

# SMITHFIELD

Treat Others the Way You Want to Be Treated

SMITHFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH // ISSUE 4 // FALL 2026



*Treat Others the  
Way You Want to  
Be Treated*

## TEAM WORK FOR THE LORD

“For where two or more are gathered in My name, there am I among them.” Matthew 18:20. Jesus spoke these words of encouragement to His followers so that they could expect to draw strength and guidance from each other when they would join as a group in His name. This is not only true for individuals who believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior but also for churches when they come together in worship and service to the Lord. This is certainly true for the ministry partnership between Smithfield Presbyterian Church and First Westminster Church, Steubenville. Beginning in 2024, the members of these two churches have worked together, not as a merger and not as a takeover but as a team to help encourage spiritual growth in each one’s respective community. This shared ministry has been demonstrated when teams of workers from First West, led by Rev. Jason Elliott, helped with the Smithfield Homecoming Festival and a Church workday as well as administrative supportive with worship prep and children’s ministry. Each church community has been blessed by this special ministry partnership. We are all grateful for the Lord’s blessings in this endeavor. “... whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by My Father in heaven,” said Jesus. Matthew 18:19 —Pastor Rich

## OUR STAFF

Rev. Rich Cunningham  
*Commissioned Pastor*

Pastor Wally Jancura  
*Pulpit Supply Pastor*

Rev. Jason Elliott  
*Consultant*

Michelle Hruschak  
*Children’s Ministry  
Coordinator*

Andrea Benner  
*Financial Secretary*

Paula Paugh  
*Admin Assistant*

Jessica Mentzer  
*Custodian*



## Food for Thought: Prayer and Praying

The New Testament letter by James, chapter 5, provides a series of questions, asking 'Is anyone...' and addressing specific conditions and challenges that we have all experienced:

Is anyone suffering?

Is anyone happy?

Is anyone sick?

Whatever our condition - prayer is the answer.

What is prayer? A conversation with God - - two way- give and take, talking and listening. Our prayers to Almighty God should be devout communication, reflecting our faith and humility. Our prayers have no required form or structure or length, no certain place or location, no special posture or position. For example, Jesus prayed alone while kneeling, with many people while standing, with small groups while reclining at table. Jesus even prayed while nailed to the cross.

Prayer is important to us as children of God because prayer develops our relationship with God. If we never speak to our spouse or never listen to anything our spouse might have to say to us, our marriage relationship will quickly deteriorate. It is the same way with God. Prayer—communicating with God—helps us grow closer and more connected with God.

In addition to the spiritual, there is a practical side to prayer. Many published medical journal studies show that people who pray, attend religious services and regularly read Scriptures share these common traits:

- live longer
- are less prone to depression, suicide, alcoholism and other addictions
- have lower rates of cancer, heart disease and other major illnesses
- recover better from sickness/surgery
- and cope better with chronic illness.

These are the conclusions of a yearlong investigation by the National Institute for Healthcare Research, a private Maryland-based organization..

In view of this information we have to wonder: Why isn't prayer acknowledged by everyone as a potentially powerful benefit in our lives?

James asks Is anyone among you SUFFERING?

Suffering can be troubles, worries, mental anguish or turmoil in our lives.

When we suffer we should ask God in prayer to take care of us and provide relief. If we have problems we should take them to the Lord.

When you suffer doubt, you can pray, "Lord, your ways are perfect and you keep all of your promises. You are my shield because I look to you for protection" [Psalm 18:3].

When you suffer turmoil and are in need of peace, you can pray, "Lord, I have been made right in your sight by faith, so I have peace with you because of what my Lord Jesus Christ has done for me" Romans 5:1

When you suffer temptation, you can pray, "Lord, lead me not into temptation" Luke 11:2-4

There is nothing wrong with praying for ourselves -it is not selfish unless we pray for the wrong thing such as winning the lottery or a new car. Instead we should pray for God given strength to do God's work - pray for patience or pray for guidance to know God's will in our lives and see the big picture as God sees it.

James asks Is anyone HAPPY? Happy because of the blessings we have received from God in this world.

We should respond with thanks and praise and adoration for our Heavenly Father. Such as grace before, after or during meals. It is always appropriate to say 'Thank You'

to a loving God who provides for us. 'Come and see what the Lord has done He is awesome in His deeds toward the children of man' Psalms 66

James continues with his questions: Is any one among you SICK? Disease, physical or mental illness, in fact any sickness is reason to pray for God's mercy. This should also include spiritual illness.

