



MLK

MARTIN LUTHER KING

Celebration

Sponsored by:



January 15, 2024
10:30 a.m.
Ashland Transportation Center
99 15th St.
Ashland, KY. 41101

INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS A THREAT TO JUSTICE EVERYWHERE.

-Martin Luther King, Jr.



P.O. Box 1
1600 Winchester Ave.
Ashland, KY 41101
fpcaky.org
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Church Office Hours
Monday — Thursday
9 a.m. — 1 p.m.
ashlandpresbyterian
@yahoo.com

STAFF

Rev. Bill Pollack
Minister

Max Jackson
Choirmaster/
Organist

Nanette Pollack
Administrative
Assistant

Glen Thomas
Facilities Manager

Kara Adkins
Nursery Attendant

SESSION MEMBERS

Mitch Hall
President of
Congregation

Kelly Hanni
Secretary of
Congregation/
Clerk of Session

Cathy Wilson
Treasurer

2024
Lee McCloud
J.T. Norris

2025
Kelly Hanni
Kim Whitman

Geri Willis
2026

Mitch Hall*
Jan Holbrook

Ryan Whitman*

*2nd term of service

HEARTBEATS

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There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. (Luke 2:36-38)

The Child was here! Anna who had waited for the “redemption of Jerusalem” experienced great joy! She had seen the Child who was prophesized and was now before her. Anna had remained in the temple for many years. There she fasted and prayed for God’s visitation. She longed for the day when God would invade the plight of His chosen people. I often wonder what her prayers were like. Did she pray the same prayer over and over? Did she have certain prayers she recited? I do not know the answers of these questions, but it is fun to imagine.

For sure, Anna is the epitome of us all. For sure, we have the same longings she expressed to God. Prayers for help. Prayers for hope. Prayers for relief. Prayers for redemption. Prayers for freedom from the oppression of life. Sound familiar? Don’t you and I pray for these same realities for our lives and those whom we love?

How my heart cries out to God on behalf of the world for peace and love between all peoples

everywhere. How I dream of the day when everyone looks to the best interests of others. How I long for the day when we experience God’s blessings in their fullness. The reality is that most days, I cannot see this becoming a reality. It seems that evil is over running the earth. The day looks dark and hope has almost fled from my grasp. Yet, I still try to be like Anna. I pray for my hopes and dreams for the world to be real in the lives of my family, friends, neighbors and the Church. Anna didn’t give up in her prayers. I can’t give up in mine either.

So, we are entering a new year. What will the pages of our calendars reveal for us this year? What challenges will be faced? What failures will we experience? What joys and blessings are waiting to be revealed? I am not sure, but I do believe that regardless, we all have a hope! His name is Jesus – Emmanuel. His promised coming was realized in Anna’s day and He comes to us in our present day. He comes to enter into all our life events in 2024. He who comes is faithful and desires to bless us with His very best.

Here is a saying that is trustworthy and true – “I do not know what the future holds, but, I know the One who holds the future.” This is my confidence and trust. It is my hope. I desire that you have the most blessed new year ever! And so I pray and believe. I invite you to do the same as together we wait for the redemption of our world.

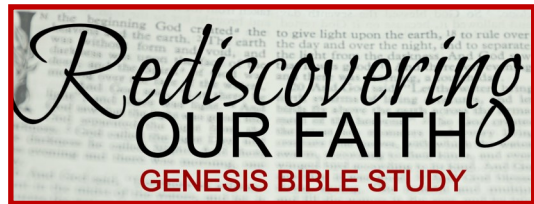
Pastor Bill

Memorial Gifts Given

Gifts were given in memory of:

- † **Martha Gesling** by Jane Justice; Greg & Geri Willis; Bettie George Frye; James & Sandra Bolen; Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Frazier; Kathy Hermansdorfer; Charlie & Jan Holbrook; Amy Crookes
- † **Jim Wiseman** by Charlie & Jan Holbrook; Betty Phipps; Jeffrey & Donna Suttle; Greg & Geri Willis; Brian Binion; Peebles Family (Val, Liz, Kat & families); Bettie George Frye; Kevin Gunderson; Breck & Sybille Tarr; Carol Tanner; Jan Winans; Richard Martin; Jane Tanner; Tom Davis; Julie Hall; Jane McClelland, Delores Fleming; Don & Judy Lilly; Devetta & Thomas Jackson; Julie R. & Robert Hall; James & Sandra Bolen; Mark & Kelly Hanni; Ann Wiseman; David Osborne; Kathy Hermansdorfer; Amy Crookes

Pastor Led Bible Study



The story of God’s blessings fills the pages of Scripture. It gives us cause to reflect and rejoice in His desire that all people be blessed. Beginning **Sunday, January 7**, Pastor Bill will lead a study from the book of Genesis– “Rediscovering Our Faith.” Please make *plans* to join him and others for this look at God’s calling to follow Him. We will gather in the Bethesda Community Hall at **5:30 p.m.** We will also stream this study on our First

Presbyterian Church Facebook page. Study books will be available. If you would like one mailed to you, please contact the church office.

