First Presbyterian Church of Grove City

Monthly Digest

NOVEMBER 2026



"To Know Christ and Make Him Known"

From the Desk of the Pastor

Greetings,

As I prepare to retire after nearly 40 years in ministry, I am grateful that this final year of ministry has been here with you. The current climate for churches is challenging, but this church is vital and faithful and well-poised for a new era of ministry. It has been a joy to be in your midst leading worship and sharing in the work of being church. You set a good example for churches in transition as you did not slow down but kept ministry moving forward. I know you will continue to do that during this "gap" before the arrival of your next installed pastor and of course be ready to move forward with a new pastor.

After concluding our sermon series on Job, we will have a special celebration of the church year -- from Advent and Christmas through Easter to Pentecost -- on Sunday, November 15, including scripture readings, hymns and poetry for each season. And on November 22, we will focus on Thanksgiving -- and we have much to be thankful for.

While November 22 is my last Sunday here, God has provided a wonderful pastor to care for the congregation during this gap -- Rev Gary Brose will be here beginning Sunday, November 29. Gary is an experienced pastor who has led churches full and part time in Cincinnati and other parts of Ohio. He serves full time as the director of chaplaincy service for Capital City Hospice and he enjoys helping churches like ours on a part-time basis. Many of you will remember him as a preacher here during Robert Tolar's sabbatical and during my vacation. Besides preaching and leading worship, Gary will offer pastoral care, moderate the Session, and be available by appointment. You are in good hands with John Noss and Chris Dederer continuing their good work, and both the Session and Board of Deacons are made up of strong and faithful leaders.

When Paul wrote to the Corinthian Church, he reminded them that which pastor they liked the best or felt most connected to was not the most important thing, because it is God who grows the church. "One says 'I follow Paul,' another 'I follow Apollos,' and another 'I follow Cephas.' Is Christ divided? . . . Paul planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth." May God continue to bless this congregation with growth in faith and faithfulness.

Gratefully,



Rev. Wendy McCormick
(812) 455-9556, w.mccormick@fpcgc.org

From the Pastor Nominating Committee

Dear Members and Friends of First Presbyterian Church,

The Pastor Nominating Committee continues its prayerful search for our congregation's next pastor.

We have now met in person with two candidates, giving them an opportunity to get to know our church and community while allowing us to get to know them more fully. We have also conducted additional phone interviews and will soon meet with another candidate by Zoom.

As a reminder, the PNC works by consensus rather than majority vote. We devote time to discerning each candidate's strengths and opportunities for growth, making room for differing perspectives, honest discussion, and prayer as we seek a shared sense of God's leading.

We recognize how long this process can feel. The committee meets every week to keep candidates moving through the process as promptly and thoughtfully as possible. We continue to anticipate that our next pastor will begin serving no earlier than 2027.

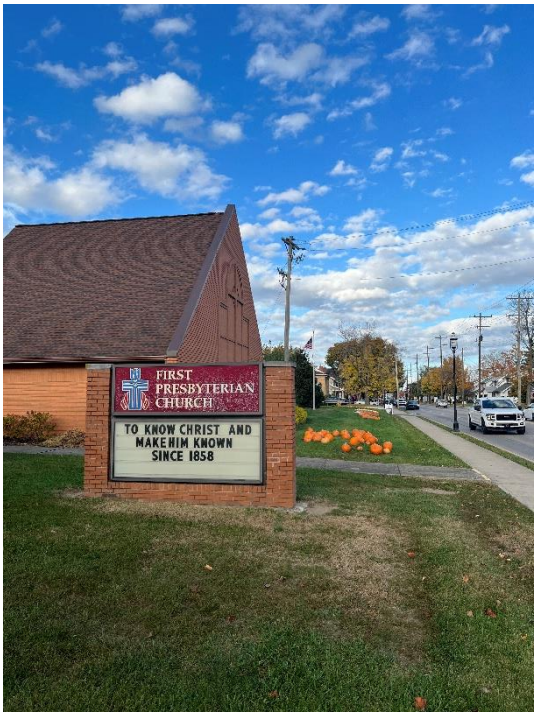
We welcome your questions and will share what we can while honoring confidentiality. Thank you for your patience, encouragement, and continued prayers for the candidates, their congregations, and our committee.

