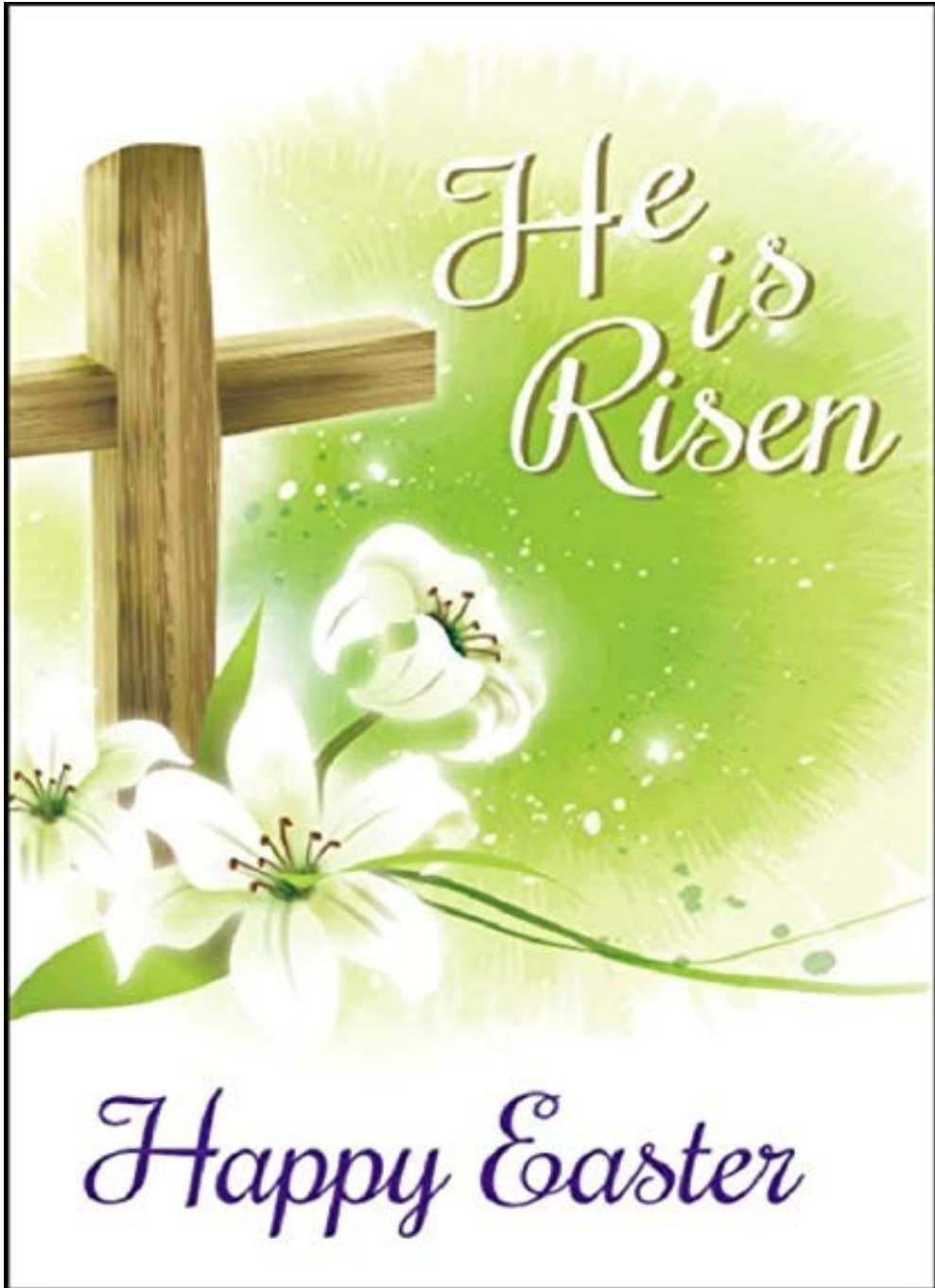




# LIFELINE





**CLERK’S CORNER**  
**Session Meeting Recap**  
**March 16, 2025**

opened with prayer and thanked Diane for providing lunch. The Clerk reported a quorum was present.