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SMITHFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
TREAT OTHERS THE WAY YOU WANT TO BE TREATED

# HOMECOMING FESTIVAL

**EVERYONE WELCOME -  
BRING A FRIEND!**

*Join us for good food, fun  
& fellowship:*

Enjoy burgers, hot dogs,  
side dishes & ice cream

*Children's Activities:*

games, bounce house, grab  
bags, backpack blessing

*Meet our children's ministry  
coordinator:*

Michelle Hruschak

THIS FUN EVENT MADE POSSIBLE  
THRU THE SHARED MINISTRY OF  
SMITHFIELD AND FIRST  
WESTMINISTER PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCHES

**FREE ADMISSION!**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2026**

**4-6PM**

**1154 MAIN ST  
SMITHFIELD, OH, 43984**

We want to show support for our children  
and their school, we invite you to bring  
supplies for BUCKEYE WEST ELEMENTARY.

Ex: sandwich bags (re-closable), pocket  
folders, Kleenex, disinfectant wipes, baby  
wipes, pencil sharpeners, bingo dabbers,  
Amazon or Walmart gift cards.

Your generosity will go a long way to  
helping the teachers help the children  
learn and thrive

[www.smithfieldpc.com](http://www.smithfieldpc.com)

**Join  
Us!**

# Upcoming Events

## ***What are you doing for lunch on Monday?***

**All adults age 50 and over are welcome to join our fun group every Monday from 11AM TO 1PM in the church Social Hall. We enjoy activities, crafts, bingo, cards, puzzles, lite exercise and a delicious lunch. All this for free but donations are welcomed. Check it out and bring a friend. Please call Sue at 740-733-7453 to let us know to expect you. Check out the Facebook page 'Lunch bunch 50+ Smithfield'**



**The Book Mobile of the Public Library of Steubenville and Jefferson County makes regular stops at Smithfield Presbyterian Church. Next scheduled stop is on Monday August 24, from 12 Noon to 1PM. Get your free library card and take advantage of all that the Book Mobile has to offer – books, DVD's CD's and ask about their free streaming services HULU and HOOPLA. Call the Main Library at 740 282 9782**



## WHAT TO KNOW

### Sunday Service

11 am

### Bible Study

First 2 Sundays of the month @ 10 am

### Lunch Bunch

Mondays 10a-1p

### Website

[smithfieldpc.com](http://smithfieldpc.com)

### Phone

740.733.7354

### Email

[smithfieldpcemail@gmail.com](mailto:smithfieldpcemail@gmail.com)

### Office Hours

Mon-Fri.

8:30am-3:00pm



Find us on Facebook to see regular updates & happenings!

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A recent survey of 269 doctors revealed that 99 percent said they were convinced that religious belief has a healing effect on patients. And 75 percent of the physicians testified to their belief in the healing power of intercessory [for others] prayer.

-- Yankelovich Partners survey conducted at the American Academy of Family Physicians October 1996

Intercessory prayer, when we are asking God to intercede or interact with another person, can be wonderful blessing for us and the person as the point of our prayers. We can lift those people up in prayer to God the Great Physician and ask for the power of His healing touch. The best example of intercessory prayer is the life of Jesus. His entire existence was dedicated to interceding with God on behalf of others - you and me.

Never underestimate the power of prayer. There once was a man who came home one day to find that his wife had hung a plaque on the wall which read, "Prayer changes all things." The next day the plaque had been removed. She asked, "What's wrong? Don't you like prayer?" He answered, "Sure, I like prayer. I don't like change."

Prayer changes us.

Prayer changes others.

Prayer changes the church.

Prayer changes the world.

Prayer changes "all things."

## Special Music

It is a blessing to celebrate special music at Smithfield PC on Sunday Mornings. We want to thank each of the talented musicians for sharing their gift with us! Pictured at right is one of our musicians, Evan Conn, with his parents EJ and Dezarae Conn.



## 4-H CLUB DONATION



Because Boots and Britches 4-H Club meets in our Social Hall, we wanted to show support for all the good work that the group regularly does. A donation was made on behalf of the Church to help the young people buy the books for their various projects and cover other expenses. The funds were raised at the Upper Ohio Presbytery meeting at the Church on April 25 as well as from the Church's Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. The donation was made in memory of the Tucker children, Jacob and Harleigh, who were members of the Boots and Britches 4-H Club. Both were lost in the tragic fire January 3, 2026.

Smithfield Presbyterian Church  
1154 Main Street  
Smithfield, Ohio 43948

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Organization  
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Steubenville, Ohio  
43952



## **WELCOME**

### **CHILDRENS MINISTRY COORDINATOR**

We are pleased to share that Michelle Hruschak has joined the staff of Smithfield Presbyterian Church as Children's Ministry Coordinator. Michelle is an experienced educator who has a heart for the Lord and will be leading children's Sunday school for little ones age 4 to 9 during worship. This is an exciting part of the church's work. If you have wanted your children to learn Bible stories about God's love, call the church at 740 733 7354 or email: [smithfieldpcemail@gmail.com](mailto:smithfieldpcemail@gmail.com)