

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS



Presbyterian Women are having a **“Books, Baskets and Baked Goods” Holiday Sale** on Nov 8th (9 am-3pm). These beautiful baskets are great for gift giving.

Leftover baskets and baked goods will be available for purchase Sunday, Nov. 9th after the worship service. Set-up is Nov. 5th & 6th from 9-3 and Nov. 7th from 9-12 noon. We are asking for donations on these days of gently used Holiday decorations, dinnerware, linens, ornaments, trees, wreaths, etc. We will be making up gift baskets, if you would like to donate items for them. Your book donations should be gently used books only. **NO** MAGAZINES, ENCYCLOPEDIAS, RECORD ALBUMS, VHS TAPES OR CDS can be used. Jewelry is included in this sale.

The Baked Goods donations can be cookies, nut breads or any other treats. For more information contact Linda Clark at 330-534-5060.



The First Presbyterian Church of Sharon, Pa.

E m p h a s i s

SEPTEMBER

2025

Jesus and Fred

A friend had some custom ball caps made. He gave me one. It's a light, sandy beige in color. The color doesn't call attention to the cap. It's subtle.

And on the front it says "Jesus and Fred." Not "Jesus and Me." Not "Jesus and Power." And not "Jesus and Politics." Rather, it's just "Jesus and Fred." And many Western Pennsylvanians would know the "Fred" is Fred Rogers.

Fred Rogers was a Presbyterian pastor whose call to ministry went a very different direction for the time. Mister Rogers was the writer, host, and producer for the children's television program "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" that ran from 1968-2001. The program used simple costumes, puppets, and sets to encourage imagination. "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" invited children to identify experiences in life that were (and still are) rarely discussed: fear, loss, loneliness, sadness, worry. He also encouraged a way of life shaped by kindness, gentleness, acceptance, and honesty. Without directly saying it, Fred was talking about the way of Jesus.

Each program began with a red cardigan sweater, slippers, and the song "Won't You Be My Neighbor." It was an invitation to friendship. And I think that may have been the fundamental theological driver of the program: being a neighbor. Of course, when Jesus is asked what matters most to God, the answer given is, "Love God, and love your neighbor." (Matthew 22:34-40; Mark 12:28-34; Luke 10:25-37). With gentleness and a smile, Mister Rogers was the neighbor inviting children to friendship. And many children knew it. That's why the program lasted so long. Adults may have dismissed "Mister Rogers Neighborhood" as too soft and sentimental. But children knew the power of kindness and honesty and acceptance.

Every person I've ever talked to who met Fred Rogers says who you saw on television was who he really was. He had a gentle way of listening to you and making you feel like you really mattered to him. He really made "neighbors." And that's exceptional when we are so often disappointed to discover that people are less than we hoped.

Fred died in 2003 at 74 years old. And after 22 years his legacy continues. The 2019 movie starring Tom Hanks, "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood," reminds us of that legacy.

"Jesus and Fred"; I like that. When so much of Christian faith is distorted by Christian Nationalism, self-righteousness, power, and fear, Fred Rogers' way of being a neighbor is a different kind of power. And the beige color fits. It's a different kind of statement. I believe Jesus would like it.

Wearing a Beige Ball Cap,
Glenn

September 2025 Preaching and Worship Schedule

- 7 I Peter 4:12-19. Dr. Hink preaching.
- 14 Mission Sunday. Mission Team will plan and lead worship.
- 21 I Peter 5:1-6. Dr. Hink preaching.
- 28 I Peter 5:7-14. Dr. Crooks preaching.

Worship Notes

*Dr. Hink and Dr. Crooks will complete the summer sermon series in I Peter in September.

*The 1st Church Mission Team will plan and lead worship on September 14th. This special worship service shares and celebrates some of the 1st Church missions. With digital projection and stories, we are reminded of the importance of making a difference in our community and world.

*Fall schedule resumes Sunday, October 5th. We will return to the sanctuary for worship. Worship begins at 11:00AM. Organ, piano, and choir will share in worship. October 5th is also World Communion Sunday.



1st Church Worship Online

All 1st Church worship services are online and can be watched as live-stream or recorded. Most worship services receive 50-75 views. Our best guess is that equals 60-100 people sharing in worship via on-line.

