

March 2018

The Cornerstone News

First Presbyterian Church, Paulding Ohio

Volume 4 Issue 3



Thoughts from Ian...

Essentials

Alissa and I want to thank everyone who prayed for my floor examination at presbytery. It was very encouraging to have some of you come to presbytery. While I was being peppered with questions, it was so good to see members of the church in the crowd cheering me on.

Some of you who were not there have asked what I thought about the examination questions. You may have heard of the father who asked his son about his test. The father asked, "How were your exam questions?" The boy replied "The exam questions were easy. The answers were the problem." In all seriousness, it went well and I am glad all my exams (written, committee, and floor) are behind me. Since I have now been approved for ordination in the Evangelical Presbyterian church (EPC), we will be having an ordination ceremony and celebration on March 18th, 6:00pm, at Paulding First Presbyterian church. Everyone is invited.

As I have reflected on my ordination process and all the questions I have been asked, something occurred to me. After hours of rigorous questions before committees and presbytery and hours of grueling written exams, I believe that I was never asked about one topic: evangelism. Of course, this is an important topic for our denomination. "Evangelism" is listed as one of the essentials of the faith for the EPC and it is referred to in our name "*Evangelical* Presbyterian Church".


Point seven in our *Essentials of the Faith* reads, "The Lord Jesus Christ commands all believers to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world and to make disciples of all nations. Obedience to the Great Commission requires total commitment to "Him who loved us and gave Himself for us."

We must not forget that evangelism is essential in our life as a Jesus follower. The life of Billy Graham is a powerful example of this. As we learned of this death this week (2/21/2018), Graham's legacy stands as a reminder. Graham understood that people need a clear presentation of the gospel. They need Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Jesus gave His followers the Great Commission to go and make disciples, baptizing them and teaching them all of what Jesus has commanded (Matt 28:19-20). Billy Graham should be praised for keeping the main thing the main thing.

As I start my time of serving God as pastor here at First Presbyterian Church of Paulding, I will seek to not forget "evangelism" even if I am not asked about it.



March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge Prayer for the community at the Senior Center 7:00	2	3
4 3rd Sunday in Lent Communion	5	6	7 Lunch—Nazarene Church, Pastor Ian speaking, noon Supper by the Deacons 5:30 Service at 6:15 Choir Practice	8 N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge	9	10
11 4th Sunday in Lent	12	13 Women's Board 7:00	14 Methodist Women, Pastor Bonar speaking, noon Supper: 5:30 by the Choir, Wednesday Service 6:15 Choir Practice 7:00	15 N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge	16	17 
18 5th Sunday in Lent Ordination Service in the evening	19	20 Session 7:00	21 St. Paul Lutheran Lunch, Pastor Stetins speaking noon Supper by Youth and Friends 5:30, Service at 6:15 Choir practice	22 N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge	23	24
25 Palm Sunday	26	27	28	29 Maundy Thursday Service here 7:00 N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge	30 Good Friday Service, Methodist Church at noon	31

March Birthdays

1st - Becky Mayer
3rd - Marcia Brune
4th - Chris Henson
6th - Anna Karlstadt
8th - Tiffany Razo

11th - Dick Paulus
10th - Sarah Buzzell Morgan
16th - Kristen Razo
16th - Ian Ferguson
21st - Danielle Pennington Haas

21st Kim Mileto
23rd - Olivia Henson
24th - Kayleigh St. John
25th - Brenda DeLong

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, or is listed incorrectly, please get the correct information to the office ASAP. Thanks!

Session Highlights January

At the Feb. Session meeting, elders:

*congratulated Pastor Ian on his successful examination at Presbytery, where he not only 'passed', but presented himself very well. Session also thanked the 13 people from our congregation who attended the meeting to support Ian.

*approved the date of Sun., March 18 at 6 pm for Ian's ordination ceremony at our church. (See separate article). Ian's dad, Matt Ferguson was approved to preach that day, both morning and evening, and to baptize Samuel that morning.

*okayed withdrawal of \$8588.63 from the Nicelley Investment Fund to cover water repairs in the church building and erase a deficit from the garage replacement fund.