In Christ,

FPCGC Pastor Nominating Committee

Phyllis Gibbs • Kate Hardin-Hernandez • Gary Isaacs • John Mulvany

John Noss II • Bridget Okata • Pat Wiedner



From the Presbytery of Scioto Valley

Presbytery Meeting and Homelessness Presentation — November 17

The next hybrid Presbytery meeting is Tuesday, November 17, 3:30–6:30 p.m., at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2070 Ridgecliff Road, Columbus. An in-person session on homelessness in Ohio will precede the meeting from 1:30–3 p.m. Douglas Argue of the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio will discuss housing needs, rural homelessness, and opportunities for faith-based service and advocacy.

Singers Needed for Kwanzaa Opera

Old First Presbyterian Church in Columbus is seeking choir singers for an original Kwanzaa opera celebrating culture, community, and the Seven Principles of Kwanzaa. To learn more or participate, email deepproductions8@gmail.com.

PIE 2027

Please SAVE THE DATE for our annual PIE (Partners in Education) gathering on Saturday, January 30, 2027, at Covenant Presbyterian Church. This year's theme - *"The Future Is Now: The Perils and Possibilities of AI".*

PRESBYTERY *of* SCIOTO VALLEY

SERVING CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN OHIO

News & Notes

Monthly Blood Pressure Screenings
Reminder: Barbara Parker, RN, from LifeCare Alliance will offer free blood pressure screenings during Fellowship Time on the first Sunday of each month.



Poinsettia Orders
Please use a form in the narthex or order right on the app! Orders are due **November 22nd.**

Card Outreach Ministry
Card Outreach Ministry will be meeting on **November 12th at 1PM** in room C3. Please join us as we prepare cards for upcoming birthdays, Thanksgiving, the holidays! No experience needed! We will show you everything you need to know!

Annual Coat Drive
Now through November 15th we will be doing our annual coat drive, in support of Central Community House. We're collecting new and gently used coats for all ages — with a special focus on children. A box will be in the narthex to collect donations!

Upcoming Lunch Together Locations
November 11th: Sunny Street Café
November 18th: ***NEW*** Broadway Standard
November 25th: Planks
December 2nd: Olive Garden
December 9th: Fiesta Mariachi (Georgesville)
December 16th: 3 Brothers

Your Mission Committee thoughtfully and prayerfully allocates our congregation's mission money to organizations and ministries in this community and around the world that share our values of proclaiming the good news, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and binding up the brokenhearted. Through the generosity of our congregation, we have funds budgeted for this sharing in each annual church budget. This important ad hoc committee in our congregation is looking for a few new members. The committee meets a few times each year to prayerfully consider the needs of the community and the world and how best to connect our congregation with those needs. If you'd like to know more, speak with Ken Simeral or the church office. Or just come to the next meeting on **November 10th** at 7 pm to find out what we're about.

Giving & Stewardship

September 2026:	YTD:
Income $16,150.73	Income $273,691.78
Expense $35,432.67	Expense $274,964.94

Attendance

October 2026 Total Average Attendance: 90.8

In Person Average (Counted & Signed In): 83
Online Average (Commenting or using app): 7.75
Online Average Views (on Facebook & Youtube): 273.5 views

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Session: November 8th @ 11:30 AM
Christian Education: November 18th @ 7:00 PM
House: December 8th @ 7:00 PM
Membership: *No December Meeting*
Stewardship: November 16th @ 7:00 PM
Worship: December 2nd @ 7:00 PM
Personnel & Mission Subcommittee meet as needed. Contact the group leaders for more information.



Help Us Make Christ Known Online

Follow FPCGC on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube to stay connected with sermons, church events, announcements, and reflections. Liking, commenting on, and sharing our posts helps us reach more people as we continue “To Know Christ and Make Him Known.”

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/fpcgc

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/firstpresbyterianofgc/

Tiktok: https://www.tiktok.com/@fpcgc1858

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/@FPC-GC-Ohio





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