



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HURON

Steeple Notes

JULY AND AUGUST 2026

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OFFICE FIRSTPRESBYCHURCHURON.ORG



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR SARA

One of the professors during my years at Ashland University was a gentleman named Peter Schramm. When Dr. Schramm was ten years old, he, his parents, and his sister, fled from Communist Hungary to America. When he asked his father, "Why America?" his father responded, "Because, son. We were born Americans, but in the wrong place." (If you'd like to read his fantastic account of their escape and assimilation to America, visit ashbrook.org/viewpoint/bornamerican/)

As our nation prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary of freedom from tyranny, communities will observe the celebration in many ways. There will be block parties, picnics, baseball games, apple pie, hot dogs, and of course, fireworks. All of these options are wonderful.

As Christians, we also remember that our deepest identity is found not in any nation but in Jesus Christ. We are grateful citizens of the United States, yet our ultimate citizenship is in the Kingdom of God. That heavenly citizenship frees us to love our country without idolizing it, to work for its good without denying its shortcomings, and to pray not only, "God bless America," but also, "God mend every flaw."

As we celebrate this 250th anniversary, may we thank God for the freedoms we have inherited, pray faithfully for our nation and its leaders, seek justice with humility, and remember that every good gift comes from the One who is King over every nation and Lord over every age.

Festival of Lessons and Hymns: Liberty Under God Sunday, July 5 • 10:00 a.m.

As we commemorate America's 250th anniversary, join us for a special worship service reflecting on our nation's story through God's Word. In the tradition of the Festival of Lessons and Carols, this service will combine Scripture, cherished hymns, and readings from key figures in American history. We will give thanks for our nation's blessings, acknowledge its struggles, and affirm that our ultimate hope and citizenship are in the Kingdom of God.





Puerto Rican Mission Team



We are thrilled to welcome a mission team of 25 students and adults to our area from July 1st through July 7th! While they will be based in Norwalk, they will be active across our community, assisting with Christ Community Meals and participating in a special evening worship service at Christ Episcopal Church on July 5th. We are especially looking forward to their visit to our church on the evening of Thursday, July 2nd. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who graciously lent air mattresses to ensure our guests have a comfortable stay. Please join us in praying for a week filled with joy, meaningful service, and a deepening connection with Christ for everyone involved.

We'll Have a Whale of a Time!

Something fishy is happening at First Presbyterian! Join us for Rally Day on Sunday, September 13, as we present the story of Jonah as a live old-time radio drama during worship. Expect voices, sound effects, laughter, and an unforgettable reminder that God's grace is often found in the most unexpected places.

A Star is Born

Congratulations to Campbell Hagy for performing in the Bellevue Society for the Arts' production of Disney's The Little Mermaid! Support Campbell and the cast during performances on July 10, 11, 12, 17, and 18 in Bellevue. Tickets can be purchased online or at the door, so gather family and friends for a delightful evening of community theater!

A New Home for Helping Hands

Our friends at Huron Helping Hands Food Pantry have a new home! The pantry has relocated to the former Lucky Stone building at 607 Main Street, giving them more space to continue serving our neighbors with dignity and compassion. Huron Helping Hands Food Pantry

We are grateful that First Presbyterian Church could be part of this exciting new chapter. Through our Mission Committee, our congregation recently contributed \$6,000 to help with the move and the installation of new signage.

This gift is one more way we live out our calling to love our neighbors. We invite you to keep the volunteers, staff, and families served by Huron Helping Hands in your prayers as they continue their important ministry in their new location.

LEGO VBS

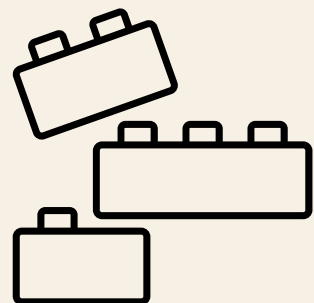
****Everything Was Awesome!****

What a wonderful week we shared during LEGO® VBS! Thank you to everyone who volunteered, prayed, donated supplies, and helped make the week such a success. Your kindness and enthusiasm helped our children learn that God is the Master Builder who made them and loves them.

