



FROM THE
PASTOR'S DESK

Rev. Dr. Doug Rehberg



Looking Outside The Glass

There's another tremendous Christian Camp in Jennerstown, Pa. where lives have been changed for decades. Unlike Pine Springs Camp, that has a variety of camping programs throughout the summer, Summer's Best Two Weeks has only one program, a competitive sports program, that's implemented by scores of college-aged counselors and staff. At the end of each camping session awards are handed out to both winning teams and individual achievers. But the most sought-after award at the camp is not for athletic excellence, it's for Christian character. It's called the, "I'm Third Award." It's awarded by the camp staff to the most selfless campers over the two-week period. It's meaning is simple and yet, profound – "God's first, others are second, and I'm third."

This week I had a great conversation with a new friend who is an air traffic controller at the Allegheny County Airport. He's logged more than twenty years on the job. So, I asked him the question you would have asked, "How stressful is it?" He replied, "It's always a little tense. You must be always acutely alert. But the most stressful part of the job is training new recruits, especially Gen-Zers." When asked to explain, he talked about a recent incident.

He was seated behind the newbie at the simulator watching as several aircraft are making their approach to the same runway. At the same time, a plane is taxiing off the runway after it's landing, and another is making its way toward the runway.

My friend said, "As I watched the recruit did nothing to stop the aircraft that was taxiing toward the runway. So, I told him to stop the approaching aircraft. No response. I told him again. No response. Finally, I yelled at him saying, "Shut the system down, you just got dozens of people killed!" Fortunately, it was only a simulation! When asked why he didn't respond he said, "I didn't feel it was necessary. I felt he could squeeze onto the runway before the next aircraft made its final approach."

Suddenly, my friend was in the newbie's face, so was their supervisor. Their response was sharp and pointed, "It's not the lives inside the glass that matter, what matters are those outside the glass! Your feelings are inconsequential. Your feelings have nothing to do with it. It's the lives outside the glass that matter!"

Paul echoes such sentiment in Philippians 2 where he writes, "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than ourselves." In other words, "If you belong to Jesus, you're third!" Why? Because it's not what's inside the glass that matters, it's those outside the glass!

May this May be marked by a renewed submission to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in our lives that reflects three common aspects of the month of May - renewal, growth, and fertility. May the Holy Spirit produce in all of us a greater "outside the glass" mentality now and forever!!

The Carpenter's Apprentice Spring Fix-It Weekend May 15-17, 2026

*Mark
YOUR
Calendar*

Join The Carpenter's Apprentice (TCA) for our annual Spring Fix-It Weekend on May 15-17, 2026! This community outreach event brings volunteers together to help neighbors in need with essential home repairs and improvement projects.

Volunteers of all skill levels are welcome — whether you're a seasoned contractor or simply willing to lend a helping hand. There's a place for everyone to serve and make a difference.

Visit www.thecarpentersapprentice.org for more information on how to volunteer.

Come build hope and strengthen our community — one home at a time!

SERVING CHRIST BY HELPING
TO IMPROVE THE LIVING
CONDITIONS OF THOSE LESS
FORTUNATE



MEAL PREP



During the Spring Fix-It Weekend breakfast & lunches are provided for the volunteer workers, we need donations & workers to make this happen.

Check out the Sign Up Genius Link to donate breakfast & lunch items and/or serving the workers.

Setup up Thursday evening (set up tables, organize the making of the lunches)



Friday and Saturday 7:30 am set up and serve breakfast & set out premade lunch items for workers to pack.

HOW YOU CAN HELP!



DID YOU KNOW?

Located in the vestibule by the entrance to the Sanctuary is our First Aid Station. In the desktop there are first aid supplies, a blood pressure cuff, an AED station (defibrillator) mounted on the wall, a wheelchair and a walker.



Visit a Model Train Display

Our church member, Bob Prehoda looks forward to sharing his magical train display at his home, **Sunday May 17th from 1:00 to 5:00 PM.**

Every detail has been lovingly crafted by Bob, a passionate train enthusiast. Watch as trains wind through mountains, cross intricate bridges, and pass through charming village.

Whether you're a lifelong rail enthusiast or simply looking for a delightful family outing, this display promises to be enjoyable for visitors of all ages. Many in the public have enjoyed seeing Bob's display. Watch for sign up sheets in the Brenzia Room and on the bulletin board in the hallway near the sanctuary.



