

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

## THE PRESBYTERIAN MESSENGER

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### March 3 – Third Sunday in Lent

*The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

Scriptures: Exodus 20:1-7  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25  
John 2:13-22

Sermon: "Pointing to God"



Liturgist: Rev. Trina Lewis

Music: Haviland Choir;  
Cheryl McDevitt, Flute and  
Nancy McNeal, Piano

### March 10 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

Scriptures: Numbers 21:4-9  
Ephesians 2:1-10  
John 3:14-21

Sermon: "Of Fiery Serpents  
and a Wooden Cross"

Liturgist: Mike Newman

Music: Haviland Choir



Greetings from a very warm Zimbabwe.

I was delighted to hear from Julia Henderson that the Salem, Ohio, First Presbyterian Church mission committee remains interested in hearing from us in Zimbabwe about the progress around and emanating from the gift of the water well at Vimridge. I was overjoyed to hear of your desire to resuscitate communication.

Rev. Lydia Neshangwe and I have since moved from the area where Vimridge Farm is in Bulawayo to a town called Mutare, but we remain committed to seeing progress for the Vimridge community. There is now a new Pastor who is working with the Vimridge Presbyterian Church. His name is Rev. Tafadzwa Kasere. I have copied this email to him as well as to Rev. Lydia Neshangwe.

I express further gratitude for the borehole at Vimridge and want to know if your congregation would consider sending a delegation to Zimbabwe on a mission trip. The Vimridge community and our church in Zimbabwe would be delighted to host you, and I believe that God would produce wonders for our mutual benefit if such a trip were to happen.

Please feel free to raise any questions and remain in communication with Rev. Tafadzwa Kasere with regards to the water well and anything else about the Vimridge community.

Thank you and the congregation for the supply of the clean water. May God continue to bless the works of your hands and your cheerful giving.

*Peace and Joy, Rev. Paul Neshangwe*

## 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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## Thank You Notes:

Thank you for the beautiful flowers on my birthday delivered by Deacon Sandy Quinn. ~ *Bill McDevitt*

Thank you for the beautiful spring-colored flowers delivered by Susan Merry along with cookies and candy. We had a nice visit. Thank you for your kindness. ~ *Brenda Johnson*

Many thanks for all the prayers and get well wishes after my recent fall. Thank you for the beautiful flowers and tasty chicken noodle soup that Barb Yonker delivered. I am blessed to be a part of such a caring church family.

~ *Lynn Zocolo*

A belated thank you to Susan Merry for delivering flowers for Frank on a cold and snowy January afternoon, between Frank's admissions. They were greatly appreciated by him. ~ *Ellen Maticcik*

Many thanks and in appreciation for the uplifting funeral service that honored Frank – to Rev. Dr. Meta Cramer, and Rev. Dr. Frank Lewis, and Rev. Trina Lewis. Their kindness and support were invaluable to me and our family. Thanks also to the hard-working Deacons for a delicious luncheon. Also, thanks for the many cards of support from church members. Your kindness will be remembered. ~ *Ellen Maticcik and Family*

**Newborn:** [Congratulations to](#) Kathie Baker on the birth of great granddaughter Sutton Kunar on February 10, 2024. Parents are Jake and Avery Kunar.

## Daytimers – Wednesday, March 6

Come join us for a covered dish luncheon at 12 Noon in Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be John Barnett, talking about *The History of Life*. What an interesting subject for a church luncheon. Better join the group to learn more. Could be something new!

## Preschool Scholarship Fund

The First Presbyterian Preschool has started an initiative to provide financial assistance to preschool aged children whose parents may need some monetary help in attending preschool this fall. A separate church fund has been established as a means for church members, community members as well as organizations to contribute to this fund to support this project. The fund is called "Preschool Scholarship Fund". The Preschool Board is also discussing ways to support the funding through fundraisers, etc.

If church members wish to help in this effort to assist parents who need some financial support to send their child to our preschool this fall, you may do so by contributing through your church contributions. Putting the words "Preschool Scholarship Fund" on your check would indicate that you are supporting this fund. Money in church envelopes could also be designated on the envelope with the words "Preschool Scholarship Fund". The Preschool Board thanks you in advance for your consideration in supporting this important preschool scholarship initiative.

