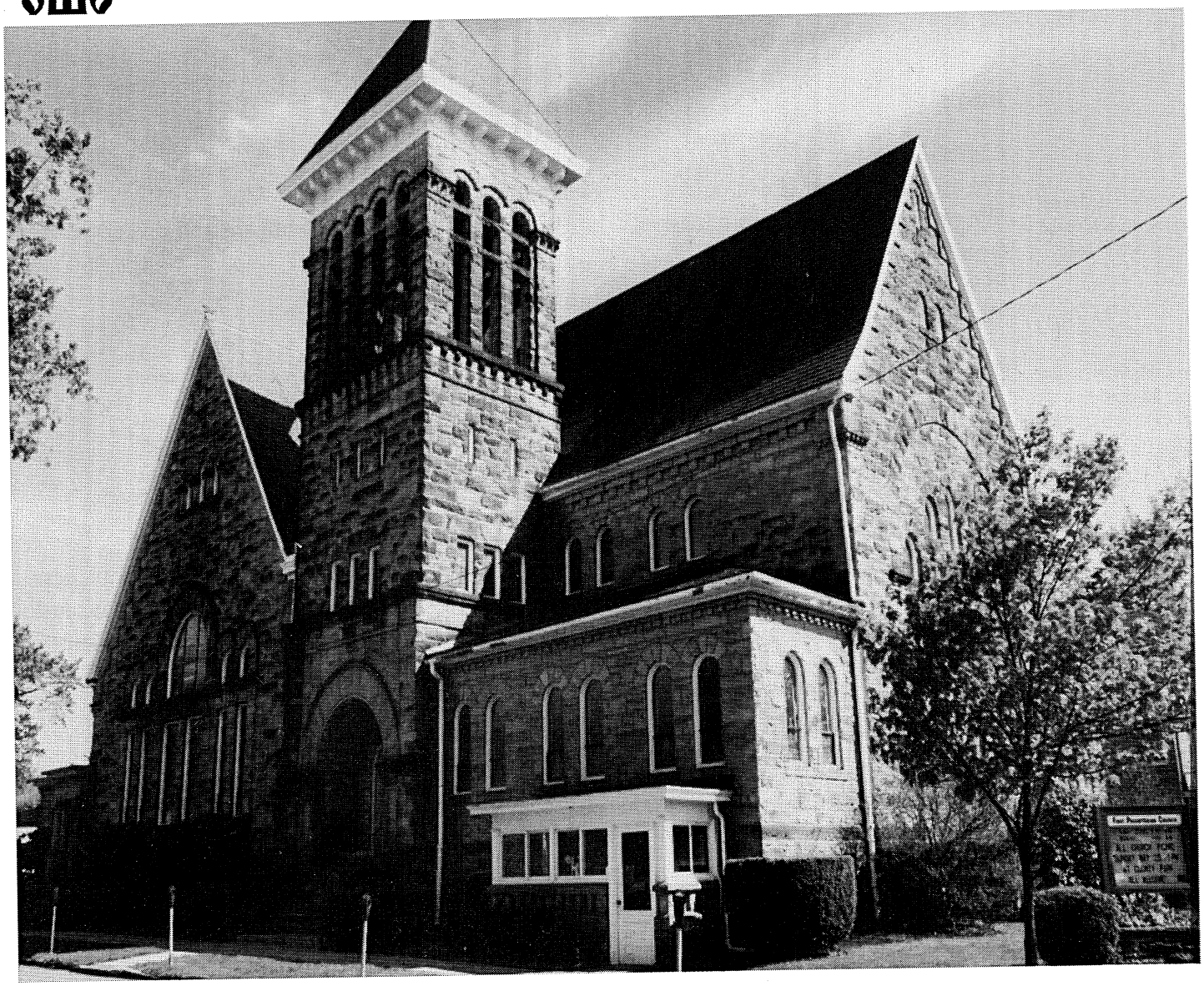
First Presbyterian Church

1st Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2026



700 Wood Street, Clarion, PA 16214
814-226-8145
churchoffice@clarionfirstpresby.org
www.clarionfirstpresby.org

We come together to worship, grow, and serve as disciples of Christ.