All Things Pine Springs

Providing vital encounters with Jesus since 1948

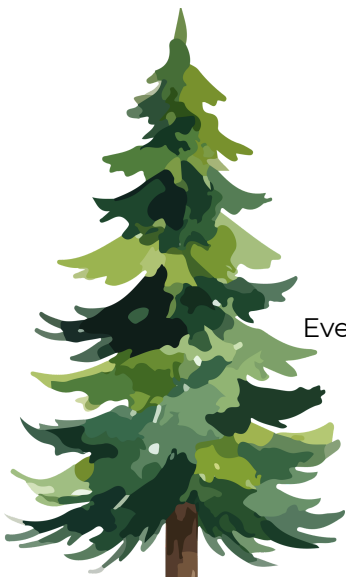
As of publication date a record number of campers have enrolled for summer camp this year, there are however still some open spots so if you haven't already you can still sign up. The schedule is available on their website or stop in at church for a 2026 brochure.

First Presby has a couple of teens opting to work at camp this summer. Please keep them in your prayers as they take on this challenging endeavour. If you would like to know how you can further support the young adults working at camp this summer there is an "Encourage a Pine Springs Staff Member" program you can sign up for. Contact Heather@firstpresbyirwin.org for more information.

PS. Pine Springs is still in need of an onsite nurse for at least 2 of the 9 weeks of camp. If you or anyone you know would be interested please contact Mike Hurley, Summer Camp Director 814-629-9834.

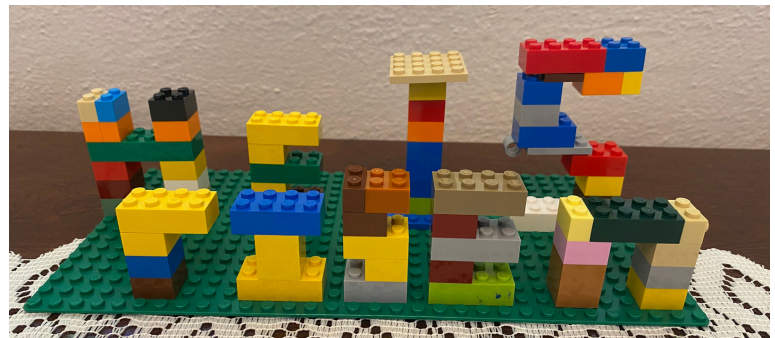
Pine Spring Traveling Day Camp

Day Camp is already on a wait list for this summer! We would love to have you be a part of this fun week-long adventure! It takes a good many volunteers to make camp happen, so if you have an hour or 10 to spare this June 15 - 19, take a look at the Signup Genius to see where you can donate your time and/or talents to Jesus by caring for His kids!



First Presby Irwin Brick Squad

Based on LEGO® brand values, the club encourages creativity, imagination, and learning through themed builds, challenges, and activities - all in a positive, quality, and fun environment. **Thank you for a great year, we had a blast. See you in the fall!!!**



The Presbyterian Women are collecting s'more fixings for the summer campers to enjoy around the campfires this summer at Pine Springs Camp.



**Graham Crackers
Marshmallows
Hershey Bars**

There are designated boxes at each entrance to drop off your donations.

Pine Springs Camp WORK DAY Saturday, May 16th Time to "redd up" camp!

PSC needs to prepare for a multitude of summer counselors and campers. Even if you can give just a few hours of your time, your help will be greatly appreciated.

- 8:30-9am continental breakfast will be provided (Pie Shoppe rolls & donuts!)
- Lunch at 1:00pm (please bring a dish/lunch item to share)
- 3:00 project wrap up

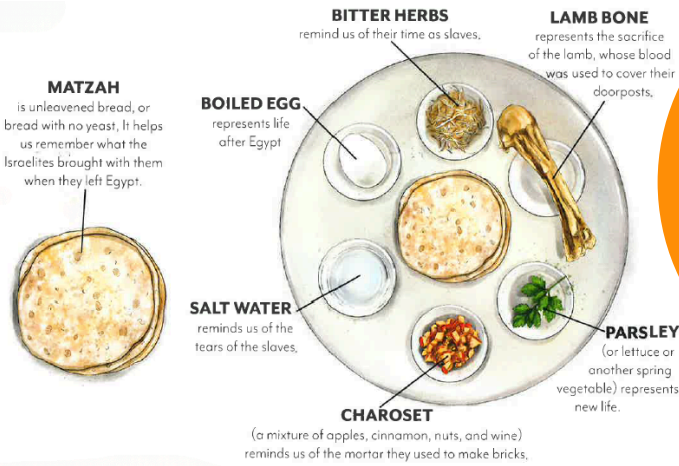
"Many hands make light work"

