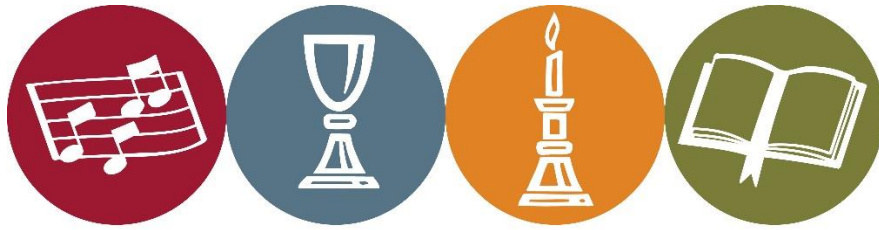


# The First Presbyterian Church – Willoughby



## WORSHIP WITH US

*5th Sunday of Easter ~ April 28, 2024*

*The Rev. Shane Nanney – Pastor*

### **Lectors**

*9:00 am – Gary Costas*

*11:00 am – Randy Jameson*

*The Scripture readings for the 5th Sunday of Easter is:*

*Acts 8:26-40, Matthew 25: 31-46*

### **Sermon**

*“The Great Paradox”*

### **Welcome to worship!**

Jesus says, “As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love” (John 15:9, NRSV). One way we do that is to gather in Christian community. Welcome, beloved ones!

## IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for the health, peace and rest needed by our church family members and their loved ones. We continue to pray for peace in the world.



## REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND

Please consider dropping a note in the mail or giving them a call. Addresses and phone numbers are in your directory (available in the east entryway).

## HONOR LOVED ONES AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Share the beauty of flowers with the congregation in worship, by sponsoring the flowers and dedicating them to a loved one or to honor a special occasion. The 2024 flower chart is posted in the east entryway. Select the date you wish to donate to the flower fund. *Suzan Plautz will follow up with you to ask for your dedication wishes.*

## SIGNS OF OUR FAITHFULNESS –April 21

**Attendance:** 66 in person; 40 online



## **THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONSISTENT GIVING.**

Your dedication is so very much appreciated! To give, you may:

- place your offerings in the Offerings Box in the Sanctuary
- send your gifts by mail
- bring your gifts by the church (place in the big black mailbox outside).
- set up automatic payment through your bank.
- or give online using the QR Code here, or through our *PayPal* button [www.fpcwilloughby.org/Giving](http://www.fpcwilloughby.org/Giving)



**THE FREE FOOD MINISTRY IS THRIVING.** Next Sunday is First Sunday for the children to collect food from the congregation at the 9:00am service. Groceries can be brought throughout the month. If not next Sunday, you can drop items in the grocery cart at the church entrance on Wednesday and Thursday mornings each week, or any Sundays when you come to worship. Requested food donations for May are: **Healthy cereal especially instant oatmeal, canned fruit, canned chicken, canned soup, and toilet paper.**



On Tuesday, April 23, we were blessed by a large contribution of requested items by the members of the Willoughby Western Lake County Chamber of Commerce. The items were gifted by each member as they entered a well-attended “State of the Cities” program. Thank a chamber member if you know one.

**We are a Matthew 25 church!**

**We serve the least, the last, and the lost.**



Our congregation has accepted the PC(USA)'s invitation to follow Jesus' teachings in Matthew 25:31-46 by becoming active disciples and making a difference in our community and the world.

As part of our Matthew 25 commitment, we pledge to embrace one or more of these three areas of focus:

**Building congregational vitality**

**Dismantling structural racism**

**Eradicating systemic poverty**

# Fellowship Opportunities

Catch up with church events and the photos of you and your loved ones making God's love real.



**The Yarn Connection!** This is an ongoing opportunity held the **1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month** from **10 am-12 pm**. The ladies and Pastor Shane knitted gifts that were given to Project Hope for the Homeless and *WomenSafe* Shelter. Open to knitters and crocheters to work on their current projects, charity projects, or teach/learn how to knit or crochet.