**Session approved:**

- the January 19 meeting minutes.
- Current membership was reduced by two with the deaths of Janet Swaim and Corkie Winters bringing our membership roll total to 82.
- Pastor Joe’s vacation requests
- reviewed and accepted the financial report for the period 01/01/25 – 02/28/25. YTD income \$28,307.45, Expenses \$39,779.41, for a net loss of -\$11,471.96.

**Information received:**

- A copy of the Property minutes for information.
- The Pastor’s report, for January and February which includes pastoral care contacts, information on the weekly Cornerstone class, community activities, and Presbytery meetings attended.
- Copies of various Presbytery events.

**Committee Reports:**

**CLS:** The next Sunday Fun Day with a Hawaiian luau theme is being planned for May. Watch the Lifeline and Mid-week updates for more details.

**Operations:**

**Property:** The property committee has been busy try-

ing to resolve the roof issues which cause leaks when we have heavy rain. This is an ongoing issue which is not yet resolved. Various lights are in the process of being repaired or replaced. Our insurance was renewed although there was a significant increase. The committee decided to postpone the installation of a new AC unit in the lower elementary classroom. Exploring the cost and name of a company that will strip and wax the floor in the Fellowship Hall. The committee plans to ask the Boy Scout Troop if they would be willing to lay mulch and move large rocks. Decided to give the City of Fairborn all the Pinewood Derby equipment for use during their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events scheduled for summer 2025.

**Personnel:** noted that Jeff Firestone’s 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary is coming soon.

**Additional Information:**

**Presbytery Report:** A Special meeting was held March 11 to conduct two items of business.

- Vote on the 24 amendments to the Book of Order from the 226<sup>th</sup> GA meeting. Our Presbytery approved 23 of the amendments.
- Vote to approve creating an Administrative Commission to help Dayton Corinth decide to close or stay open.

Kathleen Seewer

2025 Clerk of Session

**A NOTE FROM ECCLESIAL—OUR RESIDENT CHURCH MOUSE**

Welcome to SPRING! During this wonderful season of Lent, we are enjoying some better weather and watching the flowers spring to life. Take in the beauty of God's renewal every day. The church had a busy month of March as usual. Pastor Joe had a drive through Ash Wednesday event that was well attended! This is a convenient way to provide a service to our community for those who work and don't have time for an actual service. A new Lenten study has begun in Cornerstone Class. There is still time to join any Wednesday at 2:00 pm in the Lounge. We celebrated Pastor Joe's 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of becoming our beloved Pastor. Cake and Flowers were the theme of the day on a Sunday morning, and the following Tuesday a surprise visitation of some of you occurred at Lefty's. Pastor Joe doesn't expect you to wait for a special occasion - visit him anytime on Tuesdays from 10:30-12:00. A group went to Matthew 25 Ministries in Blue Ash and enjoyed a nice lunch and then made notebooks for shipment to disaster locations. The Senior Center luncheon this month was another big hit - the folks who partake tell us they look forward to this every month! Next month there will be a Maundy Thursday service, a Cross Walk will take place downtown Fairborn on Good Friday, and we are looking forward to celebrating Easter Sunday. Stay tuned for more details in the mid-week update and the Sunday Bulletins. ~Ecclesial



## Making Cookies to Tell the Easter Story

(to be made the evening before Easter)

### You will need:

1 cup whole pecans  
1 tsp. vinegar  
3 egg whites  
Pinch of salt  
1 cup sugar

Zipper baggie  
Wax Paper  
Wooden spoon  
Hand Mixer  
Cookie Sheet  
Tape  
Bible



