

# THE MESSENGER

## FIRESTONE PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2024



### SCHOOL OF LIFE



#### **Are we learning our lessons in life?**

*School is a place or institution for learning, teaching and testing.*

Our life on Earth is the school we attend before graduating to eternity – it is certainly a place of learning, teaching and testing. While alive, we are in attendance – but being present doesn't imply we are paying attention or learning our lessons. As with any school, our choices determine whether we pass or fail. If we have believed in the Lord Jesus Christ we immediately get a pass (to Heaven). If we fail to believe in Christ and reject God's gift of salvation, sadly our eternity will be Hell.

Those who graduate to Heaven still have to receive their final grade – somewhere between

A+ and D-. The overall grade will be determined by: how we fared in life's people tests, thinking tests and system tests; also how we handled prosperity, adversity and the various Christian commissions.

God has given us the BIBLE – often referred to as: 'Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth'. If we study the lessons within and apply them to our daily circumstances we will pass all our tests with flying colors. When we are concentrating on God's Word, our thinking and actions will naturally imitate the thinking and actions of our Lord Jesus Christ.

However, if we skip class because we are too preoccupied with the things of this world, we should not be surprised when we fail life's many tests. We may accumulate a lot of stuff here on Earth, but as the old saying goes: you can't take it with you. We can't expect to receive good marks (rewards) in Eternity if we failed to complete our primary assignments here on Earth.

When we finally graduate from life (through death), and stand for our report before God's throne, we will all wish to hear our Supreme Principal (God) say to us: 'Graduated from the School of Life – WITH HONOURS.'

"His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'" Matthew 25:21.

"Daily Life Illustrations" written and illustrated by Ian Coate

## FPPC FINANCIAL REPORT

*Submitted by Sherry Priest, Treasurer*

*There is no financial report for this month.*

## EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

### WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Here's the September/October Sunday worship schedule for you to clip and save:

All services are at 10:30 AM, alternating between the Allenside Presbyterian and Firestone Park Presbyterian buildings. Allenside Presbyterian is located at 410 Rexford St. Services are also offered on Zoom.

- **October 6: Combined Akron Presbyterian Churches at United Presbyterian Church, Cuyahoga Falls**
- **October 13: Firestone Park**
- **October 20: Allenside**
- **October 27: Firestone Park**
- **November 3: Allenside**
- **November 10: Firestone Park**
- **November 17: Allenside**
- **November 24: Firestone Park**

*To join our services by computer/tablet/smartphone, click this link:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5118335841?pwd=Z3VFQktHYUINa1RoTEhGU2p2WTErdz09>

*To join via phone:*

Phone number: 1-646-558-8656 (this is a New York number– note it is not toll-free)

Meeting ID: 511 833 5841 (then key “#”), No participant ID (key “#”),

Password required: 4430144314 (then key “#”)

## FPPC CELEBRATION

Submitted by Kari Phillips



Come to a Celebration of  
Firestone Park Presbyterian Church's  
New Beginnings!  
Sunday, October 27  
After 10:30 AM worship at the  
Firestone Park Presbyterian building!

Members of both Firestone Park and Allenside are invited!

We've been very busy exploring options and then making decisions about the future of our church building. Then we were busy moving, shredding, donating, and sharing items. We've worked hard!  
**NOW... IT IS TIME TO CELEBRATE!**

Let's gather for lunch in the back of the sanctuary and enjoy each other's company. We'll have a special memento to share with everyone and a few prizes for a few lucky winners!

Please take a minute to RSVP to Kari. All you need to do is:

1. Say yes or no as to whether you will be attending.
2. Decide if you want either:
  - PRETZEL DUET sandwich with one roast beef/cheddar & one turkey/gouda both on a petite roll  
OR
  - HEARTY ITALIAN sandwich with salami, pepperoni, provolone & sundried tomato spread  
OR
  - GLUTEN FREE option (ask Kari)  
OR
  - VEGETARIAN option (ask Kari)  
OR
  - BISTRO CHEF SALAD with either Ranch or Light Italian dressing

**There is no cost to you!** Please RSVP to Kari Phillips in person or at 330-730-5983 with your selection ASAP. You may also contact Deb Rutan 330-328-0627 or Julie Barden 330-730-9012. Orders taken through 10/20/24.

**Please join us for this special day.**

**We have so many blessings to celebrate!**

## WOMEN'S GUILD CHRISTMAS PARTY

*Submitted by Kim Birk*

The annual Christmas Gathering and Dinner will take place on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, 6:00 PM at the Canal Grille, 2223 Locus St, Canal Fulton.

All ladies and friends from Allenside and Firestone Park are invited to attend.

We will have a private room, ordering will be from the menu with separate checks. For those who wish to join in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped gift with a limit of \$10. We are also collecting non-perishable items for the Blessing Box.

Notify Barb Graham (330-745-2242) or Becky Holden (330-882-3054) with your reservation by Sunday, November 24. Should anyone need a ride, let Barb know and be at Allenside at 5:00 PM to carpool to the restaurant.

Hope to see everyone there!

