



Steeple Notes

October 2025

A Message from Pastor Sara

It's an essential time of year: The season at First Presbyterian when we turn our attention to stewardship, to generosity, to taking care of God's gifts all around us, near and far.

The word "steward" comes from two ancient roots: stig, or "path, hall, part of a house," and ward, or "guardian, person who watches over." A steward is someone who protects a path, who watches over a house, who takes care of a treasure.

The inspiring good news is that you and I were born to be "stewards" in this ancient sense. To protect and care for a path, a house, a treasure – and not just our individual home or church, but also the wider community we all share, love, and serve. God's path, God's house, the bright and beautiful temple of creation, full of God's amazing creatures, great and small.

That's the mission each of us is born for. And that's the mission First Presbyterian Church of Huron is born for, too. To embody our vision: Tending to the hearts and souls of our neighbors. To proclaim our core values: Community Outreach and Connectedness, Friendship and Fellowship, Hospitality, Gratitude and Generosity, and Creativity. To make our extraordinary ministries possible: from Little Wonders to Vacation Bible School; from hosting Christ Community Meals to our Scout Pack and Troop. To care for our corner of creation, loving God and neighbor at every turn.

The season of stewardship, in other words, is a season of continuing to become the people God created us to be. Protecting the path of love and justice. Watching over creation's house of healing and hospitality. Taking care of all God's creatures, great and small.

In the weeks ahead, you'll hear from our "All Creatures Great and Small" campaign team, with more information about how you can help make this season an inspiring success. On October 12, we'll celebrate the manifold works of God through our congregation with a luncheon. On October 19th, we'll look at concrete ways we can be good stewards of everything God gives us, great and small with an all-ages event during and after worship. Mark your calendars!

Thank you in advance for being a part of this special time of year, and most of all, for everything you do – great and small – to help protect, watch over, and care for God's bright and beautiful world.



A Call to Faithful Stewardship: All Creatures Great and Small

As autumn arrives, we begin our annual stewardship season, a time to reflect on our collective commitment to the vital work and ministry of FPC Huron. Each year, we look ahead to the upcoming operating budget, and once again, we invite you, our beloved congregation, to offer your financial support. This year, the Finance Committee has set a giving target of \$180,000.

Our stewardship theme this year is "All Creatures Great and Small." This theme beautifully encapsulates our mission at FPC Huron: "Tending to the hearts and souls of our neighbors." Our congregation deeply values putting faith into action—loving one another and supporting missions that embody God's love throughout the wider world. When we love all creatures, great and small, we witness to Christ through both word and deed.

While stewardship campaigns can sometimes feel solely focused on financial targets, their true purpose lies in something far more profound: Stewardship is about using the resources God provides us for His glory. Faithful stewardship empowers us to continue growing as the people God created us to be. Without your faithful stewardship, it becomes more challenging to fulfill our sacred purpose—tending to the hearts and souls of our neighbors and caring for all of God's creatures, great and small.

As you prayerfully consider your giving for the coming year, we encourage you to challenge yourself to give a set percentage of your income. On the back of your pledge card, you will find a helpful scale suggesting various percentages. If you are already giving a set

percentage, we invite you to prayerfully consider increasing that percentage.

For those who do not currently give a set percentage, we encourage you to consider increasing your pledge by 16%. For example, if you pledged \$2,000 in 2025, consider pledging \$2,320 in 2026, which breaks down to approximately \$26.50 per month.

The Stewardship Committee also recommends a pledge to assist the Presbytery's operating budget by contributing an amount equal to the per capita apportionment. In 2026, we will owe the Presbytery \$40.71 for each member.

We extend our deepest gratitude for your faithfulness and generosity. We recognize that when you give to the church, you are making a faithful sacrifice. Your sacrifices are what make it possible for our congregation to continue its vital work of caring for all creatures, great and small.