Please call or text Robin Toops to help. (724) 420-4582

Christian Passover Seder

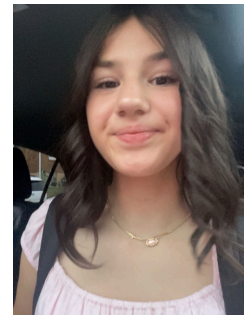
This Maundy Thursday, the Confirmation class hosted a Christian Passover Seder Meal for their families, mentors, and guests.

It's no coincidence that Jesus chose the Passover meal for what the Church now celebrates as Holy Communion. God gave us the Passover celebration, and He used the same celebration to teach us even more about His love. God cared for His people, our ancestors, long ago and He cares for His children today.



*Blessed are You O Lord our God,
King of the Universe, who has sent Your
Son, Yeshua the Messiah, to be the light of
the world and our Passover Lamb!*

2026 Confirmation Class



Corinne Rochford Jady Umeikai Jackson Umeikai Malaki Mineweaser Owen Baker Evelyn Hartman

This year's confirmation class was a new concept in that it was a combination of both traditional membership confirmation with the addition of missional confirmation. The goal of missional confirmation is to align our identities and vocations with God's purposes.

Missional confirmation has only one prerequisite: To know that you belong to Christ and His church. That's all. You are loved; You are known. True education for Christian discipleship is founded on the commingling of love and knowing. It's about creating a personal, relational, and communal space - not a transactional one.

Adolescence is marked by all sorts of transitions, milestones, and "crossings": from Confirmation in the church to obtaining a driver's license to graduation from high school. With this year's class, our aim was to help them see Confirmation as a "crossing time" in their life, a commencement, a new beginning in following Jesus, a moment marked by the guidance and presence of God.

Thank you to our program leaders Eric Batchelor & Zach Waszyn. A special thank you to our mentors: Bob Morgan, Andy Waszyn, Adam Kerber, Logan Dorminey, Diane Waddell, and Robin Toops. We are truly grateful for all of your time and dedication to the spiritual growth of these young people.

1000 Bible Questions in Rhymes, Puzzles, Quizzes & Games

by Mildred Olive Honors
TRUE OR FALSE



- T/F** 1. Another name for Daniel was Belteshazzar.
- T/F** 2. The People of Nazareth were called Nazarites.
- T/F** 3. The Jordan is a very crooked river.
- T/F** 4. Dagon was a god worshiped by the Philistines.
- T/F** 5. The Gospels tell how Jesus once make a trip to Rome.
- T/F** 6. As least forty parables of Jesus are recorded in the Scriptures.
- T/F** 7. The Sabbatical year of college professors is the seventh year, a period of rest.
- T/F** 8. Crucifixion was a common Jewish punishment.
- T/F** 9. The temple in Jerusalem was built on Mount Zion.
- T/F** 10. Haggai is a New Testament book.
- T/F** 11. Moses died on Mount Sinai.
- T/F** 12. Abraham was willing to offer his own son, Isaac, in human sacrifice.
- T/F** 13. Joseph of Nazareth was a carpenter by trade.
- T/F** 14. In the Genesis account of creation, animals were made on the third day.
- T/F** 15. The Jewish Sabbath began at sunset on Friday night.
- T/F** 16. The city of Capernaum was in the province of Judea.
- T/F** 17. Simon Peter was a fisherman.
- T/F** 18. Judas committed suicide after betraying Jesus.
- T/F** 19. T Anybody not a Jew is called a Gentile.
- T/F** 20. Two chapters in the Old Testament are exactly alike.
- T/F** 21. The New Testament is larger than the Old Testament.
- T/F** 22. The Dead Sea has no outlet yet it never overflows.
- T/F** 23. The prophet Amos was a herdsman.
- T/F** 24. Moses divided the Hebrews into twenty tribes.
- T/F** 25. "Amen" means "God bless us."



Answer Key: 1. True 2. False - Nazarites were a religious order in the Old Testament. Citizens of Nazareth were called Nazarenes. 3. True - In the course of 125 miles, it measures nearly 30 miles. 4. True 5. False 6. True 7. True. 8. False - It was a Roman punishment. 9. False -Mount Moriah 10. False 11. False - Mount Nebo. 12. True 13. True. 14. False - Sixth day 15. True 16. False - Galilee. 17. True 18. True 19. True 20. True 21. False 22. True 23. True 24. False - 12 tribes 25. False So be it.



