



4281 Rte 6N East, Edinboro, Pa. 16412 / Church office: (814) 734-3511

e-mail: office@edinboropresby.org / website: edinboropresby.org

Reverend Greg Gillispie

Local phone: (814) 732-0058 (forwards to him 24/7) Cell phone: (814) 657-4782

NOVEMBER, 2018 PRESBY PRESS NEWSLETTER

From the Pastor

We are the saints of God. Already. And continually.

Let's talk about sainthood.

Their oil portraits hang in cathedrals and museums across the world. Portrayals in expensive stained glass show devout men and women whose saintly aura is made blatantly obvious by the glowing halo which surrounds their holy faces. Streets and buildings and entire cities are named after them.

Thank God for the saints who have risen up, beyond the blandness of everyday existence!

Yet, the Presbyterian understanding of sainthood is more expansive than that – and maybe even a little less “otherworldly”. All Saints Day is always November 1st, and that occasion is often commemorated on the first Sunday or November. We'll do that here. But, let's ponder who the saints are in our lives, and ponder our own sainthood status.

Sainthood is not just for those Faith Superheroes, the tiny fraction of God's people who demonstrate the realities of God's reign in ways that seem so far beyond the rest of us mere mortals. However, to be a saint simply (and profoundly!) means to be “set apart”, declared “holy”, to have status in that Kingdom. All of us are saints. Consider the multiple times in the Bible where a letter writer like Paul addresses the whole church, as in “greet all the saints in” whichever town. Yes, put the title “Saint” in front of your name. You don't need to accomplish dozens of faith milestones to earn sainthood. GOD is who sets us apart. The Lord makes us holy.

I'm so glad for the Saint Benedicts and the Mother Therasas and the patron saints of aspects of daily life. Plus, I'm glad for the saints whom I easily can truly be classified as the saints of *my* life. You may have them too: a beloved grandparent, a friend who persevered through unthinkable challenges, the Sunday School teacher or Confirmation mentor or church nursery caregiver who is remembered fondly years later. How many other examples do you have? The list is likely pretty large. Especially if we enlarge our understanding of who really are declared worthy of sainthood by the Lord who can distribute that status. Who have been saints to you?

As we recall the saints of all of Christendom – and the saints of each of our own lives – we can praise God for their faithfulness and bravery. We also shall be inspired by their examples. Sainthood – especially when understood as conferred through God's grace – is not merely something to be immortalized for later. As God's called, redeemed, equipped and holy saints, you and I have a role to play. To continually live into righteousness. To bless others as we have been blessed by God. To take seriously that we have been “set apart” for divine purposes. The status of sainthood then becomes a pattern for life, every day, in simple daily tasks and in the profound choices and challenges set before us.

Statues and stained glass would be nice, sure. But saintly lives truly are their own reward.

Humbly, yet Boldly,
Greg

P.S.... A few quick notes:

- **Kids' stewardship:** National research shows that some of the reason that congregations have found financial health especially challenging is that we've spent more than a generation not teaching our children about charity and financial responsibility. That's not universally true, but the evidence is there overall.

Therefore, I will this month make available to families who wish to use it a packet for children and teens to begin or renew a habit of faithful stewardship appropriate to their current stage of life. I'm less interested in how many total dollars this will produce for this congregation short-term. We do though owe it to whichever congregations they will participate in years from now to develop patterns of faithful giving. We owe it to this generation to discover the blessings of living simply and living gratefully.

- **Youth Triennium:** Registration will start soon for the 2019 Presbyterian Youth Triennium. I urgently hope that some of our teenagers from Edinboro will be among the Lake Erie delegation to this once-every-three-years, once-in-a-lifetime youth conference. More than 5,000 high schoolers gather at Purdue University for a week of worship, fun and faith. Anyone now in 8th through 12th grade is eligible. I've been a small group leader at PYT in the past, and I *wish* I'd known about this when I was a teen. It honestly can be life-changing. Please talk with your young people, and talk with me about this amazing faith milestone. It will be July 16-20, but we'll need to know of your potential interest before the end of winter.