1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees (this is important – don't wait until you're half done with the recipe)
2. Place pecans in zipper baggie and beat them with the wooden spoon to break them into small pieces. This was like Jesus being beaten by the Roman soldiers. **Read John 19:1-3.**
3. Put 1 tsp. of vinegar in a mixing bowl and smell the vinegar. When Jesus was thirsty on the cross he was given vinegar to drink. **Read John 19:28-30.**
4. Add the egg whites to the vinegar. Eggs represent life. Jesus gave his life to give us life. **Read John 10:10-11.**
5. Sprinkle a little salt into your hand and taste it. Brush the remaining salt in your hand into the bowl. This represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers and the bitterness of our sins. **Read Luke 23:27.**
6. The ingredients so far aren't very appetizing. Add 1 cup of sugar. This is the sweetest part of the story just like Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to belong to him. **Read Psalm 34:8 and John 3:16.**
7. Beat with a mixer on high speed for 12 – 15 mins. or until stiff peaks form. The white color represents purity in God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus. **Read Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-2.**
8. Fold in the broken nuts. Drop by teaspoons onto a cookie sheet covered by wax paper. Each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid. **Read Matthew 27:57-60.**
9. Put the cookie sheet in the oven and turn it OFF. Seal the oven door with a piece of tape. This represents how Jesus's tomb was sealed. **Read Matthew 27:65-66.**
10. Go to bed! You may be sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight. Jesus' followers were in despair when the tomb was sealed. **Read John 15:20 and 22.**
11. On Easter morning, open the oven door and give everyone a cookie. Notice the cracked surface and take a bite. The cookies are hollow! On the first Easter Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty. **Read Matthew 28:1-9.**



On our trip to Matthew 25 Ministries, we tried our hands at a new skill. We made notebooks from reams of loose paper. The number of pages were measured (by thickness of stack), then glued and bound into a notebook. Residents in disaster areas use these books to record information on where to get the help they need and other important information necessary to get back to a "normal" life.





# Easter Lily Order Form



It is suggested that gifts be at least \$17.50 but may be up to any amount you wish. This form and your payment need to be received by Wednesday, April 16th. Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church and marked "Easter Lilies."

Enclosed is my cash/check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for lilies

In memory of / In honor of / Celebrating (circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print names as you wish them to appear in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 20th.)

I wish / do not wish (circle one) to take my lily home after worship on Easter Sunday.

## Mission with FISH Fairborn

Pastor Joe volunteers at FISH Fairborn every Tuesday afternoon. Our church also provides monetary support and goods for FISH. The mission of Fairborn FISH is to alleviate hunger in our community and improve the health and well-being of our community through access to healthy foods while shining a light on the window out of poverty. When healthy food is placed in the hands of parents, seniors, children, or anyone struggling with hunger, a profound change takes place. Hope is restored and a brighter future becomes possible.

In 2024, FISH provided food to 15,082 families, which included 16,927 children. They also hosted health fairs, which provided preventative healthcare screening, health education, and connections to vital medical resources. FISH also hosted safety events which distributed care seats and cribs to infants. In addition to all of the other ways that FISH is helping the community, FISH, along with United Way and Morris Furniture, provided beds, bedding, mattresses/box springs, comforters, and pillows to 53 children who had been sleeping on the floor.

If you'd like more information or are considering volunteering at FISH, you can talk to Pastor Joe or check out the FISH website at:

<https://www.fishfairborn.org>.



**FAIRBORN FISH**  
FRIENDS IN SERVICE TO HUMANITY



On March 16th we were very happy to celebrate Pastor Joe's 5th anniversary as our pastor. In addition, two days later, several members of the congregation greeted him with balloons at Lefty's and shared a cup of coffee with him. Thank you Pastor Joe for all you do!

### Happy Birthday!



- Apr** 3 Bette Malavich
- 4 Jan Smith
- 12 Bob Hendrix
- 17 Darrel Leister
- 19 Janet Stevens
- 24 Frank Lowe
- 27 Heidi Sommer
- 28 Terry Riselay

### Maundy Thursday Service

**Thursday, April 17th—6:00 pm**

We will have a Maundy Thursday worship service with communion by intinction on Thursday, April 17th at 6:00 pm.



### Save the Date—May 4th Sunday Fun Day

Grab your sunglasses and Hawaiian shirt for our next Sunday Fun Day on Sunday May 4th. In this luau themed lunch, immediately after worship, we will serve ham with pineapple, sides, and desserts. There will be an area set aside for photo ops and other activities. Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us for fun and fellowship. See Linda Hartsock or Julie Brown for more info.



