

TIDINGS

The Rev. Monica E. Styron, Interim Pastor church office: 9am-12n, 1-4pm (July & Aug. 9am-12n M-F) phone: 315-635-9964
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The Pastor's Corner



Sisters and Brother's in Christ:

LENT in the early centuries was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Daily we are to die to sin and live the new life in Christ. As the celebration expanded it included those who had lost their faith but had returned to recognize and affirm the covenant previously established through their baptism. The season was later expanded to include the celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. The emphasis was on our New Life in Christ.

Even though we often think of Lent as a time to "give up things" it is really about "taking up" all that it means to be a disciple of Christ and servant of God in today's world. It means accepting the challenges of society and moving into them with love and humility. It is a time for renewal, turning toward God, gaining insights and exploring new ways to love God and one another.

Not only do we focus on ourselves, but we also have the opportunity to translate our journey of faith into serving the greater good of our congregation and community. Ministry is about *being with* one another, with the stranger. It is about our ability to let love flow through us as respect for our neighbor, sharing the tools of encouragement and resources and empowering those who have been beaten down in many ways.

The church is a community of faith that gives each of us the support we need to stay intentional in our efforts to provide spiritual nurture, avenues for loving-justice and fulfillment of our call to service and mission.

Grace and Peace through this Lenten Season,
Rev. Monica Styron

OUR LENTEN SCHEDULE



Holy Week: All Services in Sanctuary

<u>Palm Sunday</u>	March 25	10:00 am
<u>Maundy Thursday</u>	March 29	7:00 pm
<u>Good Friday</u>	March 30	12:05 pm
	(a community Lenten worship)	
<u>Easter</u>	April 1	10:00 am





CATCHING UP WITH

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

★ **Adult Education** - A new opportunity for adults will take place on Wednesdays from 6-7 pm in the Media Center each week from 3/14 - 6/6. **YOU** are invited to participate in this exciting and informative video series. In 12 sessions we will explore a credible Jesus for the third millennium. You will learn from teachers, scholars and theologians who come from protestant, Catholic, and Jewish traditions. You'll hear about the latest discoveries of documents in the deserts of the Middle East. You will be astonished and wonder why you didn't know this before. Why Saving Jesus?? Come and find out.



★ **Grades 7-12**



Children in grades 7-12 will meet in the Media Center on March 11 &

18, April 8 & 15, May 6 & 13 and June 10.

Our youth will leave the worship service during Passing of the Peace. They will read and discuss the scripture from the worship service and watch a video from the Dream.Think.Be.Do series.

★ **Grades K-6** – Godly Play continues on Sunday mornings at 10 am for children in grades K-6.

A Godly Play Storyteller training takes place on March 18 right after the worship service. We already have several interested individuals! Why not consider participating? This is not a weekly commitment. Storytellers will be on a rotating schedule designed to meet their preferences. Contact Karyn Cavallo for additional details.

The Palm Sunday service on March 25 will include a live session of Godly Play presented by Karyn that will be viewed by the congregation.

★ **Easter Egg Hunt** – Christian Education will host an Easter Egg hunt following worship on **Easter Sunday 4/1**.



Session Elders

Harry Boak	Jeanne Le Porte	Miranda Pennock
Kathy Bowen	Luella Oakes	Margaret Sollish,
	Rush Pond	Clerk



♣ March Birthdays ♣

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 02 – Rick Smith | 15 – Chris Robbins |
| 03 – Sherley Matteson | 17 – Pat Hovey |
| 05 – John Murphy | 18 – Natalie Kot |
| 09 – Patricia Johnson | 21 – Sandy Rabe |
| 11 – Eleanor Pennock | 26 – Nancy Dobbins |
| 14 – Diane James | 29 – Dan Sheehan |
| 15 – Ruth Henderson | 31 – Barb Winegard |



♣ March Anniversaries ♣

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Frank & Diana Anastas | March 9 th |
| John & Beth Northrop (72 yrs.) | March 12 th |

Add your or a loved one's birthday or anniversary date to our list by contacting the church office.

