



FROM THE
PASTOR'S DESK

Rev. Dr. Doug Rehberg



Our Greatest Need

The two men were contemporaries. Bron Clifford was one of the greatest orators America has ever known. One respected pastor called him, "The greatest preacher since the Apostle Paul." Audiences everywhere were spellbound by his messages. At age twenty-five Baron had touched more lives, influenced more leaders, and set more attendance records than any clergyman his age in American history.

The other man was Dawson Trotman. Trotman was bright, artistic, and highly articulate. He was a man who loved a challenge. At age twenty-seven, with only one year of seminary and one year of Bible college behind him, Trotman set up the Navigators, and evangelistic organization that stressed total commitment to Christ. Trotman wasn't without his detractors. He suffered vicious verbal attacks, but carried on anyway, fully believing that God's grace is sufficient.

Both men died an early death. Clifford was in his mid-thirties when he died. Trotman was in his early fifties. But they died in strikingly different circumstances. Trotman drowned while attempting to save a girl's life at a lake in New York. He left behind an organization that seeks to grow and mature Christians around the world. Clifford, on the other hand, met a far more ignoble end. Toppled for leadership due to drinking and shabby financial dealings, separated from his wife and children, Clifford died of cirrhosis of the liver in a third-rate motel on the western edge of Amarillo, Texas.

Two men with strikingly similar gifts and opportunities, yet one remained faithful to the call of God on his life and the other didn't. How do you explain that? Better yet, how does Jesus explain that?

In Luke 13, Jesus has just finished teaching the crowd about the meaning of discipleship, discerning the times, and acting faithfully when someone comes up and says, in effect, "Hey Jesus, some Galileans were slaughtered by Pilate as they sought to worship." Now, this is a total non sequitur. It's a statement that has nothing to do with the intent of Jesus' teaching, but Jesus doesn't dismiss it. He uses it to drive home His point.

Jesus says, "You think those Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans because they died in this way? Or do you think those 18 who died when that tower fell and killed them were more guilty than others in Jerusalem? No, I tell you, but unless you repent, you too will perish." His message is repentance. Throughout the preceding four chapters He presses the point that the life of a true disciple is marked by regular and thorough repentance.

Our Greatest Need continued on page 4



July 12th - Judy Baker & Phyllis Neral

- Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

July 19th - Sybil & Hannah Hoffman & Hilary Buell

- Because He Lives

July 26th - Parry Adams, Logan Dorminey,
Lauren Mazzei, Robin & Seth Toops

- Your Hand, by Parry Adams

Aug. 2nd - Robin & Seth Toops & Nina DiBacco

- Lifeline

Aug. 9th - Diane Waddell

- How Beautiful by Twila Paris

Aug. 16th - Isabella & Sullivan Novicki

- TBD

Aug. 23rd - Rick & Noah Bennett

- Whom Shall I Fear

Aug. 30th - Shawn Martina

- At The River

CPR CERTIFICATION CLASS

Saturday, September 19th

10:00am – 12:00pm

All Ages

Brenzia Room

Registration Required

You will receive a certification certificate.

Includes AED training

Fee: \$40

**Registration due upon sign up
Cash or check can be written out to "NHEMS Rescue"**

Sponsored by: The Deacons



Deacons will be collecting donations for back to school.

A collection barrel will be in the Brenzia room through August 23rd. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

CARING CLOSETS

Sheridan Terrace (The Caring Closet)

- Size 6, 8, 10 - leggings, shorts or pants for boys and girls (pants, shorts, and leggings can be gently used), undies (new, kids size 6-14),

Trafford Elementary (The Caring Closet)

- K-4th - hats, gloves, gym shoes can be gently used, undies (new)

Snacks

Individually (single serving) packaged snacks are for kids who might come to school late and are hungry. They also give things out during the day if kids need it.

