

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WARREN

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WE'RE ON THE WEB

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Warren, Ohio
No. 151



Sunday Bible Study

9:00–9:45 AM

Exploring the Parables of Jesus

We began this journey during our Adult Vacation Bible Study with four better-known parables. Now, for the next seven weeks, we will explore some of Jesus' **less familiar stories** and consider what they have to teach us today.

A parable is a **story about a simple, familiar subject that Jesus used to illustrate a deeper and more meaningful spiritual truth**. Together, we will discuss these stories, share our interpretations, and consider how Jesus' teachings speak to our lives today.

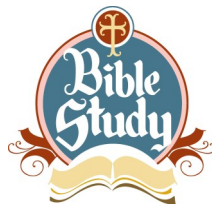
Our Upcoming Studies

September 13 - The Unmerciful Servant

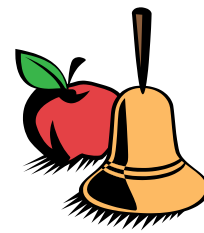
September 20 - The Lowest Seat at the Feast

September 27 - The Ten Virgins

Join us for thoughtful conversation, new insights, and a deeper look at the stories Jesus used to teach.



Music Ministry Director, Melanie Vlad, has provided wonderful special music this summer. If you were unable to be here, you can watch any of our worship services on our Facebook page at First Presbyterian Church of Warren.



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ISSUE 2026 VOLUME 9 September 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WARREN



ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC 2026



Many members attended FPC's annual picnic at Marty and Susan Nadenichek's home. The smiles tell it all! Thank you very much, Marty and Susan, for hosting!

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP BEGINS

We will begin our Children and Worship on **Sunday, September 13**. It will continue to meet weekly except the first Sunday of the month, when children stay to observe/participate in communion. This is Sunday School for grades kindergarten through 5th grade. Children stay in worship and then leave after the anthem. Lessons are independent of one another and in a story-telling format, so children can come and feel comfortable at any time of the year. After the lesson, children will use various forms of multi-sensory materials to express what they have experienced/learned from the story. Let's learn together!

* Reminder to all our youth members that

Seekers Lounge is available for use anytime.





FINAL LAWN PARTY

FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, AND MUSIC

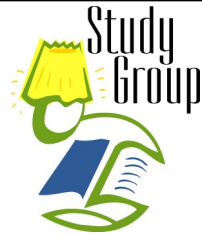
6:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

BRING A LAWN CHAIR AND A SNACK TO SHARE

Park in the old YMCA off Harmon Ave.

THE WOMEN'S DESSERT AND DIALOGUE STUDY GROUP will meet in the Parlor at **noon** on the **third Thursday of each month beginning September 17**. This year, we will read "Pastrix" by Nadia Bolz-Weber, a *New York Times* bestselling author who takes no prisoners as she reclaims the term 'pastrix' (a term used by some Christians who refuse to recognize female pastors) in her messy, beautiful narrative about an unconventional life of faith." Please see Sue Dennis or call the Church Office if you would like to join this study.



Miriam Esther Circle will meet for Bible Study in the parlor **Thursday, September 3, at 11:00**. We will gather afterwards with our bag lunches, and a dessert will be provided. The Presbyterian Women's book this year is "United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other" based on Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. The books are available in the office.



Wednesday Night Bible Study: The Mayberry Bible Study

Wednesdays, September 16–October 28 | 5:30–7:00 p.m.

Join us each Wednesday evening for an entertaining and thought-provoking Bible study inspired by the beloved *Andy Griffith* and *Mayberry R.F.D.* television series.

The Andy Griffith Show ran from 1960 to 1968 and continues to entertain audiences today through syndication. Andy Griffith insisted that each episode have a moral point—something good, lofty, and meaningful.

Show writer Bill Idelson once offered his thoughts on the show's success:

"The secret to the show: It's about our humanity to each other rather than our inhumanity to each other."

Each evening will explore lessons and values that connect the simple wisdom of Mayberry with our lives of faith. Topics will include **service, peace, commitment, accountability, courage, temptation**, and more.

This **eight-program series** gives you plenty of opportunities to join us. **Come for one, a few, or all eight programs! Sign-up in Fellowship Hall.**



*1 night – 3 hours Just for Women
An evening full of laughter, learning, stories & music*

Author & Bible Teacher
HEATHER DIXON



Comedy by
TAMMY WHITEHURST



Music by
JAIME JAMGOCHIAN



**SUNDAY
OCT. 18, 2026**

**GRACE CHAPEL
COMMUNITY CHURCH**
4075 LAMOR RD
HERMITAGE, PA 16148

5:00PM SHOW
4:30PM PANEL TIME
4:00PM DOORS OPEN

*Come early and join us for
a 15 minute panel time with
all 3 ladies based on
Hebrews 12:1-2 called
"Running the Race"*

ADVANCE TICKETS

General Admission – \$30
VIP/Reserved – \$40
Group tickets for 10 or more – \$25
VIP/Reserved Groups for 10 or more – \$35
Group sales call 480-812-1100
VIP/Reserved Includes reserved seats
and a snack bag

Purchase tickets at **480-812-1100** or online at:
ASPIREWOMENSEVENTS.com

*Aspire has been doing ministry for
over 10 years and we hope you can
join us for a great ladies night out!*

ASPIRE WOMEN'S EVENT

Sunday, October 18 | 2:30–8:00 p.m.

