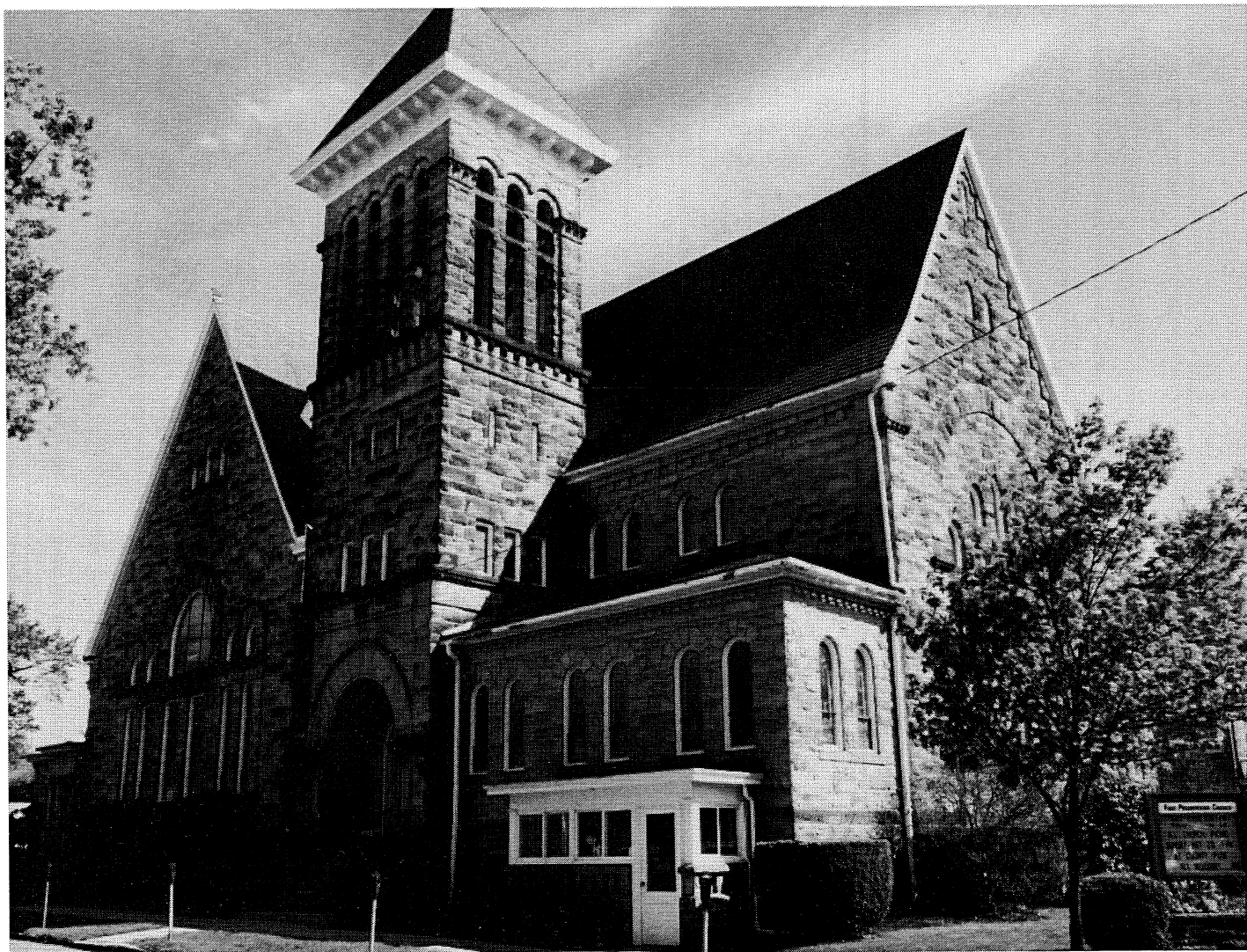


First Presbyterian Church



*9th Sunday After Pentecost
August 10, 2025*



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)

9th Sunday After Pentecost

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

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

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

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

Welcome and Announcements

Lector, Jeff Deitz

Prelude

Bist Du Bei Mir
(Flautist—RyAnn Crusan)

J.S.Bach, arr. Lani Smith

Chiming of the Trinity

Call to Worship

The Mighty One has delivered our souls from death.

In God our hearts are glad!

The Mighty One has fashioned all our hearts.

In God our hearts are glad!

The Mighty One is our help and shield.

In God our hearts are glad!

Let us worship the one in whom we trust.

Let us worship the one in whom we hope!

✦ Hymn No. 652

A Grateful Heart

✦ Call to Confession

✦ Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of the ages, God of the old, old story, we hear of our ancestors and are astounded by their faith. They trusted you, but we waver. They believed your promise, but we cling to our own ideas. Forgive us and free us from our fear, that we may follow with joy wherever you may lead; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray, Amen.

