

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

## THE PRESBYTERIAN MESSENGER

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### March 19 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Scriptures:

1 Samuel 16:7; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-7

Sermon: “See What God Sees”

Liturgist: Mike Newman

Music: Haviland Choir

### March 26 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Scriptures:

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:6 and 11; John 11:1-45

Sermon: “Dead or Alive”

Liturgist: Lynn Zocolo

Music: Haviland Choir, Brass Musicians



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You are praying for your pulpit nominating committee. I take that as a given, an article of faith. Last August I wrote in this space about what kind of pastoral leadership you legitimately should expect and what your pastor legitimately could expect from you.

I will not rehash that piece except to remind you of two things I said. First, First Presbyterian Church is an extremely gifted congregation. You are rich with many talented people. Also, you have many natural leaders, some of whom have been (or are) leaders in your professional lives, and others whose gifts flourish in the congregation. You also have a deep and powerful Christian faith. Some of you are molded in the Reformed tradition of Presbyterianism and some shaped by other denominational traditions. This diversity of traditions broadens your vision of what church can be. Another broadening gift that you have is that there is a strong blend of long-time, even multi-generational membership in First Presbyterian Church of Salem; and, there are those who feel themselves to be ‘newbies’ to this congregation, but who have lived, loved, and served Christ in other congregations.

The second thing I said then that bears repeating is that ministry is a team effort. A Presbyterian church is intentionally designed to work together. For instance, each elder active on the session has one vote equal to every other elder. By the same token, the moderator, who normally is an ordained minister, has one vote equal to an elder. Furthermore, the job of the session is to lead the congregation in ministry together to the glory of God in Jesus Christ. The session of First Presbyterian Church, Salem, has been, and continues to be outstanding in this regard. As difficult at the past several years have been (battling Covid, etc.), your session and the individual elders who have served have met the challenge of keeping the church healthy and moving forward. And, of course, there are many others who have helped First Presbyterian Church to be a vibrant congregation of worship and service. I hesitate to name names for fear of leaving someone out, but I encourage you to think of people you know who have enabled the church to stay focused on its mission. Thank them. We are all in this together.

There is something I did not say in August about leadership in ministry. In a word, it is *vision*. Another word might be *calling*. What is the *vision* God setting before First Presbyterian Church? Or, to what is God *calling* this congregation? Those are really hard questions, I know. Others have asked these same questions.

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## CHURCH INFORMATION:

### Temporary Pastoral Leadership:

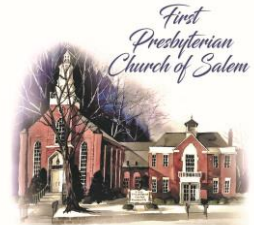
Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis, 304-266-8154; [dad.lewis@gmail.com](mailto:dad.lewis@gmail.com)

Rev. Trina Lewis, 304-266-8214

**Church Office:** 330.337.9555 / [phyllis@fpcsaalem.org](mailto:phyllis@fpcsaalem.org)

**Website:** [www.fpcsaalem.org](http://www.fpcsaalem.org) / **Facebook:** First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio

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



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When the leaders of the Protestant Reformation tried to answer them, they looked to the early church, that is, to the Bible. The reformers knew they could not recreate the past, but they could gain inspiration and vision from how the Spirit had moved those earlier Christians. The reformers realized that God's grace alone had sustained God's people. They read not only in the Christian Scriptures, but in the Hebrew Scriptures as well, that God was with the people to guide, sometimes to chide, but always to challenge with love. And God always calls the people forward to the vision that God has—the kingdom of God. Until God brings that kingdom to fulfillment, our future will be a provisional adventure. That is, we take exploratory steps toward being a more loving community. You and your new pastor, whoever she or he may be, will be called to follow God's lead, to see the future with God's vision. The new *Book of Common Worship* has a paragraph for commissioning of persons to various kinds of Christian service. It says, "the grace bestowed on you in baptism is sufficient for your calling because it is God's grace. By God's grace we are saved, and enabled to grow in faith and to commit our lives in ways that serve Christ."\* I believe this is true for congregations as well as for individuals.