The Worship Committee is looking for elders, whether currently a member or not of our church. If you have been ordained in another Presbyterian Church and would be interested in serving communion we want to add you to our current list of elders.

Please contact Ginny in the church office with your name to be added to the list of inactive elders. You can call 724-863-5910 x113 or email: gabby@firstpresbyirwin.org

save the date **6/7**

"County Fair" CHURCH PICNIC & Fundraiser

Food, Fun & Entertainment
Immediately following Sunday Service

Youth Club

Beautiful spring days call for playing hookie! Youth club ditched the classroom and headed to the playground for some fun in the sun!



May Events

- 5/4 Worship Committee
- Evangelism Committee
- 5/5 M-Team Meeting
- 5/10 Mother's Day**
- 5/11 Christian Education Meeting
- 5/12 Fellowship Meeting
- Stewardship & Finance Meeting
- 5/14 D-Team Meeting
- 5/15-17 Carpenter's Apprentice
- Spring Fix-Up Weekend
- 5/19 Circle 1 Meeting
- 5/21 Session Meeting
- 5/24 Deacons Meeting
- 5/25 Memorial Day**
- 5/26 Circle 3 Meeting

June Events

- 6/1 Worship Committee
- Evangelism Committee
- 6/2 M-Team Meeting
- 6/7 "County Fair" Church Picnic**
- All Church Picnic Event**
- 6/8 Christian Education Meeting
- 6/9 Fellowship Meeting
- Stewardship & Finance Meeting
- 6/11 D-Team Meeting
- 6/14 Retiree's Dinner**
- 6/15 Pine Springs Traveling Day Camp
- held at New Hope Presby
- 6/16 Circle 1 Meeting
- 6/18 Session Meeting
- 6/21 Father's Day**
- 6/28 Deacons Meeting

RETIREE'S LUNCHEON

All Retired Church Members are invited to a luncheon on Sunday, June 14, 2026, at 12:00

Looking forward to seeing everyone!
Spouse/Guest Welcome.

RSVP by May 27, 2026
call 724-863-5910 x113

Take out & delivers are available.

*Hosted by the
Deacons & Youth Deacons 2026*

Prayer Requests

Marge Anke, John Anker, Jan Antos, Jan & Russ Batchelor, Fred Baughman, Bernadette, Jacqueline Chandler, Betty Comer, Tom & Susie Dibiaso, Ron DiClaudio, Scott Diffenderfer, John Duncan, Selma Duncan, Betsy Frye, Megen Harmon, June Hart, Richard Himler, Inna & family, Becky Jadlocki, Joe, Larry & Sharon Kramer, JoAnn Martz, Kate McCorkle, JoAnn McKnight, Bob Magill, Katie Miller, J.Alan Minter, Tim Morgan, Isobel Nelson, Jack Noonan, Laura P., Bryce Matthew Patrick, Howard Pence, Marge Ryan, Sara, Shirley Schmidtke, Carol Smalley, John Smith, Bev Sowash, Addie Spehar, Larry Stamford, Juanita Stromer, Brian Trumble, Tom & Carol, Bob Vaughn, Bernice Walker, Stella Waltemire, Ian Welch, Mary Louise Whitehead, and Jeff Youell

Praise and Thank You

All God's People, Thanksgiving for improved and healing health, & recovery: Darcy Riazzi, Don & Dilly Miller, Steven Signaigo, Dane Wakeman

Our Service Personnel

Jeff Cmar, Staff Sgt. Zachary Coleman, SFC James Davis, Dominic Duke, Vaughn Estepp, Sgt. Luke Frye, Sgt. GY Sgt. Chris Keba, 2nd LT Andy Marlin, CDR Timothy Minor, Sgt. Noah Rady, Connor Ramage and Col. Brian Trumble

Church Outreach Programs

Carpenter's Apprentice, The Blessing Board, Church Food Pantry, College Outreach project. Prayers for the volunteers and the families supported by these programs.

If the person you placed on the prayer list has been **removed** or moved in error, please contact either Taska Smola at tsmola@verizon.net or Ginny Pellis at Ginny@firstpresbyirwin.org with updated information. Thank you.




