

The MESSENGER

February 2023

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Staff

the Rev. Jeffrey Lang

Lauren

vocalist

Amy

Director of Music and Organist

Kate

Choir Director/Vocalist

Paisley

Videographer

Deborah

Administrative Assistant

Rev. Dr. Dawn

Parish Associate

Logan

Vocalist

Items for the March edition of this newsletter are accepted in the church office through **9:00AM, Tuesday, February 21.**



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 2026!

Elected January 15, Installed into office January 22, 2023

Elders

David B

Jane S, serving her second term

Elders

Class of 2024

Mary S

Karen R**

Tom S**

Class of 2025

Matt B**

Peter G**

Class of 2026

Jane S**

David B

Deacons

Class of 2024

Susy S**

Marianna B

Class of 2025

Susan A**

Jane J**

Class of 2026

vacant

**2nd consecutive term



From the Minister's Desk

William Randolph Hearst, the powerful newspaper publisher whose career stretched from the late nineteenth through the first half of the twentieth century, was a dogged collector of great works of art. On a particular occasion, Hearst learned of a piece he wanted very desperately to add to his collection. He sent his agent on an overseas trip to hunt down the artwork to purchase and bring back to the Hearst mansion in northern California. After much effort and expense to find what Hearst was looking for, his agent discovered that it was already in Hearst's possession, stored away in one of his warehouses.

Without pushing the analogy too far, perhaps the popular story about Hearst reminds us of Biblical truth.

Hearst was unaware of the valuable piece of artwork that was already in his possession.

The scriptures tell us that we are ourselves in possession of something of great value. However, like Hearst, it may be something of which we are unaware.

The Apostle Paul in Philippians 4:19 assures that: "My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus." In Ephesians 3:8 Paul says: "To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ."

In Colossians 2:3, again Paul describes Christ as one, "in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

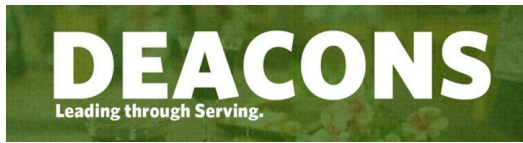
It is not earthly treasure or material riches, but spiritual value, that we are promised in and through Jesus Christ.

Jesus related two parables in Matthew 13, one about hidden treasure and the other concerning a pearl of great price. In both parables, Jesus was pointing to the value of a right relationship with God.

I think what the Bible is telling us is that in Jesus Christ we have discovered someone and something of inestimable value. What that might mean in practical terms is that we are saved (John 3:16), transformed (Romans 12:1-2), and our lives marked by the presence of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).

William Randolph Hearst was already the possessor of something of great value, but he lived unaware of that fact, searching for something that was already his. We have been gifted the love, mercy, courage, power, and hope that comes from God through Jesus. We possess spiritual riches because of Jesus. Our calling is to be mindful of that transformative good news and to discover our lives enriched and broadened by what we have been given.





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
Beverley B
Levi C
Dick and Jacquie O
Peggy O
Connor C



Lord, marvelous it is to us
That where the snowy tomb,
So vast and cold and deep now lies,
The flowers of May will bloom.

When winter grips the soul within,
God, grant us faith to know,
Where doubt and fear hold iron sway,
The flowers of hope will appear.

—unknown



Worship News

You may have noticed a new face in the choir loft recently. We are delighted to introduce Lauren, an undergraduate student studying opera at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. She serves us as our soprano section leader, and we hope we will be treated to an occasional solo performance too.

Lauren's gifts are obvious. She is currently rehearsing a leading role in an undergraduate production of *Dido and Aeneas* at the Conservatory. Please welcome Lauren when you see her!

Later in February we transition from the season of Epiphany to Lent, which begins on the 22nd of February, which is also widely recognized as Ash Wednesday. An early evening service is planned, with details forthcoming.

Looking ahead it may be helpful in your planning to note that Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday fall respectively on April 2 and April 9. Stay well, and we hope to see you in church!

Mission in



Our January Food Offering totaled 87 pounds of food for Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center. We also received \$2.00 in band-a-buck donations.

The next Food Offering is Sunday, February 19. Remember, you may band-a-buck to any item on the donation table.

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. Chief Warner and Sgt. Barber collected the boxes the week before Thanksgiving so they could be delivered in time for Thanksgiving meals.

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.

Thank you for your continued support of this Mission opportunity.



Love aces the test



Author Adele Calhoun describes life as “our ‘open book’ test on love”. How can we ace it? In *Invitations From God*, she points out that daily decisions are they make-or-break factors: “Day in and day out as we plan, work, produce, commute, and relate, we make life-altering choices to either love or neglect others”.

For another study guide, reflect on St. Augustine’s timeless words: “What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of [people]. That is what love looks like”.

