There’s a passage of scripture which always gives me a measure of hope no matter what decision or trying circumstance I may be facing as a pastor. It is found in Romans 8:28. It is familiar to you as well.

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

When our son was born with a congenital difficulty which he eventually grew out of, that verse helped me a great deal as he was undergoing tests at Riley Children’s Hospital in Indianapolis. When I was praying to know God’s will as to whether we should come to Greenville or not, that verse gave me reassurance to trust the leading of the Lord Jesus. When I have dealt with difficult pastoral care issues with people at the church, that verse has kept me going, even though I haven’t known ahead of time what the outcome would be.

The brokenness and vulnerability of life pave the way for God’s healing to occur in our lives. The disciple Thomas would not have believed the Lord and become a believer if he had not first felt the nail marks in Jesus’ hands. The evidence of that hurt was the motivation for faith to grow in his life.

What is the hurt or brokenness in your life which has been a friend in disguise? There’s a story about a survivor of a shipwreck which illustrates this point so well. After a treacherous storm where all was lost except his life, a man was washed up on a small uninhabited island. He cried out to God to save him, and every day he scanned the horizon for help, but none seemed forthcoming.

Exhausted, he eventually managed to build a rough hut and put his few possessions in it. But then one day, after hunting for food, he arrived home to find his little hut in flames, the smoke rolling up to the sky. The worst had happened; he was grief stricken.

Early the next morning, a ship drew near the island and rescued him.

“How did you know I was here?” he asked the crew.

“We saw your smoke signal,” they replied.

Though it may not seem so now, our present difficulties may be instrumental to our future happiness.

One of the “ships” in our lives may be a Stephen Minister who caringly and sensitively helps us work through the variety of feelings we may have after a sudden or difficult thing has taken place in our lives. A Stephen Minister is a lay caring counselor from our congregation who has been specially trained to help in such
situations.

As you read this article you may find yourself saying, “I need a Stephen Minister to help me with my current situation.”

Currently, we have Stephen Ministers at work in our congregation who may be of help to you. You only need to talk with Pastor John to make a connection with one.

All of us face problems and difficulties. In order to make it through those times, we may need an extra measure of support and love provided in a confidential manner. Stephen Ministry can often times be part of the solution. Think and pray about it. A ship is close at hand.

Think about it!
Pastor John

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**Greg & Rebecca Sparks Concert**

At First Presbyterian Church

Greenville, Ohio

Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017  7:00 p.m.

“If you take classic rock-and-roll, timeless tradition, add incredible vocals, throw in some imaginative instruments and roll them all together, you’ll find yourself with two remarkable and seasoned musicians: Greg and Rebecca Sparks.

Over the thirty-one year course of their marriage and the thirty-eight year course of their work together, they have created an original musical blend unlike any you will hear from anyone else. Their acoustic rock sound is appealing to people of all ages and backgrounds, making THE SPARKS “a perfect choice” for a fellowship event that will include “their own original music, a few of your favorite worship songs, and inspiring renditions of classic hymns.”

Their ministry work has expanded from concerts and leading worship to teaching and speaking at churches, camps, retreats and conferences on topics ranging from authentic worship, transparent faith, and passionate mission in loving God and serving in His kingdom. Drawing from their life experiences as a married couple, parents, ministers, musicians and followers of Christ, they have a great ability to connect with people in the human struggle and point them to the divine love and created purpose we have in Jesus Christ.

In a world that sometimes moves too fast, Greg and Rebecca Sparks have remained an example of authentic worship. For over 30 years, they have worked together to make music that embodies the humility in grace and the joy in following Jesus.

But who are Greg and Rebecca, really? Maybe they can tell you best themselves:

“We live and breathe and have our being as a mission. We truly believe that, and the first point of contact for missions is our marriage and family, our children. If we don’t succeed there, all other mission efforts are hollow. Our home is an outpost for God’s mission in our neighborhood.”

To learn more about The Sparks, visit them on facebook at www.facebook.com/GregandRebeccaSparks
The Regular Meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, OH was called to order at 7:00 PM on September 14, 2017, by the Moderator, the Reverend John M. Person in the Church Board Room/Library.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor John Person.

A quorum was present for the meeting and official business was conducted.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Elders Darrell Fryman, Gary Riegle, Bruce Stoltz, Tina Smith, Helen Miller, Ginny Bertram, Ray Laughlin, and Jane Tester.

ABSENT: EXCUSED: Craig Leland, Hendrik van der Walt, and Tony Walters.

