



COURIER

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February 2016

OUR MISSION

We, the First Presbyterian Church of Waverly, a congregation of dedicated believers in the grace of God, the love of Jesus, and the power of the Holy Spirit, strive to share this faith in worship and to express it through serving the community.

Special Points

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Parson's Perspective

Lenten Practices 101

The season of Lent leads up to the most holy of Christian days, Easter Sunday. The forty days of Lent begin Ash Wednesday and end at dusk the Saturday before Easter, not counting the Sundays in between. The Sundays during Lent, like every Sunday, are considered weekly celebrations of the resurrection. Disciples are encouraged to renew and strengthen their faith during Lent.

Fasting or giving up something for Lent can be a good way to explore a deeper expression of faith. Presbyterians may find it meaningful to give something up for Lent, but it is not required. Some disciples may find a more valuable spiritual exercise in taking something on during Lent—a more Christ-like attitude toward others, a humble spirit at work, or a feeling of gratitude in the midst of scarcity.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is the entry point for Lenten preparation. It is a service rich in ritual and symbolism. Participants on Ash Wednesday come forward for a minister or elder to mark their foreheads with the sign of the cross in ashes, saying the words, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return," from Genesis 3:19. With these words, disciples are reminded of their mortality and, when combined with the sign of the cross, they are also reminded of the hope of the resurrection. Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent provide time to explore the mystery at the heart of the gospel that being a Christian means a new life through Christ.

Maundy Thursday

The Thursday before Easter Sunday is the day to commemorate the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples. The story of Jesus breaking and blessing bread at the Passover meal, as a reminder of his life given freely for all, is told in the books of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Celebration of communion is usually the centerpiece of a Maundy Thursday service. Another element of a Maundy Thursday service may be the act of foot washing. Many scholars believe the term *maundy* is taken from the Latin word *mandatum* or *mandate*. John 13:34 includes Jesus' words, "I give you a new *commandment*, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Good Friday

The Friday before Easter is the day to remember the crucifixion and death of Jesus. Many wonder why this day is called good. This Friday is sometimes called Holy or Black Friday, but the term *good* reminds us of Jesus' blameless, good, and pious life.

Tenebrae

One other Lenten practice often observed during Holy Week is Tenebrae, Latin for "shadows" or "darkness." The unique feature of this worship service is the extinguishing of one candle after each reading until the room or sanctuary is totally dark. The darkness reminds those present of the days Jesus spent in the tomb. This service can be held on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, or Holy Saturday. The end of the service is usually marked by the lighting of one candle, reminding those present that the darkness does not overcome; the light will shine again. Easter is coming!

Pastor Bob

1. Excerpts from: <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/curriculum/lenten-practices-101/>

This Month in the Church

Monday, February 1 - 7:00 p.m.
"AA" Meeting

Tuesday, February 2 - 3:45 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 3 - 8:00 a.m.
Sleeve-Tuggers Prayer Group

1:30 p.m. Circle Meetings: Esther Circle will Meet at the home of Evelyn Baker, 613 E. Seventh St.-Audrey Tysen will be leader with Betty Sumey Study Leader

Martha Mary Circle will meet at the Residence Cottage in Bristol Village-Jean Frank will be Leader and Kay Weir Study Leader

Sunday, February 7 - 9:30 a.m. Adult Education Class Elaine Zingg—A three week study On the Book of Philippians (Today is Philippians 3:2-16)
"Souper Bowl" Sunday (Bring Soup)

Monday, February 8 - 7:00 p.m.
"AA" Meeting

Tuesday, February 9 - 3:45 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal

5:30 p.m. Shrove Pancake Supper

Wednesday, February 10 - 8:00 a.m.
Sleeve-Tuggers Prayer Group

1:30 p.m. P.W.C.T. meeting at the home of Evelyn Baker

7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, February 11 - 10:30 a.m.
Mission/Evangelism Committee Mtg.

2:00 p.m. Worship Committee Mtg.