- granola bars
- crackers
- squeeze applesauce
- fruit snacks

Norwin High School (The Castle Keep)

New or gently used sweatpants, leggings, gym shorts (Adult S-XL), New bathing suits (adult sizes for swim class)

School supplies, all schools:

- #2 pencils
- safety scissors
- crayons
- colored pencils
- dry erase markers
- glue sticks
- spiral bound notebooks
- stylus pens (middle school)
- 1 inch binders
- erasers
- Kleenex
- Clorox Wipes
- hand sanitizer
- reusable water bottles

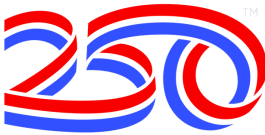
Narthex Display

How often do you pass through the Narthex on the way from the Sanctuary to the Brenzia room? Hopefully four times a month, but if you take another route in and out of the Sanctuary you might miss the wonderfully decorated sideboard table. Once a month or so, our History Committee changes up the display to go with the season or holiday in which they incorporate a historic element from the church or country. In July a replica of the Virginia Gazette dated July 26, 1776 was displayed which contains the Declaration of Independence.

If you missed this display it has been moved to the History & Library Room (207). Check it out!



July Cheapest Lunch Celebrated America



"County Fair" PIE CONTEST Winners



Oopsies! We forgot to announce who the winners of the Pie Baking Contest were in the last newsletter. We thank you all who entered and assure you the judges took their job very seriously. Detailed notes were taken on each of the 14 pies entered, before cutting, after cutting and after tasting. It was a debated and a tough decision but with bellies full of pie a decision was made.

In third place with a beautiful Pecan Pie, Barb Rehberg. Second place went to Bev Dubovsky for her Raspberry Pie, and Carol Hughes took first place with a heavenly Sour Cherry Pie.

A giant thanks to our Judges: Deb Schade, Adam Kerber & Tom Hughes!

Thank you also to those who baked and provided additional pie(s) for dessert we had 36 pies total. All homemade and all outstanding!



ST VINCENT SUMMER THEATER

*Join us for a fun afternoon with a show
and dinner!*

Curtain call is 2pm, we'll be leaving the church
at 12:30 you can sign up to ride in the van or
drive yourself. We'll be stopping for dinner at
DeNunzios afterwards.

Tickets are \$25 due day of event (cash please).



**Rounding Third:
Sunday, Sept. 13th**

College Outreach



For our FirstPresby college students while
they are away from home in college study.

Each month they receive a "letter from home"
and/or a small gift.

Contact Heather Duckett to add your student:
heather@firstpresbyirwin.org

PLEASE INCLUDE:

- ✓ Student Name
- ✓ Year of Study
- ✓ College Address
- ✓ Birthday

student. We also encourage our church family to consider becoming involved. Students regularly seek us out when they are home from school to let us know what a difference it makes to receive that support throughout their school year.

Through this ministry, it is hoped that our young members will both reflect back on their time in our church and come visit when they can, in addition to knowing our concern, love, and prayers are with them while they are away from home.

STUDENTS: [CLICK HERE to be added!](#) (This is a quick 5-ish minute survey to give ideas on what students would appreciate receiving while away. You can also access the survey on our website: www.firstpresbyirwin.org/college-outreach-program.)

Our Greatest Need continued from page 1

Pat Robertson used to call it, "Keeping short accounts with God." The difference between Trotman and Clifford was that Trotman kept short accounts. Clifford let them pile up until he was overwhelmed.

Yesterday I got a text from a young man who willingly enjoys one of Jesus' greatest gifts, the gift of repentance. He wrote, "My daughter meets with the Session of the church tomorrow for profession of faith! So awesome to see her faith growing, despite her sinful father (me)..." You file that under repentance. Aren't you glad Jesus knows us and our greatest need? Then He supplies it! What a Lord!!

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY AUGUST Events

Ages 21-35



Friday 6:00pm-8:00pm

Bible Study

Join us for a Bible study! We will
continue reading the gospels
together.

First Presby Irwin - Room 108

Aug
7
2026



Friday

Group Outing

Join us for a Pittsburgh Pirates
game!

The game starts @ 6:40pm.
Carpooling from the church.

Aug
14
2026



Friday 6:00pm-8:00pm

Bible Study

We will continue reading the
gospels together!