Hermitage, Pennsylvania

We are thrilled to announce that the Aspire Women's Event will be held again this year!

The ten ladies from our church who attended last year's event cannot say enough about what a wonderful experience it was. We are eagerly looking forward to another memorable evening of Christian fellowship, encouragement, and fun!

We will meet at the church at 2:30 p.m., travel to Hermitage, and enjoy lunch before the event begins at 5:00 p.m.

Please make your reservation today! Sign up in Fellowship Hall and be part of this special evening.

Your cost to attend will be \$15, with the balance of the ticket price covered by the Christian Education Committee.

Please don't wait—sign up ASAP! Tickets must be ordered by September 20, so that we can sit together as a group.

We guarantee this will be an unforgettable evening of Christian fellowship among women. We hope you'll join us!

Deacons' News

The Deacons begin their monthly meetings in September. Although we did not meet during the month of August, the Deacons have been busy. Congregational Care sent birthday cards with treat gift cards and the Fellowship Committee planned an appreciation reception for Pastor Greg Gillispie on his final day with us.

The monthly Community Lunch/ Grocery Distribution took place on August 18. Fifty people enjoyed a lunch of sloppy joes, chips, corn salad, and a pineapple angel food cake. After lunch, 47 bags of groceries were provided for the attendees.

Wishing you a September filled with Faith, Hope, and Love,

Kathie Trowbridge, Board of Deacons





SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION: Our next celebration of Communion will be **Sunday, September 6, 2026**, during our regular 10:00 a.m. worship service.

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL OFFERING: The Deacons will be collecting for the 2¢-A-Meal offering on **Sunday, September 6, 2026**. This program provides a channel for Presbyterians to respond to the crisis of hunger at home and abroad.

FPC WEB PAGE ADDRESS is <http://www.fpcwarren.org> - come visit us on the ‘Net! Our e-mail address is info@fpcwarren.org .

LISTEN TO US EVERY SUNDAY MORNING at 10:00 a.m. on 1570 AM or 97.7 FM.

LOOKING FOR A DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE? The new issues of *The Upper Room* and *Our Daily Bread* are now available outside the Church Office.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED: On **Friday, September 4, and Monday, September 7**, the Church Office will be closed in observance of Labor Day. Please have a safe and enjoyable holiday weekend.

VACATION: Dave Skipper will be on vacation **September 1 - 10**. Please reach out to the Church Office if you are in need of building attendant assistance.

FIRST SUNDAY SPEAKER SERIES will begin **Sunday, October 4, at 11:15 a.m.** in the Parlor. Our guest speaker will be Dominic Mararri, Director of Public Relations from the Warren Family Mission. Mark your calendar!

Sunday Speaker: Dementia Friends - Sunday, September 13 | 11:15 a.m. | The Parlor

Join us for an informative presentation, “Dementia Friends,” presented by Christy Boone from Direction Home of Eastern Ohio.

Christy serves as the Director of Special Projects at Direction Home. Christy supports our Share Care Group which was formed last year serving as the leader of our group.

The Dementia Friends program will help us better understand dementia and how we can support individuals and families affected by it. Dementia is not a specific disease, but rather an umbrella term used to describe a wide range of symptoms associated with a decline in memory, language, and other thinking skills.

This presentation will offer practical information and encourage us to consider how we, as individuals and as a community, can better support those living with dementia. Please join us!

Clergy & Congregation Separation Ethics

All pastoral and professional relationships and responsibilities end when a pastorate concludes. The departing pastor and church members are not to converse about internal matters related to the life of the congregation or any subsequent church leaders, be that favorable details or critiques. Any request for a former pastor’s involvement in baptisms, weddings, funerals, church anniversaries or other rites of the church must first be discussed with the current pastor or Session moderator, who will (when appropriate) initiate such an invitation. When a pastoral relationship concludes, this does not mean that friendships must come to an end. Friendships and prayer partnerships may be preserved and continued, as appropriate to the changed roles.

The departing pastor, the Session’s Elders, and the members and participants of the church share responsibility for living into these long-proven ethics, because of the overall benefits these expectations provide for the clergyperson, their family, and the congregational system.

-- Adapted from the Presbytery of Eastern Iowa

A personal note from Greg

“It has been a splendidly meaningful season”

My time among you as a pastor leading you in FPC’s season of transition will officially come to a close on September 5. This Bridge Pastorate was initially scheduled to conclude by January 31, but until the Rev. Dr. Leslie Traylor’s opportunity to join you here aligned with God’s divine timing, I’ve had bonus time with two extensions of my term until now.

Just shy of 18 months together, we have accomplished much. Studying and applying the truths of Scripture. Carrying for people. Adapting processes. Strengthening ministry connections. This has been a splendidly meaningful season for me. I am gratified to have so many of you tell me something parallel about your experience.

