



First Presbyterian Church
211 Garfield Ave, Box 226
London, OH 43140
londonfirstpres@gmail..co

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM

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A Message from the Pastor

Dear Church Family,

April is definitely different from what I had expected it to be! Life in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic has definitely made everything different. Some of you have been able to slow down, which is nice. Some of you are like me and are busier than ever. All of us miss being able to see each other in person. I know that I miss seeing you all in church on Sunday.

This pandemic is making us do all kinds of things differently. I have felt as if the learning curve has been straight up, with no curve in sight. Your church staff is working entirely from home. Our worship services are by Zoom and so are our meetings. Our deacons are meeting with their flocks weekly on Zoom. I have been enjoying this social time to check in with everyone. If you have not had a chance to join in on these meetings, I strongly encourage you to do so.

The church is still very active during this time. In fact, the session is meeting weekly because everything keeps changing so fast. I can't help but wonder how much this will impact how we do things after the pandemic is over.

Our church remains committed to mission work, even while we have to learn to do things differently. We are serving the first responders and essential workers in our community by operating the PCC as a Pandemic Child Care Center. We are supporting people in need in our community by encouraging our church members to give food to the H.E.L.P. House and the Madison County Vineyard Church. We are encouraging our members to sponsor school children during the pandemic. If you hear of more ways that we can help our community, we are interested in knowing what they are.

As for me, I have learned how difficult it is to educate a child at home while working a full-time job. Of course, I am not sure I could do well even if I were not working full-time. God has gifted me with many talents, but teaching a second grader is not among them. Also, trying to help Devin understand that he cannot go and play with his friends or have a baseball game is challenging, too.

How are you coping with the changes in your life that are due to the COVID-19 pandemic? Let me know. Feel free to call me, email me, or chat during your flock meetings.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Désirée

PRAYERS FOR REFORMED CHURCH OF THE SAHEL

Here is how the pandemic is affecting Gambia, continued prayers are requested.

Gambia has declared a total lockdown, all borders are closed, no public gatherings (including worship) are allowed. The Reformed National Church is affected by this and some of them are shepherding flocks by visitation, but cannot use technology because members do not have access to this luxury.

Flocks are left uncared for because of the expense of traveling & visiting. Gambia recently declared it's first corona virus related death last month, those associated with this individual were quarantined, but escaped and mingled in with society. (This is the version they are hearing.)

The orphanage has a self-imposed quarantine, but feeding the children has become challenging since they are out of school. Concerns are that hunger and high pricing could hit hard.

Assistance from other sources may drop and if supplemented, that could help sustain the kids in their care. Pray for the planters as the constant visit is exposing them to danger and the worsening economic conditions from the COVID-19 situation, making church planting difficult.

NOTE FROM THE OFFICE

As of the 24th of March, I have relocated the office computer to my home in an effort to continue supporting the pastor through this difficult time. Please do not hesitate to contact me via email or through my personal cell phone: 614-893-2884, and the office number has also been redirected to my cell as well. I am only one phone call or email away if I can help with anything, including Zoom so you can connect with your flock and worship with all of us on Sundays. I miss your faces and look forward to things returning to normal as soon as possible. Linda Kilgore



PRESBYTERIAN CHILD CARE

As of Thursday March 26th, our child care center began operating as a temporary Pandemic Child Care Center. We are the only daycare in London that is now licensed for this purpose. We are accepting children of first responders and essential business employees. This will continue until further notice and directives by the Governor of Ohio.