First Presby Irwin

Aug
21
2026

Friday 6:00pm

Group Outing

TBD

Aug
28
2026

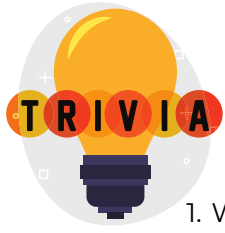


@table21faith

Together, the Discipleship Team and the Deacons give life to this ministry as a way to remind our college students who are living away from home that their church family cares about them and we are cheering them on no matter how far they are. Participating students receive monthly letters or cards of encouragement, prayers, or packages.

We are grateful to those individuals and committees who have sponsored a

1000 Bible Questions in Rhymes, Puzzles, Quizzes & Games

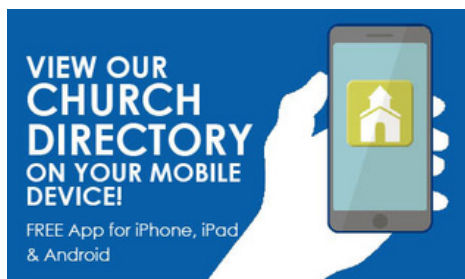


by Mildred Olive Honors
Who? What?When? Which?



1. Which woman ____ took her little son ____ to the House of the ____ at ____ and left him to be brought up by ____?
2. Who ____ said to the Lord, "Am I my brother's ____?"
3. Which man ____ had twelve sons and which one did he make a ____ of many ____ for?"
4. Who ____ built an ____ at the time of the flood and where did it land ____?
5. Who ____ sent out a ____ from the ____ to see if the ____ "were abated from off the earth?"
6. Who ____ saw a burning ____?
7. The Philistines sent a giant named ____ to frighten the ____, but ____ killed him with his ____.
8. Who ____ had to spend the night in the wilderness and used a ____ for a pillow?
9. Who ____ encouraged her son ____ to deceive his father, ____, with a dinner of ____ instead of what he asked for?
10. Who ____ put a ____ in the ____ as a sign that the earth would never again be destroyed by flood?
11. Which prophet ____ said that his tongue had been touched with a ____ from the ____?
12. Which king of Israel ____ had times when he felt very sad and who ____ soothed him by playing on his ____?
13. Who ____ commanded the ____ and the ____ to ____ still so he would have time to win a battle?
14. The ark of the ____ had two golden ____ on top with their ____ outspread.
15. Who ____ sneezed how many times ____ when ____ raised him from the dead?

Answer Bank: altar, angels, ark, ark, bush, Cain, coal, coat, colors, covenant, David, David, dove, Eli, Elisha, God, Goliath, Hannah, harp, Isaac, Isaiah, Israelites, Jacob, Jacob, Jacob, Joshua, keeper, kids, Lord, Moses, Mt. Ararat, moon, Noah, Noah, rainbow, Rebekah, Samuel, Saul, seven, Shiloh, Shunamite woman's son, sky, slingshot, stand, stone, sun, waters, wings



Android QR Code



iOS QR Code

- **Always have an up-to-date directory at your fingertips!**
- All members, active contributors, and families that filled out a photo card are currently in the directory.
- **You must have an email address listed with us in order to gain access to the directory.**
- After downloading the app, if you have difficulty accessing, please call 724-863-5910 x110 or email karen@firstpresbyirwin.org for your email address to be added to your account.
- **Please log in to check or update your contact information and upload (or update) a family photo.**
- We will be printing a full color booklet of the directory in the very near future and would like it to be as complete and correct as possible.

Answer Key: 1. Hannah - Samuel - Lord - Shiloh - Eli 2. Cain - keeper 3. Jacob - coat - colors 4. Noah - ark - Mt. Ararat 5. Noah - dove - ark - waters 6. Moses - bush 7. Goliath - Israelites - David - slingshot 8. Jacob - stone 9. Rebekah - Jacob - kids 10. God - rainbow - sky 11. Isaiah - coal - altar 12. Saul - David - harp 13. Joshua - sun - moon - stand 14. covenant - angels - wings, 15. Shunamite woman's son - seven - Elisha

Junior Knit-Witness(es) to the Lord

FRIDAYS 1:00-3:00pm
ROOM 108

crafting club

bring a craft or learn a new one

girls & boys welcome
minimum age 10

3 weeks left - come join us!!!