We Assemble in God's Name

Opening
† Lighting of Candles
† Call to Worship
† Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Celebrate Our Past
† Additions to Agenda
† Approval of Agenda - Motion by Elder Riegle, second by Elder Miller. Motion passed.
† Approval of Minutes from last meeting: August 10, 2017.

It was VOTED to approve the Minutes of the meeting of August 10, 2017 with a motion by Elder Laughlin and a second by Elder Stoltz.

CLERK’S REPORT:
† Communication and Correspondence: Main Street Greenville; National Honor Society, Greenville High School.
† Letters of Transfer- None
† Prayer of Confession
† Declaration of Pardon

We Present Our Offering

PASTOR’S REPORT:
1. EPC Disaster Relief – Harvey & Irma, Motion by Elder Smith to encourage donations to emergency relief either online or pass on donations through the church office. Elder Riegle seconded and the motion passed.
2. Thank you to all those who helped with the Chenoweth Trail Congregational Retreat.
4. Thank you to everyone contributing shoes to Water Step Mission Project.
5. Situation in Senior High Room. Elder Riegle moved to go into Executive Session. Elder Stoltz seconded. Elders Miller/Bertram moved to leave Executive Session.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT: No report

GOOD OF THE CHURCH:  INTERCESSIONARY PRAYER
† Mike Bushur † Karen Hudson † Tony Walter’s sons
† Paulette Shields † Bev Shively † Virginia Tienken
† Charlene Walters † Jim and Jane, Ginny Bertram’s daughter and family
† The Tester family and all of the upcoming festivities
† David Boltin deployed to Florida with the Ohio National Guard
† Stewardship & Finance – Insurance request. Elder Ray Laughlin indicated that Pastor John’s health insurance will be changing with his Medicare eligibility. Elder Tester moved to approve the change. Elder Riegle seconded and the motion passed.

A) Prior family insurance coverage through EPC, Highmark Blue Cross & Blue Shield was $1323 per month (Nancy & John). At age 65, premium for family coverage will be $333 per month each (total $666). Medicare additional coverage will be $134 each per month for Pastor John and Nancy Person. Total cost per month beginning in November will be: $333 + $333 + $134 + $134 = $934. Formerly it was $1333 per month. Total savings to church = $399 month or $4788 annually.

† Nominating Committee Update - Elder Jane Tester reported that the preliminary meeting is scheduled.

† Worship and Music

† Christian Education - Elder Ginny Bertram reported that they are ready for any and all participants.

† Mission Committee - A committee meeting is scheduled for the first of the month.

† Parish Life - Elder Helen Miller was thanked for her recent work on both the retreat and the Hudson Funeral luncheon.

† Patrol report - Elder Stoltz reported on his research. More study is needed by the committee in order for their recommendation.

DEACON’S REPORT: September 7, 2017. A copy of the minutes of that meeting was distributed. Elder Tester moved for approval of their report. Elder Bertram seconded and the motion passed.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Motion to approve financial reports for August 2017. A Stewardship program suggestion will be needed by the next meeting in order for it to be implemented in October/November. Expenses for the YTD are slightly up with giving down some. Overall performance is down approximately $7000. The report was approved with a motion by Elder Riegle and a second by Elder Miller.

2. Motion to approve Vocal Concert of Sacred Music on Friday, September 29, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Organized by Bevin Fields, and including Pastor John, Doug Klinsing, Mary McLear, and Terri Fryman. Elder Tester moved and Elder Fryman seconded. Motion passed.

3. Painting & Exterior: Motion to approve. Elder Riegle moved to finance up to $7500 for parking lot and exterior maintenance this year from our maintenance budget. Elder Riegle seconded and the motion passed.

   A) Painting of middle section of sanctuary ceiling, repair peeling and cracked areas – Cost $3800.00 (Marty McCabe).
   B) Paint interior ceiling areas above organ – cost $500.
   C) Paint interior walls of sanctuary; includes repair or cracks and peeling; 4th Street wall & arch around TV Media wall. Cost $3400.
   D) Repair 4th Street exterior, included with paint & brick sealer. Cost $1550.

   Elder Riegle moved to complete above items a-b-c in January with payment terms to be negotiated for all payments occurring next January. Elder Stoltz seconded and the motion passed.

4. Motion to illuminate parking lot. Quote from 3-way electric includes 2 LED fixtures hung on brick under the roof line; sensor for auto on/off, labor and materials. Total installed $1325. Cost may be as much as $1500. (See action item 3 above).

