

The MESSENGER

February 2022

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Staff

the Rev. Jeffrey Lang

Amy

Director of Music and Organist

Kate

Choir Director/Vocalist

Paisley

Videographer

Maya

Vocalist

Deborah

Administrative Assistant

Logan W

Vocalist

Items for the March edition of this newsletter are accepted in the church office through **9:00AM, Tuesday, February 22.**



Early submissions are always joyfully accepted!

Submissions will be edited for clarity, accuracy, and length.

*God has called you to share in the ministry of Jesus.
May you be sustained by His grace.*

Welcome Class of 2025!

Elected January 16, to be Installed into office February 6, 2022

Elders Peter G and Matt B,
both serving their second term

Deacons Susan A and Jane J,
both serving their second term

Elders

Class of 2023

Jane S

William K

Class of 2024

Mary S

Karen R

Tom S

Class of 2025

Matt B

Peter G

Deacons

Class of 2023

vacant

Class of 2024

Susy S

Marianna B

Class of 2025

Susan A

Jane J

Nominating Committee (2022)

Susan A (Deacon representative)

Beverly B (member-at-large)

the Rev. Jeffrey Lang (ex-officio, without vote)

Diane L(member-at-large)

Jane S (Elder representative, chairperson)



From the Minister's Desk

The Apostle Paul writes to the church in Ephesus: *"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever."* Ephesians 3:20,21

We might find it difficult to create time for extended prayer and meditation, or Bible study surrounded as we are by so many distractions and competitors for our time. Sitting down with a substantial book on Christian theology or another weighty topic might jostle with the myriad of other demands on our attention. Responding as fully as we would like to every circumstance we come across of someone in need of our help can be overwhelming.

One message I hear in this passage is that God is able to work in our lives, in that which we are able to do, and multiply or expand our efforts.

2 Corinthians 12:9 finds Paul reflecting on his own struggles: *"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me."*

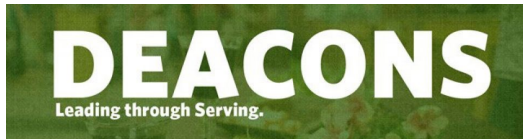
We are not able to accomplish it all. We can and do find ourselves not infrequently tired, our efforts diffused; distracted by everything we would aspire to be and do. It is in those moments that we can rest in God's strength and trust that He will work through us to accomplish His wise purposes.

God is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think. What Paul may be getting at in Ephesians 3 is just that God works in our lives beyond the limits of our imagination, vision, or strength. The passages in Ephesians 3 and 2 Corinthians 12 are jointly a summons to our best efforts at the Christian life, and a hearty trust that God's love and power will sustain us and bring to fulfillment all that we aim to accomplish for Him.



If you haven't already done so ...

...please return your 2022 pledge card *and* please pick up your 2022 offering envelopes from the Narthex.



The Deacons offer prayer, companionship, rides, or meals, but don't always know where care is needed. If you know of a need (your own or another's), call the church office or any of our Deacons: Susan A, Marianna B, Jane J, and Susy S (Moderator).

Diane and Mike B
William B
Levi C
Dottie E
Fern E
Jacquie O
Lila O
Carolyn S



Mischa Jane H
made her appearance on the morning of Tuesday, December 14.

Small but mighty, she was 6lb 1oz, and 17 inches long at birth. The H and S families are delighted and very thankful that she is here.



Worship News

In the heart of the cold and gray Cincinnati winter season the worship life of our church goes on. Our congregation is gathering each Sunday for an abbreviated, thirty-minute service despite the current surge in local Omicron cases. We are adhering to our guidelines of masks, spaced apart seating, and shutting off the heat circulation prior to our services. Certainly, there is a collective weariness of these protocols, but with that comes a stronger conviction that with spring a loosening of these restrictions will be both welcome and appropriate! The musical component of worship continues to be provided by Amy, choir, and our trio of talent: Kate, Logan, and Maya. The sacrament of communion is reliably celebrated on the first Sunday of each month.

Session has agreed that beginning in March we will again host a coffee and doughnut fellowship opportunity following Sunday service. The current idea in formation is that different groups or committees will take turns hosting on a given Sunday. This boils down simply to purchasing the doughnuts and getting the coffee brewing before the service starts. More detail to follow.

The season of Lent will be upon us almost as soon as we turn the calendar page to March. Please note that an Ash Wednesday service is already planned for March 2. The first Sunday In Lent follows, of course, on March 6. Reverend Lang plans an interesting sermon series appropriate for the season. Please join us at worship to hear more!

Mission

Thank
You!



Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center was not able to take our December Food Offering, so 40lb of food and personal care items was taken to The Princeton Closet in early-January.

A neighbor of a committee member donated Whole Foods bread—9 individually wrapped loaves and 24 bulk wrapped loaves—plus eight boxes of specialty cookies. Those were delivered to VICRC January 12.

Our January Food Offering totaled 63lbs. It was delivered to VICRC January 18.

