

First Presbyterian Church
436 East Second Street
Salem OH 44460-2816

Volume 90, Issue 24
November 21, 2023

Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis, Temporary Pastoral Leadership
Rev. Trina Lewis, Temporary Pastoral Leadership

THE PRESBYTERIAN MESSENGER

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November 26

Christ the King / Communion

Scriptures: Isaiah 9:2-7
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 2:1-12



Sermon: "Jesus Christ Is the Only Sovereign"

Liturgist: Rev. Trina Lewis

Music: Haviland Choir / Brass and Timpani

December 3

The First Sunday of Advent

Scriptures: Isaiah 64:1-9
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37



Sermon: "Hope Is Our Life in God"

Liturgist: Tegan Jackson

Music: Haviland Choir

For several years now the Congregational Care Committee under the guidance of Carol Ricciardi have made sparkling paper Moravian Stars. The Moravian Star is a symbol of Jesus, who came into the world to bring the "light of mankind."

The star's iconic figure was born from a geometry lesson. A teacher in Saxony, Germany introduced it in 1830 as a craft project to help boys attending a Moravian School learn Geometry. It didn't take long for members of the Moravian Church to recognize the shape's similarity to the star of Bethlehem. So, Moravian Stars were soon adopted as a symbol of Christ's birth and became incorporated into Advent and Christmas decorations. As Germans immigrated throughout the world, they carried their traditions to their new homes.

The original Moravian Stars were white and red. You can find variations with everything from 6 points to over 100. True Moravian Stars have points of equal length to symbolize the Moravian's belief in equality between men and women.

The Bethlehem Star has fewer points than a Moravian Star and the points at the top and the bottom are elongated to symbolize pointing to Bethlehem at the Christ-child's birth.

Here in this country Moravian Stars are prominent in Bethlehem Pennsylvania, founded by Moravians from Moravia which is now part of Czechoslovakia.

One of the largest Moravian Stars is a 31-foot version at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. It is illuminated during Advent.

Please take your beautiful sparkling Moravian Star home for Christmas and share its history with your family and friends.

Barbara Yonker - Moderator of Worship, Music, and the Arts Committee

CHURCH INFORMATION:

Temporary Pastoral Leadership:

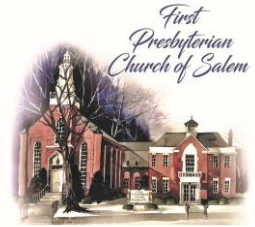
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Rev. Trina Lewis, 304-266-8214

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Website: www.fpcsaalem.org / **Facebook:** First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio

You Tube: www.youtube.com / FPCSALEM (Service streamed 10:30 am on Sunday)



Thank You Notes:

Thank you for offered thoughts, prayers, calls, and cards regards to Marilyn's passing. ~ Tom Mercer

What a nice visit from Deacon Kathie Baker. She brought the most beautiful fall-colored flowers and delicious Presbyterian Pepper Soup. Thank you for your kindness. Healing is a slow process. ~ Brenda Johnson

Congratulations to Ryan Gillis and Mark Smith who received the God and Service Award this past Sunday for their many years of service with Troop 3 Scouts. Jody Karmazin was presented the God and Service Award posthumously for her husband, Michael Karmazin, for his many years of service with Troop 3 Scouts.

Order Red Poinsettias in Fellowship Hall next Sunday (26), through the Church Office during the week, or e-mail phyllis@fpcsaalem.org by Thursday, November 30. The cost is \$10.00.

Christmas Angel Tags Now Available – We are helping The Salvation Army by sponsoring 30 children in which children's genders, ages, needs, and Christmas wish lists are on tags on a table in Fellowship Hall. Please sign the sheet with numbered tags listed. Please purchase 1 outfit and 1 toy from the tag and return it to Fellowship Hall or the Church Office. Do not wrap gifts but place them in garbage bag or large shopping bag with the tag affixed to the outside. Do not include gift receipt. All gifts must be returned to the church by Sunday, December 10.

Your Session at Work

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio meeting on October 19, 2023 In Person and Hybrid.

- Heard a report from the Scouting Program.
- Received the minutes from the Preschool Board Meeting.
- Heard staff evaluations were completed with kudos to all the staff.
- Approved renewing the contracts for Revs. Frank and Trina Lewis through May 31, 2024.
- Approved vacation for Revs. Frank and Trina Lewis for December 25, 2023 – January 2, 2024.
- Approved a Session/Deacon Retreat for Saturday, January 6, 2024.
- Approved renewal of the church's copyright license.
- Approved singing the *Gloria Patri* during worship.
- Heard we will once again have a Lightbearer/Acolyte for worship.
- Heard the yearly maintenance check of the roof was completed with an area repaired.
- Approved Building Requests
- Approved spending \$920.74 from the Capital Fund to repair the boiler.
- Heard two Dogwood trees will be planted in memory of Deacon Mike Karmazin.
- Heard the OGHS giving is at \$3,005.00, nearing the goal of \$3,200.00.
- Approved the October Finance Reports.
- Heard Committees are working on their 2024 budget requests.