The Blessing Board is asking for volunteers to help at **Day of Blessing** in West Mifflin on Tuesday, May 12th. We will be there from approximately 8:00am to 1:00pm. If interested in going, please call Brenda Daniels at 724-515-2047.

The Blessing Board is in need of *Queen Sheet Sets, Pots & Pans and Dish Cloths*, these can be dropped off at the church at any time.



Love & Sympathy



Love and sympathy to the family and friends of Rev. Dr. Bruce Maxwell, April 6, 2026. He served as associate pastor here at First Presby. He had an infectious fun-loving side to him bringing cheer and laughter everywhere he went along with his love and the love of God.

Love and sympathy to Dan and Katie Miller, family and friends, on the loss of Dan's mother, Jane Doreen Miller. April 7, 2026

Love and Sympathy to Crystal & Jarod Illar, family and friends on the death of Crystal's Mother, Ravonda B. (Bonnie) Tart. April 9, 2026

Love and sympathy to Matthew Schade, family and friends on the death of his mother Connie Steck Schade. April 13, 2026.

Love and sympathy to Lori Nelson, family and friends on the death of her husband Jeffrey Nelson. April 23, 2026.

New MEMBERS

We welcome new members
Jason and Gloria Hartman

We also welcome our 2026 confirmation class members:

- Owen Baker**
- Evelyn Hartman**
- Malaki Mineweaser**
- Corinne Rochford**
- Jackson Umeikai**
- Jady Umeikai**



Baptism
 All things have become new.
2 Corinthians 5:17, NKJV

April 12, 2026
 Jason, Gloria, and Elina Hartman

April 19, 2026
 Evelyn Shay Hartman,
 Daughter of Jason & Gloria Hartman

Malaki Michael Mineweaser
 Son of Daniel Mineweaser & Ashley Kitelinger



- Thank you for your generous gift of \$200.00 on 04/07/2026. Your gift empowers us to bring hope to families in our community by spreading God's love and providing free home furnishings and medical equipment during times of need. We genuinely appreciate your unwavering support; it means the world to us! Without your contributions, we wouldn't be able to make the positive difference we make in our community. Thank you so much, All of us at The Blessing Board
- To the Knit Witnesses for their famous baked potato bar.
- Thank you for the Easter Basket & Afghan my mother, June Hart, she just loved it, Sue Burd
- To all those who helped do jobs around the church during our spring clean-up day on April 18th: Rick Burdelski, Andy Waszyn, April Wateska, Jason Hartman, Gloria Hartman, Ella Filson, Jim Schlosser, Bill Snyder, Sam Hensell, Nathan Hernandez, Evelyn Hartman, Zahara, Ellen Morrison, Lisa Smarick, Joanne Popovich, Bob Popovich, Stam Strohm, Dan Miller, Diane Johnston, Keith Johnston
- To Bob Popovich, Andy Waszyn, Sue Gray and Dan Miller for stripping and waxing the social room floor. It looks great!!
- Thank You (and a High 5 of course) to April Wateska for climbing a 40 ft. ladder to replace 3 spot lights near the ceiling at the front of the sanctuary.
- Dear Friends, We were truly touched with the Easter goodies. Thank you so very much. It is always nice to be remembered. Easter Sunday we did get to service and it was a treat. We do join in by internet, but, being there is person is great. Thank you again and God bless you all. Your friends in Christ, Jackie & Steve Kavulic

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF IRWIN

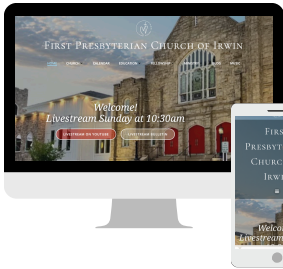
617 MAIN STREET

IRWIN, PA 15642

www.firstpresbyirwin.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

May
2026
NEWSLETTER



Visit [our website](#) for
the most up-to-date
calendar
information!



CHURCH STAFF

- Rev. Dr. Douglas Rehberg Minister x115
- Rev. Sam Strohm Ministry Associate
- Daniel Miller Business Manager x114
- Karen Crissman Administrative Assistant x110
- Ginny Pellis Receptionist/Secretary x113
- Heather Duckett Children's Ministry Leader x116
- Kyle Dynys Youth Ministry Leader x117
- Katie Redmond Childcare Supervisor
- Judy Baker Youth Choir Director
- Diane Johnston Bell Choir Director
- Sue Gray Custodial Supervisor