

WHERE TO TURN TO FOR HELP & ANSWERS

Building Maintenance | Bob Entler

Card Ministry | Barbara Florence

Change of Contact Information | Janine Miller

Children's Church | Sarah White

Church Calendar | Janine Miller

Deacons | Fred Berge, Bob Entler, Jim Lightle, Steve Paugh, Christy Routzahn, Dan Smith, Brad Timmons, Paul Web

Events | Katie Mitchell

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 | Pastor Aaron White, Rob Vaughn, Jim Hildebrand, Greg Rice, Todd Severt, Chris Cain

Small Groups | Don Grigorenko, Aaron Baldauff

Thursday Morning Breakfast Club | A. J. Woods

Technology & Website | Mindy Wildman

HOW TO RECEIVE CHRIST

ADMIT YOUR NEED.
"I am a sinner."

BE WILLING TO TURN FROM YOUR SINS.
"I am sorry for my sins, Lord. Please forgive me."

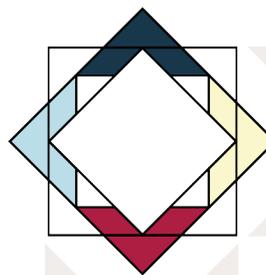
BELIEVE THAT JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU ON THE CROSS AND ROSE FROM THE GRAVE.
"I believe you did what you said you did—that you died on the cross then rose from the dead and have the power to save me."

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."

IF YOU HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED CHRIST, WE WOULD LIKE TO GIVE YOU A BIBLE. CONTACT PASTOR AARON IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
15 N. Chillicothe St.
PO Box P
South Charleston, OH 45368

Phone: 937-462-8479
Email: scharlestonfirst@sbcglobal.net
www.FPCconnect.org



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

COVID has knocked out some of our holiday traditions (goodbye Christmas in South Charleston), but one thing it hasn't canceled is being able to fill and send shoeboxes to needy children around the world. **Samaritan's Purse is again planning to collect shoeboxes.**

How to Pack Your Shoebox: First decide which gender and age group you'd like to buy for (see box labels located next to our shoeboxes for age groupings). Start with a "Wow" item: a doll, a soccer ball, a stuffed animal, and then fill the space around it with personal items, craft supplies, or small articles of clothing.

For all kinds of ideas, go to www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions.

Do not include candy; toothpaste; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; seeds; chocolate or food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items, such as snow globes or glass containers; or aerosol cans.

New this year: If you prefer the convenience of online shopping, you can browse www.samaritanspurse.org/buildonline to select gifts matched to a child's specific age and gender, then finish packing the virtual shoebox by adding a photo and personal note of encouragement.

Cardboard shoeboxes and labels are available in the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to include a \$9 donation in the box for shipping & handling, or donate \$9 per shoebox gift online through *Follow Your Box* at www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box/ and receive a tracking label to discover its destination.

November 22
Return your shoebox to FPC

Build Online
samaritanspurse.org/buildonline

Nov. 8, 2020

What Questions Do People Ask You?

WHAT IT SAYS ABOUT WHO THEY
PERCEIVE YOU TO BE

Written By

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

One account in Acts that has always fascinated me is the time when Paul and Silas were thrown into the prison in Philippi in Acts 16. What is fascinating about it is what Paul and Silas do in the prison and what results from their

actions. Paul and Silas pray, presumably aloud, and sing hymns to God. This is not a normal thing one would imagine doing in such a situation. Paul and Silas are chained in the prison. They had every reason to cry injustice and complain! Not only them, but we could imagine the jailer, whose lot it was to execute such a horrid job, also had reason to murmur. But as Paul and Silas prayed and sang, the prisoners are said to have listened and so did the jailer.

People are always watching and listening. That is the fascinating thing. The jailer did not come up with the words “what must I do to be saved” ex nihilo (“out of nothing”); he heard them from the song and prayers of Paul and Silas in the midst of their unjust imprisonment. Because Jesus is Lord and has the ultimate victory by the resurrection, Paul and Silas sang in their suffering and injustice; they didn’t complain (or start a hashtag campaign). And because they sang and prayed, a whole household was baptized and received into the people of God.

I was raised by a dad that lived by the mantra, “If you want it done right, do it yourself.” This is not an all too unfamiliar saying to many of you, I am sure. This is a phrase that describes perfectly a messiah complex we all have to a certain degree that can also be stated, “If I am not doing it, no one is.”

When the world is not going the way we want, when there is an injustice, or when we simply feel slighted, we might want to ask, “If I don’t take up the cause or take a stand, who will?” Don’t hear what I am not saying. There is nothing bad about taking up good causes or fighting injustice, but people see and hear how we go about it and will want to know what motivates our actions.

Events in Our Church Family

COME JOIN US!