A special thank you to ****Gail Burke, Marcie Muntz, and Connie Litz**** for all their help throughout VBS, and to ****Cindy and Bob Kaman**** for the many hours they spent setting up beforehand and cleaning up afterward.

We are grateful for each of you. It takes a church family to make a week like VBS possible, and we are blessed to have such a wonderful one!







Building News

Standing Faithful, Standing Tall



FPC Huron Steeple Renovation Fund

For over 170 years, First Presbyterian Church's steeple has stood as a witness to God's faithfulness in Huron. Today, we are called to preserve that witness for generations yet to come.

A generous donor has challenged our congregation to meet a \$25,000 goal by setting up a matching grant. For every dollar you give, your dollar is doubled!

To give, you can write a check with "Steeple Fund" in the memo line, or scan the QR code below to give electronically!



Project Cost:

\$120,000-\$140,000

John Blakeman edited these photos to help us imagine what our church would look like without the steeple!

Recent inspections identified several areas requiring immediate attention:

- Deteriorated wood components
- Water intrusion and weather damage
- Structural concerns requiring stabilization
- Exterior repairs necessary to prevent further deterioration

Without intervention, these issues will become more costly and extensive over time.



Congratulations to Campbell Hagy on her confirmation on June 21; we pray for her continued growth in faith. We also anticipate Jack McGraw's upcoming confirmation and ask for prayers as he prepares. We celebrate both and express gratitude for their supporters on their faith journeys, wishing God's blessings as they follow Christ.



Campbell Hagy with her Elder Sponsor,
Cynthia Brown Mathews

A/V Project Update

In April, we announced upgrades to the audio and video systems in the fellowship hall and sanctuary, and work is now underway. New speakers and monitors are being installed in the fellowship hall, pending final electrical connections. These enhancements will improve sound quality for various activities. In the sanctuary, a new display screen will be added to assist worshipers while maintaining the traditional worship atmosphere. Thank you for your patience as we implement these improvements for worship, fellowship, and ministry.



Ladies Who Lunch

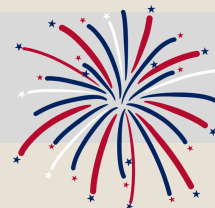
Ladies, join us for good food and great conversation at our upcoming lunches!

- July 10: 11:30 a.m. at Bar North, Thunderbird Hills Golf Club.
- August 14 11:30 a.m. at Dock's Beach House, Port Clinton.

Please RSVP by the Thursday before each lunch to Dawn or Marcie for reservations. We hope to see you there!



What's Happening



River Fest July 9-11

Parking lot attendants schedule 7/10-7/11

July 10th

4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	John Bickell & Sarah Hodsden
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Mark & Pat Koch
8:30 p.m. - 10:15 p.m.	OPEN SPOT

July 11th

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Rick & Cynthia Mathews
12 p.m. - 2 p.m.	Francesca Lendrum & Kathy Kirby
2 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Marc & Susan Martter
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.	OPEN SPOT
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	Gail Burke

Art, Bible, and Prayer

Join us for our summer Art, Bible & Prayer gatherings on Monday, July 13, and Monday, July 20, at 1:00 p.m. in the Parlor.

Each week we'll explore a work of art, reflect on the Scripture that inspired it—or connects with its theme—and conclude our time together in prayer. No art knowledge is needed—just bring your curiosity and an open heart!

Everyone is welcome.

Christ Community Meal

#Weekly Meal Schedule

- Lunch: Every Monday at noon
- Dinner: At 5 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month
 - Upcoming Dates:
 - July 8th & July 22nd
 - August 12th & August 26th

Everyone is invited!