5. Facility request for Fellowship Hall, October 7, 2017, from 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., 20-30 in attendance for Jace Hill birthday party. Request from Jacob & Brittany Hill. Elder Tester moved and Elder Smith seconded. The motion passed.

6. Motion to approve use of Social Hall for Tester Wedding Rehearsal Dinner on October 13. Motion by Elder Miller, second by Smith, motion passed.

7. Motion to approve Hurricane Relief through Greenville OH Team of HOPE – collect goods for Texas and Florida. Contact is Rev. Rick Tennison, Greenville Worship Center. He is from Texas, but now in Greenville. # 713-855-1485. Motion by Elder Stoltz to ask people to donate. Second by Elder Miller. The motion passed

ADJOURNMENT: It was VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 by Elders Riegle/Smith. CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting of Session was set for Thursday, October 12, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the church.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Cornell, Clerk Of Session
Pastor John M. Person, Moderator
Anyone wishing to be Liturgist for a Sunday should contact Becky Luce or the church office.

| Oct. 1 | Becky Luce |
| Oct. 8 | Helen Miller |
| Oct. 15 | John Burkett |
| Oct. 22 | Nikki Gilmore |
| Oct. 29 | Jane Tester |

Anyone wishing to donate flowers for a Sunday Worship, please call Cathy Cornell (548-7207) or the church office (548-3188).

| Oct. 1 | Marnelise van der Walt |
| Oct. 8 | Marnelise van der Walt |
| Oct. 15 | Marnelise van der Walt |
| Oct. 22 | Marnelise van der Walt |
| Oct. 29 | Marnelise van der Walt |

To sign up for a Children’s sermon, contact Marnelise van der Walt or sign up in the church office. Angie is willing to help volunteers locate a free children’s sermon online.

| Oct. 1 | Ginny Bertram |
| Oct. 8 | Need a volunteer |
| Oct. 15 | Shanelle Smith |
| Oct. 22 | Karen Henninger |
| Oct. 29 | Nikki Gilmore |

PLEASE...If you are interested in hosting a coffee hour after church...there are plenty of Sundays still open for such an opportunity! The Coffee Center located in the kitchen has instructions on how to prepare coffee and all the supplies are together in that area. Just bring punch and 6 to 6 1/2 dozen baked goods to share! There is a sign-up poster in the kitchen, or call Helen Miller at 548-0271.

| Oct. 1 | George & Becky Luce |
| Oct. 8 | Diane Amick, Deacons |
| Oct. 15 | Hendrik van der Walt, Session |
| Oct. 22 | Deacons Soup & Salad Luncheon |
| Oct. 29 | Randy & Jane Tester |
Youth Deacons for 2017 are Zachary Baker & Annie Hayes

Oct. 1  Carson Henry
Oct. 8
Oct. 15  Zach Baker
Oct. 22  Callee Moore (?)
Oct. 29  Jayden Mumaw (?)

Things to remember when lighting candles: Your child needs to be at the back of the church at least five minutes before the service begins. Please be available to light their lighter. Also, mark your calendars for the dates your child is to acolyte. If there is any Sunday that you know your child will not be available, please try to exchange Sundays with another family. If that doesn’t work, please call the Youth Deacon for the current month.

All greeters should be at the church 20-30 minutes before the service begins. Anyone wishing to be a greeter should contact Diane Amick at 548-0249.

Front Door
Oct. 1  Shirley Headley
Oct. 8  Chad & Lauren Henry
Oct. 15  Youth Group
Oct. 22  Steve & Lisa Headley
Oct. 29  Ray & Bettye Laughlin

Side Doors (Narthex)
Wes & Patti Jetter
Jeff & Diane Amick
Youth Group
Don & Kathy Lockhart
Randy Tester

Note: One of the responsibilities of a greeter includes helping to tidy up the sanctuary after services! Also, if you are unable to greet on a day you are signed up for, please try to locate someone to either trade with you, or take your day prior to calling your scheduler.
**PRAYER CONCERNS KNOWN TO US AT THIS TIME**

*Please note—Call the church office at 548-3188 to put an individual or family on the prayer list. Also, when adding someone to the prayer list, it is very helpful if you provide that person’s address so that our card ministry can send them a card and let them know we are praying for them and that we care.

