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#### **HOW TO** RECEIVE CHRIST

- 1. Admit your need. "I am a sinner."
- 2. Be willing to turn from your sins.

"I am sorry for my sins, Lord. Please forgive me."

- 3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave. "I believe you did what you said you did—that you died on the cross then rose from the dead and have the power to save me."
- 4. Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to come in and control your life through the Holy Spirit. "Please come into my life and change me. Make me a new person."
- 5. If you have recently received Christ, we would like to give you a Bible. Contact Pastor Aaron if you are interested.

First Presbyterian Church PO Box P 15 N. Chillicothe St. South Charleston, OH 45368

Phone: 937-462-8479

Email: scharlestonfirst@sbcglobal.net

www.FPCconnect.org



#### **Events in Our Church Family**

**Today** 

12:30-2p Leadership Training (Fell. Hall)

**Tuesday** 

Staff Meeting (VC) 9:00 am Fellowship Hall Reserved 3-6 pm Deacon's Meeting (Rm. B-01) 6:00 pm 6:30-8 pm Equipping Partners Class (Fell. Hall)

Wednesday

Men's Fellowship (Fellowship Hall) 6:00 am

Fell. Hall Reserved 7:30a-12:30p Pioneer Clubs 6:30 pm

Women's Bible Study (Rm. B-01) 6:45 pm

**Thursday** 

Women's Bible Study (Fell Hall) 10:00 am

Sunday

Worship Service 8:30 am

Sunday School for all Ages 10:00 am

Worship Service 11:00 pm

Monday (10/19)

6:00 pm Session Meeting

Tuesday (10/20)

**Equipping Partners Class** 6:30-8 pm

Wednesday (10/21)

Pioneer clubs 6:30 pm

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

Sunday (10/25)

**Poinsettia Orders Due** 

Worship 8:30 am

Sunday School for all Ages 10:00 am

Worship 11:00 am



### **Christmas Poinsettia** Orders?? **ALREADY??**



Yep!

Due to possible COVID disruptions, orders for Christmas poinsettias to decorate our Sanctuary must be taken extra early this year. Poinsettia orders must be received no later than Sunday, October 25th.

Our florist (London Floral) is also asking for a first and second choice in case of shortages.

If you'd like to order a poinsettia, please fill out the enclosed order form and put it in the offering plate along with your payment. This year's color options are red, white, and Jingle Bell (red with white).



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# Why You Should Join A Small Group

By Rev. Dr. Aaron W. White, Ph.D.

It takes a village, they say. And it does! It takes close relationships around us to make life go. Who is your village?

What I love about church (and pretend I am just "Aaron" right now and not that other guy "Pastor Aaron") is that when it is done right, it is a family.

We as a church are a very large family! In fact, the membership at First Pres accounts for just over 10% of our village. To put that into perspective, we would be a 9-thousand-member church in Springfield! Wow! But for those of you who, like our kids, grew up in a large family, you know that bigger means less face time! When things get bigger, it can be more difficult to know how to develop relationships — to truly know anyone -- and to know anyone with a level of depth that has meaning. You become a face in the crowd.

This is where small groups come in!

Small groups are what I like to call "micro-communities." They are intentionally cross-sections of our larger "macro-

communities." Yes, it is true, that from time to time, we will have small groups of women or men meeting to study the Bible, and I love to be part of these groups. But our Small Groups Ministry at FPC are "micro-communities" that involve young families that have young kids along with empty-nesters. They involve couples and singles, young and old, working and retired. These groups — not "cliques" — are places where we can truly see a village with all its experience, wisdom, and diversity come alive!

What is a small group? Some might as: "Isn't it just a Bible study?" No, not exactly. A small group is three things:

- It is a place for consistent fellowship. Our small group, for instance, loves to meet in each other's homes and have food. We spend time talking and cooking out and playing games.
- It is a time to explore God's Word together.
   Our group also loves to sit and read a brief passage of Scripture and ask three basic questions
  - What did it say?
  - What does it mean?

