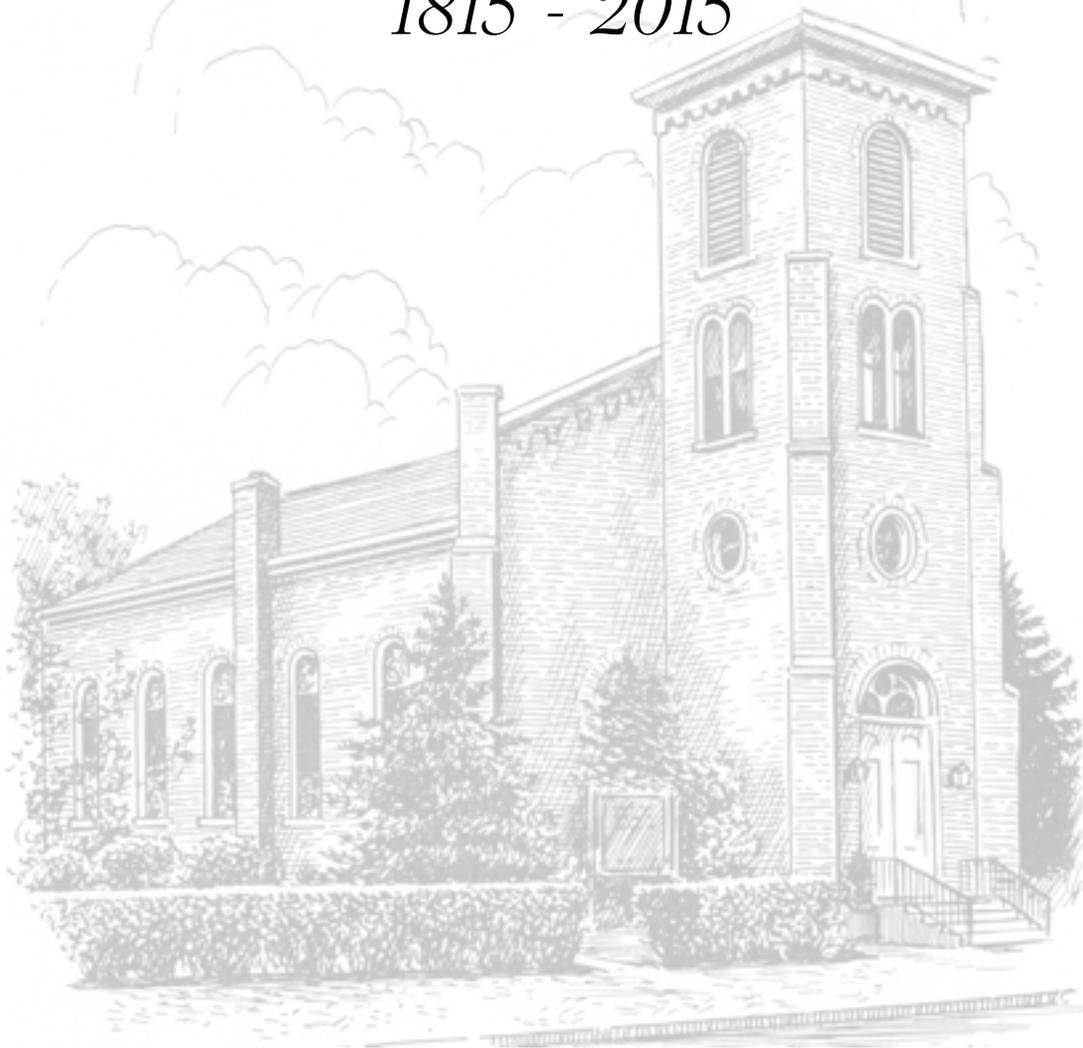


*First Presbyterian Church  
of Gallipolis, Ohio*

*Celebrating Our Bicentennial*

*March 15<sup>th</sup>*

*1815 - 2015*



## GFPC Historical Highlights

**March 15, 1815:** First religious society of Gallipolis founded. The courthouse or Gallia Academy building was used before church building was erected.