**Prayer Concerns Known To Us At This Time Include:**
- Becky Peltz
- Lindsey Ricker – Tina Smith’s niece
- Greg Shields
- Mary Bankson – Holly Finnarn’s mother
- Buddy Jones & family
- Elizabeth (Liz) Zigler Broer – Gloria Buckingham’s niece
- Jamel Gray
- Dola Roll
- Bob Baker - Angie Spurlock’s father
- David Kel- ler, son-in-law of Susan Gray
- Mary Martin
- Kody Ketting – a friend of Phyllis Royer
- Evelyn Fueger – Leslie Greendyke’s mother
- Hazel Blanchard
- Tony A. Walters – son of Tony Walters
- Paulette Garrison
- Tim E. Walters – Tony Walters’ son
- Paulette Shields
- Dana Holzapfel – Jeff & Diane Amick’s sister-in-law
- Bo & Cindi Hill – friend of Chad Henry family
- Harding Stevenson
- Craig Brawley – son of Sandra Brawley
- and Jim Greendyke – John Greendyke’s brother.

**Please Continue to Pray for The long-Term Needs of The Following:**
- Pat Foreman – Anna Lee Dicker- son’s sister

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**October Global Workers Prayer List**

**Oct. 1, 2017**  *Tim is in the Middle East/Arab Coast.* Pray for his effectiveness in teaching; open hearts that God has prepared to hear His Word; boldness to share with those around him and perceiving where God is working.

**Oct. 8, 2017**  *Jon and Kristi with their children are in Ethiopia.* Pray for wisdom and to see God work in the hearts of the children, youth and young adults that they are working with. Pray for God’s guidance as they strive to make disciples.

**Oct. 15, 2017**  *George and Cynthia are in East Asia.* Pray that God prepares the people of Asia to receive and believe the gospel message. Pray for complete healing of George’s brain tumor.
- Pat is in East Asia. Pray for her ever deepening relationship and personal encounters with the triune God. Also, pray for God’s leading and wisdom with the nationals with whom she is working.

**Oct. 22, 2017**  *Tezar, Tatiana and Elena are in Southeast Asia.* Pray for their Church planting efforts with a team that will be excited for the Church planting. Pray for their relationships with nationals.

**Oct. 29, 2017**  *Courtney, Krista and Alex are in Europe.* They have returned from a trip to the U.S. and are re-energized to return to Germany to engage with the refugees there. Pray for the best use of their time.

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**Mark your calendars now; a sign up sheet will be available soon!**
**IMPORTANT DATES**

10/01 Kurt Smith, Christopher Jetter, Shanelle Smith
10/03 Richard Nord, Kim Cromwell
10/04 Thom Spurlock
10/07 John Person
10/09 Barbara Gray
10/10 Dick Brown
10/18 Alison Finnarn
10/20 LaJeanne Riegle, Adam Cornell
10/21 Betsy Brown, Logan Hummel
10/23 LeRoy Wilson, Dianne Brown
10/26 Gina Fryman
10/29 Hazel Blanchard
10/30 Paige Tester

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LOGOS SCHEDULE

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<td>October 4</td>
<td>Happy Birthday!</td>
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<td>October 11</td>
<td>Veterans Day</td>
<td>Thank you Veterans!</td>
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<td>October 18</td>
<td>Disney Night</td>
<td>Bring in your favorite cartoon</td>
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<td>October 25</td>
<td>Trick or Treat</td>
<td>Remember to dress up!</td>
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<td>November 1</td>
<td>Happy Birthday!</td>
<td>Birthdays for November &amp; April!</td>
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† Dessert donations for our Wednesday night meals AND willing hands to help clean up following the meal are always needed. Please call Marnelise at 548-3188 if you can help.

† Please Note: If Greenville City Schools are cancelled or dismiss early due to snow or frigid temperatures, LOGOS will be cancelled. However, if GCS cancel due to morning fog or building issues, LOGOS will NOT be cancelled.

SHOUT-OUTS

I’d like to extend a sincere thank you to those on the Prayer Chain, Pastor John and those that called and/or sent cards in reference to Craig’s recent surgery and recovery. OSU took over immediately and his care was superb. The lifting of prayers and thoughts could be felt and were a great calming comfort to our family. His care was crucial at the time, but he is now recovering comfortably at BRC. Thanks again for your thoughts and prayers, which I sincerely ask for continuously. Blessings to all! Sandra Brawley.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the church congregation for your expressions of caring and sympathy for Ben Hudson. Your cards, gifts of food, transportation, flowers and prayer will never be forgotten. One thing we know: Ben so loved the church! Ben’s family

October 7 marks one year that EPC Pastor Andrew Brunson has been incarcerated in Turkey. Andrew and his wife, Norine, have faithfully served the Lord as church planters to the Turkish people for 23 years. Yet now Andrew is being charged with terrorism and espionage.