- **Vote:** Presbyterians in general have been very active in civic and political life throughout American history. From leaders in Washington to members of school boards, from PTA presidents to judges and legislators, we live out our faith into the government of our communities and nation. Some people are so frustrated by the tone of the U.S. political climate these days that they are ready to disconnect. I urge each of us to do otherwise. Be active. Vote. (Maybe even run for office?) Elections matter, and people of faith can utilize our voice in government to bring the values of Christianity into society. As Presbyterians we must act and participate and lead.

Confirmation Journey

Six young people are intentionally exploring what discipleship means

The Confirmation Journey in the Presbyterian Church is a process for young people to consider the baptismal vows which their families made years ago. These young people then will be asked to *confirm* those vows, and make them personal professions of faith, now that they are entering adolescence.

Throughout the next several months, the entire congregation is asked to pray for and encourage the six participants in this year's Confirmation Journey. **Talon Frick, Morgan Frick, J.C. Williams, Brock Cunningham, Anna Williams and Abby Walker** began this year-long process to explore the significance of growing into a maturing faith.

This group meets with Pastor Greg at 6:30 on the first and second Sunday evenings of each month (except December 9), and each one has a monthly project with their family. The confirmands also are paired with adult mentors for an additional project or guided discussion several times between now and next spring. The elders of the church will meet with them several months from now, to mutually share stories about life and faith and to share the questions which will continue to arise throughout all of our Christian lives.

“Living Simply, Living Gratefully”

During 11:00 worship on November 11, our stewardship team will report on results from your estimates and intentions for financial giving for next year. We will give thanks to God for the ways we help to empower Christ's work through his congregation. If you wish to add your 2019 estimate of giving card, you may provide those at any time (including if a change in your financial circumstances means your contributions will decrease or increase), but if you send one in this week, it will help our ordained leaders to faithfully develop our ministry and mission budgets. The elders of our Session meet November 15.

We appreciate our deacons!

Thank you to our team of Deacons who provided our recent “Spuds ‘n’ Suds” luncheon! The contributions received during this annual event underwrite the deacons' projects of compassion and mission throughout the year. These include monthly lunches and visits to some of our congregation's honored members. (Additional gifts to the Deacons Fund are always appreciated.)

An invitation from Fairview Presbyterian

The Presbytery of Lake Erie invites all of us to attend the installation service at Fairview Presbyterian Church, where Rev. Emily Zeig Lindsey becomes their new pastor. This worship service (and reception following) will be Sunday, November 4, beginning at 4:00 p.m. Fairview Church is located at 4264 Avonia Rd. Carpooling from Edinboro can be arranged through our church office, 734-3511.

Confident of Jesus' resurrection, we extend our sympathy

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Marilyn Hollenbeck Free, following her death on October 28. Notes may be sent in care of Rita Lutz, 12410 Fry Rd., Edinboro, Pa. 16412.

Mission Statement

First United Presbyterian Church of Edinboro, Pennsylvania

As children of God, we worship to renew our faith through the Word, prayer, music, and fellowship.

As followers of Jesus, we serve our neighbors with compassion, offering hope and healing.

As heirs of the Holy Spirit, we invite and welcome all with love to enjoy God's grace.



FOOD DRIVE SEASON!:

Wed., Nov. 14th, from 6AM-6PM bring your Non-perishable food, frozen turkeys and monetary donations to Nick's Place 12246 Rte 99, Edinboro. Stay in your car! Volunteers will be there taking donations. ALL DONATIONS GO TO THE EDINBORO FOOD BANK. *Thank you!*

YOGA CLASSES CONTINUE!

Gentle/Beginner Yoga –Continue on Mondays thru Nov. 19, 6-7PM. Chair Yoga – Continue on Tuesdays, thru Nov. 20, 5-5:45pm. \$5.00 per class. Yoga mats are available. Held in the fellowship hall (enter thru back door.) Led by Certified Instructor, Janet Stachowiak. Poses encourage strength, flexibility and relaxation.