**1820:** Splinter group formed First Methodist Episcopal Society.

**1828:** Revised articles to conform to the canons of the Presbyterian Church. Cornerstone of present church laid on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September. Construction took 10 years. Exterior shell completed around **1834** and measured 40' x 60'.

**1839:** Building dedicated on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Cost: \$1,650 (approximately \$44,000 today). Originally, the pulpit was at the opposite end of the church, where the main entry is today. Changed to current location in **1868**, which is also when the bell tower was constructed. Separate entrances for men and women were used for many years. You can still see outlines of these two entrances on either side of the bell tower.

**1850 (Sept) - May 1852:** Church services suspended due to cholera epidemic.

**1856:** Presbyterian women met and organized a sewing circle: "Presbyterian Social Circle of Gallipolis." Women donated money on *many* occasions to defray debts of the church.

**1870s:** The bell tower was remodeled with the addition of a spire and the construction of buttresses on the front corners of the church. The church bell was also used as fire alarm for the township up to **1897**. The decade also saw changes to interior of the church. New floor joists were added with the removal of the gallery, and the pews were changed to the current center aisle configuration.

**1881:** Church was closed for six weeks during the summer for remodeling: Ten stained glass windows and front-door transom were installed. New pews were installed with scroll on the ends; new wainscoting was added to the sanctuary; rails were installed in the front to enclose the space for the choir and new pulpit. Two gas chandeliers were purchased from the McHenry Company in Cincinnati for \$179.65 (approximately \$4,400 today). New carpet and pulpit chairs were also purchased.

**1885:** Addition to church (facing 3rd Avenue) included a parlor, dining room and kitchen.

**1887:** An organ was purchased from Carl Barckhoff for \$800 (approximately \$21,000 today). It was moved and rebuilt in **1953**.

**1904:** Sunday School rooms were added.

**1923:** Church exterior was covered in stucco. (It was removed in **1950**.)

**1932:** Chancel rebuilt with current pulpit and current light fixtures.

**1936:** A baptismal font was purchased.

**1940:** A new Sunday School room was added in the basement.

**1979:** A building project was undertaken to add a second story to education wing and build a new kitchen. Existing rooms and office space were also modified and remodeled. The completed cost was \$227,505 (approximately \$754,000 today).

- 1989:** The church's exterior brick was re-pointed, restored, and waterproofed, showing the current exterior seen today.
- 1990:** Construction of the new Moller organ began in April. It was installed in November.
- 1993:** Charlie Huber was hired as the first Christian Education/Youth Director. He was followed by Denise Olivia, Martha Davis, Mick Davis, Melanie Lawrence, and Ann Moody.
- 1994:** A Bell Choir was started thanks to an anonymous donation of a three-octave bell set. In **2006**, a five-octave bell set was donated by Gary and Jane Halley. It came from a church which had been destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.
- 1996:** The Monday School Lunch program for Gallia Academy High School Students was started by Charlie Huber. The program grew and continued with the help of many volunteers. It continued until the completion of the new high school in **2009**.
- 1997:** It was discovered that the bell tower, as well as the 160-year-old sanctuary roof, trusses, and ceiling were in need of major repairs. A committee, guided by Fred Hastwell, was organized to oversee the reconstruction and repairs, as well as the capital campaign to fund the project. The work began in July. Worship services were held in fellowship hall until the completion of the project in December.
- 2002:** The Office Renovation Committee was formed. The work began in September and was completed by the end of the year. A major portion of the cost was provided by a donation from the estate of Wayne and Chloe Ogdin.
- 2008:** The Board of Deacons, working with the local school nurses, established The Tennis Shoe Cupboard. The Deacons and congregation continue to supply tennis shoes to school children in need.
- 2011:** Ann Moody organized and implemented Tutor Me, a summer tutoring program for school children. Many volunteers from the congregation helped make it a success.
- 2013:** A Baldwin piano was dedicated in loving memory of Alice "Hank" Orr. Also that year, the Session moved the church's financial portfolio to J.E. Morrison and Associates.
- 2014:** The Presbytery of Scioto Valley's Women Association bestowed the *Women of Faith Lifetime Achievement Award* upon Kay Cameron and Frances Kingery. Later that year, the Bicentennial Committee, chaired by William Beegle, was formed to make plans to celebrate First Presbyterian Church's 200 years of spreading the word of the Lord, reaching out to those in need, and fellowshiping with one another.