BLOOD DRIVE—URGENT NEED

During this time when we are being urged to avoid non-essential gatherings, blood drives are ESSENTIAL! Blood drives are in direct support to emergency services in the battle against coronavirus & those most vulnerable to it; patients with chronic illnesses, cancer & trauma victims, surgery patients, women during child-birth complications, accident victims, and so many others who depend on this life-saving blood. Blood supplies are at a CRUCIAL low due to almost 300,000 donor cancellations, this puts doctors in the heart-wrenching decision of deciding who gets the life-saving blood. American Red Cross has taken precautions to ensure the health & safety of their blood drives. They are vigilant in maintaining the highest safety measures:

- Donor & staff temperature checks before entering the drive
- Wiping down donor touched areas after every donation
 - Hand sanitizer upon entering & throughout facility
 - Using a septic scrub on arms
 - Using sterile collection sites
 - Wearing gloves & changing them often
 - Enhanced disinfecting of equipment
- Mini-physicals to ensure healthy donors

The Red Cross is a very dedicated to making blood donations safe. If we are healthy & eligible to donate blood, we need to donate & do our part to ensure that those depending on life-saving blood is available now more than ever. Walk-ins are always welcome, but if you prefer to make an appointment you can email Rhonda at Rhonda.m.@att.net or call Red Cross 1-800-RedCross (Sponsor: FP London), or visit Redcrossblood.org.

Our next blood drive is SUNDAY, MAY 17, 8:00 AM—2:00 PM

Thanks for your consideration. Stay well, and God bless.

Rhonda Miller
Health Ministries

FLOCK MEETINGS

The flock meetings are meant to have social time with other members of the church as well as the pastor and their deacon. Some are calling this “happy hour”, and seem to really be enjoying the communication. Just because we are called to have personal distancing, doesn't mean we cannot socialize.

Brenda Engle—Monday at 2:00 PM

Joyce Lloyd—Tuesday at 3:00 PM

Tina Hart—Wednesday at 1:00 PM

Crystal Schrock—Thursday at 10:00 PM

Ken Morlock—Sunday at 2:00 PM

Dolly McDonley—Sunday at 3:00 PM

Rhonda Miller—Sunday at 4:00 PM

Paul Oswalt—Sunday at 7:00 PM

If you do not know who your deacon is, please contact the church office. If you cannot make your scheduled flock meeting, you are invited to join any of the other flocks. Let the church office know and we can provide you with the Zoom meeting information.

SESSION SUGGESTION BOX

We want to hear from you! If you have any questions, concerns, comments, or joys that you wish to share with the session, send them via email through the office. Session is currently meeting weekly through Zoom.

Happy Anniversary



April Anniversaries

Bob & Harriet Dana—4/8/67
Kevin & Cheryl Clemmons—4/11/92
Charles & Carol Remley—4/19/77

WEEKLY CHURCH DONATIONS

With the current pandemic and the church being closed down, we are still trying to meet our financial obligations with less money coming in. We would greatly appreciate your weekly donations which may be sent via mail (either 211 Garfield Avenue or PO Box 226) or you may set up online bill pay through the bank. If you don't know how to do this, call your bank and they can assist you with getting it set up. It's automatic, once it has been set-up, you are not required to do anything at all, the bank will send a check to the church as scheduled. We are so grateful to all of you and cannot wait until we can all worship together again in person.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Doug Armfelt	4/2
Nancy Dexter	4/5
Beverly Woodard	4/5
William Houk	4/9
Steve Welk	4/9
Phil Hankins	4/10
David Neely	4/12
Elizabeth Spinning	4/12
Tina Hart	4/12
Matthew Neely	4/13
Linda Kilgore	4/13
Reese Schrock	4/13
Everett McSavaney	4/16
Tom Geyer	4/17
Jane Hughes	4/18
Kelly Becke	4/20
Michelle Anders	4/27

If any corrections need to be made in the anniversary and birthday dates, please contact Linda in the office or email londonfirstpres@gmail.com. We are working very diligently to get our lists as updated as possible and greatly appreciate your patience and willingness to assist.

MEETING WITH PASTOR

Please feel free to contact the office at londonfirstpres@gmail.com or 740-852-1215 to set up an appointment with the pastor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School classes are meeting through Zoom. Classes begin at 9:00 am. If anyone would like to attend who is currently not attending, please contact the church office.