*noted the generosity of two contractors.....Doug Schlatter for not charging to connect the water fountains, and Jay Dangler for not charging for the sewer excavation at the cottage to resolve a clog.

*heard from Property that the ballasts in the the parking lot street lights are being replaced. Also, that two items are 'out there' to be addressed in the longer-term....the aging boilers, and the deteriorating south wall.

*learned that the Personnel committee had its first monthly get-together with Pastor Ian, which went well. Jeff Summers has agreed to serve on this committee in addition to Bud Koenig and Dave Nice.

*approved a repeat of the successful gift-card drive to stock the reward basket for Judge Beckman's Drug Court.

*agreed to allow Sue Paulus, on behalf of the Worship and Congregational Life committees to set a date with Brad Hurtig, motivational speaker

(and Bill's nephew) this fall for a youth event. More information will be coming once a date has been secured; the broad picture is a joint event with the school and the church, perhaps on a 5th Quarter night. Stay tuned.

*reserved the Fellowship Hall on Sat., June 2, 2018 for Anna Karlstadt's graduation party.

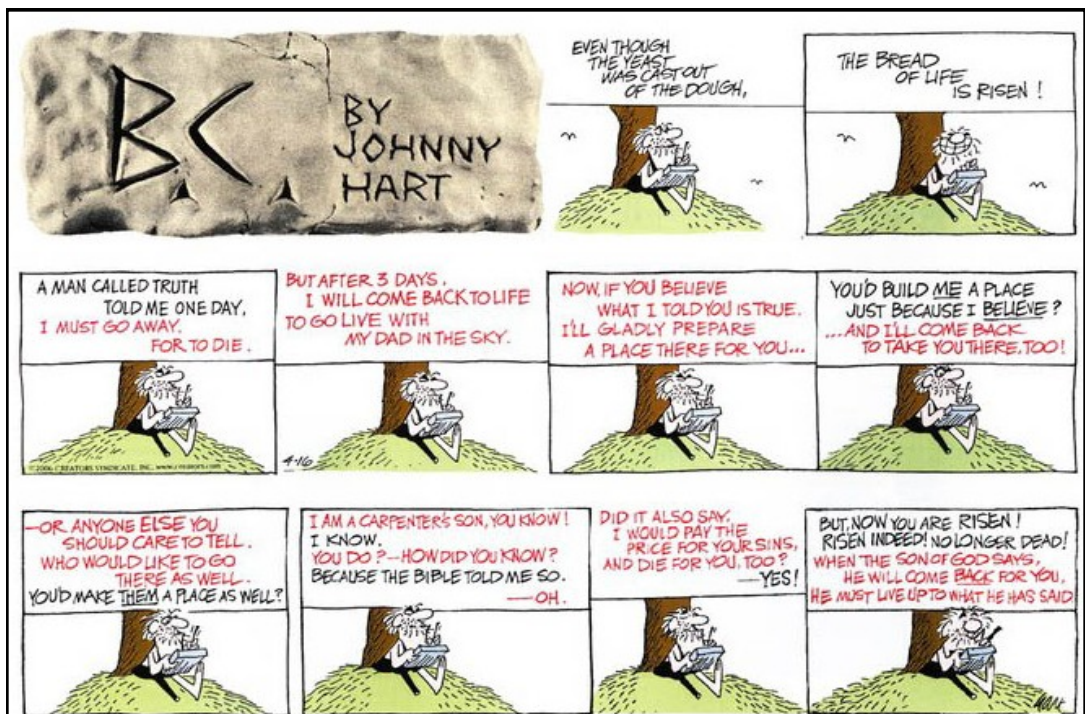
Respectfully submitted,

Barb Searing, clerk

From Oldest to Youngest



Carl Schumm, 104 years old, holds his great, great granddaughter Noelle Oxley 2 months old. Carl is the grandfather of Tom Densel, Lima Pipe Organ Co. Tom was here a lot when the organ was refurbished. We prayed for his wife for several months as she had treatment for cancer. They are almost church family.





Both Ian Ferguson and Jeremy McNeil were interviewed. Jeremy is going to pastor in Bucyrus.