The one thing worse than a quitter is the person who is afraid to begin.

Nursery School News



The snowy weather has kept the children exercising their gross motor muscles in the Fellowship Hall. They ride scooters and bikes and practice some hand/eye coordination when they play catch. They really love hopping all over on our foam pogo jumpers!

March provides us an opportunity to explore science and nature as we incubate and (hopefully) hatch some baby chicks from eggs. We will also be preparing for both Easter and our Hop-a-thon. The Hop-a-thon is a fundraiser that directly benefits the nursery school. The children will make bunny ear headbands to wear as they hop as many times as they can in 2 minutes. The kids love it!

We are still accepting registration for the Fall 2018. Space is filling quickly, so, if you know of someone who might be interested please have them call the school at 315-635-7391.

- Jessica Newcomb, PNS Director



Started in 1949, **One Great Hour of Sharing** is a long-standing ecumenical effort aimed at raising funds necessary to provide relief and reconstruction for communities in the aftermath of disaster.

What started as an hour-long radio appeal has evolved over the years, varying from 8 to 29 participating denominations and has become the most participated-in offering in the PC(USA).

A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, providing food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed.

OGHS makes a difference in the world through 3 impactful programs. **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** (PDA) works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after natural or human-caused disasters. **Presbyterian Hunger Program** (PHP) takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed. **Self-Development of People** (SDOP) invests in communities responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these societal ills.

Please prayerfully consider how you might participate. There is a donation envelope in this newsletter and available in the church sanctuary on **Sunday March 25** & on **Easter April 1**, during which the donations will be dedicated.

Check out presbyterianmission.org/special offerings and click on OGHS for more information and to view an interactive map that shows where help is received throughout the US and the rest of the world.

Church Staff

Interim Pastor-----The Rev. Monica Styron
 CE Coordinator -----Karyn Cavallo
 Church Secretary-----Nancy Landon
 Clerk of Session-----Margaret Sollish
 Deacon Co- Moderators-----Bea Boak, Victor Jenkins
 Director of Music & Choirs-----Rheta Jenks
 Organist-----Lee Johnston
 Financial Secretary-----Nancy Dobbins
 Treasurer-----Diana Anastas
 Nursery School Director-----Jessica Newcomb

WINTER FLING

Sat., March 3rd 5:30 pm



March 3rd is the date of our next Winter Fling! Last year was so successful (and delicious!) that it will once again be a (free) bring-a-dish-to-pass evening for everyone in the congregation. There will be musical family entertainment. It's a casual evening of fun.

Arrive at 5:30 pm and we plan to begin eating at 6. Following our meal, we will enjoy the toe-tapping music of Merry Mischief, a local duo (or trio) of instrumentalists and singers. It is sure to be an evening full of smiles and delicious food.

A Few ♪ Notes ♪ About Worship

During the past few months, we have been introduced to several less-familiar hymns. It is amazing what a rich supply of worship music we have in our hymnal and the supplement. Pastor Monica chooses worship music to reinforce and reintroduce scriptural lessons. By singing something new, we have an opportunity to discover another way of learning about our faith.

Music is indeed a universal language, and our worship songs and music come from a variety of sources and backgrounds. Sometime take a moment to look at the information about our hymns that is printed on the hymn's page for us. If you would like some of the terms you discover translated, please ask me to help.

During February, I selected African -American songs to honor Black History Month. We included such familiar songs as Were You There?, Wade in the Water, Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley, and I've Just Come From the Fountain. As we "March" into this month, the music may take on a Celtic sound in worship. We gain much from the variety of backgrounds that influence worship.

Please remember – all of our "familiar favorites" were new at one time. We just might discover some new favorites as we take our worship music journey. May we grow our faith together as we learn more about Christ through words and music. AND, may we have a song in our hearts always.