Easter Donations

Our Easter Egg Hunt has been cancelled. We did however, manage to support some local efforts with what we had collected. We delivered some pre-filled eggs to the Madison County Vineyard Church to put inside the children's lunch boxes hoping this might put a smile on their sweet little faces.

H.E.L.P. House was also requesting donations to assist local families with their Easter needs. Kelly Armfelt passed along a flyer and we decided that since our hunt was cancelled, we could do the most good by donating what we had collected to the H.E.L.P. House to make Easter possible for many of the local families who may not otherwise be able to afford anything for their kids. We are so thankful for those donations which allowed our church to play a part in making Easter happen for so many young children.

WORSHIP SERVICES

All Zoom worship services are at 10:00 am with fellowship for 30 minutes before and after. We are posting the Zoom link on both Facebook and the home page of our website. You may also connect by telephone. If you need assistance, please contact Linda at the church email or phone number. All committee meetings are also being conducted by Zoom.



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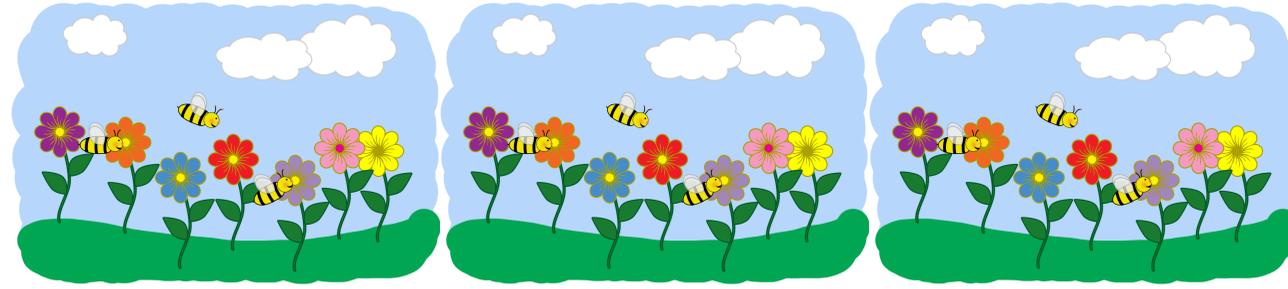
Currently all in-person youth events are postponed until further notice due to the COVID-19 outbreak, this includes the dinner theater fundraiser scheduled in April.

In Sunday School this past month we have played Bible jeopardy, Bible pictionary (we have some talented artists), painted sun-catchers and made cards for the deacons to deliver to the shut-ins. Once the weather gets a little nicer and COVID-19 outbreak has subsided we have painted rocks with encouraging messages to be placed throughout the community to help brighten the spirits of our local friends.

Be on the lookout soon for emails regarding youth activities that can be done at home or by virtual meetings. We hope you are all staying healthy and safe, we miss you all!

APRIL CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY/SAT
(All Flock & Committee Meetings are held via the Zoom Application).			1 1:00 Tina's Flock 5:00 Stewardship 7:00 Session	2 10:00 Crystal's Flock 6:30 Worship Comm.	3/4
5 9:30 Zoom Fellowship 10:00 Zoom Worship 11:15 Deacons Mtg 2:00 Ken's Flock 3:00 Dolly's Flock 4:00 Rhonda's Flock 7:00 Paul's Flock	6 2:00 Brenda's Flock	7 3:00 Joyce's Flock	8 1:00 Tina's Flock 6:30 PCC Board 7:00 Session	9 10:00 Crystal's Flock	10/11
12 9:30 Zoom Fellowship 10:00 Zoom Worship 2:00 Ken's Flock 3:00 Dolly's Flock 4:00 Rhonda's Flock 7:00 Paul's Flock	13 2:00 Brenda's Flock	14 3:00 Joyce's Flock	15 1:00 Tina's Flock 5:00 Christian Ed 7:00 Session	16 10:00 Crystal's Flock 4:15 Mission Comm.	17/18
19 9:30 Zoom Fellowship 10:00 Zoom Worship 2:00 Ken's Flock 3:00 Dolly's Flock 4:00 Rhonda's Flock 7:00 Paul's Flock	20 2:00 Brenda's Flock	21 3:00 Joyce's Flock	22 1:00 Tina's Flock 7:00 Session	23 10:00 Crystal's Flock	24/25
26 9:30 Zoom Fellowship 10:00 Zoom Worship 2:00 Kems Flock 3:00 Dolly's Flock 4:00 Rhonda's Flock 7:00 Paul's Flock	27 2:00 Brenda's Flock	27 3:00 Joyce's Flock	29 1:00 Tina's Flock 7:00 Session	30 10:00 Crystal's Flock	