Notes of Gratitude



♥ We, the Staff here at First Presbyterian Church, express our greatest appreciation and thanks for the ways you have blessed us during this past year. We are especially grateful for gifts, goodies, cards and words of appreciation and encouragement over these past days. We are privileged to be apart of this Church family. Our prayer for you is for His blessings to be with you and your family throughout this coming year.
(Nanette, Kara, Glen, Max & Pastor Bill)

- ♥ Thank you so much for thinking of me and sending Halloween, Birthday, and Christmas gift boxes all the way to Michigan! You have excellent taste in sweets, snacks and more. The young adults of the church, myself included, at least for a bit longer, are so lucky to have your support. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you soon. *(Thomas Hall)*
- ♥ Thank you so much for the thoughtful care packages you have put together for me. Sometimes, I get home from work stressed and tired, feeling overwhelmed with a million things I need to do. It always means so much to get a letter addressed to me. It makes me feel like there are many people looking out for me, which reminds me I am never alone. I will be out of town this weekend, but I look forward to seeing you next weekend and thanking you in person. I have been trying to save money lately to prepare for a move, so Chick Fila gift cards were such an amazing gift. Thank you, again. *(Harrison Hall)*
- ♥ Thank you, Reverend Pollack, and the wonderful ladies of the church for all of your time and care you put into my Aunt Martha’s Celebration of Life Service. All of the family appreciated the wonderful food and the opportunity to catch up with Martha's friends and church family. She was a wonderful woman who loved her church! I am very blessed to have visited the church on a few occasions with Martha and Bill. Martha was very proud of her church and the many people in it. Thank you again and I wish you all many blessings!
(Amy Carmichael, Martha’s niece)



- Sunday Morning Study:** 9:18 a.m.
- Armchair Theologians:** 9:30 a.m.
- Sunday Morning Worship:** 10:50 a.m.
- Men’s Bible Study:** Wednesdays, 7 a.m., Bob Evans
- Winchester Bells:** Wednesdays, 5:45 p.m. (resumes Jan. 10)
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal:** Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m.
- Horizons Bible Study:** Monday, Jan. 4, 6 p.m.
- Glen’s Birthday Celebration:** Sunday, Jan. 7
- Pastor’s Bible Study Begins:** Sunday, Jan. 7, 5:30 p.m.
- Ministry Teams Meeting:** Monday, Jan. 8, 5:30 p.m.
- Men’s Lunch Bunch:** Thursday, Jan. 11, 11:30 a.m.
- Paper Angels:** Thursday, Jan. 11, 1 p.m.
- MLK Celebration Luncheon:** Monday, Jan. 15 TBA
- Sew Blessed:** Monday, Jan. 15, 6 p.m.
- Finance Ministry Team:** Tuesday, Jan. 16, 5:30 p.m.
- Dames & Dinner:** Thursday, Jan. 18, 5:30 p.m.
- Nanette’s Birthday Celebration:** Sunday, Jan. 21
- Empty Nest Angels:** Monday, Jan. 22, 5:30 p.m.
- Session Meeting:** Tuesday, Jan. 23, 5:30 p.m.
- Men’s Lunch Bunch:** Thursday, Jan. 25, 11:30 a.m.
- Paper Angels:** Thursday, Jan. 25, 1 p.m.

Celebrating Staff January Birthdays

He doesn’t look (or act) this old, but he is turning 50! We invite everyone to join in as we celebrate Glen’s birthday next **Sunday, January 7**. We will gather in the Narthex immediately following morning worship. If you would, please give him a card and express your thanks for all he does for us here at FPC. Happy 50th birthday Glen!

From weekly bulletins to monthly newsletters; from emails to text messages and so much in between, we are blessed to have Nanette in our church office. On **Sunday, January 21**, we will have the opportunity to say thanks to her as we celebrate her birthday following morning worship in the Narthex. Please join us in this celebration. Cards are welcome. Words of gratitude are always great as well. Thank you Nanette for everything you do to make FPC a church in which we are proud. Happy birthday!



- Gary Dillon**–January 2
 - Heather Whitman**–January 4
 - Kelly Hanni**–January 5
 - Andrew Jones**–January 5
 - Susan Graham**–January 6
 - Mark Hanni**–January 7
 - Anna Goodwin**–January 8
 - Kate Goodwin**–January 8
 - LuAnne Conley**–January 9
 - John Fox McCloud**–January 9
 - Glen Thomas**–January 13
 - Dave Eby**–January 14
 - Holli McClelland**–January 18
 - Nanette Pollack**–January 22
 - Donna Jones**–January 23
 - Lorelai Shay**–January 24
 - Mike Whitman**–January 27
- Special Dates**
- New Year’s Day, January 1**
 - Epiphany, January 6**
 - Baptism of the Lord, January 7**
 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15**
 - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25**

