

The PRESbyterian

"Learning, Loving, Giving--Christ Alive in the Believer"
February 2025 Volume LIV, Issue 2

Prayer Concerns

Mary Ellen Beans, 2844 Tabor Ridge Rd, NE, Mineral City 44656

Jane McEwan, 2594 E High Ave, Rm #110, New Phila

Carol Phillips, The Inn at Northwood Village, 5799 N Wooster Ave, Dover

Marlene Singhaus, Park Village Care Center, Rm 409, 1525 N. Crater Ave, Dover

Ginny Stephenson, Schoenbrunn Health Center, Rm 112, 2594 E. High Ave, New Phila

Construction Parking

As the construction of Jack's House of Hope takes place, we thank you for your patience in terms of parking at the church. Parking is available on the gravel lot along the fence and side alley, and on the street along East High Ave. The inner section closest to the door is reserved for handicap/limited mobility parking and drop off. Thank you for keeping the entrance to this clear (marked by cones)!



Annual Congregational Meeting

The 2024 Annual Congregational Meeting will be tentatively scheduled for early March. Please stay posted for an official date and details. Committee chairpersons submitting reports can turn those in to the office at any time (email or handwritten) before Thursday, February 20th.



Per Capita for 2025

The 2025 Presbytery Per Capita is \$39.60 per member. When paying, please designate "per capita" in the memo line or cash envelope.

Tables of Eight

Tables of Eight meal will be Saturday, February 15th at 6pm in the church fellowship hall. The menu will be lasagna, salad, bread, and pies. The cost is \$10 per person. All are welcome! Bring a friend! We do ask that you RSVP to Carolyn Berry or the church office.

Presidents' Day

The church offices will be closed on Monday, February 17th in observance of Presidents' Day.



Jack's House of Hope Capital Campaign Project

Our church will be accepting donations toward the "Jack's House of Hope Capital Campaign"- the county homeless shelter renovation. We have already raised \$1500 toward their effort! Any who wish to contribute may mail their donations to the church office, give them during the Sunday offering, or visit the Friends of the Homeless website to donate online (<https://fohtusc.org/hoh/>).



Pastor's Corner

Now that Jesus has arrived and is walking among us, and an invitation extended to the wider world to come and see, his ministry is an indication of the change brought to creation and to our actions. Jesus is not just handing out divine freebees to people at random, all his actions are purposefully presenting and detailing the Kingdom and reign of the LORD. A reminder of our Creator and all he set up his world to be, and what is expected of us as caretakers of this marvelous garden. Jesus heals the sick, extends hospitality to sinners and outcasts, and lives the Word of God out loud so all might have understanding. Jesus' ministry is to show what love truly is; love of the LORD to us, love and devotion toward the LORD, and love and commitment toward each other as a common created. The world, and the powers within it, laud love as that common emotion and action which everyone agrees on. What is not said is how the definition is changed, or conditions attached, to make it more acceptable to those with other motives. But the purpose of love is to change us, reset our motives and priorities, and activate within us the innate capacity to respond to divine movement.

As St. Paul reminds the church in that famous passage from 1 Corinthians 13:1-13:

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Often read at weddings, it is taken as a celebration and aspiration of love within the life of a couple. But St. Paul writes to a whole community of people, to remind them of the commitment the LORD has had to them, and they should extend to each other. When love is withheld, or conditioned, it disrupts the natural flow of community and creates a toxic environment in which all wither. But as the representative of the LORD in this world, and the principal human, Jesus' actions show and reset our values and what it means to love. No longer is it solely about emotion or feelings, but about commitment, care, and demonstrating the best that others can live into. Those actions show how we see and respond to the LORD and how much his Kingdom-values influence who we are and want to be.

As Jesus now starts to travel around Galilee, and around our community, let us keep our eyes open at what his presence changes and inspires to change. Let us look at ourselves to see if we are allowing this renewed demonstration of love to change and make us better equipped disciples. Let us also be in awe and wonder at what he can do, and what will ultimately do as a singular act of love for all. **-Rev. Joe**

Sunday Study Group

Join us **Sunday Mornings at 9:15am** for our study group! The purpose of this group is to study in depth the scripture lessons for worship service, and to understand current events from a Christian perspective. Anyone, and everyone, is welcome to join!



Friends of the Homeless Meal

Our monthly Friends of the Homeless dinner will be on **February 9** at 6pm. We need volunteers to help, and a sign-up sheet is available in the church office. We are fully funded for the monthly meals, but if you would like to give consider donating toward FOTH General Operations or the Jack's House of Hope Project.

ONLINE MINISTRY

All online worship content (including pastor's messages, bulletins, and newsletters) are available on the church website (www.newphilapc.org). Mailings of weekly services are available upon request to the church office.

"First Celebration" Sunday

Join us on **February 2** as we celebrate Holy Communion during service, and a Church Brunch during our fellowship time! Invite your family and friends, all are welcome!

Cookies for Sundays!

What's your favorite cookie? Do you have a recipe you just love to make? Every Sunday (except for the first Sunday of the month) we have cookies and coffee in the fellowship hall following the service. Would you like to bring cookies to share? They can be home baked, purchased from a bakery, store bought—it doesn't matter! Sign up in the church office!



Greeters and Ushers

We need volunteers for liturgists, worship stewards, greeters/ushers, and cookies each Sunday. A sign-up sheet is available in the office to volunteer, or you may call the church office to sign up.

Session Members:

Class of 2025: Renee Miskimmin (clerk), Craig Stewart
Class of 2026: Ethelyn Ann Eichel, Gail Hedges
Class of 2027: Doug McIntire, Sally Walker

Deacon Members:

Class of 2025: Carolyn Berry
Class of 2026: Jackie Stutz
Class of 2027: Bonnie Majewski

Office Hours:

8:00am-3:00pm Monday - Thursday
Closed: Friday

Church Email and Phone:

office@newphilapc.org
330-343-7114

Our Church:

Sunday School: 9:15am

Worship Service: 10:30am

Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:00am in the pastor's office

Do you have something to add to the newsletter? Please call or email the church office by the 20th of the month for placement in the following newsletter.

February 2025

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>EVERY SUNDAY 9:15am- Sunday Study Group 10:30am- Worship Service followed by coffee and cookies in the fellowship hall</p>						1
<p>2 Communion Brunch following the service--ALL Welcome!</p>	<p>3 7pm- Session Meeting (rescheduled from January)</p>	4	<p>5 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Meeting</p>	6	<p>7 Office Closed</p>	8
<p>9 6pm- FoH Meal</p>	10	11	<p>12 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Meeting</p>	13	<p>14 Office Closed</p>	<p>15 6pm Tables of Eight Dinner</p>
16	<p>17 Presidents' Day Offices Closed</p>	<p>18 7pm- Session Meeting</p>	<p>19 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Meeting</p>	<p>20 Annual Committee Reports Due</p>	<p>21 Office Closed</p>	22
23	<p>24 6pm FoH Board Meeting</p>	<p>25 7pm Finance Meeting</p>	<p>26 10am- Bible Study 8pm- AA Meeting</p>	27	<p>28 Office Closed</p>	