*Thanks to Bill Beegle and Sara Ebinger for putting together this list of historical highlights. Diane Lewis has also compiled a list of "Bicentennial Moments" which we have used as part of our worship service each week for the past several months. You can find them on our website ([www.gfpc.org](http://www.gfpc.org)) with new ones being added each week.*

Welcome

Timothy J. Luoma

Introit

Come Now and Praise the Lord

Bicentennial Moment

Bill Beegle

Proclamation

City of Gallipolis Board of Commissioners

Recognition by the Presbytery of Scioto Valley

Jeannie Harsh

Prelude

**“I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord”** *arranged by John Carter*  
*In honor of Kimball “Red” Suiter*

Call to Worship

Paul Van Horn

• **Hymn 51 (verse 1)** *(for Rev. Hueholt)* **Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah**  
Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but Thou art mighty, Hold me with Thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.

• **Hymn 2 (verses 1 & 3)** *(for Rev. Van Horn)* **Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing**  
Come Thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace. Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise His name — I’m fixed upon it — name of God’s redeeming love. ~ O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee. Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love, here’s my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

**Confession of Sin**

Les Shear

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

**Declaration of Forgiveness**

One: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

• **Gloria Patri**

Hymn 623

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading**

Numbers 11:18-20 & 21:5-9

**New Testament Reading**

John 3:14-21

**Sermon**

Healing the Bite

**Anthem**

**“Wade in the Water”** *arranged by Mark Hayes*  
*LaMar Wyse and Barb White, piano*

• **Apostles' Creed**

**Richard Mobayed**

• **Hymn 108 (verse 1)**

*(for Rev. Mobayed)* **Come Christians, Join to Sing**

Come Christians, join to sing: Alleluia, Amen! Loud praise to Christ our King, Alleluia, Amen! Let all with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice, praise is His gracious choice: Alleluia, Amen!

• **Hymn 382 (verse 1)**

*(for Rev. Puckett)* **Be Thou My Vision**

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, naught be all else to me, save that Thou art. Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

• **Hymn 463 (verses 1 & 2)**

*(for Revs. Frank & Tura Hayes)* **Precious Lord, Take My Hand**

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand. I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Thro' the storm, thro' the night, lead me on, to the light. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home. ~ When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near. When my life is almost gone, hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I fall. Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

**Offertory**

**"Fairest Lord Jesus" arranged by Derek Hakes**

*David Lawrence, conductor; LaMar Wyse, piano*

• **Doxology**

**Hymn 625**

• **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Kay Puckett**

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

• **Hymn 60 (verse 1)**

*(for Revs Frank & Tura Hayes)* **Morning Has Broken**

Morning has broken, like the first morning. Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird. Praise for the singing, praise for the morning. Praise for them springing fresh from the word.

• **Hymn 560 (verses 1, 3, and 5)**

*(for Rev. Shear)* **For the Beauty of the Earth**

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth, over and around us lies, Lord of all, to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise. ~ For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild. Lord of all, to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise. ~ For Thyself, best gift divine, to our race so freely given, for that great great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven. Lord of all, to Thee we raise, this our hymn of grateful praise.