So who shares in worship online? We know that people who attended 1st Church and then moved away watch online. We know that people unable to attend worship in person due to work schedules, illness, or vacation watch online. We know that people who choose to share in worship in pjs with a cup of coffee watch online. And we know people looking for a church to visit will often look first online. This online ministry that began during Covid has now become an important regular ministry of 1st Church.

Special thanks to our Tech Team who oversee our online worship. Working together with the Sound Team, they do a very professional job. Numerous people have commented that our online worship service is very professional.

Church Attendance for May 2025

2024		2025		Online
5th	98	4th	120	76 views
12th	79	11th	107	73 views
19th	93	18th	103	82 views
26th	<u>74</u>	25th	<u>93</u>	67 views
344 32%		423 40%		

Church Attendance for June 2025

2024		2025		Online
2nd	76	1st	94	71 views
9th	71	8th	83	64 views
16th	67	15th	73	44 views
23rd	79	22nd	60	59 views
30th	<u>69</u>	29th	<u>115</u>	60 views
362 27%		425 32%		

Church Attendance for July 2025

2024		2025		Online
4th	71	6th	81	61 views
11th	65	13th	85	55 views
18th	105	20th	90	74 views
25th	<u>78</u>	27th	<u>62</u>	78 views
319 29%		318 30%		

Puzzle!

Use the words provided to complete the puzzle.
Then write the numbered words in the correct blanks
below to complete Psalm 67:6, NIV.

WORDS:
GOD, BLESSES, HARVEST,
YIELDS, US, LAND

ACROSS

3. Rhymes with farthest.
4. Rhymes with nod.
5. Rhymes with thus.
6. Rhymes with fields.

DOWN

1. Rhymes with messes.
2. Rhymes with hand.

The _____
its _____;
our God, _____

Psalm 67:6, NIV

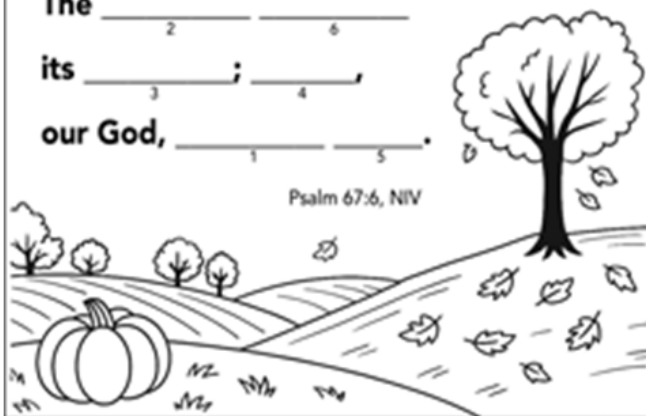


Illustration: The land yields its harvest. God, our God, blesses us. Psalm 67:6, NIV

Sweet little sheep treats

Create adorable sheep using
graham crackers, marshmallows,
and a little imagination!

What you need:

- Graham cracker squares
- White frosting or marshmallow fluff
- Mini marshmallows
- Large marshmallows
- Candy eyes or mini chocolate chips
- Black gel icing or mini Oreo cookie

What you do:

1. Spread white frosting or marshmallow fluff on each graham cracker square.
2. Stick mini marshmallows all over to make the sheep's wool.
3. Cut a large marshmallow in half and stick it near the top for the head.
4. Add candy eyes and a dot of black gel for the nose. Or use a mini Oreo cookie half for a more defined face.
5. Let kids decorate their sheep however they'd like!

Lesson tie-in

Use this treat to remind kids that
Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

"I am the good
shepherd: the
good shepherd
gives his life for
the sheep."

John 10:11, KJV

To share in online worship, just click on the link provided by the "5 Things Friday" email. That will take you directly to the 1st Church YouTube channel and our online worship. Or visit the 1st Church website (www.1stpcs.org), click on the "FPC Videos" (which will take you to the 1st Church YouTube channel) and click on "Live." You can also view previous online services by clicking "Playlist" instead of "Live."



Seasons of Change, Signs of Grace

"While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease" (Genesis 8:22, NASB).

As autumn begins, we watch the world transform before our eyes. Leaves change color, the air turns crisp, and a new rhythm settles in. In these seasonal shifts, we are reminded of God's faithful hand over all of creation.