Sunday, February 14 First Sunday in Lent
9:30 a.m. Adult Education Class - Elaine Zingg (Philippians 4:2-9)

Sunday, February 14 continued...
10:45 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, February 15 - Presidents' Day
Church Closed

Tuesday, February 16 - 3:30 p.m.
Presbytery Meeting at Hillard
3:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 17 - 8:00 a.m.
Sleeve-Tuggers Prayer Group
5:30 p.m. Lenten Soup/Bread/Meditation
"Faces at the Cross"

Thursday, February 18 - 10:30 a.m.
Communion at the Bristol Village Health Care

Sunday, February 21 - 9:30 a.m.
Adult Education Class - "Living the Questions" Series (Today is "Thinking Theologically")
Leader: Otto Zingg
10:45 a.m. Worship

Monday, February 22 - 6:00 p.m.
6:00 p.m. Annual Congregational Dinner
The Meal will be catered (Watch bulletin for More details)
7:00 p.m. Annual Congregational/Corporation Meetings
7:00 p.m. "AA" Meeting

Tuesday, February 23 - 3:45 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 24 - 8:00 a.m.
Sleeve Tuggers Prayer Group
5:30 p.m. Lenten Soup/Bread/Meditation
(Faces at the Cross)

Saturday, February 27 - PW/PSV
Winter Gathering (Worthington)

Sunday, February 28 - 9:30 a.m.
"Living the Questions" Series (Evil, Suffering & God of Love) - Otto Zingg, Leader
10:45 a.m. Communion (Deacons' Offering)

Scripture Texts for Sunday Worship, February 2016

February 7	Transfiguration Sunday Ezekiel 34:29-35; 2 Corinthians 3:12-18 ; Luke 9:28-36 Pastor Rick: "Some People Change"
February 14	First Sunday in Lent Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-15 Pastor Rick: "The Journey"
February 21	Second Sunday in Lent Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35 Pastor Rick: "The Mission"
February 28	Third Sunday in Lent Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 ; Luke 13:1-9 Pastor Rick: "The Common Humanity"

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASS NEWS-

Sunday morning Adult Class: We will view and discuss a 20 minute video from the "Living the Questions" Series. This curriculum is based on the assumption that far too often we settle for easy answers about the Christian faith, instead of living with the questions that take us more deeply into that Divine Mystery which gives new life. Each session draws upon the reflections of pastors and professors about center issues in the life of faith. Otto Zingg will lead the discussion. Topics are as follows:

- February 21: "Thinking Theologically"
- February 28: "Evil, Suffering & a God of Love"
- March 6: "The Myth of Redemptive Violence"
- March 13: "Practicing Resurrection"

We've noticed the "Visitor's Signature Book" at the church entrance has **NOT** been used to its full capacity. Could we **all** have our friends, neighbors, relatives etc sign the book when they visit. I'm just as guilty, as we **did not** have our Missionary Daughter (Christine) sign in. I was looking for a particular visitor's name and couldn't locate in our book. Thanks

Tom Hlasten

AllenOrganOhio@aol.com

Presbyterian Women

February, 2016



All of us have had stormy times in our faith. As we come to our next Bible study in the PW study for the year "Come to the Waters", you might reflect on those times considering how you have been sustained in even the most challenging moments and give thanks to God.

Circles meet for study and fellowship on Wednesday, **February 3** at 1:30 PM to study lesson 5 : "Stormy Water - Faith."

Martha Mary Circle, Jean Frank leader, will meet at the Cottage in Bristol Village with Betsy Hall as hostess and Kay Weir as the study leader.

Esther Circle, Audrey Tysen leader, will meet at the home of Evelyn Baker with Betty Sumey as the study leader.

If you would like a ride please call your Circle Leader. Invite a friend to join you. All women are welcome whether you are regular part of a circle or not.

The PW of Scioto Valley Presbytery will Gather on **February 27** at the Worthington Presbyterian Church. If you would like to attend please give your \$10 to me by February 14 and they will all be sent in together. There will be transportation or you may help provide that. This is a wonderful time to be with women of other churches in our Presbytery.

Our mission coordinator, Sandy Hlasten is helping us to be at mission. Some future dates to mark on your calendar are:

March 12 There will be a special tea at the church to entertain the women from Georgie Harris House in Waverly. We can all enjoy the tea with them for a delightful afternoon. Watch for more details.

April 13. Jenny Bent will be here for a luncheon to share with us her work as a PCUSA missionary in the Dominican Republic. She and Mark Hare, her husband, are two of the co-workers sponsored in part by our congregation.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 10. Other events are announced in this newsletter to observe this special season of the church year.