DON'T FORGET TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK!
THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4.
GIVING YOU AN EXTRA HALF HOUR OF SLEEP AND
AN EXTRA HALF HOUR FOR PRAYERS!



Galatians 6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

News from your PNC

The home stretch is proving to be a long one. Your PNC continues to faithfully pray, collaborate, consider, and discern God's will for our future. We are thankful for the prayers, support, and patience of all as we persevere.

We look forward to a time when we can share good news and celebrate a new Pastor. Until then, we trust, with steadfast faith, that God will provide in His perfect time. Your continued faith in the process remains appreciated.

Romans 8:25 But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

"SHARE A HAPPENING!"

Want to share a special "happening" about a family member or friend in the Newsletter?

Share a favorite article or spread some good news?

Please let us know!

Call the church office at 734-3511 or email:

office@edinboropresby.org

Please see Karen in the office for a copy of a newsletter if it was not sent to you via email or the postal service.

CITY MISSION PICK-UP: City Mission comes out to the church the morning of the 3rd Wed., of each month to pick up donated items. You may drop items off at the church on Sunday mornings or Mon.-Thurs., 9am-3pm. Items are stored in the coat room, east side of the narthex. Please secure items in boxes or bags. Call 452-4421 for larger pick-ups from your home. Contributions may be tax deductible. Please see Karen if a tax form is needed. A list is posted in the coat room of items accepted / not accepted.

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP OUT!

Each Sunday, we have opportunities for people to get involved. If you would be willing to be a greeter, usher, pass the offering plates, help with coffee/refreshment time, or read a prayer or a reading (training and practice offered!), call or email Karen in the church. She will get you connected to the right person to answer your questions or get you scheduled.

GARDEN OF EDIN UPDATE!

In 2018 the **Garden of Edin Community Garden** weighed the produce grown in seven "tithe beds" for the Edinboro Food Pantry. These beds grew **407 pounds** of produce!! Thanks to all who donated their time and effort to help feed the hungry in our community.

The Methodist Church Adult S.S. Class grew 161.75 pounds in two beds. Randy Walker grew 28.5 pounds and Zak Kineston grew 23.25 pounds of produce in one bed each. The DeMolay bed produced 14 pounds of carrots. Jack & Jill Preschool students planted two beds beside the Church back door which grew 52.5 pounds of tomatoes, peppers and onions. Also gardeners in the Garden of Edin donated 127 pounds of produce from their individual beds for our Food Pantry.

Edinboro First is hosting a quiet place for the EU students to study during finals week.

Sunday, December 9th - Tuesday, December 11th, the church will open its doors between 3:00pm and 9:00pm and EU students will be invited to use our space to study. Volunteers will be needed to

make this event a success. Donations of cookies and snacks, and 3.25 hour shift workers will be needed. Sign-ups are in the fellowship hall.



"FIRST WEDNESDAY DINNER"

Every first Wednesday of the month, (**next meeting is Nov. 7th**) the entire Congregation is invited to "First Wednesday Dinner" at 6:00 PM. RSVP & monetary donations appreciated for dinner - but not necessary!

To RSVP you may either email or phone the church office. All Ages are welcomed!

We encourage you to stay for a Team Meeting at 6:30.

Teams Meeting are Children & Youth Ministry, Mission, Fellowship, Facilities, & Worship. For more information contact the church office

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS...



Becky Aiken

Isabelle Anderson (friend
of Wanita Kennedy)

Cheryl Andrews

Judy Baer (daughter of Art &
Harriet Smaltz)

Diane Beusch (sister in-law of
Sue Payne)

Taylor Bowen (friend of Gail
Dylewski)

Tammy Bower (co-worker of
Shari Gould)

Emma Burkell

Sam Cain (friend of Makayla
Jay)

Alice Carnes

Carolyn Crawford

Karen Culver (sister of
Lorraine Hayes)

Seth Davis (niece's husband of
Gail & Bob Dylewski)

Ethan Dietz

John Duvall (brother-in-law of
Wanita Kennedy)

Jeanne Edwards (friends of
Pete & Pauline Kraus)