Genesis 8:22 assures us that the cycles of nature—seedtime and harvest, summer and winter—are part of God's ongoing promise. Each season speaks of His order, care, and presence. Autumn, in particular, invites reflection. Just as the trees release their leaves, we are called to let go of what no longer serves us and make space for renewal.

This season also marks a return to routines—school schedules, church programs, and community events. As we step into new responsibilities or revisit familiar ones, may we do so with gratitude and trust. God is not only present in the harvest but in the quiet letting go.

Let this autumn be a time to embrace God's steady rhythm, find beauty in change, and rest in His faithful promises that never cease—even as the world around us shifts.

Financial Giving News
July 2025

Operations Budget		Mission Budget	
1st Sunday	2,786.75	1st Sunday	490.00
2nd Sunday	1,975.75	2nd Sunday	155.00
3rd Sunday	3,026.75	3rd Sunday	215.00
4th Sunday	2,951.76	4th Sunday	200.00
Total for April	10,741.01	Total for April	1,060.00
Budget for April	14,904.17	Budget for April	1,385.50
Balance for April	(4,163.16)	Balance for April	(325.50)
Total for Year to Date	107,164.34	Total for Year to Date	11,535.00
Budget for Year to Date	104,329.17	Budget for Year to Date	9,698.50
Balance for Year to Date	2,835.17	Balance for Year to Date	1,836.50

Quotes You'll Want to Share

"Truth is mightier than eloquence; the spirit stronger than genius; faith greater than learning."—Martin Luther

"It is easy to be independent when you've got money. But to be independent when you haven't got a thing, that's the Lord's test."—Mahalia Jackson

"We see the presence of divine power shining as much in the continuing state of the universe as in its inception."—John Calvin

"Help me today, Father, to submit my agenda to your perfect planning."—John Sherrill

"It is in our life and conduct that we must show our devotion to Christ."—Woodrow Wilson

"The Bible is not only a book which I can understand; it is also a book which understands me."—Emile Caillet



**Remember Our
Shut-Ins**

Ridgewood 724-347-0998
One Elston Way, Hermitage, PA 16148
Gail Hink, 206
Mary Ellen Foltz, 305

The Meadows
308 W Warren St., RM 202A
Cadiz, OH 43907
Betty Hudson

St. Paul's The Villas
339 E. Jamestown Rd.
Greenville, PA 16125
Jean Meyer



SEPTEMBER
birthdays

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 McClelland Pyle, Jr. | 18 Mackenzie Pyle |
| 2 Jason Oman | 18 Donna Moore |
| 6 Trudy Carlson | 19 Hayley Rose-Inman |
| 7 Mark Arp | 19 Lori Seinar-Roknick |
| 8 Holly Ray | 20 Brandy Getway |
| 10 John Pyle | 21 Bill Shuttleworth |
| 10 Lisa Chavara | 21 Ed Watson |
| 11 Al Kelly | 22 Wendy Donner |
| 13 Mitzi Kuster | 23 Joyce Hawk |
| 14 Benjamin Heasley | 26 Christopher Esper |
| 16 James Elder | 30 Miranda Woge |
| 17 Julie Bridge | |



Shirley Sankey
June 12, 2025

Glenda Cunningham
June 25, 2025



MISSION TEAM
PRAYER PROGRAM

Sharon Police Department

September Adopt-a-Cop
Anthony J. Martwinski



Special Dates in September

- Labor Day, *September 1*
- Patriot Day, *September 11*
- First day of autumn, *September 22*



Mission Corner

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters, you did for me."
Mathew 25:40

Update!

- ♦ 44 attended the "Homeless Children" program to inquire about the crisis of our local children.
- ♦ 12 toured Bluecoats to learn how to protect homeless Veterans from the elements.

What's Coming Up?

- ♦ Mission Sunday, September 14th, is coming. Our Committee & PW have a little fun planned for you!
- ♦ Adopt-A-Firefighter starts this fall. We will pray as a community for their safety.

Can I Help?

- ♦ Trunk or Treat on Fifth & Fullerton provides a safe, clean, fun celebration for our neighbors. Volunteer your trunk!
- ♦ Sharon Pantry Collection will start in October. Mission and Presbyterian Women can coordinate but if you want to help, we LOVE helpers!