*Love, Frank*

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### Prayer Concerns:

Kevin Backus (*Scott and Deb Boyd family friend*), Jim Brawley (*Bill Penfold's father*), David Crookston (*Rose Marie Crookston's son*), Jean Deavers (*Jim and Ruth Newman's neighbor*), Carol Dougherty, Rich and Pat Eichler, Mark and Sandi Flake, Patti Hays (*Bob and Susan Merry's sister-in-law*), Karen Hezlep (*Ryan Gillis' mother*), Hayden Johnson (*Sam and Julie Johnson's son*), Bill McCormick and son Todd, Marilyn Mercer (*Tom Mercer's wife*), Lois Middleton (*Alice Jackson's sister*), Peggy Pikunas (*Andrew Skiba's mother in law*), Clarence Reed (*Sue Skiba's father*), Kevin Ricks (*Friend of Mark and Grace Smith*), Marie Robinson (*Kim Double's mother*), Carol Shaw (*Gloria Shafer's mother*), Teresa Turney, Ronald Turney, Donna, Judy (*from Dolly Millikin*); Those listed under Special Care and Military, and for our Pastor Nominating Committee to search judiciously for our new pastor by discerning the will of God.

### Births:

Atlas Richard Karmazin, born March 5 to Joe and Jennah Karmazin. Grandparents are Michael and Jody Karmazin.  
Bodee Alan Praznik, born March 12 to Dan and Linda Praznik. Great grandparents are Fred and Phyllis Denton.

### Special Care:

Brookdale Alliance – Carol Dougherty, 138; 1277 S Sawburg Ave, Alliance OH 44601

Brookdale Bowling Green – Barbara Marra, 121; 121 N Wintergarden Rd, Bowling Green OH 43402-2190

Crandall Medical Center – Genevieve Benson, 139; 800 S 15<sup>th</sup> St, Sebring OH 44672

Whispering Pines – Kay Rousseau, 315; Joetta Tonti, 127; 937 E Park Ave, Columbiana OH 44408

Windsor House – Lynn Gardner; 6445 OH-446, Canfield OH 44406

### Military:

Andre Tonkinson, Cody Tonkinson (*Sons of Ed and Melissa Tonkinson*); Adam Pawlosky (*Son in Law of Jim and Ruth Newman*); Zach Smith (*Nephew of Mickey Buck*); Roger and Brandy Knizat (*Frank and Ellen Maticcik's grandson and wife, both in service*)

**Birthdays:** Cole Chumney (14), Trey Double (15), Becky Halverstadt (16), Karen Dennison (23), Marilyn Herron (24), Debbie McCulloch (24), Dick Shanker (24), Lee Simon (24), Ken Double (26), Vickie Honeywell (27)

**Thank You Note:**

I wish to thank everyone that sent beautiful cards and kind words to us during the passing of my treasured husband and Dad, Harold! Yes, our wonderful memories will hopefully sustain us during this most difficult time!! Sincerely,  
*Sammye, Jeff, and Heidi Auman*

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**Are you interested in uniting with First Presbyterian Church of Salem?** If so, Pastor Frank would like to organize a new-member orientation class for you. His schedule is flexible enough to accommodate most weekdays or a Sunday morning. The Lenten-Easter season is a traditional time when people have joined a church (Though, of course, we are not limited to that.). If you would like to become an active part of the faith community and ministry that is FPCS or just want to know more details, please speak to Frank, or call the church office at 330-337-9555.

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**Easter Plants**

Order on Sundays, March 19 and 26 in Fellowship Hall, call the Church Office during the week, 330-337-9555, or send e-mail to [phyllis@fpcsaalem.org](mailto:phyllis@fpcsaalem.org). Daffodils - \$10.00 / Tulips - \$10.00 (Color Choice: Lavender, Orange, Pink, Purple, Red, White) / Lilies - \$12.00. Deadline is Monday, March 27.

**Soup and Bread Luncheon – Sunday, March 19**

Come share your favorite recipe of soup in Fellowship Hall. Tasting cups will be available. This event is sponsored by the Congregational Care Committee.

**Bottle Cap Party – Monday, March 20**

Come join us at 6:00 p.m. as we help the Scouts sort, wash, and weigh the bottle caps we have been collecting for our bench. We need to see how many pounds of caps we have before we make the final decision on what bench to purchase. We hope to have this project completed by Earth Sunday, April 23. ~ *Carol Ricciardi, Environmental Team*

**New Membership Directories** and **2022 Annual Reports** are available at Sanctuary entrances and through the Church Office.