Bob Farmer (friend of Pete &
Pauline Kraus)

Carrie Fiske (niece of Becky
Veith)

Joye Gillispie

Ruth Hazlett (sister of Sue
Payne)

Becky Hover

Randy Hunsberger (friend of
Pete Kraus)

Todd Jay

Cindy Jenkins (niece of Sue)

Dale Johnson

Dennis & Mary Johnson

Betty Jolly (friend of Dorothy
Iovino)

David Kushner

Betty Lewis

Anna Leeds (granddaughter
of John & JoAnn Austin)

Savannah Lyons (friend of
Joanne Pavolko)

Paul Martinson

Joanne McDonald
(friend/neighbor of Cliff & Joni
Cox)

Christine McGee (cousin of
Doug Roberts)

Francy McLallen (friend of
Lorraine Hayes)

Kelcey Meeker (niece of Mike
& Becky Meeker)

James Moyer

Julie Osborn (sister of Bob
Dylewski)

Mirana Ormsy (granddaughter
of Art & Harriet Smaltz)

Sue Pesta (mother of Sandy
Fiscus)

Nelson & Evelyn Porter (friends
of Ed & Sue Payne)

Pat Ptasick (friend of Marilee)

Susan Ralph (friend of Marilee)

Jenny Rene (friend of Lorraine
Hayes)

David Roberts

Eileen Roberts (mother of
Doug)

Michelle Ruland (friend of Sue
Walker)

Sue Schweichler (friend of
Pauline Kraus)

Katie Staynoff

Carol Stein (friend of Joanne
Pavolko)

Karen Teed

Perry Thomas

Ian Welden (nephew of Pete
Kraus)

Phyllis Welden (sister of Pete
Kraus)

Art Williams

Josh Williams

Joyce Woods

Jim & Carol Zeart (brother-in-
law of Jan)

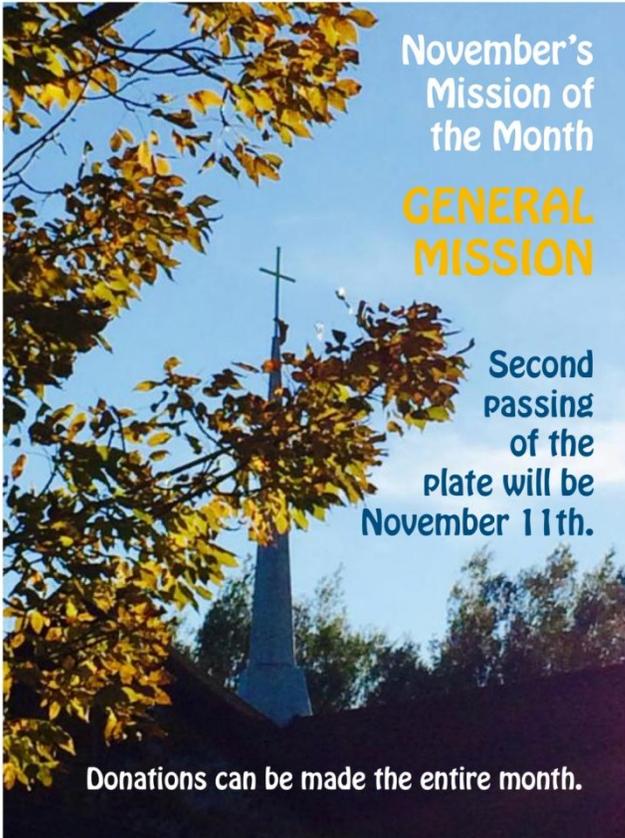
Our Military & Their Families:

Brent Carlson (nephew of Jan)

Jheri Davis (US Air Force
Whiteman, AFB Missouri)

Our Church Mission Team had a request for special prayer for several children in Belize. The writer was Shermaine Post, Missionary and wife of Pr. Stephen (Padre) Post. - *Jamie Tracy, Susie Westby, Whitney Garbutt, Denzel Garbutt and little Stephanie Logan, Good Shepherd Mission in Belize.* The letter states that "these small children have very immediate, urgent needs that only God can help with."

