



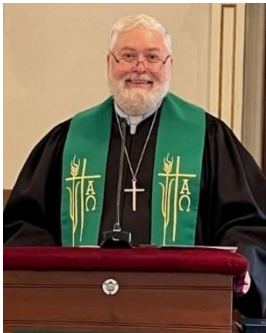
In the First Place!

A publication of First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster

Michael Denney, Pastor

Newsletter for February 2026

Volume 11 Number 2



Mike's Musings—

Wow!! What a storm we endured!! The ice storm was difficult to maneuver and we were forced to cancel in-person worship for two Sundays. During most of that time I was home helping Cheryl as she recuperated from shoulder replacement surgery. To say that this was a challenging time is indeed an understatement. Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow on February 2nd so we are in for six more weeks of winter weather. Although I did read an article in which Phil's ex-wife was interviewed at her Florida condo and she indicated that he was known to stretch the truth. I guess we will have to wait and see.

At this writing, we are winding down the 'season of light' marked from Epiphany to Transfiguration Sunday on the 15th. As we move toward the Lenten season, our community Lenten services will begin. You will find a calendar of Lenten events on the next page. The sermons that will be shared in these times of worship will be from the Psalms. You are invited to attend as you have the opportunity.

First Presbyterian lost a dear friend with the passing of Caywood Metcalf on January 10. Caywood became a member of our church in October 1958. His memorial service found our sizable sanctuary full with a number of people standing in the foyer. I am proud to say that Caywood was 'my friend'.

A new event is on the calendar for February. Deacon Ellen Baran is hosting a 'Mother's Day Out' event on Saturday, February 21. Please listen for more details in Sunday announcements as well as the worship bulletins.

My time as pastor here at First is growing shorter. I find that there is so much to be done in these final weeks. Long-started but laid-aside tasks are coming back to haunt me. I have been spending time at the office and at home writing material that I must finish before I leave. On the day of Cheryl's surgery, I spent several hours in the hospital waiting area writing and re-writing material to several things. There is an old phrase about 'making hay while the sun shines' and I have been trying to do just that. Alas, of such is life.

On a slightly related note, where would we be without the Presbyterian Women of Wednesday Bible Study? This group, in addition to a couple of others, has single-handedly worked to provide meals to our members and friends every other day for two weeks following surgical events. First, they rallied to assist Lillian and Bill Hyde following Bill's knee replacement in early January. Then Joyce Bryant had hip replacement surgery and they were there. And finally, Cheryl had surgery and they were there as well, ice storm notwithstanding. These dear ones are saints of our Lord indeed. Thank you, ladies, for your unwavering and kind service.

With less than a dozen Sunday services left before my retirement I look forward to spending these with you. Please pray for the church and for me as we walk through this time of transition.

Grace and peace,

Mike

In Our Daily Prayers

- Family of Caywood Metcalf
- Family of Sonny McFadon
- Joyce Bryant
- Cheryl Denney
- Christine Moyer
- James Wiggins
- Read Baierlein
- Danielle Arnold

The Willows at Harrodsburg

- Inez Dyehouse

Walkers Trail—Danville

- Nancy Compton

McDowell Place—Danville

- Jeanette Aldridge
- Mary Lou White
- Mike Swaffar

Parkview—Danville

- Judy Adams

Our Homebound

- Nancy Childers

Community Ministries We Support Financially

- Cooperative Parish
- Bluegrass Community Action
- CASA of Garrard County
- Garrard County Summer Arts Camp
- Garrard County Food Pantry
- Garrard County Homeless Coalition
- Garrard Ministerial Association
- Gideons International
- Habitat for Humanity
- Haven Care Pregnancy Center
- Manna Ministry
- Presbytery of Transylvania Unified Mission Program
- UP with Youth
- Urban Village

Church Elders, Deacons, Officers and Staff

Elders: Kitty Barsotti, Donna Powell, Joy Fathergill, Jim Bryant, LeRoy Horn, Nick Marsee