The Long-awaited Presbytery Meeting February 16 and 17

Photos taken on Friday February 16th

Prayer following Pastor Ian's interview by Presbytery: from our church (left to right) Mary McMaster, Russ McMaster, Jane Nice, Dave Nice (hidden) Don Crossland, Ruby Crossland, Sue Paulus, Barb Searing, Darwin Cline, Rhonda Smalley, Paul Punches, Alissa, Samuel and Pastor Ian Ferguson, Darla Cline. Stan Searing is there somewhere.

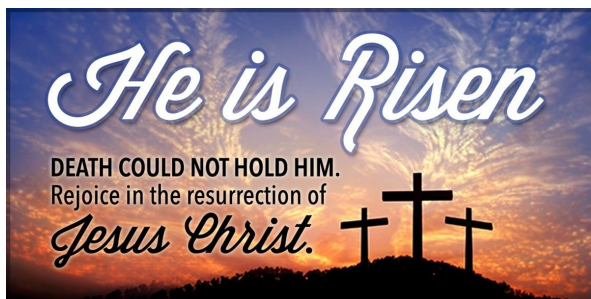


We celebrate as Ian is approved for Ordination.

Ordination is scheduled for Sunday
March 18
at 6:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church





Easter

In a world fraught with discontent
Easter is calmness;
In our lives filled with problems
Easter is contentment;
In the struggle to find happiness
Easter is fulfillment;
In our disappointment with our leaders
Easter is guidance;
In our questions of issues of faith
Easter is affirmation.

Written by Cara Lou Strahley

January 12, 2018

Schedule for Lent

(all meals mentioned are in the
Presbyterian Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday February 14

Lunch and meditation by First Presbyterian
Church at noon

~~Supper by Presbyterian Women 5:30~~
~~Ash Wednesday Service 6:15~~

Wednesday February 21

~~Lunch by Divine Mercy with meditation given
by Pastor Dwayne Richardson at noon~~

~~Supper by our Session 5:30~~
~~Service at 6:15~~

Wednesday February 28

Lunch and mediation by the First Christian
Church at noon

Supper by Adult Sunday School classes 5:30
Service at 6:15

Wednesday March 7

Lunch and meditation by the
Nazarene Church at noon

Supper by the Deacons at 5:30
Service at 6:15

Wednesday March 14

Lunch and meditation by the Methodist
Church at noon

Supper by the Choir at 5:30
Service at 6:15

Wednesday March 21

Lunch and meditation by St. Paul Lutheran
at noon

Supper at 5:30, service at 6:15

Thursday March 29

Maundy Thursday Service
in our Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm

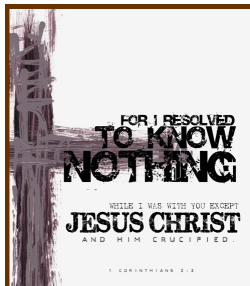
Friday March 30

Good Friday Service at noon at the Methodist
Church, Pastor Merlyn Winters delivering
message

Sunday April 1

Easter Sunrise service at the First
Christian Church at 7:00 am, Pastor
Del Bonar delivering the message

Our own Easter celebration and
worship at 10:15 here in our sanctuary.



Next Presbytery meeting

The next meeting of the Presbytery of the Midwest will be Feb. 16-17, 2018 in Greenville, Ohio. The meeting begins at 1:00 Friday and continues Saturday morning until noon. This should be the meeting at which Ian Ferguson is examined for the floor of Presbytery as part of the process of coming to serve our congregation and it would be wonderful to have a contingent from Paulding there to support him. You are encouraged to look ahead and save the date if you are interested in being there.



\$5.00 Gift Cards Needed

We are again collecting \$5.00 gift cards from local businesses for the Drug Court Reward Basket. Please place cards-local businesses only-in the basket at the top of the stairs before Easter.

Caring & Sharing Food Pantry

The same things are needed each month, but during this cold weather it seems that skin care items for all ages is important.

Brent is delivering donations to the pantry for Becky until she is able to take this responsibility back.

Thank you for generosity to this need in caring for our local residents.



