



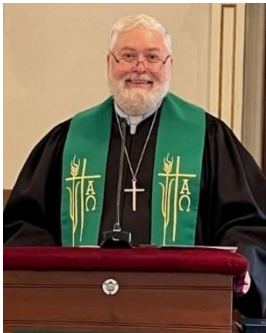
In the First Place!

A publication of First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster

Michael Denney, Pastor

Newsletter for March 2026

Volume 11 Number 3



Mike's Musings—

The month of March has a reputation that includes the beginning of spring and the NCAA basketball tournament. After the winter we have endured, spring will be a welcomed change of pace and so will the tourney...I hope.

Ash Wednesday began our walk through the Lenten season. I appreciate all who participated in that service at Lancaster Methodist. The first Community Lenten service was held here at First on the 25th. My dear friend and colleague, Father John List, spoke and he was inspiring as usual. I look forward to the fellowship of the five churches that participate in this annual event. Remaining here in Lancaster after retirement means that I will have the joy of attending these events in the years to come.

I pen these words on Monday, March 2. The time is rapidly getting away from me. Knowing its swift passage doesn't change the fact that there are only so many hours in the day and one had better keep a firm grip on it lest it rush away without profit. There are a few projects that I am trying to finish prior to my retirement and I will get them done. That may entail some evening or weekend work, but I intend to leave with all 'i's dotted and 't's' crossed'.

The first four Sundays in March allow us to walk through some of the narratives in the Gospel of John. There is a great deal of theological diversity when it comes to this gospel. The pendulum swings from the literal to the figurative to the mystical. Wherever your theological plumb line drops, the stories still engage us in an interesting way. We move from the encounter with Nicodemus to a Samaritan woman to a man born blind to the tomb of Lazarus. This is an intriguing journey through Lent to be sure, but each of these stories share with us another facet of the love and ministry of Jesus the Christ. I hope that the sermons will present us with thoughts worth pondering in this season of reflection.

The last Sunday of March is Palm/Passion Sunday. It has been our custom to observe Holy Communion on this day as we begin the events of Holy Week and this year will be no exception. Holy Week will be crammed full of worship opportunities. It is my busiest week of the year. But in the midst of the physical weariness that comes from it, there is also an energizing effect as we close Holy Saturday and gather again for worship.

March is also a 'five Sunday month' so the Deacons are again sponsoring a '5th Sunday Food Drive' for the Garrard County Food Pantry. They are asking for your help in collecting canned meats: tuna, chicken, beef stew, etc. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Monday, March 16, will be the Stated Meeting of Session. While it may be necessary for me to call a meeting in mid-April to wrap up some final things, this will be my final scheduled meeting. One of the joys of my life has been working with the thoughtful and thinking elders of this church. God has blessed us so and I am grateful. I look forward to this meeting as continue to focus on the future of this great church.

Grace and peace,

Mike

In Our Daily Prayers

- Family of Betty Jane Aldridge
- Family of Rev. Tim Mills
- Joyce Bryant
- Jim Bryant
- 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

**March Birthdays and
Anniversaries**

Birthdays

None

Anniversaries

March 21—Ellen and Mark Baran

March Sermons

From the Presbyterian Pulpit

March 1—“Saying ‘I Don’t Know’ is Okay”

Genesis 12:1-4a / John 3:1-17

March 8—“Cool, Clear Water”

Exodus 17:1-7/John 4:5-15

March 15—“Reading Between the Lines”

John 9:1-41

March 22—“A Hopeless Cause?”

John 11:1-45

March 29—“From This to That”

Matthew 21:1-11/Matthew 26:36-56



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



We happily welcome the
coming of spring on Friday,
March 20.

First Presbyterian Church

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We extend our deepest
sympathies to Joyce
Bryant and Jeanette
Aldridge in the passing
of their sister-in-law
Elizabeth ‘Betty Jane’
Aldridge on February

15, 2026 in Chesapeake, Virginia. May God
bless all who mourn her passing.

Lenten Opportunities during March

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*



Sunday, March 8, 2026



The annual Baked Potato Bar
is a time honored tradition
here at First Pres during
March. Announcements will
be made later as to the date
of this special event. Please
plan to attend.