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ISSUE 2026 VOLUME 4 APRIL 2026



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WARREN



Lenten Fellowship was held after worship on March 8. A light lunch, crafts, and activities were enjoyed by all.

Girl Scout Sunday was observed on March 8. The Scouts served as Greeters and Lay Readers and provided G.S. cookies for the Lenten gathering.



DEACONS' CORNER



Spring has arrived, and the Deacons are working on various projects for the month of April. The Lenten Committee and the Deacons' Mission Committee have joined forces to collect bedding for the Sleep in Heavenly Peace organization. Sleep in Heavenly Peace provides beds for local children who need them. The contribution of sheets, blankets, bedspreads, and pillows has grown to overflow status throughout the weeks of the drive! Thank you for your generous support for this worthy project. At our last meeting, the Deacons also approved funds for the Warren Family Mission to purchase items for Easter Baskets for families with children.

With Easter quickly approaching, the Deacons, led by the Congregational Care Committee, are getting ready to deliver springtime gifts to our Special Care Members. Thank you to the FPC Crafters for the Easter-themed gifts they provided for this project. The Congregational Care Committee continues to send birthday cards and sweet treat gift cards to our members celebrating birthdays.

The Grocery Distribution and Community Lunch took place on March 17. Meals of chicken and rice casserole, salad, and dessert were enjoyed by our neighbors who stayed for lunch. With the price increase of groceries, this monthly distribution becomes vital for our neighbors facing food insecurity.

The Deacons strive to make a positive difference to both our congregational members and our community. We appreciate the support of our members for the work that we do in our community and our Church.



Have a Blessed Easter filled with Happiness, Love, and Faith. Cindy Athya, Recording Secretary

Caregivers Support Group
If you are, have been or are preparing to be a caregiver you are not alone. Come share and receive support.

Share Care Circle

Every 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month at 7PM

For more information, please call the church office or Sue at 330-392-4385

**First Presbyterian Church
256 Mahoning Ave NW
Warren, OH 44483
330-393-1524**



On March 1, 2026, Lakeview student Alyssa Lydic performed a beautiful solo for First Presbyterian Church during worship.



“Re-mem-bering” the most profound week in human history

We live in the Christian era (even as ecclesial and culture commentators often describe our current times with the label “post-Christian”). Those of us who dwell in this segment of human history have some advantages that our forebears in the faith didn’t have. We have in our calendars which weekend is Easter. We know our Sunday worship that day will be full of festive, fanfare-filled moods. Some of us even pre-plan and find a nice new Easter outfit. We know when the celebration of Jesus’ resurrection will be.

The same was not true for the first generation of Jesus’ followers. Even though Jesus taught them (repeatedly!) that God’s Anointed One would suffer and die, they didn’t lock it into their ability to grasp it. (I give them grace, because I’m sure I wouldn’t have been fully able to grasp if I were in their First-Century sandals.) The Master also gave them the assurance that He would be back, resurrected, embodying hope. Even with that repeated promise – from One Who had the power and authority to fulfill such an audacious promise – those first-hand witnesses to the first Resurrection Sunday were in disbelieving shock.

So, the flow of two millennia of Christian practice invites to recall the swirl of events and emotions of what I often describe as the most profound week in human history. Jesus’ earthly ministry will culminate with all that we will remember during Holy Week and Easter Weekend. First, there’s a victorious ride of a popular and peaceful hero, beloved by a crowd in that Palm Sunday parade. Then, controversy spills over, in the halls of the governmental and religious powers-that-be. The Lord blesses His friends with footwashing and bread and wine. He is handed over from one authority to the next to the next, until the crowds call out for His execution. He dies...and disappears. Then, miraculously, Jesus reappears, to enough witnesses that His return can be proven as true.

A lot to happen in just one week!

As we remember all the Lord went through, ponder the core meaning in the word “remember.” With what we do – in the church building, online, in our homes, with our households – we literally “re-member” this vitally significant series of divine actions by the Suffering Servant. Holy Week re-enacts, re-embodies, re-calls how the heart of the Gospel message happened all the way back then. We “re-member” (take within ones own being) the modern-day implications of the crucifixion and resurrection for us in our era, too. We inside the Church are not post-Christian; but thanks be to God, we are living post-Resurrection!

Lenten Grace, in anticipation of Easter’s Joy, Pastor Greg

P.S.

I hope many of you will join us in person or online for Palm Sunday, “Mandate” Thursday, the Good Friday Vigil, and Resurrection Morning worship.

I also hope that many of you will invite someone to join us for Holy Week and Easter experiences. You can do that by passing along your copy of the Spire, suggesting that you would love to bring them to worship, or passing along the links to our social media and live streaming (with later replays also available 24/7).