The next Food Offering is Sunday, February 20. Remember, you may band-a-buck to any item on the donation table.



June 18—mark the date on your calendar! It's the proposed date for our next Fill the Glendale Village Square with Food event. Can you believe it? This will be the 12th year for this Mission event.

Too good not to share ...

We received this note just before Christmas.

To the good people of The First Presbyterian Church, Glendale —

We write this short (if slightly late) note to express our deepest gratitude for the kindness shown by your congregation throughout this year—from proceeds of the Golf Outing to the simple poinsettia brighten our holiday!

We take great comfort in having such wonderful, caring neighbors, ever since we moved to Glendale in 1997, but especially since William's fateful day in July 2009.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all ... and God bless!

Tom and Melissa B



VICRC is no longer accepting plastic or foam food storage containers. Rather than bring them to church, we suggest you recycle them with your weekly recycle pick-up.



Matthew25Ministries (M25M) accepts plastic pill containers—prescription and over-the-counter. Please remove labels as best you can and place them in the blue container outside the church office. Once the container is filled, they will be taken to M25M.

in Motion

Many thanks to those who filled 1 or more of the 25 Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes. We recently held a blind drawing to award a \$15.00 Graeter's gift card to 2 participants.

And the winners are:
Dave and Donna
Jane and Bob



Thank you to everyone who filled one or more of the 25 Thanksgiving Boxes with traditional Thanksgiving foods—enough for a family of five. The Mission committee added a Kroger gift card and the church added a holiday card. Glendale Police officers collected the boxes, the week before Thanksgiving so it could be delivered to needy families in Glendale in time for their Thanksgiving meal.

This church is the *only* Glendale church that reaches out to its neighbors in need in this way. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the Glendale Police department and those receiving the boxes.

Can you hear Dave C saying, “That little church in Glendale”?





February

Birthdays and Anniversaries

<i>Susan and Snowden</i>	15
<i>Kimberley and Jeffrey</i>	18
<i>Carolyn and Robert</i>	19
Lee A	24
Beverley B	26



Women's Book Club

Wednesday, February 2
10:00AM-11:30AM

Bring your favorite beverage and gather in the church library for continued discussion on *Wholehearted Faith*, by Rachel Held Evans.

Fellowship continues with lunch at the Blue Bird Café.

Music Live at Christ Church is a series of free public concerts, usually on the second Wednesday of each month. All concerts last about 30 minutes. Donations are gratefully accepted toward selected food banks in the Glendale and Cincinnati areas.



The Queen City Sisters
February 9 at 12:05PM
in the Historic Church



All men are invited to gather for lunch at Gold Star Chili on Springfield Pike in Springdale, Wednesday, February 9. Fellowship begins when you arrive; lunch begins at 12:30PM.





This a cappella women's trio dazzles audiences with their tight harmony arrangements of songs from the 1930's through the 1950's. The group was formed in 2013 based on the desire to bring a touch of old Hollywood glamour to Cincinnati area audiences.





February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 10:00AM- Women's Book Club	3 10:00AM- Gentle Yoga 6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal	4	5
6  10:30AM - Worship Blanket Sunday	7 9:00AM- Session reports due	8	9 12:30PM- Men's Lunch (Gold Star) 6:00PM- Session meeting	10 10:00AM- Gentle Yoga 6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal	11	12
13 10:30AM - Worship Blanket Sunday	14 	15	16	17 10:00AM- Gentle Yoga 6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal	18	19
20 10:30AM - Worship Food Offering	21  <i>Presidents' Day</i> Office Closed	22 9:00AM- March newsletter items due	23	24	25	26
27 10:30AM - Worship  TRANSFIGURATION of the Lord	28					

This calendar is a living document subject to frequent changes.
Check the website (firstpresbyterianglendale.org)
for the most accurate calendar.
Please call the church office with calendar updates.



First Presbyterian Church of Glendale

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Glendale, OH 45246

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glenpres@fuse.net
firstpresbyterianglendale.org

the Reverend Jeffrey Lang

Worship begins at 10:30AM
Sunday, September 12, 2021 through
Sunday, June 5, 2022.

Church Office Hours

Monday, 9AM-3PM, Tuesday, 9AM-1PM
Wednesday, 9AM-1PM, Thursday, 9AM-3PM
The office is closed every Friday.

Shared with you in Christian love



Beyond candy hearts and roses

The first half of February seems dominated by pink and red, cards and candy. But people not in a loving romantic relationship can sometimes feel left out of the festivities. Of course, all people



need love—and certainly love is not limited to the romantic kind. Author Leo Buscaglia, who became known as “Dr. Love” for writing about the topic, said, “Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.”.

Jesus taught that loving one another is second only in importance to loving God (Matthew 22:37-40), and that when we love one another, God lives in us (I John 4:12). There are so many ways to do that—beyond candy hearts and roses! But Valentine’s Day is as good a reminder as any.