Each monthly newsletter we list family members & friends who have been asked to be included in our prayers. On a rotation system we list the same names in our Sunday bulletins. When a person has been on the list for more than year, we remove that name, unless we are asked to have prayers continued. Please help update this list when new or renewed concerns arise as God answers our prayers



Pastor: Rev. Greg Gillispie
Music Director: Mr. Mark Brice
Accompanist: Mrs. Gena Shirley
Bell Choir Director: Mr. Randy Mehlenbacher
Financial Secretary: Mrs. Sue Walker
Secretary: Mrs. Karen Dore'
Treasurer: Mr. Tom Hover
Custodian: Mr. Art Crawford

Sunday Worship Service: 11AM
Sunday School: Sunday mornings, 11:15AM
Bell Practice: Mon. at 7:30PM
Choir Practice: Wed. 7:30PM & Sun. 10:40AM
Church Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9AM – 3PM

Share a ride to church events

Some people may need a ride to worship, once in a while or on a more frequent basis. This could include our members and friends with mobility limitations, those who no longer drive, or perhaps even college students who are in Edinboro with a car.

If you can offer a ride (occasionally or more often), please let the pastor or one of the deacons know. If you would like to carpool here on Sunday mornings or for another event, please do let us know.

CONGREGATIONAL THANKSGIVING DINNER!

The Fellowship Team is hosting the Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner this year on **Sunday, November 18, following church.** We ask that you please make your reservation on or before Nov. 11th by completing the sign-up sheet below.

If anyone would like to donate a turkey, please call the church office.

Helpers will be needed for the dinner.

Please see the sign-up sheet posted in the coffee hour room.



CONGREGATIONAL THANKSGIVING DINNER RESERVATIONS

Sunday, Nov. 18th, after church

Name _____ # attending _____

We will be bringing a _____ salad for eight _____ a dessert to share

(Reservations slips may be sent or dropped off at the church office.

Or call (814)734-3511 / email: office@edinboropresby.org

VETERANS DAY: Sunday, Nov 11th, during the 11:00 church service, we will honor our family and friends who are veterans and those who are currently serving. If you have not been listed in the bulletin previous years, please call the church office with the Branch/War you served in & the service dates.



Birthdays in November

Andrew Swift-1st
Michael Hobbs-2nd
Lisa Walker-2nd
Landon Miller-4th
Ozmond Walker – 5th
David Insana-6th
Lisa Kushner-6th
Derek Waltz – 7th
Scarlet Johnson-7th
Beverly Renn-16th

Al Dore-17th
Rita Lutz – 18th
Chris Swift-21st
Jamie Atz-25th
Olivia Ward-25th
Elliot Lasher-26th
Margaret Roberts-27th
Linda Brice-28th
Kenton Ward-29th



Anniversaries

Marty & Marcia Cooke-29th
Doug & Margo Roberts-29th

Photos, photos, photos

Help us tell our story visually

We need some of the photos you take of First Presbyterian's activities and projects.

We can share these in our promotion to members and friends, and add a visual zest to our efforts to reach out to others. Please e-mail your church-related photos to Karen in the office.

Association of Presbyterian Church Educators

Weekly newsletter from the APCE: [Torches and Candles](#) is available online. Click above link to receive the eNews. It's not just a great resource for spiritual formation leaders but for anyone looking to strengthen ones faith.
Newsletter

Save the Date...Save the Date...Save the Date

Making a Connection: The Caregiver Journey

Thursday, November 15th, 2018

8:45 am to 2:30 pm

Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel

55 W. Bay Road Drive, Erie PA 16507

If you are a primary provider of care and support for a loved one with dementia, please join us for our caregiver conference! This event is FREE and will leave you feeling empowered with practical tools for care giving!

Questions? Contact:

Debbie Wisinski, Constituent Services Coordinator, Alzheimer's Association, Greater PA Chapter
(814) 456-9200 x 5101

Register Today – <https://conta.cc/2N0IZHu>

Sponsored by: Alzheimer's association