✦ Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the Good News:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

✦ Gloria Patri

We Share God's Word

Time with the Children

Rebecca Mihm

Prayer of Illumination

Jeff Deitz

First Scripture

Luke 12:32-40

(p. 75)

Second Scripture

Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23

(p. 519)

The words of scripture, inspired by God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Just Checking the Boxes"

Debra Owens

Organ Interlude

We Give Thanks to God

✦Affirmation of Faith

9.50 The Confession of 1967

The church responds to the message of reconciliation in praise and prayer. In that response, it commits itself afresh to its mission, experiences a deepening of faith and obedience, and bears open testimony to the gospel. Adoration of God is acknowledgment of the Creator by the creation. Confession of sin is admission of all people's guilt before God and of their need for his forgiveness. Thanksgiving is rejoicing in God's goodness to all people and in giving for the needs of others.

Call for the Offering

Offering and Offertory

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
(Flautist: RyAnn Crusan)

J.S.Bach , Arr. Lani Smith

✦Doxology

✦Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

We Go Forth to Serve

✦Hymn No. 647

Give Thanks

✦Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Festal March (from Rinaldo)
(Flautist: RyAnn Crusan)

G.F. Handel

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1st Hymn: "A Grateful Heart" from *Glory to God* #652. Text: David Gambrell, 2009. Music: *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, 1783; harm. Edward Miller, 1790. Text: © 2011 *David Gambrell* (Admin. by *Presbyterian Publishing Corp.*) Livestreamed and reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727612, all rights reserved.

2nd Hymn: "Now Thank We All Our God" from *Glory to God* #643. Text: Martin Rinkart, c. 1636; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt. Music: Johann Crüger, 1647; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840. Text & Music: Public Domain. Livestreamed with permission under CCLI Streaming Plus License™ A-21963048 and reprinted with permission under Church Copyright License ® A-21963031, Public Domain

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3rd Hymn: "Give Thanks" from *Glory to God* #647. Text: Henry Smith, 1978, alt. Music: Henry Smith, 1978. Text & Music: © *Integrity's Hosanna! Music* (admin. *EMICMGPublishing.com*). Livestreamed with permission under CCLI Streaming Plus License™ A-21963048 and reprinted with permission under Church Copyright License ® A-21963031, all rights reserved.

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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.

WORSHIP NOTES

Guest Preacher: Debra Owens
Lector: Jeff Deitz
Time with Children: Rebecca Mihm
Director of Music: Bonnie Champion
Organist: Jean Mitrosky
Sound Engineer: Josh Deitz/Jeff Kapp
Video Engineer: Dan Willy/Kurt Nesbitt
Ushers in Charge: Lori Smith, Cindy, Clara and Dean Stants

The Sanctuary flowers today are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of my husband Larry by Monta Rader.

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 Friday.

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

CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

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

Ruling Elders:

<u>Class of 2025:</u>	<u>Class of 2026:</u>	<u>Class of 2027:</u>
Jeff Deitz	Norma Kooman	Bill Champion
Jeff Kapp	Dave Larimer	Matt Kurtas
Kurt Nesbitt	Cindy Stants	Kathy Larimer

Deacons:

<u>Class of 2025:</u>	<u>Class of 2026:</u>	<u>Class of 2027:</u>
Kim Lewis	Robin Cable	Barb Beggs
Lee Seitz	Tamalyn Goble	Stacy Hoffman
Lori Smith	Joey Kunselman	Bert Louder

WEEKLY DEPOSIT SUMMARY

Weekly Contributions 7/20/2025

Envelope Contributions	\$2,751.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$424.00
Total Contributions	\$3,175.00

Weekly Donations

Food Bags	\$260.00
Vacation Bible School	\$25.00
Blessing Box	\$10.00
Men's Fellowship	\$20.00
Rental Income/AA	\$60.00
Total	\$375.00

Total **\$3,550.00**

Weekly Contributions 7/27/2025

Envelope Contributions	\$2,245.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$85.00
Total Contributions	\$2,330.00

Weekly Donations

Food Bags	\$85.00
Caring Callers	\$25.00
Men's Fellowship	\$170.00
Rental Income/Head Start	\$1,245.00
Total	\$1,525.00

Total **\$3,855.00**

Weekly Contributions 8/5/2025

Envelope Contributions	\$2,865.00
Miscellaneous Cash Contributions	\$141.00
Per Capita	\$39.24
Total Contributions	\$3,045.24

Weekly Donations 8/5/2025

Food Bags	\$500.00
Blessing Box	\$300.00
Mission	\$100.00
Men's Fellowship	\$200.00
Sunday School	\$25.00
Memorials	\$160.00
Total	\$1,285.00

Total **\$4,330.24**

Online Donations July 2025

Offering Contributions of \$505.41	Net Amount
	\$496.83

Grand Total **\$4,827.07**

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBY

Sunday, August 10

10:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, August 11

6:00 p.m. Mission Team, Ministry Central

7:00 p.m. Worship Team, Chapel

Tuesday, August 12

6:00 p.m. NA Meeting

Wednesday, August 13

8:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Thursday, August 14

1:30 p.m. Food Distribution

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Just a reminder, Mission Team will meet at 6:00 on Monday, 8/12, in Ministry Central.

