

**May 12, 2024**  
**Happy Mother's Day**



**First United  
Presbyterian Church  
Houston, PA 15342  
724-746-3040  
houstonpresbyterian.org**

*Friends are those rare people who ask how we are,  
and then wait to hear the answer.”*

— Ed Cunningham

**“How to be Happy”**

**Pastor - Ben Libert**

# First United Presbyterian Church

102 North Main Street, Houston, PA 15342  
724-746-3040

**MAY 12, 2024**  
**Happy Mother's Day**

*"We will share the love of our Lord, building on our past,  
reaching in faith toward our future."*

## **GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

Welcome & Announcements

**Meditation Music: - "He's Still Working on Me". . . . Arr. Linn  
(Solo: Julia Swarow)**

Call to Worship

L: God invites us to wake from our slumbers.

**P: There is much to be done for God today.**

L: God encourages us to proclaim God's goodness and love.

**P: There are so many people who are lost and hurt, who need  
the good news of God.**

L: God inspires us to be bold in our proclamation, unafraid,  
confident.

**P: Lord God, be with us as we step boldly out to share your  
Good News.**

**\*Hymn: #450 - "Be Thou My Vision"**

Call to Confession:

L: When we don't know how or what to pray, the Holy Spirit speaks for us. When the best we can offer is silence, the Holy Spirit shares the brokenness of our hearts. When we feel that we aren't even worthy to approach God, the Holy Spirit goes before us and speaks to our Father in Heaven on our behalf. With faith and humility let us confess our sins together.

Prayer of Confession

**Lord God, you know us too well. You know that we would be like the disciples following the crucifixion and even the resurrection. We would rather hide and mutter and weep, than proclaim the power of your love. The world is a difficult place. We fear so much. We want people to like us, and so we hold back on our proclamation of our faith. We don't want to offend anyone. But we know that your true love and presence are offensive to many. Your healing power is resisted by many in this world. Bring your holy fire upon us this day to ignite a spark of joy in our hearts and our voices. Bring the power of your rushing wind through our spirits that we may be turned in new directions for service and witness.**

(Silent Confession)

**In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

L: Remember and believe the last words of Jesus; "I am with you always to the end of time." The Risen Lord lives at the right hand of God the Father and constantly intercedes on our behalf. Trust and believe the Good News of the Gospel:

**P: In Jesus Christ we are all forgiven. Amen!**

**\*Gloria Patri . . . . .Page 581**

**\*Passing the Peace of Christ**

L: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**P: And also, with you.**

L: Let us pass the peace of Christ by waving the right hand of friendship to one another.

**Special Music: "How Great Is Our God" . . . . . Arr, Hogan  
(Chancel Choir - Solos by Terri Jeffers & Jonnie Swarow )**

**THE WORD**

**Psalm 1:1-6**

**John 17:6-19**

**Page (840)**

**Page (1679)**



## **PRAYER LIST**

### **ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS:**

**Tom Setto, Darryl Beton, Rich (Pepsi) Witmer, Barb Burnett, John Orlando, Mindy Kelley, Brandon Craig, Darren Spiker, Cat Morgan, Rev. Don Austin, Tim Lynch, Melanie Donahoo, William Young, JoAnn Pitcock, Amanda, Matthew Scears, Brad Pitcock, Brian Baumgardner, Bill Brown, Sophia Desmond, and Bill Ensley.**



### **MAY PRAYER REQUESTS:**

**Ronnie Casper, Judy Skowvron, Mike Wise, Susan Stonebreaker, Karen Jones, Dorie Nicholls, Jackie Shober, Aurora, Sandy & Jack Simpson, Dan Browning, Robert Ward, Joyce Orlando, Charity, Cathy Lynch, Patty Goldbach, Pastor Melody, Bell Family, Evelyn, Bob Washabaugh, Marion Marcase, and Curtis Marcase.**



### **ALSO PRAY FOR:**

**Pastor Ben and our Houston Church leaders  
Our Nation and our Nation's Leaders  
All unspoken requests of our church family.**

# MISSION TRIP MEETING - MAY 19TH @ 6PM. UPPER TEN MILE CHURCH, PROSPERITY

This is an informational and sign-up meeting.  
If you need directions or a ride, please  
see Leon or Linda Young.

\* \* \* \* \*



## BLESSING BOX

**April count: 120 food items donated!**

Thank you for your support. Please continue to keep a food item for the Blessing Box on your weekly grocery shopping list.

Good used books (especially children's) are also appreciated.

\* \* \* \* \*



## MOC LAUNCHES MISSIONS FOR MILITARY & FAMILIES



Washington Presbytery Missional Outreach Committee announces two opportunities to support our military and their families.

**Children's Book Collection** - Donate a new children's book, and a message of encouragement inside. The books will be placed in the Pittsburgh USO location, and will be distributed to children of service members during Family Day events.

**Gas Cards (GetGo or Sheetz)** - Cards will be given to reservists who travel to bases for their drill time. Often the distance and travel expenses are an extra burden on tight family budgets.

**We are encouraging churches to collect throughout the month of May, with Fourth Presbyterian Church as the donation drop-off site. Drop-off dates and times will be shared toward the end of May.**



***When I am afraid, I put my  
trust in you.  
Psalm 56:3***

Each Caring Cross is carved from a single piece of olive wood, pruned from olive trees around Bethlehem. Christians have been carving crosses like these for hundreds of years, originally from pilgrims and, more recently, tourists visiting the Holy Land. Each craftsman received a fair price to support their family and Christian community.

My Caring Crosses are designed to fit comfortably in the palm of your hand, as an aid to prayer or meditation, making them an ideal spiritual companion.

[www.MyCaringCross.com](http://www.MyCaringCross.com)

**Happy  
Mother's  
Day!**



**The Caring Crosses today are given in celebration of  
Mother's Day.**


**If you would like to donate flowers in memory or in  
honor of someone, please sign up in the Church  
hallway or call the Church Office.**



# MAY, 2024



*Regular Events*  
 Sunday School --- 9:45am  
 Worship --- 11:00am  
 Bible Study --- Tuesday 10:30am

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
April 28th	April 29th Session Mtg. 6:30pm	April 30th	1-	2-	3-	4-Spring Luncheon Social Hall 12:00 Noon
5-Communion Sunday	6-Ministry Mtg. 6:30pm	7-Deacons Mtg. 6:00pm	8-	9-Potluck Dinner & Ascension Worship 6:00pm	10-	11 -
12-  HAPPY MOTHERS DAY	13-Mission Mtg. 6:30pm	14-Presbytery Mtg. 7:00pm	15-Pastor Ben Vacation	16-Pastor Ben Vacation	17-Pastor Ben Vacation	18-Pastor Ben Vacation
19- Pulpit Supply Rev. Debbie Evanovich	20-Pastor Ben Vacation Admin. Mtg. 6:30pm	21-Pastor Ben Vacation No Bible Study	22-	23-	24-	25-
26-	27-Memorial Day Office Closed	28-Session Mtg. 6:30pm	29-	30-	31 -	

