



Hilltop Highlights

A Monthly Publication of First Presbyterian Church

World Communion Sunday

I'm Gonna Eat At The Welcome Table,
I'm Going To Eat At The Welcome Table, Alleluia.
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I'm Gonna Eat At The Welcome Table, Alleluia.

Here All The World Will Find A Welcome,
Here All The World Will Find A Welcome, Alleluia.
Here All The World Will Find A Welcome,
Here All The World Will Find A Welcome, Alleluia. (African-American Spiritual)



On the first Sunday in October, PCUSA congregations join many other Christian churches across the world in celebrating World Communion Sunday.

World Communion Sunday began at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1933. The Rev. Hugh Thompson Kerr and his congregation sought to demonstrate the interconnectedness of Christian churches, regardless of denomination. Rev. Kerr appropriately chose the sacrament of Holy Communion to symbolize this unity. In 1940, the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, adopted World-Wide Communion Sunday. Even since then, like many denominations, we share with our brothers and sisters at the table on the first Sunday in October. For us Presbyterians, we believe in an open table, where anyone may receive communion. We refuse to turn anyone away from our welcoming table.

In our own Book of Order it states..."The opportunity to eat and drink with Christ is not a right bestowed upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. All who come to the table are offered the bread and cup, regardless of their age or understanding...Even those who doubt may come to the table in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ." (W-3.0409)

On Sunday, October 2, please join with us as we celebrate World Communion Sunday. You may come and share either in person or on Facebook but please come to the welcoming table. For those of you who have, like me, felt the sting of being excluded from coming to the table in some other denominations, come to the table. Come to the table and share with your brothers and sisters around the world who in love desire to show forth the words of one of our old hymns of faith...

"In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north, but one great fellowship of love through-out the whole wide earth."

Grace and peace, Pastor Mike



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Staff

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M, Tu, W, Th 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

June Kouba (Church Administrator/Treasurer)-admin@bellevuefpc.org
M, Tu, W, Th 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Megan Highbargin (Children's Ministry Director)-
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Liane Kirmis (Music Ministry Director)-lianekirmis12@gmail.com

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We Keep in Our Prayers

- ◆ Please keep Scott Woolf in your prayers as he undergoes radiation treatments for cancer on his head.
- ◆ Prayers of healing and for help with pain for Flossie Flora, following elbow surgery.
- ◆ Prayers of healing and comfort for Paula Thompson who was diagnosed with uterine cancer (sister of Sharon Elliott).

Financial Information

	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$21,066.78	\$221,945.32
Expenses	<u>\$31,447.74</u>	<u>\$235,823.86</u>
Difference	<\$10,380.92	<\$13,878.54

If you are interested in becoming a member of this church, please contact June at 402-291-1104 or email admin@bellevuefpc.org



2023 Stewardship Campaign

The 2023 Stewardship Campaign is here and Dedication Sunday is October 16th. Invitation letters to the congregation were mailed in September. On the reverse side of the letter is the 2023 Estimated Budget. I have printed it here for your convenience.

Estimated 2023 Operating Budget	
Personnel	243,180
Administrative	24,205
Building & Grounds	64,150
Mission Giving	14,400
Christian Education	7,600
Worship	3,430
Per Capita	10,119
Other	5,350
Total Expenses	372,434

Actual + Projected 2022 Giving	
Pledge	250,000
Non-Pledge Income	35,000
Loose Offering	2,000
Foundation	19,000
Reserve Fund	38,643
Other Income	15,500
Total Income	360,143

Please prayerfully consider increasing your pledge/contributions if you are able to, so we can aim for a balanced budget in 2023. Please remember that a pledge is an estimate of giving and can be adjusted as circumstances require.

“Ron’s Gone Wrong”

What: FREE Movie and Popcorn Dessert Bar: We’ll watch the, and make popcorn dessert bowls.

When: Sunday, October 2nd at 6 pm

Where: Fellowship Hall, First Presbyterian Church Bring your own pillow and/ or blanket or plan to sit in a chair.

Who: First Presbyterian Church & Welcome School families. Friends, relatives and neighbors too!

Questions? Call Megan Highbargin in the Children’s Ministry Office at 402-291-1104 or email at meganhighbargin@yahoo.com



Happenings

Fall Gathering at The Farm



Just bring your chair. How easy is that? The Fellowship Committee is sponsoring a fall gathering at Fenster's Farm on Sunday, **October 9th** from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. Fellowship will provide hot dogs, chips, the makings for 'smores and beverages. The farm is located just across the Bellevue Bridge. We will carpool from the church. Please sign up for the picnic or to carpool by Sunday, October 2nd, following worship. The picnic will go on, rain or shine, with two barns available if needed. There'll be plenty of fall outdoor activities and a chance to visit with your church friends. It's a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon!