Ways to Serve in March



Volunteer in the nursery: Call Dianna Karlstadt 419-670-2948 We have babies every week now, and adults are needed. **We are especially looking for people willing to volunteer on Sunday March 18 when Ian's father will be preaching, both morning and evening. The evening ordination service will be at 6:00. Can you help?**

Also since we are thinking about Ian's ordination, we will be hosting a celebration following the service, expecting out of town guests and a sizable crowd. Would you be willing to bring an appetizer/finger food of some kind? The ever-famous clip board will be at the top of the steps, take a look and sign up.

Are you comfortable welcoming people? We could also use greeters for the evening of the ordination, March 18 at 6:00.

The church always needs help during Lent. With meals every Wednesday, we need food, clean up, greeters. We also need friendly, talkative people to just come and eat, then attend the worship service.

Enjoy reading? The Lenten evening services will require readers, not in front of everyone; either at the back or in the annex. Volunteer to help with those services.

Suggest a favorite hymn, call Sue Paulus 419-399-5533 or Sue Crossland 419-399-5943 or put a note in the collection plate.

Sign up to bring flowers for a Sunday service. The Flower Chart is on the wall in the hall outside of the fellowship hall doors.



Beautiful Lilies

There will soon be an insert in your church bulletin where you can donate to the Altar Fund during this Easter season in honor or in memory of a loved one. There will be a total of 10 lilies available to be taken home after

Easter, but anyone can donate any amount to help keep our sanctuary beautiful with the glory of God's creation in flowers.

The actual cost of each lily this year is \$15.00.



You are invited to the Ordination Service of

Ian M. Ferguson

Sunday March 18

6:00 PM

First Presbyterian Church

Corner of Caroline and Cherry Streets

Paulding OH 45879

Guest Speaker: Pastor Matt Ferguson

**Refreshments and celebration following
in the church fellowship hall**

Nursery care available for infant through 5 years old

www.firstpresbyterianpaulding.com

fpcpaulding@gmail.com

Noteworthy items from January include:

- None of the \$6,120 budgeted for our missionaries has been sent yet. The amounts allocated to each missionary change from year to year. I like to wait for guidance from the Mission Committee before writing any checks.
- Income of \$200 from memorials.
- Payment of \$850 to NOCAC for the Warm Hearts Warm Homes program.
- Transfer of \$526.05 from the women's board to the newly created Women's Retreat Fund.
- Payment of \$384 to CNA Surety for a surety bond.
- Payment of \$550 to Don & Perry's for a dishwasher for Cornerstone Cottage.
- Payment of \$686 to Schlatter's for installing a hydrant and running water lines to the cottage and garage.
- Payment of \$4,740 to Schlatter's to install new waterlines in the fellowship hall.
- Payment of \$49.89 to the BMV to renew registration for the church van.

Carol Razo, Treasurer



Other Lenten Meals...



Ash Wednesday Meal

On Ash Wednesday, our speaker at noon was Pastor Jeremy Thompson from the Nazarene Church. He filled in for Pastor Ian who was recuperating from the flu. Pictured above are shots from the evening meal and one of our many faithful kitchen workers, Becky Craft. These evening meals would not happen without the help of many people. Thank you to all.



**Continue in prayer
for Andrew**



We Say a Huge Thank You

Thank you to Dangler Excavating for donating the time and expertise to dig a new line from the cottage, unplugging any blockage and getting all things working again. When you see these men, tell them “thank you”:

Jay Dangler
Jayson Dangler
Joe Jones
Kevin Stork
Patrick Elkins
Nick Dangler



Congregational Meeting January 28

Elders Dave Nice and Matt Reineck led the meeting. Following the meeting we convened in the Fellowship Hall for a Potluck Lunch.

Thank you to Stan Searing for the photos





***First Presbyterian Church
Corner of Caroline & Cherry,
Paulding OH 45879***

Fall and Winter Schedule
Sunday School 9:00
Praise Music 10:15
Worship Service 10:30

First Presbyterian Church

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Paulding OH 45879

Phone: 419-399-2438
Secretary's e-mail: fpcpaulding@gmail.com (new)
www.firstpresbyterianpaulding.com (new website)

firstpresbyterianpaulding.com

In Essentials, Unity.
In Non-Essentials, Liberty.
In All Things, Charity.