**Choral Benediction**

**"On Eagle's Wings" arranged by Edwin Earle Ferguson**

*Rod Tolliver, conductor*

**Benediction**

**Al Earley**

**Postlude**

*(For Rev. Earley)* **Lord of the Dance**

## Scripture Readings

### Numbers 11:18-20

<sup>18</sup> And say to the people: Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow, and you shall eat meat; for you have wailed in the hearing of the Lord, saying, **'If only we had meat to eat! Surely it was better for us in Egypt.'**

Therefore the Lord will give you meat, and you shall eat. <sup>19</sup> You shall eat not only one day, or two days, or five days, or ten days, or twenty days, <sup>20</sup> but for a whole month—until it comes out of your nostrils and becomes loathsome to you—because you have rejected the Lord who is among you, and have wailed before him, saying, **'Why did we ever leave Egypt?'**

### Numbers 21:5-9

<sup>5</sup> The people spoke against God and against Moses, **"Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food."**

<sup>6</sup> Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died.

<sup>7</sup> The people came to Moses and said, **"We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us."**

So Moses prayed for the people.

<sup>8</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, **"Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live."** <sup>9</sup> So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

### John 3:14–21

<sup>14</sup> Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. <sup>18</sup> Those who believe in Him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

<sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.

## Roll of Pastors: 1815-2015

1815-1825	William R. Gould
1827-1828	James H. Brooks
1828-1829	Augustus Pomeroy
1829-1831	Nathaniel W. Fisher
1832-1834	Ebenezer Hebard
1834-1837	P.L. McAbay
1837-1838	William Baccus
1839-1846	William R. Gould
1846	Joseph B. Adams
1847	Sylvanus Warren
1849-1852	C.B. McClay
1852-1854	Andrew Huntington
1854-1857	Warren Taylor
1857-1861	A.A. Jamison
1861-1867	R.D. VanDusen
1861-1862	William Bosworth
1867-1875	Walter Mitchell
1876-1879	Ebenezer Muse
1879-1881	Maurice B. Wilson
1882-1884	George J.E. Richards
1885-1891	Richard H. Coulter
1891-1893	R. Buell Love
1883-1895	W.E.I D'Argent
1896-1899	Edward H. Gelvin
1899-1900	B.E. Prugh
1900-1903	Edward H. Gelvin
1903	Samuel A. Mowers
1904-1906	Thomas S. Armentrout
1907-1909	Thomas McGuire
1910-1911	Hamilton Williams
1912-1917	Hugh I. Evans
1917-1919	Vincent D. Berry
1920-1922	Curtis Robinson
1922-1927	John Glenn
1928-1934	William Wood Duff
1934-1941	Lewis Weber Gishler
1941-1946	Cecil Marley
1944	Thomas Valenti
1947-1959	Linson H. Stebbins
1959-1961	James H. Harter
1962-1973	Glen R. Hueholt
1974-1984	Frank D. and Tura J. Hayes
1986-1988	Leslie J. Shear
1989	Robert E. Kyser
1990-1997	Albert L. Earley, III
1998-1999	Richard Mobayed
1999-2001	Raafat Zaki
2001-2003	Kay Puckett and Paul Van Horn
2003-	Timothy J. Luoma

## Church Leadership and Staff

**Session** Sara Ebinger, clerk  
Dave Diddle  
Charlie Huber  
Frances Kingery  
David Lawrence  
Jim Magnussen  
Phyllis Mason  
Melinda Miller  
Ann Moody  
Clint Patterson  
Steve Patterson  
Sandy Troester

**Deacons** Peggy Huber, moderator  
Kay Anders  
Melinda Foster  
Carlene Greene  
Dorothy Hoffman  
Melanie Lawrence  
Tracey Luoma  
Lorri Patterson  
Joan Schmidt  
Ina Belle Sibley  
Jane Ann Slagle  
Barbara Vallee

**Bicentennial Committee** Bill Beegle, chair  
Sara Ebinger  
Peggy Huber  
Diane Lewis  
Rick Moody

**Pastor** Timothy J. Luoma

**Secretary** Judy Ball

**Treasurer** Diane Lewis

**Christian Educator & Organist** Ann Moody

**Choir Director** Sarin Williams

**Pianist** Barb White

**Custodian** Rick Moody

**Nursery Attendant** Nicole Bostic