Now, this affirmation isn’t ultimately about me. You folks who have been here long before March 2025 were accomplishing so much of God’s work, long before you knew me. Our long-timers – along with you who have plugged into FPC more recently – will be doing much more worship and mission and service and friendships into God’s future ahead. This congregation is knocking on the door of a 223rd anniversary. The history has been strong. With faithfulness, and wisdom, and boldness, and gentleness, and (mostly) with reliance on the Lord’s guidance, the opportunities ahead are ripe for the proverbial/Biblically-inspired “harvest.”

Even if I took 4 or 6 or 8 pages, there is no way I can offer enough thanks and highlights to do justice to all the people and projects and patterns I celebrate as I look back over my time with you. I made a similar (but partial) effort with my final sermon on August 30, and I invite you to check out that Rally Day worship in our video archives on YouTube and Facebook.

It’s always bittersweet to leave a place, but the “sweet” part is my strongest reaction I take away from my chapter with you. To change to a new congregation is hard, but if I hadn’t done so, I’d still be a member and an elder at First Presbyterian Church in Beatrice, Nebraska. Every stop along the journey on which God has led me has blessed me along The Way. Thanks for being the Lord’s ambassadors to me – and to all the other newcomers who get adopted into First Warren!

As always, my prayers wish you Jesus’ Joy and Peace,
Greg

Gratitude for our outgoing Deacons and Elders

Pastor Greg is not the only FPCW leader who completes a term of service. As we ordain and install our next group of ordained officers, these incoming leaders will succeed our faithful servant leaders who have guided this congregation across all the transitions of the past 3+ years. We extend our gratitude to them and give thanks to God for the wisdom and faithfulness and insight of the Class of 2026:

Deacons: Cindy Athya, George Egner*, Marjorie Dangan, Aurelian “AT” Tanase, and Kathie Trowbridge

Session Members: Sue Dennis*, Lynn Griffith III, Mary Kilpatrick, and John Wright III
In the Presbyterian system, even as officers end a term on one of our leadership councils, they continue to hold the role and responsibilities of Deacon or Elder. Ordination is for life.

FPC Birthdays

09/01 Liam Wireman

09/02 Laura Creighton
Richard Nelson III

09/04 Paul Carlson

09/08 Bob Van Fossan

09/11 Pam Gray

09/12 Emily Benjamin

09/15 Dean Herriman

09/16 Gabriella Nieves
Diane Nieves
John Taylor

09/18 Kay Clark

09/25 Millie Mong
Shelley Taylor
Blake Beerbower

09/27 James Lough
Rachel Box Angelo

09/29 Karen Scher

09/30 Chuck Chalker

If we have overlooked anyone's birthday, we apologize. Please contact the Church Office, so that we may update our records.

Birthdays to Celebrate

SEPTEMBER 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Dave Vacation 9:30 am Al-Anon, B 5:00 pm Girl Scouts, FH 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 7:00 pm NA, MC	2 Dave Vacation 6:30 pm AA, MC	3 Dave Vacation 11:00 a.m. Miriam Esther Circle, P	4 Dave Vacation Church Office Closed	5 11:00 am AA, MC 4:30 pm Concert Parking 6:00 pm Lawn Party
6 Communion/2 Cents 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship	7 LABOR DAY Church Office Closed Dave Vacation	8 Dave Vacation 9:30 am Al-Anon, B 7:00 pm NA, MC	9 Dave Vacation 5:00 Someplace Safe, B 6:00 pm NAMI, P 6:30 pm AA, MC	10 Dave Vacation	11 Church Office Closed	12 11:00 am AA, MC
13 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am CE Bible Study, P 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 11:15 am CE Speaker, P	14 10:00 am OA, P 11:00 am Cortland Fellowship, Otterbein 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 6:30 pm BGA Meeting, FH 7:00 pm CE Meeting, Z 7:00 pm AA, MC	15 9:30 am Al-Anon, B 10:30 am Free Grocery/Lunch Distribution 5:00 pm Finance Mtg., P 5:00 pm Girl Scouts, FH 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 7:00 pm NA, MC	16 1:00 pm Crossroads Bereavement Grp, P 5:30 pm CE Bible Study, FH 6:00 pm Relay for Life, B 6:30 pm AA, MC	17 12:00 pm Dessert & Dialogue Study, P 7:00 pm Worship Meeting	18 Church Office Closed	19 11:00 am AA, MC
20 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am CE Bible Study, P 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 11:15 am Urban Tap Lunch	21 10:00 am OA, P 4:00 pm Deacons Meeting, FH 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 7:00 pm AA, MC	22 9:30 am Al-Anon, B 7:00 pm NA, MC 	23 5:00 pm Someplace Safe, B 5:30 pm CE Bible Study, FH 6:30 pm AA, MC	24 2:00 pm Share Care Circle, P	25 Church Office Closed	26 11:00 am AA, MC
27 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am CE Bible Study, P 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School	28 10:00 am OA, P 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 7:00 pm AA, MC	29 9:30 am Al-Anon, B 5:00 pm Girl Scouts, FH 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 7:00 pm NA, MC	30 5:30 pm CE Bible Study, FH 6:30 pm AA, MC 7:00 pm Session Mtg., FH			