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#### **Sermon Series: Exploring the Bible**

Oct. 18—God Calls Unlikely Ones to New Life & Mission (Acts 9)

Oct. 25—God Remains Faithful in Challenges to Life & Mission (Acts 16)

Nov. 1—God's Mission Reaches Those Farthest Off (Acts 17)

Nov. 8—God's Mission Challenges the Most Powerful (Acts 26, 28:16, 30-31)

#### Where to turn to for help & answers...

Building Maintenance	Bob Entler
Card Ministry	Barbara Florence
Change of Address, Phone or Name	Janine Miller
Church Calendar	Janine Miller
Deacons	Bob Entler, Steve Paugh, Brad Timmons
Food Pantry	Jim Lightle, Fred Berge, Dan Smith
Membership	Pastor Aaron White
Music Ministry	Carol Wildman, Deanna Mattinson
Newsletter	Janine Miller
Nursery	Ashley Woods
Pioneer Clubs	Jodi Smith
Prayer Chain	Janine Miller
Rental, Church Facilities	Janine Miller
Session	stor Aaron White, Rob Vaughn, Jim Hildebrand Greg Rice, Todd Severt, Chris Cain
Small Groups	Don Grigorenko, Aaron Baldauff
Technology & Website	Mindy Wildman

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• How does that affect my life?

We find that these brief, 30ish minute discussions, are very helpful and fruitful as we explore what God has for us in our lives.

3. It is a time for care and growth. As Scripture says, "as iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." In a group where we can get to know one another at a deeper level than just saying hi at church, we can care for each other when one of us experiences loss, has surgery, is stressed out, needs help with their car or farm, is celebrating an event in life, or just needs an encouraging word. We also earn the right to challenge one another in areas of growth and we all learn better what it means to be a Jesusfollower.

So why join a small group? I can only speak for myself by saying that if I had not been asked to join a small group in college, I sincerely doubt that I would have seen my understanding of God's Word and life as a Jesus-follower take off in the way it did. For those of you who are skeptical, I would only say, what do you have to lose if you try it out for a season? I have full confidence that the Lord will meet you there and your life will be better for it.

To join a group, please contact Don Grigorenko (937-430-9210) or Aaron Baldauff (937-825-2632).

God bless you,

PA

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#### **Nursery News**

The nursery is now open for both worship services and staffed during the 11:00 service.

#### Thank you to our volunteers!

Oct. 11 Monica Mitchell

Oct. 18 Erin Webb

Oct. 25 Rhonda Bryant



Every effort will be made to keep the nursery clean and sanitized, but parents who leave their children in the nursery need to be aware that there will be other children there, as well as toys that other children have touched.

Our nursery director, Ashley Woods, is asking those who would be willing to serve to please contact her as soon as possible. You may contact Ashley at 740-505-2331. All volunteers must wear a mask and would be serving at their own health risk.

#### Children's Church



We would like to give a big shout-out to Sarah White who has volunteered to lead "Children's Church" for both services each Sunday morning.

Children in grades PreK-3 will be released before the sermon starts and will return immediately following the sermon so that they can be in the Sanctuary for other worship elements.

Anyone who would like to join the rotation in providing children's choice, you would be greatly appreciated! Please contact Sarah at 614-668-2688.

Anyone interested in offering special music for Advent or Christmas this year, please see Carol Wildman or Deanna Mattinson.



## Yes! Trunk or Treat is ON for 2020!

Clark County will be holding Beggar's Night on **Saturday**, **Oct. 31**, **from 6-8 pm**. Decorate yourself and/or your vehicle, park in the church parking lot no later than 5:45 pm, and pass out candy to our community visitors.



Of course, we will be encouraging some common sense precautions:

- We will not be passing out hot dogs or hot chocolate this year.
- We are recommending masks and gloves for all participants and will be happy to provide both.
- We also will be providing **all** the candy so that as few hands have touched it as possible before passing it out to visiting children.

If you would like to donate funding for candy, you can contribute one of three ways:

- Mark it for "Trunk or Treat" and place it in the Sunday morning offering
- Donate through e-offering and click on "Trunk or Treat"
- Mail your donation to "First Presbyterian Church, Box P, South Charleston, OH 45368."

  Places and the same to design the it for "Trunk are."

Please make sure to designate it for "Trunk or Treat".

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#### Items of the Month for the Food Pantry

October's

Canned Veggies Boxed Pasta Spaghetti Sauce

Thank you so much for your donations! Please place them in the Food Pantry bin in the Fellowship Hall.

# **Equipping Partners Class Begins This Week!**

Pastor Aaron is offering a new three-session class for those who would like to be equipped to partner with FPC. Sessions are on consecutive Tuesdays beginning this Tuesday, Oct. 13 from 6:30-8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in joining the class, please contact the church office at 937-462-8479 ASAP. There will be a membership option at the end of the class.