Outside Opportunities

- ♦ Meal-On-Wheels is always in need of assistance. Contact them at: Meals on Wheels, 850 N. Hermitage, PA 16148.

Sign-ups are through the Office or tell a Mission Committee member: Sandy Churlik, Debbie Datchuk, Debbie Derrenbacher, Lyle Derrenbacher, Jamie Goodwin, Millie Milheim, Tracy Plyler, Patty Fletcher, and Janis Benedict.



1st Church Mission: Sharon Schools Pantry Program

As the 2025-26 school year approaches so does the need for the Sharon Schools Pantry Program. Last year the Pantry Program replaced the Back Pack Program. The Pantry Program established food pantries in each of the 3 Sharon Elementary Schools and in the Middle/High School. Children in need then visit their school pantry, and with adult help select the needed items for a meal/s. More than 500 different kids participated in the Pantry Program last year.

The Pantry Program has proven to be more efficient and effective. Rather than every child in the Back Pack Program getting the same food items on Friday (for the weekend), kids can pick what they would like and can fix any day of the week. Kids can also come to the pantry whenever the need arises and not just one day a week. Costs for the program dropped to \$18,000+ compared to \$50,000+ for the 2023-24 Back Pack. There is also less waste as kids select what they would like. And thanks to the Sharon Rotary Club, refrigerator/freezers were purchased for each pantry so frozen hamburger and chicken are available along with produce.

Expectations are that the use and cost of the Pantry Program will increase in 2025-26. Kids and school administrators will become more familiar with the program. Food costs will increase. And food insecurity rates will continue to run high for kids in Sharon.

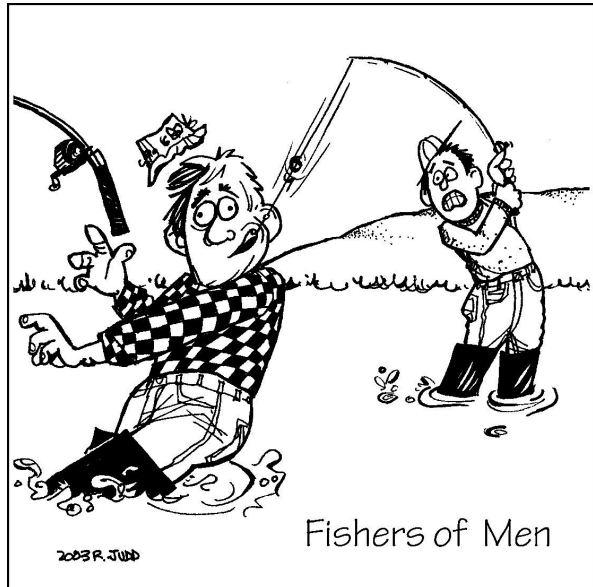
A Sharon Schools Pantry Program mailing will go out to 1st Church members and friends. 1st Church leads this community mission program. Members and friends will once again be asked to consider donating to the Pantry Program. Our goal is \$8,000. Contact Dr. Hink with any questions.

SEPTEMBER

2025



September Sillies!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 LABOR <i>Day</i> Church Closed	2	3 7:00 Men's Fellowship-Panera 1:00 Staff Meeting-Rm. 106	4	5	6
7	8 5:00 Presbytery Operations Team Rm. 106 5:30 Shenango Valley Chorale Rehearsal-FH	9 11:30 Memorial Committee-Rm. 106	10 6:00 Admin. Team-CR	11 	12	13
14 Mission Sunday 6:00 Session-Rm. 206	15 6:00 Scouts-Scout Rm, Gym, Rm. 106 7:00 SVC Rehearsal-FH	16	17 7:00 Men's Fellowship-Panera 1:00 Staff Meeting-Rm. 106H	18	19	20 10:00 SVC Board-Rm. 206
21	22 6:00 Scouts-Scout Rm, Gym, Rm. 106 6:00 Writers' Group-Library 7:00 SVC Rehearsal-FH	23 6:00 Amateur Radio Club-FH	24	25	26	27
28 Last Sunday at 10:00 AM in FH	29 7:00 SVC Rehearsal-Sanctuary	30			Sunday Worship @ 1st 10:00 AM in Fellowship Hall Fellowship time after the service FH—Fellowship Hall CR—Conference Room	