TODAY

6:30 PM CAMPAIGNERS - *GILBERT'S*

TUESDAY

9:00 AM STAFF MEETING - *VILLAGE CUP*
3-6:00 PM FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVED
6:00 PM DEACON'S MEETING - *RM. B-01*

WEDNESDAY

6:30 PM PIONEER CLUBS
6:45 PM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - *RM. B-01*

SUNDAY (11/15)

8:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE
10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
11:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE
6:30 PM CAMPAIGNERS - *GILBERT'S*

MONDAY (11/16)

6:00 PM SESSION MEETING

TUESDAY (11/17)

7:00 PM SMALL GROUP LEADER CHECK-IN

WEDNESDAY (11/18)

6:30 PM PIONEER CLUBS
6:45 PM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - *RM. B-01*

SUNDAY (11/22)

8:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE
10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES
11:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE
6:30 PM CAMPAIGNERS - *GILBERT'S*
7:00 PM COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE
METHODIST CHURCH



TRUNK OR TREAT

Thank you to everyone who participated in Trunk or Treat last weekend! The weather cooperated and we had a great turnout!



In a divided and deeply confused world, as Jesus-followers we must be known as those who return praise to God with thankful hearts in all circumstances.

In Colossians 3:15, Paul speaks into a situation of potential worldly relational conflict that could weasel itself within a church, and his antidote is thankfulness.

In Colossians, Paul contrasts the way of the world with the way of God’s chosen ones. The world’s way is one that is marked by egotism and hedonism that ultimately leads to division and guarding “what is mine” (Col. 3:5-11). Instead, the gospel is not about tribalism and defense of what is one’s own, or what is owed to one, but unity (3:11). Paul reminds those who are in Christ how they are to walk (3:12), bearing one another, freely forgiving, loving one another by the peace of Christ that rules in their hearts. As a result of this he says to “be thankful” (3:15b). Most literally, he says “be thankful ones” or “be thankful people.” They are to be unified in their gratitude. He exhorts them to be known as thankful people by those who are watching. “Perception is reality” some say, so let their perception of you be that you are thankful and this because you have been freely forgiven and joined perfectly in Jesus.

Sure, we would like to imagine that we would not find ourselves in a place of outright hatred or division, but what other fruits of the world might creep in and take the place of thankfulness? Instead of thankfulness we can buy into our messiah complexes and feel in this utterly divided and confused world that if we don’t voice our opinion, and forcibly voice it for that matter, things will never change. But let us not too quickly forget, we have an advocate at the right hand of God who has and is taking up the battle on our behalf. Now does this mean we do nothing? No. Absolutely not. But that is not really my point here. My point is that our world should be hearing a message of resounding thankfulness ringing from our churches and our members and from us! I have some deep concerns, however, that this is not the resounding message they are hearing from Christians. My question for all of us is: Would those who are listening to and watching you ask “what must I do to be saved?” by what they have heard you pray, sing, talk, or post about?

Let us have our anxieties calmed by the awesome fact that nothing will dethrone Jesus as Lord. Our challenge as ministers, elders, deacons, Christ-followers, etc, is to be known as “thankful ones.” We can stand steady, assured, unmoving on our oneness in Jesus and his promise that we will one day enter glory, being brought to life by his resurrection and sanctified completely under his lordship.

Advent Service of Praise

Sunday, Dec. 6, 5pm
Outdoor Live Nativity followed by indoor Christmas music.

Anyone who would like to contribute their musical talents, please contact *Carol Wildman* or *Deanna Mattinson*.

Thursday Breakfast Club

On Thursday morning from now until Thanksgiving, high school students are invited to Gilbert's Youth Center from 6:30-7:15 am for breakfast, skits, games, and music. Bring your friends, wear a mask, and come hungry!

We are also looking for others to help with food. Please contact A.J. Woods (740-506-7114) if you can help!

Election Day Carry-Out

We would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who helped with this year's Election Day Salad Bar Carry-Out. We were able to raise \$490 for the Women's Association ministry and served 97 meals. *Please do not forget to pick up your dishes from the cart outside the kitchen.*

New Members

Welcome to all of our new FPC family members

Paul & Diane Lyons

Greta Call

Taffy Kelly

Evan & Nicole Delk

Chuck & Carole Appleby

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Nov. 8 Sarah Burton

Nov. 15 Christy Routzahn

Nov. 22 Jenny Severt

Nov. 29 Barbie Cain

NURSERY

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 at 740-505-2331. All volunteers must wear a mask and would be serving at their own health risk.

On Wed., Dec. 9th, Pioneer Clubs is having a caroling party. We would like to offer hot chocolate and a Christmas cookie to each participant following their walk through the village. If you can donate one or two dozen Christmas cookies for that event, please contact Janine Miller (937-462-8479). Each cookie will need to be placed in a baggie to hand out.