## Your Session at Work

*The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio meeting on February 15, 2024 in person and hybrid:*

- Approved the Minutes from the 2023 Annual Congregational/Corporation Meeting held in person on February 4, 2024.
- Set a meeting of current Elders and Deacons for Saturday, March 2, 2024 beginning at 9:30 a.m. to create a new mission statement for the church.
- Approved that monies raised through the April 27 Garage Sale be designed to the Sunday School Mission Fund.
- Approved a fundraiser for the Preschool to be done in collaboration with Cast Iron Soda Works.
- Voted to move forward with the Preschool Scholarship Program and Guidelines and approved an application for the scholarships.
- Noted that Earth Sunday will be observed Sunday, May 5, 2024 with Rev. Dan Schomer filling the pulpit while Revs. Frank and Trina Lewis are vacationing.
- Approved the creation of a Reserve for General Fund Commitment Temporary Restricted Fund to manage budgeted transfers from the Permanent Fund.
- Received a thank you letter from The ROC in Salem for financial support and from the Douglas Arizona Presbyterian Church for financial support after experiencing a church fire.
- Approved two building requests and agreed to review the rental policy for rooms.
- Approved a Maundy Thursday Service for Thursday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m.
- Approved ordering bereavement aid kits recommended by Rev. Trina Lewis for congregation members experiencing loss.
- Heard of the continuing need for one additional elder for the Class of 2026.
- Received an update from the Pastor Search Committee.
- Learned that our church was the recipient of the Presbytery's Peace and Global Witness Reward for being second in per capita giving for that program. We will receive a miniature peace pole in recognition of our giving.
- Set the next Moderators' Meeting for Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 6:00 via Zoom.
- Offered Joys and Concerns for our church family.

## February:

28 / Weds 10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)  
6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)  
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)

**March:** *Happy Birthday! Sharon Bortz (6), Karen Dennison (22), Dick Shanker (24)*

2 / Sat **9:30 Current Elders and Deacons Meeting (FH)**

3 / Sun 9:00 Church School for Grades 6-12 (209)  
**Lent 3** 9:00 Adult Church School (L)  
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)  
10:30 Service of Worship – *The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Scout Room)

4 / Mon 10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)  
6:00 Scouts Troop 3 (SR) and 2003G (209)  
**7:00 Board of Deacons (L)**

5 / Tues 1:00-9:00 United Quilt Guild (FH)

6 / Weds 10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)  
12:00 Daytimers (FH) – *The History of Life*  
**6:00 Moderators Meeting via Zoom**  
6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)  
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)

7 / Thurs **6:00 Christian Education Committee (L)**  
**6:00 Mission I and S Committee (P)**  
**7:00 Devotions (S)**  
**7:15 Property and Maintenance Committee (L)**  
**7:15 Worship, Music, and the Arts Committee (P)**

**9 / Sat Turn Clocks Ahead 1 Hour**

10 / Sun 9:00 Church School for Grades 6-12 (209)  
9:00 Adult Church School (L)  
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)  
10:30 Service of Worship  
3:00 Sandy Beaver Chapter of Order of Arrow Sipp-o Lodge (FH)  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (Scout Room)

11 / Mon 10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)  
6:00 Scouts Troop 3 (SR) and 2003G (209)  
**7:00 Congregational Care Committee (L)**

13 / Weds 10:00 Tai Chi Class (FH)  
6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)  
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)  
**7:00 Finance and Administration Committee via Zoom**

14 / Thurs **5:30 Preschool Board of Trustees (L)**



**Café Justo's great Organic Coffee** is what we serve every Sunday during Coffee Hour. Cost is \$12 for a 1-pound bag of Regular, Decaf, or Whole Bean Coffee. Cooperative members own the entire business from the growing through the roasting, and the coffee is famous for its smooth taste and low acidity. It is Organic certified and has a Fair Trade Plus certification. If you want to purchase, stop in the Church Office during the week.