Lives Well Lived

Please join with the Deacons and Linda Reffert on Tuesday, October 11th to explore and celebrate the secrets, wit & wisdom of age. Our sweet spot ages are 75 to 103. Whether you are already in that category or just want to age well, there is something for you! We will begin at 1:00pm in Fellowship Hall with an award winning 1 hour documentary, then share small group discussion along with cookies, coffee and fellowship. Feel free to invite your friends and family for an encouraging afternoon. Please sign up at the table next to the Usher stand.



Trunk or Treat

On **Wednesday, October 26th from 5:30 to 6:30 PM**, we plan to host a Trunk or Treat out in the Welcome School side of the parking lot. If you would like to bring a table to set outside by the back of your vehicle you can. You can also decorate your vehicle with Halloween décor. There is a sign up sheet in the Library if you are planning to participate.



Sunday, November 6th



Contingency Fund

\$0 \$15,000 \$30,000 **\$44,475** \$45,000 \$60,000 Goal
\$75,000

We are here as of  September 27th

Amazon Smile

Please be sure to go (<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-0379376>) when ordering from Amazon.

Each quarter, the AmazonSmile Foundation will make a donation to First Presbyterian Church. **We have received \$1,199.37 as of September 21, 2022 it could be so much more if everyone who uses Amazon selects us and uses Amazon Smile when ordering.**

If you are not an AmazonSmile customer please log in to Amazon.com and go to help and type in Amazon Smile . Click on the Amazon Smile logo and you will be prompted get started and to select an organization. You must be logged in to Amazon Smile (<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-0379376>) to shop in order for your purchases to qualify.

Bakersplus.com

We just received the **Second Quarter of 2022** rebate from Bakers for **\$196.86** this is wonderful and includes **44** households. So if you have not registered **First Presbyterian Church #HY977** under your Baker's Plus card Community partner tab, please do so. This does not affect any other rewards you receive from Baker's.





Can You Serve

3 Deacons are needed for a 2 year term beginning in January 2023-

A Deacon is to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith.

The following Elders are needed for a 2 year term beginning in

January 2023: Finance, Building & Grounds, Membership (2) & Christian Education

An Elder must exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibility for the life of the congregation.

2 Foundation Members are needed for a 2 year term beginning in January 2023- Foundation members are responsible for the Stewardship of the church's endowment fund.

If you are interested in any of the above position or know someone who would be great in one of the positions please contact June at the Church office 402-291-1104 or admin@bellevuefpc.org.

News from Welcome School

News from Welcome School: October has been super exciting and full of activities!

Mid-October we hosted a fun Father's Night Out for all the students and their Dads. We had an amazing response that night and very engaged Dads!

We had a visit from the Bellevue Fire Department. They talked to us about fire safety and the kids got to sit in the fire truck!

If you were to walk by the Welcome School classrooms, you would see centers reflecting a camping ground, a dinosaur excavation site and a farm with a horse!! It's so fun to watch the kids so engaged in their learning every day.

God Bless, Tara Williams - Director



Children's Ministry



Oh my, I can't believe that September has flown by and that we are preparing to enter October. It has been a fantastic month in children's ministry. I loved getting to reconnect with everyone at the kick off, the donuts were delicious, many thanks to everyone that helped prepare that for us. We now have several Sunday School classes and WOW sessions under our belts and I think that I am getting into the swing of things, I could not have done any of this without our fabulous kitchen volunteers, table parents, and teachers, you are all amazing!

Megan Highbargin

We have many events happening soon and I would love to see all our families there. The first is movie night on Sunday, October 2nd at 6:00 pm, that is this SUNDAY! I will have the movie ready to go and lots of popcorn and candy so that everyone can make a great snack to enjoy, feel free to bring your pillows and blankets so that you can make yourselves comfortable.

Then, next Sunday is the Fenster Farm picnic, I am looking forward to spending time with everyone and enjoying a fall night, hopefully the weather cooperates. Please remember to sign up!

At the end of the month, we will be bringing back TRUNK or TREAT in the Welcome School parking lot, there is a sign-up sheet if you would like to decorate a trunk, I know that all the children love seeing the

decorations as they walk around. This event will be held on October 26th, from 5:30-6:30.