August 7th, 14th & 21st

we are socializing as we share, teach, learn and perfect crafting skills

any and all crafts/hobbies are welcome

crochet, knitting, beadwork, bracelet making, Lego building, models, drawing, painting, origami, macrame, card making, diamond art, quilting, watercolor...

imagination

precision work

buzzing with life

inspiration

strongly believe that if you decide to become a member of our church, you will become more of a Christian. My goal is to help you become a Christian.



SUMMER FELLOWSHIP EVENTS FOR THE KIDS

Every Friday through August 21st, 1:00 - 3:00
AGE 10 and UP: Jr. Knit-Witness(es)/Crafting Club

Saturday, August 1st, 12:30pm
High School: Kayaking at Keystone Lake

Saturday, August 15th
Middle & High School: Hiking at Ohiopyle

Wednesday, August 19th, 6pm
Middle & High School: Food Pantry Shopping



August Events

- 8/1 High School Youth Fellowship:
Kayaking @ Keystone Lake
- 8/2 Cheapest Lunch Hosted by the
Deacons
- 8/4 M-Team Meeting
- 8/7 Peach Festival set up
- 8/8 Peach Festival**
- 8/10 Christian Ed Meeting
- 8/13 D-Team Meeting
- 8/15 Middle & High Youth Fellowship:
Hiking @ Ohiopyle
- 8/17 Finance Meeting
- 8/19 Middle & High School Youth
Group Shopping for Food Pantry
- 8/20 Session Meeting
- 8/22 Youth Fellowship Campfire
- 8/23 Deacon's Meeting
- 8/24 September NL articles due

Welcome New Members

Please extend a warm welcome to the following new members of our congregation.

July 26th New Members:

Cynthia Keller
Dian & Tom Duffner
James Blythstone
Brett Ginther
Dee Dee Scott

August 2nd New Members:

Greg & Martina Freund & their son Max (5)

Prayer Requests

Marge Anke, John Anker, Jan Antos, David & Kitten Barnhart, Jan & Russ Batchelor, Diane Brosnahan, Jacqueline Chandler, Betty Comer, Frank D., Dana, Ron DiClaudio, Scott Diffenderfer, Cheryl Dufford, John Duncan, Selma Duncan, Betsy Frye, Grace, Sue Gray, Megen Harmon, June Hart, Mark & Lisa Harvey, Richard Himler, Inna & family, Becky Jadlocki, Joe & Linda, Larry & Sharon Kramer, Sandy Kutz, Vicki Luehm, JoAnn McKnight, Bob Magill, J. Alan Minter, Tom Mosler, Isobel Nelson, Jack Noonan, Ralph, Marnie Russell, Shirley Schmidtke, Steve, Steven Signaigo, John Smith, Bev Sowash, Addie Spehar, Sam Strohm, Suzanne, Brian Trumble, Tom, Bob Vaughn, and Jeff Youell*

Praise and Thank You

All God's People, Thanksgiving for improved and healing health, & recovery.

Our Service Personnel

Jeff Cmar, Master 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, Sr. Airman Zane Moore, Sgt. Noah Rady, Connor Ramage and Col. Brian Trumble

Church Outreach Programs

The 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 to **Praise and Thank You** in error, please contact either Taska Smola at tsmola@verizon.net or Ginny Pellis at Ginny@firstpresbyirwin.org with updated information. Thank you.



Rev. Doug Rehberg/Congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Irwin
617 Main Street
Irwin, PA 15642

Dear Doug and Congregation at First Presbyterian Church of Irwin:

On behalf of Pine Springs Camp, please accept our sincere appreciation for your generous gift of \$9494.00 to the Carrie Foust Memorial Scholarship Fund. Your congregation's gift helped bring the fund to more than \$200,000—an important milestone that will allow more children to experience a meaningful week at Pine Springs Camp. I shared the news of your gift with Ken and Barb Foust, and they were both humbled and deeply grateful for your congregation's generosity. This gift is a beautiful way to honor their family's faith legacy and the life of Carrie, who loved Christ and others, especially our young campers.