Clerk of Session: LeRoy Horn

Deacons: Amanda Marsee, Cheryl Denney, Ellen Baran, Jo Marks, Karen Anderson, Karen Marsee

General Fund Treasurer: Joyce Bryant

Memorial Fund Treasurer: Bobby Powell

Custodian/Groundskeeper: Jim Bryant

Organist: Jim Parrish

Pastor: The Reverend Michael Denney

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

- February 7—John Anderson
- February 12—Kitty Barsotti
- February 16—Joyce Bryant
- February 25—Matt Barsotti
- February 28—Joyce Andros
- February 28—Jim Parrish

Anniversaries

None

February Sermons

From the Presbyterian Pulpit

February 1—*“I Saw the Light”*
Isaiah 9:1-4

February 8—*“Blissful Delusion”*
Isaiah 58:1-12/Matthew 5:13-20

February 15—*“As Bright as the Noon-day Sun”*

II Peter 1:16-21 / Matthew 17:1-9

February 22—*“Transformative Temptation”*
Matthew 4:1-11



Wonderful Wednesday will be dismissed in February and March. We will resume on April 8.

First Presbyterian Church

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We lift our voices in praise to God for the life of Ruling Elder Caywood Metcalf who passed from this life to join the Church Triumphant on Friday, January 10, 2026 at his

home here in Lancaster. Mike officiated his memorial service yesterday morning here in the sanctuary on Saturday, January 17. Caywood was laid to rest in Lancaster Cemetery with full military honors on Thursday morning, January 15. May God comfort all who mourn his passing.



LENTEN ECUMENICAL SERVICES

At each service we will take up an offering for the Garrard County Homeless Coalition. We ask that all who come bring at least \$1.



February 25th

7:00pm @ First Presbyterian Church
105 Danville St.
Lancaster, KY 40444

Rev. John List will be preaching
Refreshments and a time of fellowship will follow the service

March 4th

7:00pm @ St Sylvester Catholic Church
100 KY-1948
Waynesburg, KY 40489

Rev. Jiaan Burford will be preaching
Refreshments and a time of fellowship will follow the service

March 11th

7:00pm @ Lancaster Global Methodist Church
200 Stanford St.
Lancaster, KY 40444

Rev. Steve Burton will be Preaching
Refreshments and a time of fellowship will follow the service

March 18th

7:00pm @ Gunns Chapel
11530 Buckeye Rd
Lancaster, KY 40444

Rev. Joshua Wiggs will be Preaching
Refreshments and a time of fellowship will follow the service

March 25th

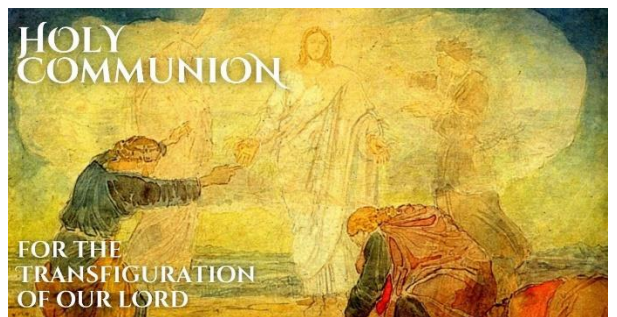
7:00pm @ Lancaster Christian Church
211 Stanford St.
Lancaster, KY 40444

Rev. Mike Denney will be Preaching
Refreshments and a time of fellowship will follow the service

April 1st

Stations of the Cross
7:00pm @ St. William Catholic Church
224 Lexington St.
Lancaster, KY 40444

there will be a Soup and Sandwich Pot-luck before the service at 6:00pm



Sunday, February 15, 2026



Some of the ladies of First Presbyterian are hosting a 'Mother's Day Out' event on Saturday,

February 21. There will be games, snacks, and loads of fun as we allow our Moms some time away from the kids. The time is to be determined.