July Schedules

Liturgists

Ushers

Counters

7/5	Jenny & Campbell Hagy	Kitty Cunningham & Phillip Hopkins	Ellen & Francesca
7/12	Jack Arthur	Cynthia & Rick Mathews	Bob & Marcie
7/19	Wendy Quinn	Marcia & Jack Arthur	Jack & Marcia
7/26	Amy Nevison	Kathy Kirby & Janet Mueller	Chuck & Cindy

Communion Preparation and Servers

7/12	Communion Prep: Gail Burke Communion Servers: Gail Burke, Marcie Muntz, Bob Muntz, Marcia Arthur
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Flowers

7/5	Mark and Pat Koch, celebrating 250 years of freedom in America
7/12	Kathy Kirby
7/19	Doug & Wendy Quinn in celebration of all our greandchildren
7/26	Open Spot

August Schedules

Liturgists

Ushers

Counters

8/2	Marcie Muntz	Doug & Wendy Quinn	Ellen & Francesca
8/9	Jenifer Meyer	Jack & Marcia Arthur	Jack & Marcia
8/16	Chuck Kaman	Francesca Lendrum & Kathy Kirby	John & Sarah
8/23	Karen Terenzi	Phillip Hopkins & Kitty Cunningham	Chuck & Cindy
8/30	Phillip Hopkins	Marcie Muntz & Betty Reed	Jack & Marcia

Communion Preparation and Servers

8/2	Communion Prep: Janeane Hopkins Communion Server: Janeane Hopkins, Ann Pullano, Francesca Lendrum, Deb Schippel
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Flowers

8/2	Katy McGraw in celebration of Charlie McGraw's 9th birthday!
8/9	Open Spot
8/16	Wendy Quinn in celebration of Doug's birthday!
8/23	Open Spot
8/30	Open Spot

Prayer Page

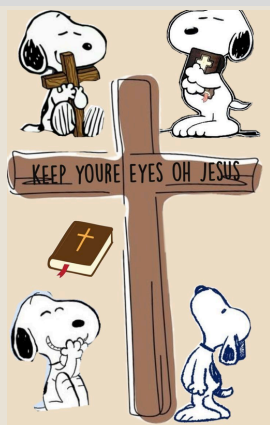
Please Pray For....

Bob Muntz, Phillip Hopkins Geoff Stephenson, Judy Hartley, Wendy Quinn, Rob Vantatsky, The Family and Friends of David Fenn, Kim Medina (Sister of Dawn Fleming), Martha & Ray Casten, Eldon Zimmer, Owen Fleming, Jennifer Kelley, Angie Kwok, David Andrews (Gail Burke's Son-in-Law), Fr. Steve Taylor, Steve Kuhl, John Van Meter, Brian Goff, Bob Ashcraft, The Family of Rev. Mike Leonard, 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.

Pray for our Military

Ben DeLamatre, and Emily Stellpflug

Do you understand why you pray? What motivates your prayers? Is it to try to convince God to give you what you are asking for? Is it from a sincere desire to spend time with your heavenly Father and Sovereign Lord? Or maybe it is to "bother" God so that He hurries up and answers. Do you see God as reluctant to act? Do you pray trusting that He will answer? As you spend time in prayer, examine your heart. Ask the Lord to reveal where your faith in Him may be weak and let Him strengthen you. Jesus tells us "always to pray and not lose heart" (Luke 18:1). Let today be a new day with fervent prayer and a renewed relationship, as you lift your prayers.



Churches of Huron

July

7/5	Christ Episcopal Church Father Michael Floyd
7/12	St. Peter Catholic Church Father Doug Garrand
7/19	Huron United Methodist Church Pastor Pamela Sayre
7/26	Zion Lutheran Church

August

8/2	First Presbyterian Church Pastor Sara Hodsden
8/9	Salvation Army
8/16	Christ Episcopal Church Father Michael Floyd
8/23	St. Peter Catholic Church Father Doug Garrand
8/30	Huron United Methodist Church Pastor Pamela Sayre