Pine Springs is dedicated to providing valuable, memorable, and even life-changing experiences for hundreds of campers each year. Gifts like yours make it possible for us to continue offering high-quality, Christ-centered camping experiences that positively shape the lives and faith formation of our campers. As we look ahead, our Strategic Plan calls us to expand programs for families, serve more youth, and increase our conference and retreat offerings. Thank you for your role in sustaining and strengthening this valuable ministry.

For more than 75 years, Pine Springs Camp has shared the message of Christ and impacted the lives of thousands of children and adults. We remain committed to carrying that mission forward for many years to come. Together, we are helping make Pine Springs a place where campers are encouraged, equipped, and inspired in an environment that reflects the love and hope of Christ.

Sincerely in Christ,

Gregory A. Davis
Gregory A. Davis
Executive Director

6-22

Dear Friends,

Greg Davis just called and told us of the sizeable contribution you made to the Pine Springs Camp Scholarship fund in memory of our daughter Carrie. We are overjoyed and grateful for what you have done. Through your generosity you are enabling kids to experience the life-changing adventure of PSC regardless of their parents' ability to pay. These "vital encounters with Christ" that PSC provides are essential for all kids and we thank you for making them available. Again, you have our sincere thanks for your thoughtfulness.

May God continue to bless you, your ministry, and your mission in Christ's name.

Ken & Barb Foust

What Is Heaven Like?

A COMBINED REFRESH CLASS

SUNDAYS

July 19 - August 9

9:15 - 10:15am

The questions are endless and the biblical answers are sketchy.

Join us for a short, 4-Sunday series on Heaven Mind and heart expanding ~

Life changing
led by Bill Martin
Held in the Social Hall



The Blessing Board continually runs out of bakeware to distribute. This includes glass and metal casserole dishes (with & without lids), loaf pans, baking sheets, muffin pans, etc.... They also have a continuing need for Queen sheets and Queen blankets to give out. The Mission Committee is re-running a drive for these items. There will be boxes near the Mission Desk in the Brenzia Room.

Remember these items do not have to be new. The Goodwill & The Salvation Army are good places to purchase these items inexpensively. The need is great, consider bringing more than one item.

Fall Refresh Classes Will run September 13 - November 22 @ 9:15. **Mark your calendar!**



There's Music in the Air...

Bell Choir

Bell Choir rehearsals kick off on Thursday, September 10 at 7:00 PM in Room 206. Whether you're a seasoned ringer or brand new to handbells, we'd love to have you!

We welcome new members—no need to read music! If you're interested in joining this joyful ministry, please contact Diane Johnston at 724-331-1184.

Chancel Choir

As our summer winds down, it's time to tune up the pipes and come sing with our chancel choir.

Rehearsal will begin August 26, 7:00-8:15 PM in the choir room, and continue every Wednesday. We will begin singing at 10:30 worship service on Sunday, September 6.

We would love to have new voices on every part, so give it some thought, and come sing with us. Any questions, call the church office, or Judy Baker.

Youth Choir

All kids in Kindergarten through 8th grade are invited to come sing with the Youth Choir. Rehearsals will begin Wednesday, September 9 at 5:30 PM and continue every Wednesday. We sing for the 10:30 worship service on the 3rd Sunday of each month (Family Sunday) during the school year. We have lots of fun! Any questions call Judy Baker.

GriefShare will begin again ~ Monday, Sept., 14th at 6:30 PM

THANK YOU!