We Gather in God's Name

(Tune your car radio to 88.7 FM)

1st Sunday in Lent

Welcome and Announcements — Lector, Bill Champion

We silently shift our focus to God and prepare to worship.

Prelude — *Lenten Meditation* — Richard Blake

Chiming of the Trinity

Introit — *There in God's Garden*

Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold.**

Call to Worship

We are the body of Christ, and we depend on God's grace.

We pray to God in times of distress, knowing that we are freed from sin and preserved from trouble.

Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

We will be glad in the Lord and shout for joy!

✝ When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

✝**Hymn** No. 165 — *The Glory of These Forty Days*

✝**Call to Confession**

✝**Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

Merciful One, we are so easily tempted. We turn away from your word so quickly. We seek anything that claims to save us from discomfort, inconvenience, pain, fear, and emptiness. But these are false idols, dissolving in the wind. You are our true hope and salvation, our hiding place, our guide, our guardian. We confess our transgressions to you: forgive our sins. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

✝**Declaration of Forgiveness**

Friends, believe the Good News:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

✝**Gloria Patri**

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen

We Share God's Word

Time with the Children — January Myers

Prayer of Illumination

First Scripture — Romans 5: 12-19 — (p. 156)

Second Scripture — Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7 — (pp. 2-3)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon — Hiding — Rev. Rebecca Mihm

Organ Interlude

Hymn No. 697 *Take My Life*

We Give Thanks to God

✝Affirmation of Faith 11.3 A Brief Statement of Faith

We rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

Call for the Offering

Offering and Offertory *Wondrous Love* arr. by Parker/Shaw

✝Doxology

✝ Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✝Hymn No. 757 *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

✝Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Fantasy on "Forty Days and Forty Nights"* Matthew McConnell

DOXOLOGY
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

POSTLUDE
Please remember at the close of the service, the Postlude is a time to silently reflect on God and the mission to which we are called. We ask that you please remain silent and seated until the music has ended.

Welcome Visitors

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church. We are glad to provide hybrid and virtual worship services for this Sunday. Services are currently livestreamed on our Facebook page (First Presbyterian Church of Clarion) in real time, then archived to our website and YouTube channel.

At First Presbyterian Church our mission is to worship, grow, and serve as followers of Jesus. From our youngest to our oldest, we seek to worship God in our actions, grow in God's love, and serve God's people in our community and around the world. We hope that you will come join us so we may personally extend a warm welcome. If you have any questions or particular prayer needs, please feel free to contact the church office at 226-8145 between 9 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday thru Thursday.

For more information visit our website at www.clarionfirstpresby.org.

Find us on Facebook! (First Presbyterian Church of Clarion)

Video recordings of past sermons may be viewed by clicking the "Worship" link on our home page at www.clarionfirstpresby.org or a phone app is available at sermon.net (look for First Presbyterian Church—Clarion.) You can also choose to listen to an audio version. Simply pick the option that works best for you. Videos of Sunday worship are also posted on our Facebook page (see above).

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Church Staff and Leadership

Pastor:	Rev. Rebecca Mihm
Lector:	Bill Champion
Organist:	Jean Mitrosky
Director of Music:	Bonnie Champion
Treasurer:	Ann Brooks
Secretary:	Cindy Kapp
Sexton:	Mike Hetrick
Sound Engineer:	Josh Deitz
Video Engineer:	Dan Willy

Ruling Elders:

Class of 2026	Class of 2027:	Class of 2028:
Norma Kooman	Bill Champion	John Joy
Dave Larimer	Matt Kurtas	Marianne Reynolds
Cindy Stants	Kathy Larimer	Tammy Slike

Deacons:

Class of 2026:	Class of 2027:	Class of 2028:
Robin Cable	Barb Beggs	Carolyn McFarland
Mary Swanger	Stacy Hoffman	Glenn Beichner
Joey Kunselman	Bert Louder	Joyce Alberta