FPC April Birthdays



FPC

- 04/01 Marilou Zampedro
- 04/02 Jim Ries
Sheila Wistar
- 04/03 Jennifer Ferguson
- 04/04 Axel Robbins
Francesca Chuirazzi
Gemma Chuirazzi
- 04/07 Sarah McKee
- 04/08 Casey McKee
Finnegan Wireman
Oliver Wireman
- 04/09 Shealeigh Lipscomb
- 04/10 Herb Bate
- 04/11 Bob Beerbower
Tavish Burd
- 04/12 Amelia Sasanecki
Susan Jeffers
- 04/14 Bob Stahl
Maria Oswald
- 04/17 Mary Ann Bromley
- 04/18 Dominic Ewell
- 04/19 Richard Coupland
- 04/21 Jane Odille
- 04/24 Thelma Snyder
- 04/25 Kaitlyn Buehler
- 04/30 Rick Hope
Dottie Gorton



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

Sun	Mon	Tue
5 Easter Sunday Communion/2 cents 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship	6 10:00 am OA, P 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 7:00 pm AA, MC	7 9:30 am Al-Anon 5:00 pm Girl Sco 5:30 pm Girl Sco 7:00 pm NA, MC
12 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 11:15 am First Sunday Speak- er, P 11:15 am CE Meeting, T	13 10:00 am OA, P 11:00 am Cortland Fellow- ship, Otterbein 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 6:30 pm BGA Meeting, FH 7:00 pm Voices of Micah 7:00 pm AA, MC	14 9:30 am Al-Anon 5:30 pm Meet n 7:00 pm NA, MC
19 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 11:15 am Deacons' Meeting, B	20 SPIRE DEADLINE 10:00 am OA, P 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 7:00 pm AA, MC	21 9:30 am Al- 10:30 am Free L Grocery Distribu 5:00 pm Financ 5:00 pm Girl Sco 5:30 pm Girl Sco 7:00 pm NA, MC
26 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School	27 10:00 am OA, P 5:00 pm Girl Scout event, FH 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 7:00 pm AA, MC	28 9:30 am Al-Anon, 7:00 pm NA, MC

C APRIL 2026



Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 10:00 am Crafters, B 6:30 pm AA, MC 7:00 pm Church Growth</p>	<p>2 Maundy Thursday 11:00 am Miriam Esther Circle, P 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Dinner, FH 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service</p>	<p>3 Good Friday Church Office Closed 12:00 pm Good Friday Vigil 2:00 p.m. Good Friday Service</p>	<p>4 11:00 am AA, MC</p>
<p>8 5:00 pm Someplace Safe, B 6:00 pm NAMI, P 6:30 pm AA, MC</p>	<p>9 7:00 pm Share Care Circle</p>	<p>10 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>11 11:00 am AA, MC</p>
<p>15 1:00 pm Crossroads Bereavement Grp., P 6:00 pm Relay for Life Meeting, B 6:30 pm AA, MC</p>	<p>16 12:00 pm Dessert and Dialogue Women's Study, P 6:30 pm Safety Committee Meeting, FH 7:00 pm Worship Meeting</p>	<p>17 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>18 11:00 am AA, MC</p>
<p>22 5:00 pm Someplace Safe, B 6:30 pm AA, MC</p>	<p>23 7:00 pm Share Care Circle</p>	<p>24 Church Office Closed</p>	<p>25 11:00 am AA, MC</p>
<p>29 6:30 pm AA, MC 12:00 pm Someplace Safe, FH 7:00 pm Session Meeting, FH</p>	<p>30</p>		

GOOD STUFF YOU NEED TO KNOW



SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION: Our next celebration of Communion will be **Sunday, April 5, 2026**, during our Easter 10:00 a.m. worship service.

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL OFFERING: The Deacons will be collecting for the 2¢-A-Meal offering on **Sunday, April 5, 2026**, after our Easter worship service. This program provides a channel for Presbyterians to respond to the crisis of hunger at home and abroad.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: If you or someone you know would like a visit or assistance from the Pastor or a Deacon, please call the Church Office at 330-393-1524.

LISTEN TO US EVERY SUNDAY MORNING at 10:00 a.m. on 1570 AM and 97.7 FM or watch us on Facebook at First Presbyterian Church of Warren.

MIRIAM ESTHER CIRCLE will meet **Thursday, April 2, at 11:00 a.m.** in the Parlor. We will continue Lesson 7 of “Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity.” Join us! Bring a bag lunch; dessert will be provided.

