

Word-Share-Prayer: Luke 27-29

27 "But I say to you that listen, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. 29 If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.

A Note to the Readers of *The Messenger*

This issue marks our one-year anniversary. The monthly newsletter was reinstituted just a year ago-and what a year it has been! With its tagline "Session News for the Pews," *The Messenger* has reported the great progress toward **Making God's Story our Story** for the past twelve months. Inspired by a Vision and Mission Team created last spring, the theme was approved by Session in August of 2021. The Messenger has also reported how that team grew into being elected the Designated Pastor Nominating Committee (DPNC) and the process the DPNC is following in preparation to presenting a pastoral candidate to the congregation.

God's strength always leads us to serve others, and this church never stands still--despite conflict, despite pandemic shutdowns-- and here we are today: doors open, activities resuming, more united than ever. *The Messenger's* primary goal is to provide direct information from Session to the congregation, as well as invite the congregation to communicate with Session.

We also invite you, members and friends, to think of reading *The Messenger* -- and all the various church communications-- as an act of service and support that benefits both you and the church. You become a more informed participant in the life of First Presbyterian Church of Saline, and in turn, the church benefits from you knowing more about various decisions, issues, and activities.

We thank you for reading and, during these changing times, asking questions and making constructive suggestions about the life of the church. To add your voice, visit the church website salinepres.org and click the "Ask Session" button or call the Church Office.

In Christ, The Communications Committee

Members of Session: Keith Brown (co-chair), Lisa Clark (co-chair), Bari Livsey, Bill Woehrle

Ex-officio: Christen Mitchell (Office Administrator), Rev. Budge Gere (Moderator of Session)

The Season of Lent

An opportunity to slow down, take time and to be intentional about our spiritual journey

- Virtual Taize services streamed every Wednesday at 7pm via our website
- Use the Lenten Devotional Guide via the Weekly Connect or paper copies are in the Narthex
- Join the Good Morning Study Group's Lenten devotional every Wednesday at 9:30am
- Serve God through gifts to the *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering on Palm Sunday

Lent Services

April 10, Palm Sunday Worship, 10:30am *Special Offering "One Great Hour of Sharing"*

April 14, Maundy Thursday Worship, 7pm *Celebration of the Lord's Supper*

April 15, Good Friday, Sanctuary Open for Reflection, 12-3pm

April 17, Easter Breakfast-- Welcome All! Served at 9am

April 17, Easter Sunday Worship, 10:30am

Pulpit Supply Schedule

March 13 - Rev. Doug Campbell
March 20 - Rev. Jill Mills
March 27 - Rev. Bill Zambon
April 3, 10, 17 - Rev. Renee Roederer

Coffee & Conversation Every
Sunday After Worship

A Community Celebration of Life, April 30, 10:30am

We will be hosting a community service of mourning for those lost during the pandemic, from Covid or other causes. Many of us have lost family or friends, or know someone who has experienced loss during the past few years and were unable to come together publicly, with loved ones, to celebrate their lives. Members of the church and friends of members may submit names to Julie Neuhauser to add to the celebration. Please call 734-259-9294 or email her at julieamandac@yahoo.com.

Many Thanks to Members of C3 and Deacons for heading this project, Susan Brown, William Manchester, Debra Manchester, and Julie Neuhauser.

Youth Service Project Update

On Sunday February 27, our youth gave thanks for 30 bags of donated items and \$1200 in cash donations for Saline Area Social Service. Linda Brown led the Youth to place in the top ten of nearly 40 collection groups in Michigan. The donations were blessed with the following prayer:



Dear God, just as Jesus took the fish and bread; gave thanks and blessed them all those years ago, so too today we offer to You these groceries and money we have collected. We give thanks for every single person who gave what they could. Jesus, we ask that you bless every person who benefits from each dollar given and that they are fed well from each item of food brought in. We ask that through these gifts, every one who gave, every one who helped, everyone who receives knows truly and completely how precious they are to you. We thank you for Saline Area Social Service - may the staff and volunteers know the joy of being faithful and doing this great ministry of loving others. In your name Jesus, we pray.

Thank you Linda Brown and Youth Team!

From the Deacons

The Deacons have been busy tending to our members and friends who need care. Recently they also collected and packaged items for our people in college and serving active duty in the armed forces-- 17 total. Many thanks to those who donated items and dollars that covered shipping costs. Please visit the fellowship hall to see the handmade cards that accompanied each care package. Below is the message of love our active military service members received: *Your Church Family is thinking of you! We are grateful for your military service and hope that this care package finds you well as you serve our country. We pray that you feel God's presence and peace in your life and that your faith gives you strength and a sense of purpose as you work.*



Clerk's Session Notes - February

Note: a more detailed version was emailed to the congregation on 2/22/2022

Session met at the church and the moderator, Rev. Budge Gere opened the meeting with prayer.

The Corporate officers for First Presbyterian Church of Saline were elected as follows: President – Keith Brown; Treasurer – Troy Newberry; Secretary – Janyce Durnell; Directors – Kurt Leutheuser, Bari Livsey, and Laurie Champion.

The Annual Congregational Meeting is Sunday, March 6, 2022, after the Worship Service. It will be in-person. According to our by-laws all members voting will be required to be in-person. The meeting can be watched on-line. The agenda will include a report from the Facilities Task Force, the Session's adopted church budget for 2022 and voting on the slate for the upcoming Nominating Committee.

Please Note: Nursery service is provided during Worship every Sunday morning. Emily Snook is the Nursery Coordinator. **If you have questions, go to salinepres.org and click the "ask Session" button.**

Be Connected!

First Presbyterian Church of Saline 734-429-4140 salinepres.org