

# FIRST WEST



*First Westminster*  
*Presbyterian Church*  
235 North 4th Street  
Steubenville, OH 43952

740-282-4591  
firstwestpc@gmail.com

Minister  
Rev. Jason Elliott

Administrative Staff  
Andrea Benner  
Paula Paugh

Children's Ministry  
Glory Dami  
Cherie Ramsey

Custodians  
Jinny Simeral  
Jeff Lynch

Organist  
Denise Truax

## A Message from our Minister...

You have heard the ole' expression, "April showers bring May flowers." And boy oh boy—the flowers are beautiful! I love to watch the foliage change on the hillsides which frame the mighty Ohio River. If you look closely right now, the leaves are busting forth with the newness of life. Seeds are sprouting. Buds are blooming. Grass is growing. Spring invites us to prepare for the growing season. God invites us to participate—to till the soil, plant the seed and nurture the growth. Some of you are prepping for your garden as we speak. You may be raising your tomato plants in anticipation of a juicy tomato sandwich—there is nothing better! There is something so rewarding about planting and harvesting the fruit of your labor. Jesus used so many parables when he taught His followers. Jesus used so many examples of planting and harvesting to explain God's Kingdom because His followers understood the responsibilities of planting and providing for their families. His followers needed physical food to eat—and so they planted and provided. Jesus, through the parables, wanted to give His followers spiritual food. Oh, how we all need God's spiritual food. Praise God someone planted a seed of faith in you. God's Word, the Bible—His Scripture is the seed. God's Word is saturated with life lessons, commands, and covenants—all meant to help us grow in truth. It is amazing what can happen when we plant the word of God in our hearts.

*Continued on page 2...*

The seeds of faith and hope and love begin to grow. We feel joy and confidence and reassurance. When we grow in God's Word, we forget about our selfish desires and become selfless in our service to God. The book of Galatians reminds us:

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. 8 If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. 9 So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. 10 So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith (Galatians 6:7-10). God is calling each one of us to participate and plant seeds. Do the next right thing. God may be prompting you to apologize, or be merciful, or God may be asking you to become a little more engaged in His work. You know what to do—plant seeds and watch them grow in God's time. Don't overcomplicate things, remember...Love God and Love

Others. We are very grateful for those who have planted the seeds of freedom for our great nation. We would love to have you join us for our Freedom Friday service on May 22nd at 6pm as we remember and celebrate the sacrifice of our veterans.

We are also very grateful for each of our graduates. We love each one of you so much. May you continue to grow in God's grace. May God's blessing be upon you as you continue to plant seeds.

Please join us as we celebrate our graduates on May 31st during worship.  
Keep going for the Lord,  
Rev. Jason Elliott

A poster for a Freedom Friday Memorial Day Service. The background is a blurred image of many small American flags on wooden sticks. At the top, a white box with a blue border contains the text "FREEDOM FRIDAY MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE" in blue, with red dots separating the words. Below this, another white box with a blue border contains the text: "JOIN US FOR 'FREEDOM FRIDAY' ON FRIDAY MAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FOR OUR OUTSIDE MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE AT 6 PM. PLEASE BRING A LAWN CHAIR! IN THE EVENT OF RAIN, WE WILL HAVE SERVICE INSIDE (STILL ON FRIDAY)". At the bottom of the poster, there is a small graphic of an American flag and a white star on a blue background.

**FREEDOM FRIDAY  
MEMORIAL DAY  
SERVICE**

JOIN US FOR "FREEDOM FRIDAY" ON  
FRIDAY MAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FOR OUR OUTSIDE  
MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE AT 6 PM.  
PLEASE BRING A LAWN CHAIR!  
IN THE EVENT OF RAIN, WE WILL HAVE SERVICE  
INSIDE (STILL ON FRIDAY)



# FIRST WEST youth

FIRST WEST VBS 2026

# GALAXY

June 9-10-11

12-3pm at First West – lunch provided!  
Closing celebration Thursday evening

LAUNCHING  
ON A MISSION  
OF GOD'S LOVE!



SCAN TO REGISTER

## Say YES to VBS!

Join us on a Mission through the Galaxy at First West VBS 2026! We welcome all students entering Preschool through 6th grade to Join us for this year's Vacation Bible School!

VBS will take place at First West on June 9-10-11 from 12-3 daily with a closing celebration Thursday night.

## ADULT & HIGH SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED-

If you are interested in helping with this years VBS, Please contact Glory or the church office. All help is greatly appreciated!

## Confirmation Class Success

We are so proud of all of our youth that joined the confirmation class! They worked so hard on their statements of faith. We love having all of these kids as the heart of our church!



# Palm Sunday



God is so good! On Palm Sunday our youth did an outstanding job leading the worship service. Twelve kids from our confirmation class read statements of faith and became new members.



We welcomed an additional 12 new members to our First West family. And over the course of the last several weeks we celebrated multiple baptisms within our congregation. Our hearts are growing for the Lord!