**Soup to Go – Sunday, March 26 – Vegetable Beef**

The Congregational Care Committee has chosen to keep the price of the soup at \$5.00 but with the rise in cost of the ingredients, we will not have as much money to donate to the local missions. If at all possible, please consider adding a small donation when you purchase your soup. Please return jars and lids. If you can help make the soup on Saturday, March 25, please call Carol Ricciardi. We are looking for red, blue, or green plastic jar lids like those from peanut butter jars. These fit mason jars too and are easier to use for sealing soup in mason jars than the lids and rims. You can drop them off in the kitchen.

**Blue Bins** in the kitchen are for RECYCLING ONLY.

**Salem Community Pantry – Helping Salem Set the Table**

The pantry provides free food to our neighbors who may need help to stretch a family food budget, and relies on volunteers to make services available to the public. Volunteers help with food collection, sorting, distribution, office work, and record keeping. Call the Pantry at 330-332-5166 for more information. The pantry is open on Mondays from 9-11 a.m. and on Thursdays from 3-6 p.m. for people in 44460 zip code.

*One Great Hour of Sharing Goal - \$4,000.00 / To date, \$746.00 in contributions.*

## March

Happy Birthday! Dick Shanker (24)

- 15/ Weds 10:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)  
6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)  
7:00 Haviland Choir Rehearsal
- 16 / Thurs **7:00 Regular Session Meeting** *via Zoom*
- 19 / 4<sup>th</sup> Sun of Lent** **9:15-10:00 Lent Sunday School for Youth and Adults** (Library)  
10:00 Coffee Hour  
10:30 Service of Worship  
**Soup and Bread Luncheon** following worship (FH)  
4:30 LOGOS (Fellowship Hall)  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Basement; Fellowship Hall)
- 20 / Mon 10:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)  
**6:00 Bottle Cap Party** – *Come help Scouts sort, wash, & weigh!*
- 22 / Weds 10:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)  
6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)  
7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)
- 25 / Sat 9:00 Making Vegetable Beef Soup for Soup to Go (K)
- 26 / 5<sup>th</sup> Sun of Lent** **9:15-10:00 Lent Sunday School for Youth and Adults** (Library)  
10:00 Coffee Hour  
10:30 Service of Worship – *Brass Musicians*  
**11:30 Environmental Team** (Library)  
**Soup to Go** – *Vegetable Beef*  
4:30 LOGOS (Fellowship Hall)  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Basement; Fellowship Hall)
- 27 / Mon 10:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)  
6:00 Troop 3 Scouts (Basement); Troop 2003G Scouts (FH)
- 29 / Weds 10:30 Tai Chi Class (Fellowship Hall)  
**6:00 Moderators Meeting** *via Zoom* – *tentative*  
6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)  
7:00 Haviland Choir (Sanctuary)
- 30 / Thurs Committee Night – *tentative*  
**6:00 Christian Education** (Library) / **Mission I and S** (Parlor)  
**7:00 Devotions** (Sanctuary)  
**7:15 Property** (Library) / **Worship, Music, Arts** (Parlor)

## April

Happy Birthday!

Gail Tetlow (1), George Bell (5), Melvin Wilms (5), Ruthann Lipp (18)

- 2 / Palm Sunday** **9:15-10:00 Lent Sunday School for Youth and Adults** (Library)  
10:00 Coffee Hour  
10:30 Service of Worship – *Youth Sunday*  
4:30 LOGOS (Fellowship Hall)  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Basement; Fellowship Hall)

## Recycling Notes

There continues to be great discussion on the use of and recycling of Styrofoam, a serious threat to wildlife, the environment, and personal health. Here are a few reminders concerning its negative impact on our society.

- Styrofoam is the main pollutant in oceans, bays, and other United States water sources. It causes choking and starvation in wildlife.
- It is composed of Benzene and Styrene, both of which are known carcinogens, which has been linked to Parkinson's disease and leukemia.
- Microwaving Styrofoam causes the release of toxic chemicals which pose a threat to human health.
- It is a primary source of urban litter and is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest source of hazardous waste in the United States.

So, even though we are told that Styrofoam can be recycled, there seems to be so many reasons why we should not use it for our personal health and for the health of our world. Please consider this information the next time you go to buy Styrofoam plates, cups, etc.

Carol Ricciardi  
Environmental Team