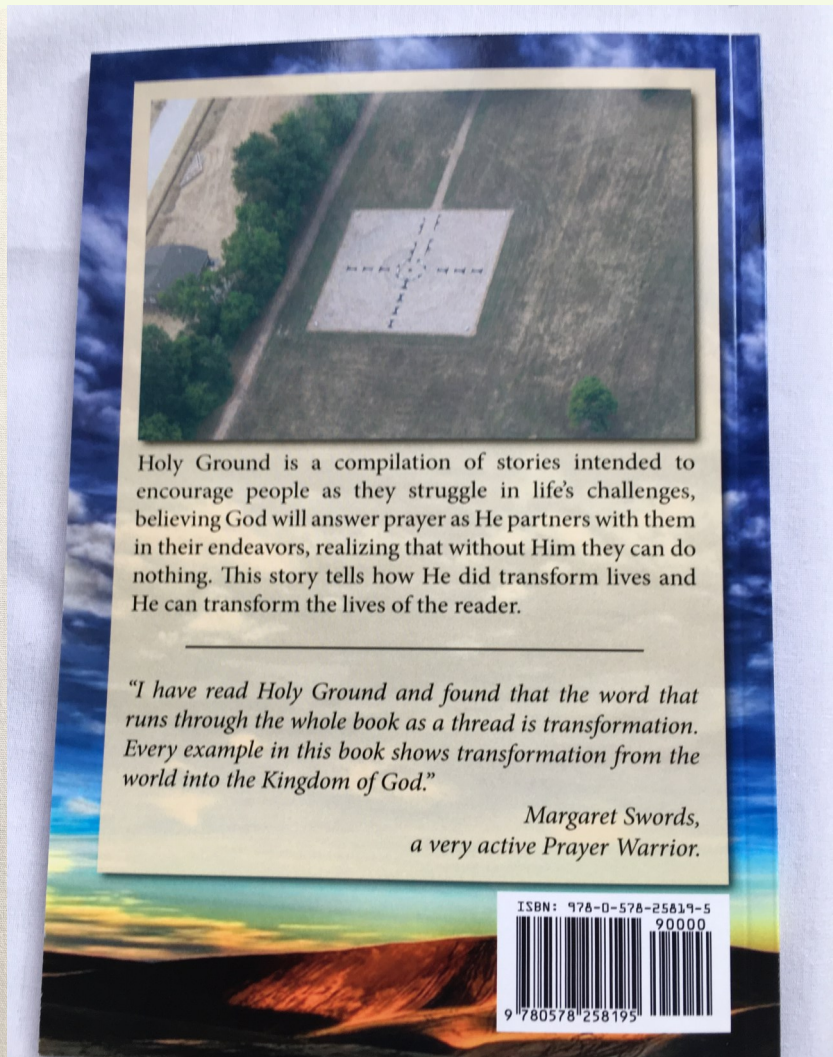
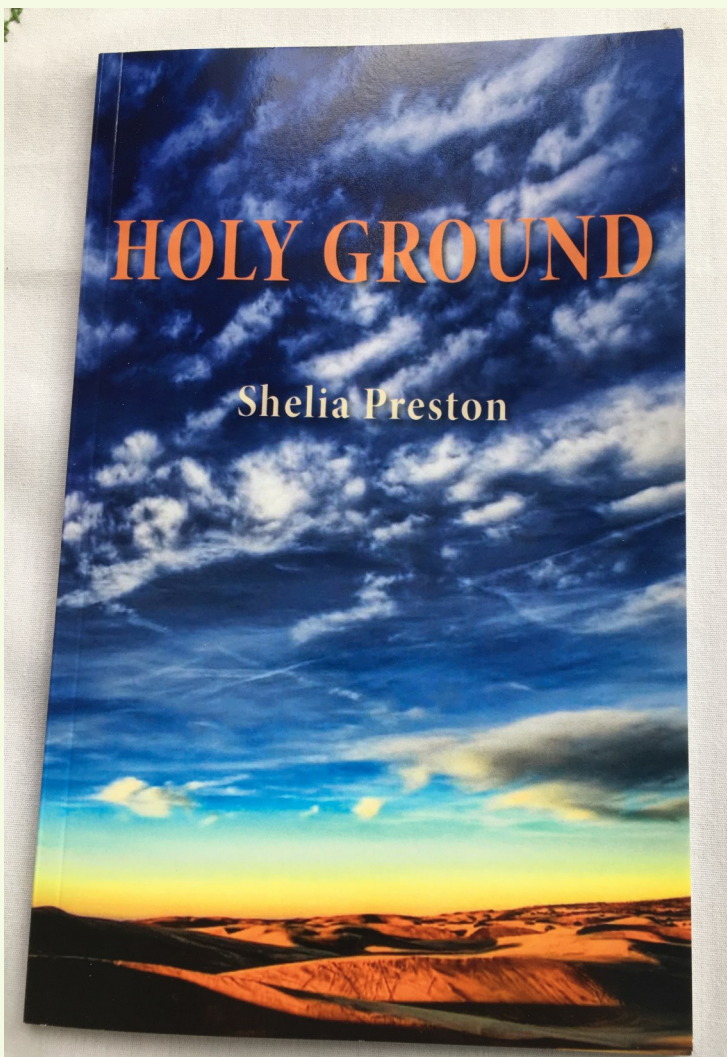
A request from our Treasurer, Donna Myers: If you included your per capita offering in 2021 as part of your giving and did not notate it on the check, or if you send your giving directly from the bank and wanted per capita noted as part of that, please notify Donna. You can email her at dmmyers217@gmail.com, or call the church office and leave a message. Thank you!