PRAYER LINE

All requests to be submitted to Shelley Bailey at sjbailey19@gmail.com or 614-425-7570. IMPORTANT: Due to privacy issues, please make sure any prayer request is with consent of the person concerned. Let the pastor know when their presence is needed. Please contact the office to be added to the prayer line. If you wish to have prayer concerns lifted during the worship service, please email the church office.

PRAYERS FOR OUR FIRST RESPONDERS

As we continue to operate under a state of quarantine, we ask that you keep all of the first responders in your prayers. Not just medical first responders, but those who are still working in essential jobs who are still in harm's way. We are so grateful to have so many selfless people on the front lines of this pandemic, may our prayers act as a cloak of protection to each and every one of them against this terrible virus.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Deadlines for information and announcements are due as follows:
Announcements: Please let the pastor know ahead of time so announcements can be made before our Zoom worship.
Chimes: 25th of the prior month

HOW TO USE THE “ZOOM” APP

If you have a Smart Phone, Tablet or Computer with a Camera

Option 1) Install Zoom application

- All computers and phones have an “app” store. Go to the “app” store and type Zoom in the search bar.
 - Once the Zoom icon comes up on your screen, click on install.
 - Once installed, you can open zoom and click on “join a meeting”
- When prompted, type in the Member ID# and then the password. This will take you into the meeting where you will (see) and join the other participants.

Option 2) Without Zoom app

- Go to Facebook or our website and click on the link provided for our Worship; this will take you directly into the Zoom screen.
- When prompted, type in the Member ID# and then the password. You will join the meeting.

If you only have a regular cell phone or land line (If your cell phone has internet service, it is considered a smart phone)

- There are phone numbers and a Member ID# posted on our Facebook and website for Sunday’s services. Call in using just one of these numbers.
 - You will be prompted for a Member ID# which you will enter using your phone keypad.
- You will then join the meeting and be able to speak and hear what is going on in the meeting, but you will have no visual.

(Please contact Linda at the londonfirstpres@gmail.com OR cell phone at 614-893-2884 for assistance or questions)

End of Life Plans

In one of our Zoom flock meetings, nurse, Christine Yost, suggested that a health scare like our current pandemic should get us all talking about our end of life plans and what our wishes are. Knowing what we want helps our family immensely, and knowing if our loved ones are capable of making these decisions will give us a peace of mind. For instance, talking with my late husband about end of life care, I found out that he would go against my wishes if he had to make the choice, so I gave my mother my medical power of attorney. Thankfully, he never had to make that choice, and I now know that Mark can make the decision based on my wishes. That gives me a peace of mind.

To get these conversations started, a decent description of each choice can be found at <https://www.webmd.com/healthy-aging/guide/decision-end-life-care#1>.

Two other helpful resources are the Ohio Living Will (<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/ccf/media/files/Patients/OhioLivingWill.pdf>), and the Ohio Health Care Power of Attorney (<https://my.clevelandclinic.org/ccf/media/Files/Patients/health-care-power-of-attorney-form.pdf?la=en>).

Feel free to call me, if you would like to talk about your end of life options.

Pastor Désirée