- We just want to thank everyone for all your help with the furniture pick up June 27th. We were happy to have a large group of helpers. We needed everyone!! That's the most furniture we picked up in one day this year. Brenda had a great group of helpers working hard as well!! I'm sure they got a lot of items sorted and packed. Thanks everyone. Your help is greatly appreciated!!
- To Paula and Andy McFarlane, Diane and Keith Johnston, and Earl and Cheryl Kiser for serving the funeral dinners for Kurt Joseph and Mary Louise Whitehead.
- To Aynsley and Alex Crissman, Declan Duckett, Glenn Harmon, Susan Harmon, Jim Schlosser, and Andy Wayzn and 1st Presby staff for doing such a great job cleaning during our time in the transition period of our custodians.
- To Chris and Wyatt Duckett for setting up tables in the Brenzia Room for different events that took place.
- To all those who are sharing their musical talents during our summer worship services.

FIRST PRESBY IRWIN

EAT IN -OR- TAKE OUT
IN THE BRENZIA ROOM
4 - 7 PM

\$12 FULL MEAL
**\$8 SANDWICH -OR-
 DESSERT ONLY**

How YOU CAN HELP

***8AM - HELP PEEL PEACHES**

***3PM - HELP SERVE**

***DONATE A BASKET FOR THE
 BASKET RAFFLE (VALUE @\$25)**

IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE 724-863-5910

**Drop in on a committee meeting to see
 if it's the right one for you 🤗**

Join a



Meeting Schedules

Worship & Sacrament meets 1st Monday of the month
Evangelism meets 1st Monday of the month
Fellowship meets 2nd Tuesday of the month
Christian Education meets 2nd Monday of the month
Stewardship & Finance meets 3rd Monday of the month

D-Team meets the 2nd Thursday of the month and is comprised of Christian Ed, Fellowship, Evangelism, and Worship & Sacrament.

M-Team meets the 1st Tuesday of the month and is comprised of Mission and Deacons.

Joining a committee is a great way to make an impact in your church! The relationships formed as you work together with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ are priceless. By bringing your talents and expertise to your chosen group, you get to give valuable input to help further the mission of each committee. Every committee welcomes new members throughout the year. Even if you can only help for a couple events, all help is greatly needed and appreciated!

***Any changes to the schedule will be noted on the church calendar on our website - be sure to check during the summer as meetings might change due to vacation schedules.*

Litany of Humility

A few weeks ago, a prayer was mentioned in worship that Associate Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas found invaluable throughout his confirmation hearings. It's one that he and thousands of others continue to use. You may too!

It was written nearly 150 years ago by Cardinal Rafael Merry del Val. Here's an extended excerpt:

"O Jesus, meek and humble of heart, Hear me.

From the desire of being esteemed, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the desire of being loved, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the desire of being extolled, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the desire of being honored, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the desire of being praised, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the desire of being preferred to others, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the desire of being consulted, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the desire of being approved, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the fear of being humiliated, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the fear of being despised, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the fear of being rebuked, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the fear of being forgotten, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the fear of being ridiculed, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the fear of being wronged, Deliver me, O Jesus.

From the fear of being suspected, Deliver me, O Jesus.

That others may be loved more than I, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be esteemed more than I, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That, in the opinion of the world, others may increase and I may decrease, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be chosen and I set aside, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be praised and I go unnoticed, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be preferred to me in everything, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may become holier than I, provided that I may become as holy as I should, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it."



Love & Sympathy

to the friends and family of
Mary Louise Whitehead who died
June 27, 2026

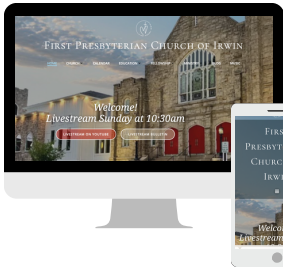
to Emily Barger and her family on
the death of her significant other,
Ian Welch who died
July 4, 2026.

to the friends and family of
Joseph Burke, former longtime
member of FPC who died
June 30, 2026

to the families of Diana & Bob Morgan,
and Lynnette & Billy Maroadi
on the passing of their sister,
mother, and grandmother,
Carol Ann Smalley, who died
July 9, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF IRWIN
617 MAIN STREET
IRWIN, PA 15642
www.firstpresbyirwin.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Visit [our website](http://www.firstpresbyirwin.org) 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