Worship Notes

Pastor:	Rev. Rebecca Mihm
Lector:	Bill Champion
Director of Music:	Bonnie Champion
Organist:	Jean Mitrosky
Sound Engineer:	Josh Deitz/Jeff Kapp
Video Engineer:	Dan Willy/Kurt Nesbitt
Acolytes:	Clara Stants, Jeremy Willy, Andrew Scovel, Nathan Scovel, Sawyer Kunselman, Audrina Champion, Logan Myers
Ushers in Charge:	Joey Kunselman, Mary Swanger, Tammy Huey

The Sanctuary flowers today are given to the glory of God, in honor of Randy and Marianne Reynolds, by Pauline Henry.

Today's Schedule

8:30 a.m.	Kid's Music Practice
9:00 a.m.	Sunday Schools & Choir Practice
10:00 a.m.	Worship
11:00 a.m.	Coffee and Donuts after worship in the Chapel

Weekly Deposit Summary 2/15/26

Weekly Contributions

Envelope Contributions	$3,585.00
Misc. Cash Contributions	$34.00
Per Capita	$40.66
	$3,659.66

Weekly Donations

Food Bags	$135.00
Vacation Bible School	$100.00
Caring Callers	$25.00
Men's Fellowship	$20.00
	$280.00

Total **$3,939.66**

Notes:

This Week at First Presby

Tuesday, February 24
6:00 p.m. NA Meeting

Wednesday, February 25
6:00 p.m. Fellowship Mtg.– Sisterhood Rm.
7:00 p.m. Session Meeting
8:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Thursday, February 26
5:00 p.m. Echoes of Joy Handbell Practice
6:00 p.m. Joyful Bells Handbell Practice

Sunday, March 1
10:00 a.m. Worship
Sunday Schools and Choir TBD.

Announcements

__**Today**, after worship, please join us for a time of fellowship with coffee and donuts in the Chapel.

__**Experience** the story of the Old Testament through a fun, compelling, and engaging event that will change the way you read the Bible. "Walk thru the Bible" is an interactive family event to encourage Bible reading & engagement. It will be held at the Brookville Evangelical Methodist Church (30 White St.) in Brookville from 9-noon on Saturday 3/21/26. Admission is $20.00, reservations not required. All are invited to attend. A signup sheet will be in the ramp room if you want to arrange carpooling with others who may be attending. You may call Brookville Methodist Church at

Announcements (Continued)

room if you want to arrange carpooling with others who may be attending. You may call Brookville Methodist Church at 814-849-2612 to register or if you want more details.

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Prayer List

Randy Cable
Shirley McKinley
Pauline Henry
Jeff Deitz
Mary Ann Lees
Greg Rhoads
Dave Steward
Sue Widmer
Jim McConnell
Charlie Kurtas
Tom Goble
Dorothy Jean Foreman
Isaac Solida
All our homebound members

Mary Biser
Charlotte Hartman
Ben McKinley
Anthony Louder
Pat Hargest
Alexandra Sharrar
Mary Kay Arth
Mason Martin and family
Rob Summerville
Cori
Chuck Reninger
Kay Caller
Amy Benhoff
Ryan Cornicki
Jerry Deitz
Don Neiderriter
Shawn Martin
John McConnell
A 4-year-old with kidney cancer
Kathy Lahr
Nina Faust Joslin
Alec Booth
Terry
Darlene Hargenrader
Sara Riggins
Bernice Yockey
Steve Payne
Karen McMillen

Prayer List (Continued)

Nancy Mills
Dudley Fye
Emily Champion
Mark Willy
Syncere Caesar(7 yr. old with leukemia)
Michelle Pyrich
Jenn Yockey
A young mother and child
Lynn Hefner
Archer Kunselman

Around the World

Everyone serving in the US Military

Gitwe Congregation in Rwanda, our faith partners

Homebound Member of the Week

Kathleen Fye
Purple Iris Personal Care
103 N. 13th St.
Franklin, Pa. 16323