**Home Care items** - When accidents or illnesses happen, we may need help to recover. The church would like to provide that help. If you have any gently used medical equipment, such as walkers, wheelchairs, canes, shower chairs, crutches, etc. that are collecting dust, please consider donating them to the church. This equipment would be made available for church members to borrow at no cost to you. All we ask is that you return the item when it is no longer needed. Contact our office at 440-946-0070 x1 or by email, [office@FPCWilloughby.org](mailto:office@FPCWilloughby.org).

**Mission Fair Today from 10-12:30**



# Mission Opportunities

Our church will host its first Mission Fair today from **10:00am-12:30pm**. Many of our members and friends are unaware of the many missions our church and its members participate in or support. We would like to help acquaint you with these charities. The mission committee will showcase our partnerships with the many programs that we as a church support whether by donations, time served, or gifts given.

First Presbyterian Church – Willoughby does many great things in our community. Please join us in the WPG hall for a light bite and coffee between services and after the 11:00am service and learn more about each of these mission partners.

**A lucky participant will win (2) tickets to the Dougbe River School gala on September 15. You will be given a passport to journey through the Mission Fair. Have your passport stamped at each of the destinations, turn in your passport, and it will be entered into the drawing for the (2) tickets!**

Habitat for Humanity  
Matthew 25  
Dougbe River School  
McKinley Community Assistance Outreach  
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance  
Food Ministries

Project Hope for the Homeless  
Hunger Walk  
World Vision  
BV – Ohio Living  
Rahmani Family  
North Church

## Save these dates!

~National Day of Prayer is Thursday, **May 2**.

~Men's breakfast is on the first Saturday of every month. Next date is **May 4**.

~Mother's Day is **May 12**.

~Youth Sunday will be **May 19**. Graduates will be honored the same day.

~Youth group will gather for a Lock Down the night of **May 26**.

~Next **Agape Feast!** date: **May 30**.



~Sunday, **May 26**, 7:00 pm-Monday, **May 27**, 9:0 a.m.: **LOCK IN**.

RSVP & permission slip is required

### National Day of Prayer

The **National Day of Prayer** is an annual day of observance designated by the United States Congress and held on the first Thursday of May, when people are asked "to turn to God in prayer and meditation". The president is required by law (36 U.S.C. § 119) to sign a proclamation each year, encouraging all Americans to pray on this day. If you'd like to read about how to pray, click on the following link.

<https://www.nationaldayofprayer.org/equipping/prayforamerica>

### May Lectionary

May 5	1 John 5:1-6	John 15:9-17
May 12	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26	John 17:6-19
May 19	Acts 2:1-21	John 15:26-27, 16:4-15
May 26	Romans 8:12-17	John 3:1-17

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CHURCH THIS WEEK?

<b>Sun, April 28</b>	9:00 am	Contemporary Service
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Mission Fair - WPG</b>
	10:00 am	Children's Sunday school
	11:00 am	Traditional Service
<b>Mon, April 29</b>	7:00 pm	Adult Sunday school – Zoom
	12:00 pm	One Step at a Time AA Meeting – WPG
	<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>Free Food Distribution - WPG</b>
<b>Tue, April 30</b>	7:30 pm	Willoughby Monday AA Meeting – WPG
	<b>1:00 pm</b>	<b>Bible Study – BV</b>
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Bible Study – Room 1 and Zoom</b>
<b>Wed, May 1</b>	8:00 pm	Willoughby Tuesday AA Meeting – WPG
	1:00 pm	Lake County Women AA Meeting – WPG
	6:30 pm	Families Anonymous – Room 1
<b>Thu, May 2</b>	7:30 pm	Wickliffe Group AA Meeting – WPG
	<b>National Day of Prayer</b>	
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Yarn Connection</b>
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
<b>Sat, May 4</b>	7:00 pm	Stepping Up Al-Anon Mtg – Library
	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Men's Breakfast – First Watch Willoughby</b>
	1:00 pm	Shankland Saturday – WPG
<b>Sun, May 5</b>	<b>Communion Sunday and First Sunday Food Collection</b>	
	9:00 am	Contemporary Service
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Mission Fair - WPG</b>
	10:00 am	Children's Sunday school
	11:00 am	Traditional Service
	7:00 pm	Adult Sunday school - Zoom

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