Your Stewardship Committee:
Francesca Lendrum, Chair
Ellen Drumm, Co-Chair
Susan Martter, Gail Burke, Sara Hodsden



Stewardship



Week of October 5th: Look for your Stewardship letter, pledge card, and current giving statement in the mail. Begin to prayerfully consider your 2026 giving, and bring your pledge card to worship between October 12-November 2nd.

October 12th: Stewardship Focus Sunday with lunch following worship. Learn about how your gifts help to power the mission of FPC Huron.

October 19th: Stewardship Messy Sunday! We'll look at the way we can be good stewards of all God gives us--money, time, talent, earth, and even our pets. Celebration begins at 10:00 a.m., with intergenerational activities to follow. Back to the Wild will be here with creatures, and Ann Pullano will share how she shares Christ's love with her pet. Would you like your pet blessed? Return to church between 11:30 and 1:00 with your dog, your cat, your parrot, or even your pet rock! Pastor Sara will be blessing pets in the parking lot.

October 26th: Reformation Sunday. We'll remember the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, and celebrate its impact on the theology of Stewardship.

November 2nd: Stewardship Celebration: We'll give thanks to God for His gifts to us, great and small, and rededicate our lives to using all that we are and all that we have to Christ's glory.

Upcoming

Mark
your
Calendar



The Presbyterian Women will host their Fall Rummage Sale on October 4th from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. If you wish to donate items for the sale, please bring them to the Fellowship Hall starting September 29th after 2 PM.

We are looking for the following items:

- Clothing (especially winter clothing)
- Shoes and boots
- Bedding and towels
- Household items
- Kitchen items
- Toys and games
- Puzzles and books

Volunteers are needed to help sort and set up on Friday, October 3rd, from 9 AM to noon, as well as on Saturday during the sale and for cleanup afterward.

Thank you!

Blood Drive

The Red Cross Blood Drive will take place on Tuesday, October 14th, from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There are two ways you can help!

- See Sarah Blakeman to donate baked goods and other snacks for donors and Bloodmobile workers.
- Sign up to give blood at redcross.org.



Ladies Lunch

Please note that there will be no Ladies Who Lunch event in October, as many of our regular attendees will be out of town that weekend. However, anyone interested in getting together for lunch is more than welcome; just keep in mind that there won't be an official gathering of the lunch ladies.

In November, we plan to meet at Ehope, which will take place on a Thursday. Stay tuned for more details regarding the November Ladies Who Lunch.

What's New

Building & Maintenance



- Republic Trash will no longer be our trash pick-up provider. Our new service will be with Heitsche, services will begin on October 3rd.



- The new fire alarm system update has been completed.
- The leveling and replacing of the sidewalks will be completed and up to the city's standardized code by mid-October.



- Trees have been trimmed, and the large tree on Cleveland Road has been cut down.

Walk In Cooler

Last year, Christ Community Meals approached us with a vision to install a walk-in cooler in our kitchen, made possible by a generous bequest. With the approval of our church's Session, the cooler has now been installed! This addition provides the ministry with essential food storage and gives us much-needed refrigeration space. It has also freed up areas previously occupied by large chest freezers in our fellowship hall. Please feel free to take a look at it when you have the chance. We extend our sincere gratitude to Christ Community Meals! Praise God from whom all blessings flow!



Custodian

On September 21, 2025, we celebrated Judy Andrews for her 21 years of service to our church. Judy has done a remarkable job over the past 21 years, we appreciate her dedication and hard work. We ask that you keep her in your prayers as she enjoys her retirement!

We have hired a cleaning company, which brought in Tanesha, a young lady from Huron. She will be at the church 4 days a week during the evening hours. If you see her around, please give her a warm welcome and keep her in your prayers as she continues to work hard to keep our church clean!

Troop 31 and Pack 31 News

Troop 31 thanks everyone for their support in the Mum Sale. Many Scouts earned enough to pay for their full year of Scouting! Stay tuned for details on the next fundraising event: the spaghetti dinner in December.