## Donate!

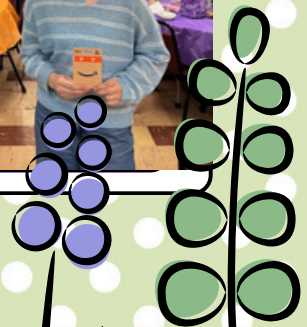
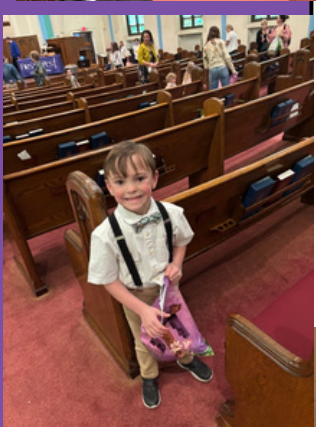


*First Westminster Food Box*  
We want to thank the Stillwagon family and the Hilty family for coming forth with their idea of collecting non-perishable food items for those who are in need. You can drop items off in front of the sanctuary. God has blessed these kids with right hearts!

# Easter at First West



We are so grateful for all of those who joined us for Easter Sunday and the Eggs-travaganza . It is so humbling celebrating the resurrection of Jesus! The sanctuary was filled with beautiful Lillies and the Lord's spirit.



# Austin Lake Armband Release

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun

Name of Armband Recipients	Age	Armband Color

I agree to hold Austin Lakes, Inc. harmless for any injuries sustained during the use of the equipment and waive the rights to make any claim for compensation as a result of such injuries. I am responsible to pay for the repair or replacement of any damaged equipment or property, if it has been determined that I, or one of my assigns has caused the damage. Inspect all equipment before using.

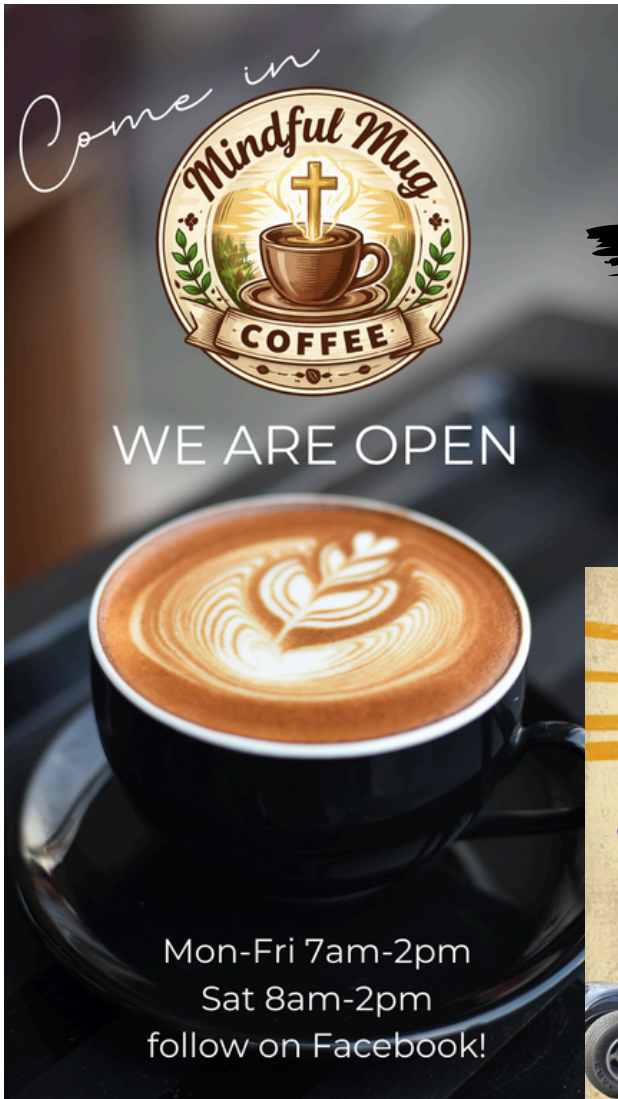
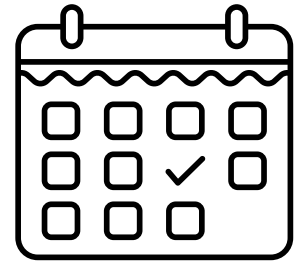
## RESPONSIBLE ADULT

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Armband is non-transferable.

Follow all written and verbal rules. Misuse of armband or equipment may result in termination of use with no refund.



April - August 2026

*Love God and Love Others*

First Westminster Presbyterian Church  
235 North Fourth Street  
Steubenville, Ohio 43952

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 41  
Steubenville, Ohio  
43952

Annual  
**POGO GOLF TOURNAMENT**

For the benefit of Our Place of Jefferson County

MONDAY AUGUST 3, 2026 || 9:30 AM SHOTGUN START

Spring Hills Golf Course

CALL TO REGISTER 740.282.4591

\$65  
PER  
PERSON

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE

**ANNUAL**  
*First West*  
**PICNIC**

AT AUSTIN LAKE CAMPGROUND  
IN THE BIG FOOT PAVILION

**WORSHIP, BBQ & FELLOWSHIP**

**SUNDAY JULY 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**

SERVICE @ 11AM - PICNIC TO FOLLOW  
RSVP WITH FLYER  
BRING A SIDE DISH!