Pray for Andrew’s awareness of God’s love and presence: Hebrews 13:5-6, Psalm 3
Pray for wisdom and power to answer his accusers: Ephesians 6:10-20, Matthew 10:16-20
Pray for Andrew’s release: Revelation 3:7, Psalm 146
Pray for the advance of the Gospel: Isaiah 60:2-3

PRAY FOR ANDREW!
“Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them” Hebrews 13:2
The need is FAR from over in areas devastated by recent hurricanes….and we need your help. We are sending a semi-truck (18-wheeler) down to Florida very soon. After a very successful run down to Texas, we know that with your help, we can do this again. This list below represents the most needed items. We also are accepting financial donations via our 501(c)(3) partner.

Southern Florida, especially the Keys, is wiped out…and Puerto Rico (a U.S. Territory) is devastated and without power (and may be for 6 months up to a YEAR!!). People, just like you and me went from “normal lives,” to inhuman living conditions literally in a couple of days. They desperately need help!! They need you!!

Greenville Team of HOPE is a collaborated partnership between Person Center Services Greenville Life Enrichment Center (PCS), Cope’s Distributing, Spencer Landscaping Inc., EUM Church, Greenville Worship Center, Eaton Hope Center, First Presbyterian Church of Greenville, Greenville Community departments and leaders, as well as a host of Greenville, Ohio area friends and residents. We’re also connected with ACE Hardware of Greenville, have a purchasing agreement with Lowe’s in Greenville, and are working with employees of Whirlpool (KitchenAid) in Greenville.

We are working to be a “foot on the ground” help to those impacted by natural disasters. Please like us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter, and contact us on how you and or your organization can join us in this community effort as a partner.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water</th>
<th>Non-Perishable Foods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toiletries / Personal Hygiene Items</td>
<td>Baby Food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diapers (Baby/all sizes, and adult)</td>
<td>Flashlights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batteries</td>
<td>Hand Radios (Battery Operated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Supplies</td>
<td>Bleach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic Fuel (Gas) Cans</td>
<td>Mold Treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lysol, Pine-sol, and other similar items</td>
<td>Tarps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generators</td>
<td>Scrub Brushes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Gloves</td>
<td>Rubber Cleaning Gloves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckets</td>
<td>Shovels and other similar items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractor Bags</td>
<td>Trash Bags</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dust Masks</td>
<td>Respirators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety Glasses, Goggles</td>
<td>Paper Towels, Toilet paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mops, Brooms</td>
<td>NEW Clothes (we cannot take used clothes)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Greenville OHIO**
**Helping Out People Everywhere**

**The Link**
First Presbyterian Church

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Greenville, Ohio 45331
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Fax: 937-548-0152
E-mail: info@greenvillepres.org

www.greenvillepres.org
www.facebook.com/greenvillepres.org

A GROWING COMMUNITY THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE BY REACHING ALL PEOPLE WITH JESUS’ LOVE.

CHURCH HOURS
Mon.- Fri., 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.  
(Closed 12:00 p.m.—12:30 p.m.)
Sat., Church Closed
Sun. 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

WORSHIP SERVICE
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

ELDERS
Ray Laughlin, Darrell Fryman, Hendrik van der Walt, Ginny Bertram, Jane Tester, Tony Walters, Craig Leland, Tina Smith, Bruce Stoltz, Gary Riegle, Helen Miller, John Person, Pastor & Ed Cornell, Clerk.

DEACONS
Pam Bowman, Cathy Cornell, Bill Klein, Shirley Headley, Beth Vehre, Randy Tester, Tim Kuhn, Gina Fryman, Diane Amick, Mindy Rehmert, Linda Stoltz, Phyllis Trittschuh, Zach Baker (Youth Rep) & Annie Hayes (Youth Rep).

STAFF
John M. Person, Pastor
Marnelise van der Walt, Logos Director & Financial Secretary
Nikki Gilmore, Youth Director
Angela Spurlock, Church Secretary
Dan Hawley, Youth Assist., Custodian
Donn Thornhill, Property & Maint.
Marilyn Light, Choir Director
Doug Klingsing, Assist. Choir Director
Terri Fryman, Organist