Pack 31 has doubled in size! In September, their recruitment night featured an inflatable archery booth, s'mores, hot dogs, and a raingutter regatta. Over the next two weeks, they completed their Bobcat adventures. On September 29th, they enjoyed fishing at Chris Hakeman's. In October, they'll be visiting the Toledo Zoo for an overnight experience.

Investing in the Kingdom of God: Growth and Preservation Funds

The Session and the Growth and Preservation Committee prayerfully collaborate to manage and distribute funds, blessings generously bestowed upon our church through bequests and memorial gifts. The Growth and Preservation Committee, guided by the Holy Spirit, prayerfully considers unique ways these funds may be spent to fulfill the mission of our congregation, "Tending to the hearts and souls of our neighbors." The monies in the Growth and Preservation fund are to be held as a trust from God.

Our congregation recently received a sizable bequest from the estate of Parmalee Jones. In humble gratitude to God for this divine blessing, the Growth and Preservation Committee and the Session agreed to make a tithe to the Presbytery of Maumee Valley in the amount of \$60,000, honoring God with the first fruits of our abundance.

In other Growth and Preservation Fund spending, the G & P Committee prayerfully recommended, and Session approved a \$4000 request from Helping Hands of Huron Food Pantry, and \$15,000 from OhGo, extending God's love to those in need. We challenged the Erie County Community to match the \$15,000 gift to OhGo for the purpose of buying and equipping a new truck, multiplying the blessings to serve more.

Growth and Preservation welcomes all members and friends of FPC Huron to prayerfully make recommendations for the expenditure of these funds, seeking God's will in every decision. If you have any ideas, please contact any of the committee members: Jack Arthur, Susan Martter, Francesca Lendrum, Chuck Kaman, Karen Terenzi, Amy Nevison, John Blakeman, or Pastor Sara.

Serving and Growing in Christ

GIRL SCOUT TROOP 50272 PRESENTS:

HALLOWEEN COSTUME DRIVE

DROP YOUR NEW / GENTLY USED COSTUMES BETWEEN 10/1 - 10/14 AT ONE OF THESE LOCATIONS:

HURON LIBRARY  **HURON**
Inspiring Connections with Books and More

WOODLANDS SCHOOL

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

COSTUME GIVEAWAY WILL TAKE PLACE DURING OHGO'S TRAVELING PUMPKIN PATCH. CHILDREN MUST BE PRESENT TO RECEIVE A FREE COSTUME.







Join the Trunk or Treat Team

Rotary's Trunk or Treat is Tuesday, October 28th from 5:00-6:30 p.m. at Fabens Park. This year, we are going dressed as Biblical characters. We have costumes for you! Want to help, see Pastor Sara. If you'd like to donate candy, please bring it to church by Sunday, October 26th.

Birthday Box

Want to make a child's birthday brighter? Join Birthday Box to help provide birthday treats for a child who would otherwise be unable to afford treats for their class on their birthday. All treats must be pre-packaged due to health department regulations. Our church is handling October and November. See Pastor Sara, or sign up in the narthex if you're interested.

Celebrate the
TABLE OF ABUNDANCE

A retreat led by:
Rev. Stacey Lauer-Scovanner
St. John's, Milan
Rev. Sara Hodsdon
First Presbyterian, Huron

James 1:17: "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."

November 8th, 12:00 p.m.- November 9th, 11:00 a.m.
Holiday Inn Express, Port Clinton, Ohio

Join us to celebrate God's gracious abundance with worship, conversation, wine, and food. Your registration includes lunch, a flower arranging seminar, and transportation from the hotel to two wineries and a brewery. Please note that your hotel stay, dinner, and wine tasting are not included.

Space is limited to 32 people. To register, scan this QR code:




WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
OCTOBER 5, 2025

Our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering help us pursue what makes for peace, and see the face of God in all people.

THE PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS SPECIAL OFFERING  SEPTEMBER 7- OCTOBER 5, 2025



Come and ring with us! The bell choir rehearses every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. No experience is necessary!