May the Peace and Grace of God be with you all.
Evelyn Baker, Moderator.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2016</h1>						
	1 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting	2 3:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	3 8:00 a.m. Sl. Tuggers 1:30 p.m. Circle Mtgs.	4	5	6
7 9:30 a.m. Ad. Class 10:45 a.m. Worship "Souper Bowl" Sunday	8 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting	9 3:45 p.m. Choir Reh. 5:30 p.m. Shrove Pan Cake Supper	10 8:00 a.m.. Sl. Tuggers 1:30 p.m. PWCT Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Ash Wed.	11 10:30 a.m. Mission/ Evangelism Mtg. 2:00 p.m. Worship Mtg.	12	13
14 9:30 a.m. Ad. Class 10:45 a.m. Worship First Sunday in Lent	15 Presidents' Day Church Closed	16 3:30 p.m. Presbytery Mtg. Hillard 3:45 p.m. Choir Reh.	17 8:00 a.m. Sl. Tuggers 5:30 p.m. Soup/Bread/ Meditation	18 10:30 a.m. Communion Bristol Health Center	19	20
21 9:30 a.m. Ad. Class 10:45 a.m. Worship	22 6:00 p.m. Cong. Dinner 7:00 p.m. Annual Cong/ Corp. Mtgs 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting	23 3:45 p.m. Choir Reh.	24 8:00 a.m. Sl. Tuggers 5:30 p.m. Soup/Bread/ Meditation	25	26	27 PW/PSV Winter Gathering Worthington
28 9:30 a.m. Ad. Class 10:45 a.m. Worship Communion Deacons' Offering	29 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting					

VERBALIZING OUR FAITH

I believe that I am saved by grace and that the Lord has blessed me mightily.

First of all, He blessed me with two beautiful families to care for and love.

A few of my traffic problems have been averted only by God's intervention. He has been with me through out my life. My parents were honest and hard working people and that was a fantastic blessing. Only now do I appreciate them and have some idea of what they did. I thank the Lord for that every day.

The people in my professional life were exceptional and I have now begun to appreciate them and how they influenced my life.

The Lord has a plan for each of us and He will guide us if only we take time to listen. His plan is always best.

May God continue to be with each of us and bless us in His special way.

Ivan Sumey

Super Bowl (Souper Bowl) Sunday – February 7

Start collecting those cans of soup. The Mission Committee is again celebrating Super Bowl Sunday by gathering soup in baskets decorated for the competing football teams. Vote for your favorite team by placing your cans in the appropriate basket. If you don't follow football, just place them in either. Or vote for both. The winner will be announced during the joys and concerns time of the worship servie.

Everything you bring will be given to the Outreach Council Food Pantry, which gives out lots of soup during the winter months. Folks love to make casseroles or chile with it or simply eat a bowl of warm healthy soup.

So every time you shop, pick up an extra can or two of soup for the pantry. Then bring all your cans to the church on Sunday, February 7. Only one football team wins the Super Bowl trophy, but your donations to the Food Pantry allow for lots of winners. Thank you in advance for your generous donations. And may the best team win!

February 7th Celebration !

We are going to have a celebration on Sunday, February 7th!! During the morning worship service we will share the news about our response to the Mission Challenge called ***The Least We Can Do Is To Give More.***

For the past several months our church family has been given information about the serious decline in financial support for our mission co-workers. The time has come for our congregation to positively respond to this emergency. We are going to give more to directly support our mission co-workers in 2016.

1. Special pledge cards are available to commit the total amount that will be given this year. Please fill out a pledge card and return it to the church by February 7th.
2. Special offering envelopes are available for use during the next eight months.
3. By the end of February we will report our total commitment for 2016 to the Presbyterian Mission Agency of the PC(U.S.A.).

Pray that our denomination will not have to recall any mission co-workers from their place of service in 2016! Join the celebration!!

FEBRUARY COFFEE HOUR HOSTS:

February 7 - Evelyn & Gary Baker
14 - Cay & Dick Roberts
21 - Kitty & Bob Neely
28 - Communion

FEBRUARY USHERS:

February 7 - Bob Neely, Kitty Neely,
David Bell, Ralph
Strickland
14 - Ann Oyer, Wanda
Stratton
21 - Bud Hobday, Dimitry
Sergsy, Ivan Sumey
28 - Bud Hobday, Dimitry
Sergay, Ivan Sumey

FEBRUARY COUNTERS:

February 7 Mike Milam and Bob
Neely
14 - Jim Clark and Kay Weir
21 - Betsy Hall and Nancy
Seward
28 - David Bell and Anne
Young

What Do Young Ones Hear When They Listen to Their Own Heartbeat?

Hopefully, this makes your day!