On October 16th, I am looking forward to presenting our four third graders with their bibles, these were purchased from a fund created in memory of Virginia Puls Sones, the mother of Becky Berg. The fund has provided bibles for over 35 years! Elijah Warren, Samuel Highbargin, Ruby Baruth, and Ivy Krom will be receiving bibles this year. It is such a great opportunity for our children to receive a complete bible, that is at their reading level and contains so many wonderful extras.

I can't wait to see what October brings in fun, fellowship, and learning about our amazing creator. As always, if you feel called to volunteer with the children's ministry, please reach out to me, we can find a place for everyone. Meganhighbargin@yahoo.com



October Youth Fellowship (YF) News



“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.” Deuteronomy 6:5-6

I love this reminder about how we should love God and I think the one thing that sticks out to me is the phrase with all your might. What do you think it would look like? I think loving God that deeply

would help us understand his heart and desire for us to love each other with similar devotion. I hope we will all accept the challenge this month to show God’s love to someone we find a bit difficult. I wonder what a bit of kindness would do in that person’s life. I hope you will have stories to share in the coming weeks!



Last week we did Visio Divina - where do we see God. We wandered around the church and the Youth sent me some beautiful pictures. They see God in Nature, Our church building and in each other. It’s so delightful to have them share their ideas and thoughts and their pictures too.



We will be adding in 2 Sunday evenings to our schedule starting this month. In November we will



also have a game night with pickleball, gaga ball and of course a huge favorite ultimate spoons.

We welcome suggestions on what the youth would like to do so please let us know of outings and/or events you want to see added to your calendar.



It has been so much fun to get back together. Our first Illuminate together we got to play with a new toy. Pickleball has become a new crazy with young people, John was playing 20 years ago but it’s “New” all over again. We all had a good laugh learning something new and it’s

always fun to be back together.

Happy Fall Y’all! Be a Blessing,

Shelli



OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

- Oct 2 6pm Family Movie Night
- Oct 9 4-7pm Fenster Farm Family Fun Day
- Oct 26 5:30pm Trunk or Treat
- Oct 30 5th Sunday, Youth Liturgist



October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:30a Sunday School 10a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service (1P/FB)	1:15p Heritage Ridge	10:30 Staff Mtg (VVR) 7p Bell Rehearsal	5:30 WOW/Illuminate 7p Choir Rehearsal	1p Women's Bible Study (VVR) 7p Troop 467	3:30p Questers' Set Up	8:30a The Questers
11:30a Deacon's Mtg (VVR) 6p Family Movie Night (FH)						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:30a Sunday School 10a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service (1P/FB)	10:30a PEO (VVR/FH)	1p Lives Well Lived (FH) 7p Bell Rehearsal	9a PEO (VVR) 5:30 WOW/Illuminate	10a Finance Meeting (CR) 1p Women's Bible Study (VVR) 6:30p Membership Mtg (Z)		
4p Fenster Farm Picnic 6:30p Boy Scout Comm. Mtg				6p B & G Mtg (VVR) 7p Choir Rehearsal 7p Worship Mtg (CR) 7p Troop 467		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Dedication Sunday 9:30a Sunday School 10a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service (1P/FB) 11:30a Fellowship Mtg (VVR) 11:30a Christian Ed Mtg (CR) 2p Private Event (Worm)		7p Bell Rehearsal	5:30 WOW/Illuminate 7p Choir Rehearsal	1p Women's Bible Study (VVR) 7p Troop 467		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:30a Sunday School 10a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service (1P/FB) 11:30a New Membership Class		7p Bell Rehearsal	5p Trunk or Treat Set Up 5:30 Trunk or Treat 7p Choir Rehearsal	1p Women's Bible Study (VVR) 7p Session Mtg (VVR) 7p Troop 467		
30	31					
9:30a Sunday School 10a Coffee Fellowship 10:30a Worship Service (1P/FB)						

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October Birthdays:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 3 Flossie Flora | 16 Elijah Warren |
| 3 Ruby Baruth | 17 Maggie Blazek |
| 5 Sue Tabler | 22 Linda Glenn |
| 7 Julie Daugherty-Braun | 23 Jane Hink |
| 10 Anne McDaniel | 28 Quentin Warren |
| 12 Barbara Drap | 29 Rebecca Horton |
| 12 David Oxtoby | 30 Isabel Griffin |
| 12 Mike VanRyckeghem | 31 Roger Webster |
| 14 Lorraine Jeffus | |