Highlights

Rally Day Fun!



We had buckets of fun at Rally Day this year! We started with worship in the sanctuary where we talked about Jesus's Golden Rule--love your neighbor as yourself. We read the book How Full is Your Bucket, and made a domino run out of the many boxes of cereal donated for Helping Hands.

After worship, we gathered in Fellowship Hall and created prayer calendars, made a chain link featuring ways we can fill the buckets of others, and organized items for our clean-up buckets for Church World Service. We also enjoyed bucket lunches. Thank you to Marcie Muntz, Deb Schippel, and the CE Committee for all their hard work.

Session News

- Summer Sunday school was well attended.
- We will host VBS in 2026 with "LEGOS" as the theme.
- "Messy Church" will be repeated.
- The alarm system update is complete.
- The City sent a notification to replace or level sidewalks by October.
- The bell tower roof is leaking. Horvath has been out to check.
- Stewardship will have a kick-off luncheon on 10/12.
- Worship: A 190th Church anniversary (1835) celebration is being planned for the Thanksgiving worship service with Historical readings and songs such as Holy, Holy Holy and Amazing Grace.

Session members: Sarah Blakeman, Doug Quinn, Francesca Lendrum, Cynthia Brown Mathews, Ellen Drumm, Deb Schipel, Jack Arthur, Susan Martter, Chris Hakeman, Marcia Arthur

Prayer Page

Years ago when our prayer group included Margaret Swords, Margaret Fauser, Norma Batch and other prayer warriors who were truly saints, we used to end our time of prayer with this prayer. It is attributed to St. Francis of Assisi.

"Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

To be consoled as to console,

To be understood as to understand,

To be loved as to love;

For it is in giving that we receive;

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

It is in dying to self that we are born to eternal life."

REMEMBER OUR MILITARY

Dominic Parisi, Ben DeLamatre, and Emily Stelpflug

HURON CHURCH PRAYER CALENDAR

10/5 Zion Lutheran Church

10/12 First Presbyterian Church Pastor Sara Hodsden

10/19 Salvation Army

10/26 Christ Episcopal Church Father Michael Floyd



Do you have a prayer request?
Contact Pastor Sara at 419-433-5018
or
pastorfpchuron@bex.net

PLEASE PRAY FOR.....

Guy Munafo, Jeff Blankenship, Jennifer Kelley (Kerry Glann's Mother-In-Law), The Family of Rev. Mike Leonard, Kathryn Skelley-Watts and her parents Revs. Roger and Joan. Ken Alexander, Rita Phillips, Larry Klaiber, Zac, The family of Thomas Litz, Mackenzie Marsh, Kristine Welser, Pam Heschel, Paul Brown, Harry Wright, Eldon Zimmer, Ron Harper, Jackie Metzger, Sarah McCoy, Ann West, Carol Kopkas, Kerry Lynn, Marla Pederson, David Claxton, Nick LaFace, Rev. Clair Brewer, Roberta Leimbach, and Billie Urie.

October Bible Study and Prayer Group: October 13th and 27th, 1:30 p.m. in the Parlor.

LITURGIST

10/5

Liturgist:

Sarah Blakeman

Communion Set up:

Francesca Lendrum

Communion Servers:

Franceca Lendrum, Janet Mueller,
Janeane Hopkins, Sarah Blakemam

10/12 Marcie Muntz

10/19 Phillip Hopkins

10/26 Jack Arthur

USHER

10/5

Phillip Hopkins &
Kitty Cunningham

10/12

Kathy Kirby & Patti Smith

10/19

Janet Mueller & Francesca Lendruim

10/26

Chuck & Cindy Kaman

FLOWERS

10/5 -Mark Koch in celebration of Pat's birthday.

10/12- Wendy Quinn in celebration of her birthday.

10/19- None

10/ 26- Kathy Kirby is celebrating son Tom's
birthday and all fall birthdays.