A nurse on the pediatric ward, before listening to little one's chests, would plug the stethoscope into their ears and let them listen to their own heart.

Their eyes would always light up with awe.

But she never got a response equal to four-year old David's comment. She had gently tucked the stethoscope into his ears and placed the disk over his heart. "Listen", she said. "What do you suppose that is?"

He drew his eyebrows together in a puzzled line and looked up as if lost in the mystery of the strange tap - tap - tapping deep in his chest. Then his face broke out in a wondrous grin and he asked, "Is that Jesus knocking?"

Is Jesus knocking on your heart? Let him in and witness his wondrous love.

In all things trust God. Life isn't about surviving the storm, but how you dance in the rain.

-Author Unknown

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- February 1 - Richard Hays
Jane Williams
- 5 - Barbara Patterson
- 7 - Charles VanPerson
- 8 - Amy Schutte
- 15 - David Boyer
- 20 - Elmer Smith
- 23 - Shirley Mellinger

FEBRUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

- February 11 - Jean and Tom Frank

FEBRUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

- February 7 - Kay Weir
14 - Tom Hlasten
21 - Bruce Henderson
28

FEBRUARY GREETERS:

- February 7 - Kitty and Bob Neely
14 - Evelyn and Gary Baker
21 Barbara and Tom
Patterson
28 - Wanda and Lew
Stratton

FEBRUARY FLOWERS:

- February 7 - Jean and Tom Frank
14 -
21 -
28 -

MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

JANUARY 26, 2016

Ministers for Community: Every Member

Co-Pastors: Richard Hays and Robert Getty

Secretary Barbara Patterson

Clerk of Session: Elaine Zingg

Choir Director: Karen Henderson

Organist: Patricia Penrose

Treasurer: Robert Neely

Ministers for Vision and Mission: Session

Class of 2016

David Bell

Paula Hays

Robert Neely

Glenn Noble

Class of 2017

Jim Clark

Dimitry Sergay

Elaine Zingg

Class of 2018

Elinor Hodder

Audrey Tysen

Ministers for Member Care: Deacons

Bud Hobday

Kitty Neely

Anne Young

Ministers Serving In Other Places

Pike County Outreach Council of Churches

Pike County Welfare House

Mark, Jenny, Keila Rosa & Anika Estela Hare — Papay, Haiti

Dendamrongsaat Church — Chiangrai, Thailand

Ministers Serving from Home

At Bristol Health Care

444 Cherry St., Waverly OH 45690

Tom Anderson - 310

Maryanna Cassady-14

Virginia Hartwell-102

Oscar Marsh-310

The Gardens

Helen Heinmiller

At Home

Virginia Dixon, Mack and Jean Earnhardt, Janet Marsh, Marlene Voorhes

Other Places

Kitty McCollam , Judithn Harrell

In Other Places

Kitty McCollam, Max Russell,

In Military Service

Sarah Kolb, Kacie Lee, Aaron McCord

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Address Service Requested

A M E N C O R N E R

Lenten Thoughts

The word "Lent" comes from an old English word which means "springtime" so it reminds us of spring cleaning and the new life in nature during spring. This season of Lent is a time of special grace for us in which we want to do some spring cleaning in our lives and enjoy new life as a result. Therefore we acknowledge that we are sinners. We want to clean up our lives during Lent. We want to leave sin behind and grow closer to the Lord. We want a change of heart this Lent. - Fr. Tommy Lane

The forty days before Easter is a time for us to fast from the outer world. In an agricultural society, Lent is the time in the year when the winter stores are dwindling and it becomes time to tighten one's belt, until the food stores can be renewed in the spring. It represents a period of self-examination, rest and introspection prior to the arrival of spring. In our self-examination, it is a time to work on overcoming our weaknesses, rather than a time to mourn over our past errors—a time to die to the old in preparation for the renewal in spring. - Rev. Steven Marshall

Lent is not a unique season, different from Advent or Christmas. It is part of the journey, the continuum, the falling in love, staying in love, growing in love with Jesus. Lent is an invitation to be open, to be transformed, to be loved. To be open to Love's love, to Love's invitation, to Love's challenge and it is not always easy. Lent is a get-away time. A time to spend together, the Lover and the beloved. It is a time to relax into the relationship, to enjoy, and to refresh and to grow within our unique and intimate bond. Lent is an invitation to trust. Lent is an opportunity to allow Mystery to reveal truths about who I am and who I am called to be. - Joan Blandin Howard