Motion

Your Mission committee sent checks totaling \$3,793.67 to the following organizations in November and December 2023

- Samaritans Purse
- Red Roof Inn
- GLAD House
- Glendale Needy Kids Christmas
- Found House IHN
- Mary Magdalen House
- Plan of S.W. Ohio
- FreeStore FoodBank

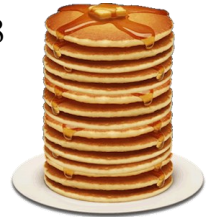
Included in that amount is

- 350 jars of grape jelly for Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center holiday baskets
- 25 Kroger gift cards, one for each of the Thanksgiving box you filled

Mark your calendars!

The Pancake Breakfast is returning!

Saturday, March 18
8:00AM-11:00AM



All you can eat pancakes, sausage, sausage gravy and biscuits, hot apple sauce, fresh fruit cup, orange juice, milk, coffee, and tea all for \$8.00/adult; \$5.00/children ages 6-12 years; children 5 years and younger eat free.

The Glendale fire and police personnel will be invited to eat for free. If you would like to make a donation to off-set the cost of their meal, please see David C—OR—drop your clearly marked donation in the offering basket.



Lenten signals

Why should we observe Lent? This 40-day season of repentance and reflection that begins on Ash Wednesday has three important purposes. Let helps us *stop*, *look*, and *listen*.

We observe Lent because it tells us to *stop* and rest awhile—and to stop sinning. Let tells us to *look* inward for an honest self-examination, to look upward to see the cross of Jesus with healing and love, and to look forward to the hope of the Resurrection. And we observe Lent because it tells us to *listen*—to the voice of God, the words of Christ, and the movement of the Holy Spirit.

Stop, look, and listen! These commands that are so crucial for travel safety are also important for our journey through Lent.





Birthdays and Anniversaries

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



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.

Michael Delfin, harpsichord

February 2 at 12:05PM

in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit

Mr. Delfin plays a concert of works by Rossi, D'Angelbert, Smorgonskaya, and Bach.



Wednesday, February 8; 10:00AM

Bring your favorite beverage and gather in the church library for discussion on *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus.

Men's Lunch

Wednesday, February 8

All men are invited to gather to enjoy their favorite menu items at Gold Star Chili on Springfield Pike in Springdale. Fellowship begins when you arrive; lunch begins at 12:30PM.



Sunday, February 5
following worship

You will need a copy of
The Screwtape Letters by
C. S. Lewis, and it would be

helpful to have a copy of *The Screwtape Letters Study Guide* by Alan Vermilye.



Fellowship Dinner at The Century Inn


Wednesday, February 15 6:00PM-8:00PM

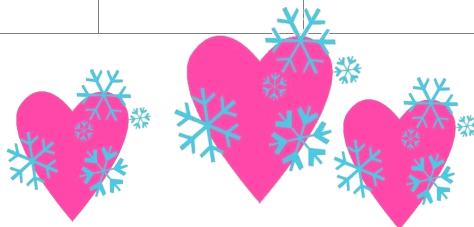
Reservations are needed, so please use the sign-up sheet on the Church House bulletin board —OR—contact the church office so we're sure to have a place at the table for you.

Come, enjoy The Century Inn's full menu and private dining room.

February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal	3	3
5  10:30AM - Worship 12:00PM- Winter Bible Study Blanket	6 9:00AM- Session reports due 2:00PM- Squirrely Stitchers	7	8 10:00AM- Women's Book Club 12:30PM- Men's Lunch (Gold Star) 6:00PM- Session meeting	9 6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal	10	11
12 10:30AM - Worship Blanket Sunday	13	14 Office Closed 	15 6:00PM- Fellowship Dinner at The Century Inn	16 6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal	17	18
19  10:30AM - Worship Food Offering	20 Office Closed  <i>Presidents' Day</i>	21 9:00AM- March newsletter items due	22  7:00PM	23 6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal	24	25
26 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT  10:30AM - Worship	27	28	<p>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.</p>			





First Presbyterian Church, Glendale

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Glendale, OH 45246

513-771-6195
glenpres@fuse.net
firstpresbyterianglendale.org

the Reverend Jeffrey Lang

Worship begins at 10:30AM
Sunday, September 12, 2022 through
Sunday, June 5, 2023.

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



From death to new life



After the inventor of the Frisbee died in 2002, family members honored his final wish: to have some of his ashes molded into a flying disk! The point, according to toy legend “Steady Ed” Headrick, was for his loved ones to have fun playing with him even after he had passed. “He lived for Frisbee”, said his widow, and now he lives on in one.

Thankfully, the ashes used on Ash Wednesday aren’t cremains. But they do have special significance. They’re often made by burning branches from the previous year’s Palm Sunday celebration. By tying together seasons, the practice of receiving ashes reminds us of cycles: sin, repentance and forgiveness, plus life, death, and resurrection—Jesus’ as well as our own.