COUNTERS

10/5 Ellen & Francesca

10/12 Jack & Marcia

10/19 John & Sara

10/26 Bob & Marcie



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

10/3

Annabelle Ryu

10/6

Joanna Oller

10/13

Marcie Muntz

10/14

Pat Koch

10/15

Gail Burke, Patricia Hand,
Wendy Qunn & Steve Koenig

10/17

Sara Hodsden

10/20

Katy McGraw

10/23

Kathy Kirby

10/24

Sue Todd

10/26

David Fenn

10/29

Janeane Hopkins

10/30

Eldon Zimmer





September Highlights

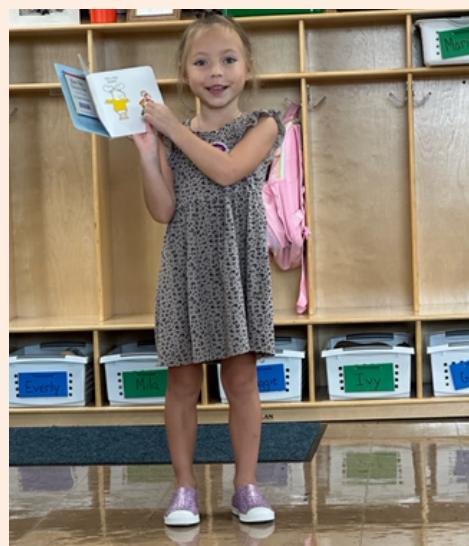


The children learned all about colors!



They enjoyed making homemade play dough

- Story time with Ms. Melissa from Huron Public Library, as well as a story from one of our Little Wonders Children!

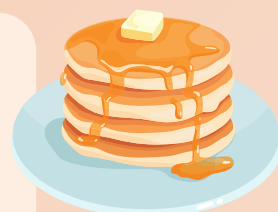


**EXCITING
NEWS**

This month, the children will learn all about community helpers, with a visit from the Huron fire department.




In November, Little Wonders will hold the first fundraiser at Applebee's restaurant in Sandusky. Stay tuned for details!



October 2025

Mark
your
Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 10 A.M. BELL CHOIR 8 P.M. AA	3 9 A.M. - 12 P.M. RUMMAGE SALE SET UP	4 9 A.M. - 1 P.M. RUMMAGE SALE 
5 10 A.M. WORSHIP 11 A.M. FELLOWSHIP HOUR	6 12 P.M. CHRIST COMMUNITY MEAL 6 P.M. CUB SCOUTS 7 P.M. BOY SCOUTS	7 7 P.M. AA	8 5 P.M. CHRIST COMMUNITY MEAL	9 10 A.M. BELL CHOIR 8 P.M. AA	10	11
12 10 A.M. WORSHIP 11 A.M. STEWARDSHI P LUNCHEON	13 12 P.M. CHRIST COMMUNITY MEAL 6 P.M. CUB SCOUTS 7 P.M. BOY SCOUTS	14 12 P.M. - 7 P.M. RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE 7 P.M. AA	15 6:30 PM. SESSION	16 10 A.M. BELL CHOIR 8 P.M. AA	17	18
19 MESSY STEWARDSHI P SUNDAY! 10 A.M. WORSHIP 11 A.M. FELLOWSHIP HOUR	20 12 P.M. CHRIST COMMUNITY MEAL 6 P.M. CUB SCOUTS 7 P.M. BOY SCOUTS	21 7 P.M. AA	22 5 P.M. CRHSIT COMMUNITY MEAL	23 10 A.M. BELL CHOIR 8 P.M. AA	24	25
26 10 A.M. WORSHIP 11 A.M. FELLOWSHIP HOUR	27 12 P.M. CHRIST COMMUNITY MEAL 6 P.M. CUB SCOUTS 7 P.M. BOY SCOUTS	28 7 P.M. AA	29	30 10 A.M. BELL CHOIR 8 .M. AA	31	