## KEEPING YOU INFORMED

### MAD HATTERS

*Submitted by Kim Birk*

The Mad Hatters not only met their goal of 1,00 hats, they crushed it. They have surpassed it by hundreds of hats. Before all the items are distributed to the community groups, the ladies will display everything on the pews in the side sanctuary. Thank you to everyone who donated money, yarn, gift cards and moral support! When the final tally comes in from Kathy, I'll report back and give totals of where all the items were distributed and how many. If anyone is interested in joining the group, they meet on Wednesday afternoons between 1 and 3 in the upstairs room behind the office.

What an awesome mission the Mad Hatters have created to keep those in need in Akron and surrounding communities warm in the winter!

### FUNERAL REQUEST FORM

*Submitted by Judy Abdallah*

Before Pastor Francie left, she was working on the form at the end of this Messenger but didn't have the time to finish it. Her hope was to have members complete this form and give copies to the church and also a loved one.

This project came about because when the administrative assistant's office was being cleaned out in preparation for Tara's arrival, we came across a document Lou Narotski had written, listing in great detail everything he wanted for his funeral service. Lou being Lou, he even specified the flavor cake he wanted served at the post-service luncheon! Pastor Francie thought it was so helpful she decided she wanted to try and get more of these on file.

It is a non-binding document that certainly would not circumvent anything a family member might want to do differently. It is only meant to be a helpful guide for the church in planning services and support for the family of the deceased. They will be kept in a file for the use of the pastor in the event of a member's death.

Please fill the form out - one for each person - and either mail it or return it to the church office. It can be placed on the table in the office or if the door is locked, slipped under the door.

Thank you for participating.

## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY – PASTOR FRANCIIE PREACHING

*Submitted by Kim Birk*

On World Communion Sunday, October 6, 2024, 10:30 am, we will be worshipping together with the other Akron area churches at United Presbyterian Church of Cuyahoga Falls, 2819 Hudson Dr. Take Rt 8 north, get off on Front St, go to Hudson Dr, turn left and it's up on the right side. Very easy to find!

The past couple of years, the services have run long. We're not the only ones to notice it, all of the churches have said the same thing.

So this year, the service will be 45 minutes, max!

**I can't be more excited to announce that our own Pastor Francie will be preaching the sermon.**

So please, mark your calendars and show our support for Francie by attending this World Communion Sunday service. *Please see the attached flyer for more information!*

## COMBINED CHOIR REHEARSALS FOR WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

*Submitted by Kari Phillips*

Please see the below information regarding the Combined Choir on World Communion Sunday. Please contact Kim Birk or the church office if you are interested.

### **Choir Rehearsal**

Thursday, October 3, 2024

7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Sanctuary, UPC

### **Service**

Sunday, October 6, 2024

Warm up 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Choir Room, UPC

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sanctuary, UPC

United Presbyterian Church  
2819 Hudson Dr.  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

Dress: Please bring your own choir robes

Music: One World, One Communion

[https://www.hopepublishing.com/W4107 ONE WORLD ONE COMMUNION/](https://www.hopepublishing.com/W4107_ONE_WORLD_ONE_COMMUNION/)

Please purchase and bring copies for yourselves.

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*\*The next newsletter will be the November edition. Deadline for submissions is October 15<sup>th</sup>.*

# FUNERAL/BURIAL REQUESTS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

## FUNERAL LOCATION:

FIRESTONE PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FUNERAL HOME (SPECIFY) \_\_\_\_\_

GRAVESIDE ONLY

## BURIAL LOCATION:

CEMETERY NAME AND ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CEMETERY LOT

MAUSOLEUM

LOT OR MAUSOLEUM SPACE HAS ALREADY BEEN PURCHASED

LOT OR MAUSOLEUM SPACE WILL BE PURCHASED AT THE TIME OF DEATH

## VISITATION:

CALLING HOURS TO BE HELD AT THE FUNERAL HOME SPECIFIED ABOVE

CALLING HOURS TO BE HELD PRIOR TO THE SERVICE AT FIRESTONE PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CALLING HOURS TO BE HELD AT \_\_\_\_\_

NO CALLING HOURS

OPEN CASKET     CLOSED CASKET     URN     NO CASKET OR URN PRESENT

## SERVICE:

OPEN CASKET     CLOSED CASKET     URN     NO CASKET OR URN PRESENT

HYMNS AND/OR OTHER MUSIC SELECTIONS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SOLOIST  YES     NO    NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**West Area Collaborative Churches**

**Celebrate  
World Communion  
Sunday**

**October 6, 2024**

at

**United Presbyterian Church**

2819 Hudson Drive

Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:40 a.m. Light Refreshments and Fellowship

*Offering to benefit:*

**Welcome Home**

An outreach ministry to help newcomers acclimate to Northeastern Ohio

Allenside Presbyterian  
Firestone Park Presbyterian  
First Presbyterian of Barberton  
First Presbyterian of Hudson  
Goodyear Heights Presbyterian  
New Covenant Community

North Springfield Presbyterian  
Northminster Presbyterian  
Oak Hill Presbyterian  
The Vine Fellowship  
United Presbyterian  
Westminster Presbyterian