### Thank You Kroger Shoppers

Your rewards points this past quarter earned \$38.90 for us. That money will go to our mission with Family Promise of Greene County.



### 2025 Church Directory

The 2025 Church Directory will be out shortly. You can pick up a copy at the church. If you are not able to come to church and would like a copy, please send an email to the church office.



Dear First Presbyterian Church, You are wonderful! Thank you for your compassionate spirit and generous gift of \$250.00. Your gift is a visible expression of love for your neighbor, providing assistance, shelter, and hope for families and individuals who have no one else to turn to in a time of uncertainty. We are honored to receive it and promise to steward it wisely.

Thank you for your trust and kindness in supporting our mission and being part of the story that weaves love into our community. You are remarkable, and you are loved!

Gratefully,  
Michael Vanderburgh  
Executive Director  
St. Vincent de Paul



St. Vincent de Paul  
ASSISTANCE • SHELTER • HOPE

### Cornerstone Class

The Cornerstone Class meets at 2:00pm every Wednesday for Bible study and discussion. We are currently doing a Lenten study. Come join us!



Parker and Heidi showed us that if you look, you will find God everywhere!



# April 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>2:00 pm Cornerstone Class —Lounge</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>10:15 am Worship with Communion</p>	<p>7</p> <p>1:00 pm Hope Circle— Lounge</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>2:00 pm Cornerstone Class —Lounge</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p> <p>10:15 am Palm Sunday Worship</p> 	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>2:00 pm Cornerstone Class —Lounge</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6:00 pm Maundy Thursday with Communion</p> 	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>10:15 am Easter Worship</p> 	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>11:30 am Sr Ctr Lunch</p> <p>2:00 pm Cornerstone Class —Lounge</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Lifeline articles due in office</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>10:15 am Worship</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	 <p>HE IS RISEN <i>Celebrate the Resurrection</i></p>		

**SCHOOL PANTRY NEEDS**

A shopping list is provided for your use. Any items collected will be given to the Fairborn School Pantry. You can leave items in the bins in the narthex. If you need help with shopping or with pick-up and delivery, just let me know. I'll be happy to help.

Linda Hartsock  
School Pantry Coordinator



Pasta Noodles	Oatmeal	Crackers
Pasta Sauce	Pancake Mix (add water only)	Snacks
Ravioli (Can or individual)	Pancake Syrup	Canned Vegetables
Soup	Poptarts	Juice
Rice and Noodle Mixes	Nuts	Paper Towels
Mac and Cheese (Box or individual)	Pudding	Toilet Paper
Tuna and Chicken cans	Fruit cups	Shampoo/Cond.
Vegetable Oil/Spray	Peanut Butter	Body Wash
Cereal	Jelly	Feminine Hygiene
Breakfast bars/muffins		

***Lifeline*—the monthly newsletter of the  
First Presbyterian Church of Fairborn, Ohio  
1130 Highview Dr., Fairborn, OH 45324  
phone: 937-878-3954**

**email: [firstpresbyterianfairborn@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyterianfairborn@gmail.com)**

Office Hours: Wednesday and Thursday, 10 am—2 pm  
(closed Monday, Tuesday, and Friday)

***“The Friendliest Church in Town”***

Sunday Worship: 10:15 am with an on-line option from the church website

Pastor: Reverend Joe Hinds

email: [pastorjoe1stpres@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjoe1stpres@gmail.com)

Financial Secretary: Carolyn McMillan

Organist: Jeff Firestone

Choir Director: Shelda Cox

Director of Chancel Ringers: Rena Leatherman

**SESSION**

**Moderator:** Reverend Joe Hinds

**Clerk:** Kathleen Seewer

**Ruling Elders:** Julie Brown, Linda Hartsock, Dixie Jenkins, Art Myers,  
Kathleen Seewer, David Sellers, Kim Sellers, Roland Sommer, and Diane Sondergelt

**Articles for next month’s Lifeline need to be in the office by April 25th.**

**There will be a limited number of copies of the *Lifeline*  
in the lower narthex if you want to pick one up.**

**Please let the office know of any meetings that you have scheduled in the church building  
so that we can maintain an accurate calendar and answer questions as folks call.**