- Approved the use of the Music Fund for the Christmas program and accepted a contribution to offset the cost of the program given in honor of Alice Jackson's years of service as clerk.
 - Heard the Choir Recognition will be December 17 during Coffee Hour and after worship.
 - Heard \$25.00 gift cards will be sent to our college and military members.
 - Heard the "Blessing Jars" will be given to members again this year.
 - Heard one of the large soup pots is missing from the kitchen.
 - Approved a Rummage Sale for April 27, 2024.
 - Heard Youth Sunday School is going well.
 - Heard a report from Elder Commissioners Carol Ricciardi and Ryan Gillis, given by Ryan Gillis, from the November 14 meeting of Eastminster Presbytery.
 - Reviewed and acted on the Active Rolls of the church.
 - Elected Elder Barbara Loudon as Clerk of Session for 2024.
 - Offered prayers for our church family and friends.
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The Christian Education Committee has responsibility for Coffee Hours and some Sunday Service-related efforts during the month of December. We would like to enlist the help of the youth of the Church and their families. Please identify below any event your child and/or family are willing to help with and what date(s) you are available. Please leave a note in Judy Herron's mailbox or call Bill Penfold, 330-831-2673.

December 3 – Coffee Hour (9:45-10:20); Worship: Ushers / Offering

December 10 – Coffee Hour (9:45-10:20); Worship: Liturgist / Lighting Advent Candles / Ushers / Offering

December 17 – Worship: Lighting Advent Candles / Ushers / Offering

December 24 – Coffee Hour (9:45-10:20); Worship: Lighting Advent Candles / Ushers / Offering

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service at 7:30 p.m.: Lighting Advent Candles / Ushers / Offering

December 31 – Worship: Liturgist / Ushers / Offering

Some Kitchen Announcements:

1. Your response to our request to bring in jar lids to be used for Soup to Go has been amazing! We now have plenty of them. You can stop saving them for us now. We will let you know when we need more.
2. We are missing one of our very good soup pots. It is a WINCO 20-quart sized pot. If by chance it has been borrowed from the kitchen, we would appreciate it being returned.

November

22 / Weds	9:00-2:30 p.m. Church Office Hours (Closed 2:30-4 p.m.)
23 / Thurs	<i>Thanksgiving – Church Office Closed</i>
24 / Fri	Church Office Closed
26 / Sun	9:00 Adult Church School (L) 10:00 Coffee Hour (FH) 10:30 Service of Worship – <i>Communion</i> ; Brass, Timpani
27 / Mon	10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH) 6:00 Scouts Troop 3 & 2003G (Scout Room/209)
29 / Mon	10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH) 6:15 Carillon Ringers (200) 7:00 Haviland Choir (S)



December

Happy Birthday! Helen Hayes (1), Juanita Latham (29)

1 / Fri	9:00-12:00 Church Office Hours (Closed 12:00-4:00 p.m.)
2 / Sat	9:00 Making Chili for Soup to Go (K)
3 / 1st Sun of Advent	9:00 Adult Church School (L) 9:00 Church School for Grades 6-12 (209) 10:00 Coffee Hour (FH) 10:30 Service of Worship 11:30 Soup to Go – <i>Chili</i> 6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Scout Room)
4 / Mon	11:30 Finish Making Moravian Stars (FH) 6:00 Scouts Troop 3 & 2003G (Scout Room/209) 7:00 Board of Deacons (L)
6 / Weds	12:00 Daytimers (FH) – <i>Program by Karen Dennison</i> 6:00 Moderators Meeting via Zoom 6:15 Carillon Ringers (200) 7:00 Haviland Choir (S)
7 / Thurs	6:15 Christian Education (L) 6:15 Mission I and S (P) 7:00 Devotions (S) 7:15 Property and Maintenance (L) 7:15 Worship, Music, and the Arts (P)
8 / Fri	9:00-12:00 p.m. Church Office Hours (Closed 12-4 p.m.)
10 / 2nd Sun of Advent	9:00 Adult Church School (L) 9:00 Church School for Grades 6-12 (209) 10:00 Coffee Hour (FH) 10:30 Service of Worship 6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Scout Room)

Suggestions for an Environmentally Friendly Thanksgiving

1. First and foremost, take your reusable shopping bags with you when you do your grocery shopping.
2. Take this opportunity to pull out your beautiful dishes, cups, and glasses rather than using disposable.
3. If you need to use some disposable items, please choose paper products, not Styrofoam.
4. PLEASE don't serve bottled water. A pitcher of ice water will work just as well.
5. Limit your use of foil containers for baking or roasting.
6. Remember to recycle all the containers that are recyclable.

HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Blessings Jars

In this season of Thanksgiving, the Congregational Care Committee would like the members of our church family to stop and think about just how Blessed we all are. Unfortunately, there are many in our community who are struggling. Our committee would like to do something to help them so we have decorated Blessings jars that you will find in the sanctuary. We would like you take a jar home with you and drop your pocket change in the jar each night or a couple of dollars each time you go to the bank or ATM. Return the jars to church on Sundays, December 17th or 24th. The money will be donated to the Salem Community Pantry to help those who are in need. Please take this opportunity to show gratitude for your many blessings by sharing with others and showing God's love.

Salem Community Pantry – Mondays, 9-11 a.m.; Thursdays, 3-6 p.m. for people in 44460 zip code only.
Drop off **Empty Egg Cartons** in collection bin at the side door of pantry, 794 E 3rd St.