Food Bag Distribution is this Thursday, 8/13/25. Numbers will be handed out at 1:30 and distribution is at 2:00.

Many thanks to Stu and Stacy Hoffman, Pat and Jim McConnell, Marianne Reynolds and the Afternoon Circle for their generous financial donations to the Vacation Bible School Program. It was a wonderful 4 days filled with prayers, puppets, songs, Bible lessons, memory verses, crafts, games and snacks. What a blessing!



PRAYER LIST

Randy Cable

Margy Port

Shirley McKinley

Pauline Henry

Ruth Ann Minich

Tam Goble

Jeff Deitz

Kathy Larimer

Mary Ann Lees

Greg Rhoads

Pat McConnell

Jill Siegel

Dave Steward

Sue Widmer

Josh Deitz

All our homebound members

Mary Biser

Charlotte Hartman

Ben McKinley

Anthony Louder

Pat Hargest

Alexandra Sharrar

Dr. Shannon Penland

Mary Kay Arth

Mason Martin and family

Rob Summerville

Evie Renwick

Cori

Chuck Reninger

Kay Caller

Dan Clark

Amy Benhoff

Archer Kunselman

Ryan Cornicki

Jerry Deitz

Don Neideriter

Tom Minich

Rev. Robin Sharp

Kathy Meley

Shawn Martin

Clayton Hayden & family

John McConnell

Ryan Kemmer and family

A 2-year-old with eye cancer

A 4-year-old with kidney

Cancer

Terry Wensel

Kathy Lahr

Scott and Sherry Keefer

Carolyn McFarland's son,
Mike

Nina Faust Joslin

Mike Hiles

Alec Booth

Greg Nesbitt

Barb Funk

Brian Galbraith

Terry

Denny Hickman

Elise Burns Pasles

Darlene

Charles Cauvel

Bereaved: Please remember
the friends and family of:

Ginny Mohny

Bruce McClain

Marsha Spencer

Around the World

Everyone serving in the US
Military

Gitwe Congregation in
Rwanda, our faith partners

Homebound Member of the Week

Marcella Seitz
Shipperville Health Care &
Rehab Rm. 106
512 S. Paint Blvd.
Shipperville, PA. 16214
(Lee Seitz's Mother-in-law)

AUGUST 10, 2025
NINTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking
faith
home

Be secure in God’s love.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 12:32-40	Seek treasures in heaven
Monday	Genesis 15:1-6	Abram believes the Lord
Tuesday	Hebrew 11:1-3, 8-16	The meaning of faith
Wednesday	Proverbs 3:1-6	Trust and honor God
Thursday	Psalms 112	Blessings of the righteous
Friday	Isaiah 41:8-13	The Lord’s chosen servant
Saturday	Psalms 33:12-22	Trust only in God
Sunday	Luke 12:49-56	Following Jesus causes division

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” Luke 12:32 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of power and might, help us to turn to you with confidence, trusting that you care for us and promise us peace and joy through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for this food we give you thanks; for all that you promise to do for us, we give you our hope and trust through Christ. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God’s love give you peace.



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AUGUST 10, 2025
HYMN OF THE WEEK
Lord, Take My
Hand and Lead Me

taking
faith
home

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What worries do you have?
- What keeps a person from fully trusting in God?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 12:22-40.

Jesus wants us to trust God for what we need. Jesus told his disciples, “[S]trive for his [God’s] kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well” (v. 31). He was emphasizing that God knows our basic needs in life. We should not worry about “what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear” (v.22). It is a tall order to put one’s life on the line and give full trust in God. Jesus goes on to tell the disciples that they should sell their possessions and rely on the stuff of life that is eternal, “where no thief comes near and no moth destroys” (v. 33b). Faith is looking to and looking for God in everything around us. It is God who gives us what we need. We are to look to God instead of bank accounts, promotions, or a sense of personal security. This is something that is much easier said than done. However, the benefit is a life without fear, a life that need not compare our comfort with that of others. It is a life ready for what God promises.

Discuss: How does faith in God make you feel secure?

Pray: Almighty God, you know our weaknesses and worries; give us faith to trust in you above anything else so that we may have a life of peace and joy through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what organization can you contribute to that serves the needs of others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In the reading from Genesis 15:1-6, God made a special covenant with Abram promising him as many descendants as there were stars in the sky! And again, in the reading from Hebrews, we learn that Abraham (Abram), was faithful and that he and Sarah fulfilled the covenant.

“[D]escendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven’” (Hebrews 11:12b). Go outside on a clear night and take a moment to look at all the stars in the sky. Can you count them? Think or talk about God’s promise to Abram.

Pray: Dear Lord, we are in awe of your presence in our lives. We ask that you give us faith in all your promises. Amen.



In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org