Dedication Sunday

Our “Together For Joy” stewardship drive ends on December 12th. Bring your pledge card to worship, and then join us after for a delicious brunch in Fellowship Hall. We are so grateful for you, and what you make possible. God truly uses your gifts here at FPC Huron.

Check this out

A book has been written about the history and creation of the Huron Prayer Path. The book is available for \$15.00 in the office if you would like a copy. It would be a wonderful stocking stuffer! This book is a fundraiser for the Prayer Path-the only fundraiser there is. The group of dedicated people that maintain the path would really like to buy a new tractor, so how about buying a book or a hundred?



HOLY GROUND

Shelia Preston



Holy Ground is a compilation of stories intended to encourage people as they struggle in life's challenges, believing God will answer prayer as He partners with them in their endeavors, realizing that without Him they can do nothing. This story tells how He did transform lives and He can transform the lives of the reader.

"I have read Holy Ground and found that the word that runs through the whole book as a thread is transformation. Every example in this book shows transformation from the world into the Kingdom of God."

Margaret Swords,
a very active Prayer Warrior.

ISBN: 978-0-578-25819-5



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Upcoming

Sunday Worship *Communion Sunday 12/5*

10:00 a.m.

12/5, 12/12, 12/19, 12/26



Liturgist Schedule

12/5—Jann Glann

Phillip Hopkins -Communion

12/12—Rachel Pratt

12/19– John Blakeman

12/24—Christmas Eve

12/26—Tammy Boos

Church Happenings

Sunday— Weekly Worship, Coffee Hour, 12/5 Communion

Monday— Weekly Community lunch, Scouts

Tuesday— Weekly Little Wonders Kids Chapel, Scouts, AA,

12/14 Christian Education

Wednesday—12/1 & 12/15 Women's Bible Study, 12/15 Little Wonders

Christmas Program, 12/8 & 12/15 Community Dinner

Thursday—Weekly Quilters group, Bell Choir, AA

Friday —12/10 Retired Teachers, 12/17 Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday—Wedding (12/18)

**** See Calendar for times****

December Birthday's

12/2—Chris Hakeman

12/25—Carol Johnson, Katy Mischler

12/5—Fern DeLamatre

12/29—Sharon Velliquette

12/7—Karen Brown

12/16—Jeanne Smith

12/22—Jung Hun Marty Ryu

12/23—Megan Emerson

12/24—Edwina Chamberlin



Nurture & Mission Presents: The Reverse Advent Calendar



You can help us make a difference for the Helping Hands Food Pantry this Advent. Simply bring the items above to the church during worship or office hours, and we'll take them to Helping Hands to help them keep stocked during the holidays and beyond. Thank you for helping Helping Hands!

Help Wanted

**Someone good at organization
to help sort our craft supplies and other
materials in the youth room.**

Please contact the office OR

Carolyn Culbertson

If you would like to help.



December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6 p.m. Women's Bible Study	2 9 a.m. Quilter's 2 p.m . Bell Choir 8 p.m. AA	3	4
5 10 a.m. Worship, Communion, Coffee Hour	6 12 p.m. Community Lunch Scouts	7 10:30 & 2:30 LW Chapel Scouts 7 p.m. AA 7 p.m. Dales	8 5 p.m. Community Meal 7 p.m. Session	9 9 a.m. Quilter's 2 p.m . Bell Choir 8 p.m. AA	10 11:30-1:30 Retired Teachers	11
12 10 a.m. Worship, Coffee Hour	13 12 p.m. Community Lunch Scouts	14 10:30 & 2:30 LW Chapel Scouts 6 p.m. Christian Education 7 p.m. AA	15 10:30 a.m. & 2:30 p.m. LW Christmas Program 6 p.m. Women's Bible Study	16 9 a.m. Quilter's 2 p.m. Bell Choir 8 p.m. AA	17 Wedding Rehearsal	18 7p.m. Wedding
19 10 a.m. Worship, Coffee Hour	20 12 p.m. Community Lunch Scouts	21 LW Christmas Party Scouts 7 p.m. AA	22 Office Closes at 12 LW NO SCHOOL 5 p.m. Community Meal	23 Office Closed	24 Office Closed Christmas Eve Service 11 p.m.	25 Merry Christmas
26 10 a.m. Worship, Coffee Hour	27 12 p.m. Community Lunch Scouts	28 Scouts 7 p.m. AA	29 Office Closes at 12	30 Office Closed	31 Office Closed	