- Rheta Jenks, Music Coordinator

The best angle from which to approach any problem is the triangle.



Remember in Your Prayers & Correspondence,

since our last newsletter



☪ ILLNESS / INJURY / SURGERY

Barbara Brodie, Sean Ferguson,
Nancy & Bob Lasher, Sherley Matteson,
Cathy Mocyk, Lois Sollish

☪ AT CARE FACILITIES

Janice Bitz, Aaron Bradshaw, Louise Harkins,
Ruth Henderson, Betty Naylor, Beth Northrop,
Marion Sleight, Roger Todd

☪ PLEASE ALSO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING RELATIVES & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS:

Lynda Barry, Don Kipp, Grace Lord, Elizabeth
Paige, John Prall, Mary Slater

☪ SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Ethan Derr (Marines), Connor Murphy (Navy)



The annual Rummage Sale is **Fri., April 6 – 9 am-7 pm and Sat., April 7 (\$2 bag sale) – 9 am-12 noon.**

Bring your donations to the Education Center **beginning Mon., March 19.**

We cannot take computers, large electronics or large furniture. Bring only clean, gently used items that people will want to purchase!

Many helpers are needed to set up the sale and to work at it. Please consider being involved. Contact me if you have questions or will be available to help in any capacity at any time on any day!

- Kathy Bowen
jkbowen@gmail.com, 315 638 8749



CB&C DRIVE-THRU



Only one week until our Corned Beef and Cabbage Drive Thru! Please be sure to come and pick up a dinner or two. The date to remember is **Thursday, March 8th**. Although we start serving at 4:00 pm, it's best to wait until at least 4:30 in order to miss the heavy traffic.

Please spread the word to friends and neighbors. And cross your fingers for good weather! If you have any questions regarding the jobs you signed up for, please call Barb at 803-727-0095.

*Anger is often more harmful
than the injury that caused it.*



Paper, Deposit Bottles, Empty Printer Cartridges Keep'em Coming!

There are receptacles in the Education Center entryway for deposit containers and ink cartridges, which provide funds for the CE program and for our office supplies.

If you are disposing of a computer printer, bring it to the church office and we will be able to recycle it for credit at Staples.



from the Floral Committee

Easter comes earlier than usual this year. Spring flowers are always a welcome sight after a snowy winter.

Orders for Easter Sunday (April 1) flowers are due **Mon. March 26th at noon**. An order form is included in this newsletter and will also be in upcoming church bulletins. Floral contributions may be listed in honor or in memory of loved ones.

Everyone is welcome to join the Floral Committee at 9:30 am on Sat., March 31st as we arrange the Easter flowers in the sanctuary.

To reserve a date on the Floral Calendar, located in the church kitchenette, sign your name on the calendar date and contact me as committee chair.

Thank you to all who participate.

- Marylyn Jenkins

Project Pillowcase



Over the last couple months, 13 ladies met several times in the Fireside Room to make pillowcases for young patients at Syracuse's Golisano Children's Hospital. They pinned, sewed, pressed and pinned, sewed and pressed again!

The result was 171 cheerful, colorful pillowcases - Ninja Turtles, Ladybugs, Mickey & Minnie Mouse, Thomas the Train, SU, Cupcakes, Stars and Stripes, Monkeys, Dinosaurs, Dr. Suess, Hearts, Flowers, Baseball, and many more delightful designs.

The pillowcases were on display in the sanctuary on Sun, Feb. 18th when a "blessing of the pillowcases" was held during worship. Thank you to the Deacons who funded and coordinated this mission project to benefit young children at a difficult time in their lives. A special thank you to the ladies who pitched in to help: Bea Boak, Peg Brussel, Margaret Groman, Doris Hildebrandt, Rita Hooper, Edie Hunter, Pam Keckison, Nancy Lasher, Marty Pond, Nancy Runyans, Martha Stevens, Peggy Suddaby and Barb Winegard.