DESSERT AND DIALOGUE will meet **Thursday, April 16, at 12:00 p.m.** in the Parlor. We will discuss Chapters 15 and 16 of “Accidental Saints.”

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION! There will be a special section in the June *Spire* about our high school and college graduates. PLEASE send all information and updates to the Church Office at kathietrowbridge@fpcwarren.org no later than **May 14, 2026**. **Thank you!**

JIGSAW PUZZLES are available in Fellowship Hall on the bookshelf. Most of the puzzles are 500 pieces or less. Take one; complete it; return it; borrow another.

SPIRE DEADLINE: The deadline for the May Spire is **Monday, April 20**. Please send your articles and pictures to Kathie at kathietrowbridge@fpcwarren.org. Thank you.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: There will be a special service on **Thursday, April 2, at 7:00 p.m.** to commemorate the Lord’s Supper with communion by intinction. We will have a dinner at 6:00 p.m. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall so we know how many to plan for.

GOOD FRIDAY: Spend time on Good Friday to meditate during this solemn day. On **Friday, April 3**, we will hold a vigil from **noon to 2:00 p.m.** to honor the death of our Savior. At **2:00 p.m.** we will have a special Good Friday service. The congregation is invited to experience this event in part or in its entirety.

FIRST SUNDAY SPEAKER SERIES MOVES TO THE SECOND SUNDAY



The next speaker is Meghan DeGregory, part of the founding team and the Executive Director of Thrive 10:10, a nonprofit organization in Girard. Thrive 10:10 focuses on providing relief and individual resource building through community outreach programs. Some programs include Ruth's Boutique Lunch and Learn, which offers hygiene and beauty products as well as a meal and learning opportunities to families in need and Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin’ by World and Staying Ahead, which builds individual resources. She is also a Nationally Certified Mental Health First Aid Instructor as well as a National Consultant instructor for Bridges Out of Poverty. Meghan is the Ministry Coordinator at Girard First United Methodist Church and loves to write and share the important connections between faith and mental health.

In addition to her professional accomplishments, Meghan loves genealogy, reading, crafts, and yoga. She is married and has three adult sons and two amazing daughters-in-law. Her family is her motivation for everything she does.

Join us for this inspiring speaker on **Sunday, April 12, at 11:15 a.m.** in the Parlor.



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

You're encouraged to open the newsletter document that comes to your email each Thursday. The weekly electronic version of the Spire brings you and your household new updates, worship previews, calendar reminders, news to celebrate, and additional inspiration. Please don't let the eSpire sit in your inbox. There is worthwhile content for all of our members and friends of this congregation.

MEET-N-EAT

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Tuesday, April 14, at 5:30 p.m.

Join us for a delicious spaghetti dinner, salad, and dessert.

Invite a Friend



Sign-up in Fellowship Hall by Sunday, April 12.

HAVE A HAPPY SPRING

This is the day the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

PSALM 118:24 NKJV



An Opportunity to Serve

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

All willing hands are capable of serving during our worship services as Usher Captains. You will have a checklist of duties and the flexibility to choose the month(s) when you are in charge. An informational meeting will be arranged for the weeks after Easter. Let Mary Ann Bromley (330 646-1730) or Pastor Greg know if you want to learn more.

INSPIRING MINDS PRESENTS

gratitude

20TH ANNUAL GRATITUDE GALA

SATURDAY 04.25.26

2-5:00PM
IM HEADQUARTERS
337 WOODLAND ST. N. WARREN

DRESS TO IMPRESS

20 years ago, Inspiring Minds started with a dream to positively impact young people's lives. Today, that dream lives on in every life and community we've reached — thanks to you. Join us in celebrating the students and community that prove daily anything's possible. We wouldn't be here without you.

TOGETHER,
ANYTHING'S
POSSIBLE!

With gratitude - Inspiring Minds



IMMIA.ORG

The "Inspiring Minds" program recognizes what it calls the "danger zone" — the late afternoons after school and up to 10 hours per summer day — when children and youth are home alone and could get drawn into unhealthy habits or questionable activities. Ten years ago, Warren's own Deryck Toles launched Inspiring Minds to address that need. At FPC's First Speaker series in February, he shared the inspiring stories of young people whose lives of hopelessness and depression were completely turned around because of the involvement of motivated adults.

Members of First Presbyterian are especially invited to their annual "Gratitude" Gala, Saturday afternoon, April 25. Details and ticket information are online at IMYouth.org. (Ticket prices increase by \$10 on April 1.)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WARREN

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WE'RE ON THE WEB

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Easter BLESSINGS



THANK YOU

Prayer Stations were available during Lent; the focus was Pray, Fast, and Give. We collected bedding and decorated pillowcases for Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

Thank you for your generosity!

