


# SMITHFIELD

SMITHFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH // ISSUE 1 // FALL 2025



*Treat Others the  
Way You Want to  
Be Treated*

## *A Letter From The Pastor* BY REV. RICH CUNNINGHAM

Since 1867, the Smithfield Presbyterian Church has been serving our God and our community. And now a shared ministry has been put in place with First Westminster Presbyterian Church, Steubenville. The congregations of each church bring their own skills and talents and resources to this unique partnership. Our teams are being formed and a spirit of cooperation is growing, all for the glory of God. While each church will operate separately, both churches share the goal of spreading the Good News of the Gospel while working toward God's Kingdom. This joint effort will be reflected in our outreach to the community and local mission efforts as well as events and activities at the Smithfield church building. Everyone will be welcome to join us. Social media such as Facebook will also be used to reach those who otherwise might not be able to participate in our events and activities in person.

All this is very exciting because it promises to make God's work through the Holy Spirit more visible and more accessible here in the Ohio Valley. More details will be available as our plans evolve, and we learn how best to open the church to all who want to learn about God's unconditional love and life-giving grace.

As our work progresses to make this vision a reality, please keep us in your prayers. And always remember: *Treat others the way you want to be treated.*

## OUR STAFF

Rev. Rich Cunningham  
*Commissioned Pastor*

Rev. James Taylor  
*Pulpit Supply Pastor*

Rev. Jason Elliott  
*Consultant*

Andrea Benner  
*Financial Secretary*

Paula Paugh  
*Admin Assistant*

Jessica Brown  
*Custodian*





Welcome to the premier newsletter of the Smithfield Presbyterian Church! And accept my invitation to you to become an active participant in the life of this body of Christian believers.

Ten years ago, I moved to the Smithfield area with my wife. Since it was our practice to attend a worship service on Sunday mornings, we selected the Smithfield Presbyterian Church as a worship site as it was near our new home. As a retired United Methodist Church pastor, I expected to experience a somewhat unfamiliar order of worship and reception in a Presbyterian setting.

However, we were welcomed with a huge greeting from a lady (Babe Korvarik, now deceased) with a smile, a pleasant welcome and a huge hug. And we found the order of worship very similar to what we knew in a Methodist setting. Needless to say, we made the Smithfield Presbyterian Church our regular place of worship.

As we continued to attend, we found the folks very friendly and welcoming. And I believe they continue to be so. I say this to say to anyone looking for a place to worship that I believe you would find a warm welcome at our church.

After several months of attendance at the church their supply preacher at the time moved out of the area and I was asked to take his place. That was nine years ago. So, I think you could say I had found a church home where I was comfortable and felt at home.

So, as I said in the beginning, please accept my invitation for you to come check out the Smithfield Presbyterian church! You just might find what I found.

Rev. James Taylor  
Pulpit Supply Pastor  
Smithfield Presbyterian Church

## WHAT TO KNOW

### Sunday Service

11 am

### Bible Study

First 2 Sundays of the month @ 10 am

### Website

smithfieldpc.com  
(coming soon)

### Phone

740.733.7354

### Email

smithfieldpcemail@gmail.com

### Office Hours

Mon-Fri.

8:00am-3:00pm

(begins Sept. 8th)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*Sunday Sept 14th*

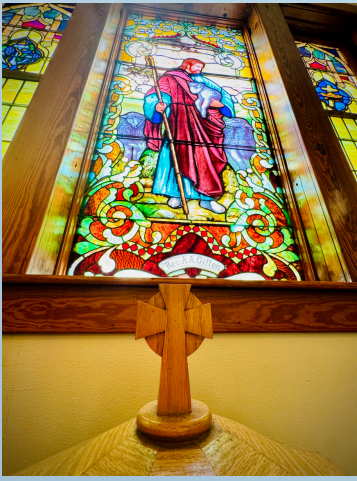
HOMECOMING

FESTIVAL 4-6PM



SmithfieldPC representing at POGO 2025





Being around positive people is so contagious. Positivity lifts our spirits. It encourages us to dream bigger, climb higher, and go further. We can be so thankful when God brings us into contact with positive people. It is amazing to watch God build relationships between people and even churches.

First Westminster (First West) Presbyterian Church in Steubenville is so excited to partner with the Smithfield Presbyterian Church. The partnership is so positive—bringing people together to grow the Kingdom of God. 17 years ago, First West went through a dynamic transformation as a congregation.

The focus was and continues to be on building relationships with individuals and families and children. Through these relationships, we encourage one another with the teachings of Jesus. Our Mission is Simple: “Love God and Love Others.” We are there for one another. We laugh and enjoy fellowship and at the same time we lift one another up when we need it. We are a family. And we are so happy to welcome Smithfield’s family into our family just as Smithfield welcomed us into their church family. We are so thankful for God’s plan in bringing us together. And we cannot wait to see how God blesses the community of Smithfield! So many positive things are happening. Soon Smithfield’s church office will be open 5 days a week to meet the needs of the community beginning the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of September. Websites and Facebook pages are being built. Community Events are being planned. Bible Studies are available. Partnerships with the schools are being forged. A Senior Lunch Bunch is being organized very soon (stay tune for more information in the next newsletter). Lives are being changed! Pastor Rich and Jim and the session of the church are doing an amazing job!

We will be so happy to see you at the Homecoming Festival on September 14<sup>th</sup> from 4pm to 6pm at the church! Come feel the positive energy—and see how God is bringing people together to build the Kingdom. Please bring your families and spread the word.

The mission is simple at Smithfield Presbyterian Church, but it’s powerful and yes, very positive. It’s one of Jesus’ commands: “Treat Others the Way You Want to be Treated.” Come and grow with us; feel the love and hospitality of our church family.

You will be blessed!

~ Rev. Jason Elliott

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Smithfield Presbyterian Church  
1154 Main Street  
Smithfield, Ohio 43948

*Smithfield Presbyterian Church and First Westminster Presbyterian Church celebrated together for a church picnic at Austin Lake State Park. The Shelter House was packed; everyone had a great time!*



*Rev. Rich Cunningham was re-commissioned by the Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery on Tuesday July 22, 2025, at the Rock Hill Presbyterian Church in Bellaire. Members of Smithfield's Session along with Rev. Jim Taylor were in attendance in support of Rev. Cunningham's ministry at Smithfield Presbyterian Church.*