



February 16 through February 22, 2025

Beloveds,

Today I am thinking about motivations. If you're unfamiliar with the enneagram, it is a way of looking at personality tendencies. It is not a personality test, per say, but rather explores the motivations of the individual and why they do what they do. For example, for most of my time with the enneagram, I was told and convinced I was a nine - the peacemaker. It turns out though, that I am in fact an eight, "the challenger" or "the protector," but I have a very strong tendency to lean into that nine "wing" as it's called due to my upbringing and living in a society that tends to prefer meek, subservient feminine types - of which I'm partly but not entirely one of (have you met me? In case you missed it, I'm loud and passionate, even when I'm being quiet!).

The key motivation of a nine is a desire for a harmonious environment, avoiding conflicts and tension, and preserving things as they are, resisting what would disturb them.¹ I leaned into keeping quiet and avoiding tension or conflicts as self-preservation. But, I am an eight. I prefer to be self-reliant, to prove I can do things myself, to resist weakness - I want to be in control of the situation.² And my-oh-my am I protective of "my people." While I am fine with someone else being in charge, I loathe when no decisions are being made or when people do not speak clearly and "beat around the bush" (no, I am not talking about anyone in particular, just sharing my own experience)... Never mind that in areas where I am a stronger eight I lean toward the tendencies of a two and where I am struggling lean more toward a five. It's complicated.

The enneagram is an ancient thing, and is far more complex that I can explain in a short newsletter article. My example is just one of many that show some of its complexities. But it is a great tool to understand faith and life, a guide not to create precise labels but to help us understand why we do the things we do.

The comparison I want to make though is this: we are a congregation that from the onset has had a particular identity. We've also had particular motivations. Our mission statement is (or at least I hope it is!) representative of that motivation: Loving God, loving my neighbor and helping my neighbor to love God. How we seek to exist is dependent upon the environment, the individuals that make up our body, and the needs of the community.

It also depends on God. Our greatest motivation as a congregation cannot be to stay just as we are - we are reformed and always reforming as part of the Presbyterian Church (USA). It means that who we are at our core is the same, but how we express that identity, how we express our values, our motivations - they change and shift like the many shining colors in a kaleidoscope. We function within the context of who we are, what we believe, and what our history holds, and we grow and embrace new things, adapting and shifting so that we continue to meet the needs of God and our neighbors so that we might lead all to embracing the Divine.

Consider this day your own motivations: what do you hold dear as a core motivation? And consider the Jesus as Enneagram I've included - which one do you relate to?

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Kalyn

¹ <https://www.enneagraminstitute.com/type-9/>

² <https://www.enneagraminstitute.com/type-8/>



Worship

- We gather for worship Sundays at 10am
- 89 in worship on February 9, 2025
- Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, February 16** following worship

Congregational Care

- STORY TIME ON WEDNESDAY, February 19 AT 9:30 OR 10:30
- **SAVE THE DATE: VBS IS GOING TO BE JUNE 9 - JUNE 13!!**

Missions

- Manna is on February 25. Volunteers are needed to bake cakes, help serve and help clean up. Sign up sheets are in this week's bulletin or you can reach out to Linda Duganich at 724-622-7929 or at lindaduganich@gmail.com

Operations

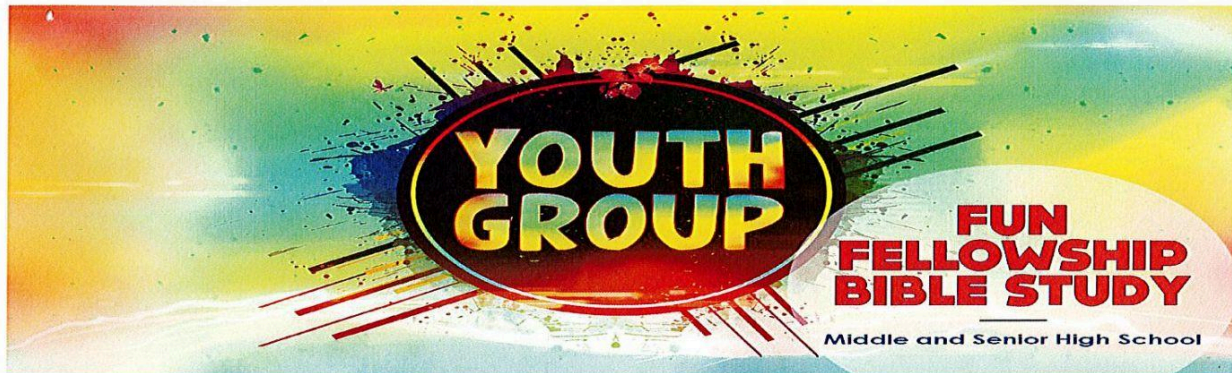
Contributions in January \$13,554
Expenses in January \$22,597

The Worship Committee will be meeting to plan future worship events and schedules on Sunday, February 16 after church. We will also set up meeting dates for future Worship Committee meetings in 2025. We plan to meet in the library. Anyone who would like to help with this is welcome to join us for the meeting. If you have any questions, please see Chris Mathias.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER REQUESTS

- Diane Gennaro–Prayers for a friend Sheryl who was diagnosed with ALS; she is the piano player at her church
- Christina Palmer–A joy that Rich and she will be great uncle and great aunt in August
- Pastor Kalyn–A joy that Felix's sister is expecting in August
- Andrew Honess–A joy that Casey's mother had her last chemo treatment and she rang the bell
- Chris Otto–Brother and sister-in-law both work for the FBI; not sure of their futures right now





January 6 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

January 13 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

January 20 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

January 27 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

February 2 – SUNDAY Ice Skating at Brady's Run 12:45-2:45 we will leave the church at 12:15. \$10.00 Skate rental \$5.00. Concession Stand will be open

February 10 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

February 24 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

**March 2 – SUNDAY Snow Tubing
12:30 – 2:30 We will leave church at 11:45
Costs \$21.00**



<u>Anniversaries</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>
Ray & Peggy Atwell 2/27	Harper Gavita 2/1	Weston Shaffer 2/12	Trevis Gregory 2/23
	Linda Duganich 2/4	Crystal Saxon 2/13	Brenda Jones 2/24
	Dawn Psik 2/4	Marsha Douglass 2/14	Sharon Neville 2/24
	Eric Rastetter 2/6	Jonah Honess 2/14	Chris Cronin 2/26
	Missy Sardo 2/6	Marloe Rastetter 2/15	Nathan Cronin 2/26
	Dolores Skinner 2/6	Michael Colesar 2/16	Richard Pike 2/26
	Homer Summy 2/6	Diane Gennaro 2/18	Corinna Petrella 2/28
	Noah Repman 2/9	Noah Honess 2/21	
	Ken Gregory 2/11	Tanner Lewis 2/21	