

Pennfield Press

April 2023 Newsletter

Growing in Christ Through Faith, Family, and Fellowship

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Dear Friends,

The Lenten season is a time of preparing for Easter. With Easter drawing close, the preparations increase. On **Sunday, April 2** we will have **Palm and Passion Sunday** along with communion. On Palm Sunday we welcome Jesus riding into town. And we accompany him to the cross through a Passion Play, based on the Gospel of Mark.

The week prior to Easter is called **Holy Week**, where Jesus is betrayed, convicted, and killed. We honor the week with the celebration of **Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 7 p.m.** where Jesus eats his last meal with the disciples in the Upper Room in Jerusalem. Here he breaks the bread and pours the cup of his body and blood. Here he predicts his betrayal and death. And here he washes the disciples' feet. Part of worship will be the stripping of the church--the removal of any tableware and candlesticks and the draping of the communion table in a black shroud.



On Sunday, April 9, we celebrate Easter, the feast of the resurrection of Jesus Christ and ours in him. I hope that you will invite family and friends to this feast day. And since the Easter season lasts for seven weeks, we have many Sundays to do more inviting and to celebrate the risen Christ and his appearances.



As we conclude the Lenten season, I pray that Lent did not leave you empty-handed but allowed you, through personal sacrifice and repentance, to become open and ready for the gift of the risen Christ in you.

With joy and gratitude I now wish you a Happy Easter season,

Pastor Annemarie

Adult Education Classes

--The Wired Word/Contemporary Issues Class

This class addresses topics of current interest in the areas of social, economic, and political areas which are examined through the lens of the Christian faith. You will receive the articles with discussion questions beforehand.

An email will be sent prior to the next class meeting this month. If you would like more information about this class, please contact Mark Atma at markatma@comcast.net.



--Making Sense of the Bible, Continued at 11:15 a.m.

We will pick up the study on how to read and interpret the Bible right after Easter. We will meet in April on Sunday, April 16, 23, and 30 at 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Please bring your books and read ahead. If you need a Zoom link, please contact me by Friday. The study is facilitated by Pastor Annemarie.

A big thank to those who facilitated the three-week **Immersive Lenten Experience**, namely Trish Steele and Christine Ayres but especially Lois Shubert, who coordinated the event. We studied the liturgical year, the person of Jesus along with the sacrifice he made for us and the pain he endured, the nature of discipleship, and the sacraments. We also constructed a crown of thorns, hammered nails, retrieved a prayer stone from the baptismal font, and offered up our “sin” slips.



Congregational Retreat on Saturday, May 6

Four years ago, the Session scheduled a congregation-wide retreat with the Rev. Jake and Dawn Kaufman. The results of this retreat provided fresh direction and vision for the church and creative ways of connecting with the community. After working on our 2022 Self-Study, the Session felt it was time to have another congregational retreat to brain-storm ideas in moving ahead.

We are delighted that the Rev. Jake and Dawn Kaufman are again available to lead us in this experience. The Kaufmans have read our 2022 Self-Study and they have met with several elders and the pastor to plan for the main points to be addressed during this retreat.

We will gather in Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, May 6 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** with a brief bagel and coffee/tea break in between. Please put this date on your calendars.

The 2022 Annual Report and the 2022 Self-Study

Additional copies of the church's self-study and the 2022 Annual Report are available in the Narthex. Please remember that we are allocating one copy per household

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 1: Isabelle Thomas Link
2: James Perry
7: Tracy Goll
12: Jessica Harvath
14: Joann Preston; Corey Shubert
Alanalee Link
18: Eric Tucker
27: Jan Moore



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

April 27: Sam and Jo Van Boven

Fellowship and Evangelism

Thanks to all who helped with the Lenten Luncheon on March 19. We certainly had a good time of fellowship and enjoyed various soups and stews, breads, and salads. Special thanks to all who brought food and to all who stayed to clean up. There have been some ideas for future fellowship events but no definite plans yet. If you have a suggestion, please let me know.

I also want to encourage you to use the church's business cards to invite others to join us in the coming weeks for our Lenten and Easter Services. It is good to share this most important time with the community.

Thank you to all the greeters and refreshment hosts. You make us a welcoming church.

--Sara Galloway, Chair



Greeters

April 2 Sara and Erin Galloway
April 9 Kathy Lyon and Donna Teichman
April 16 Mick and Lois Shubert
April 23 Laurie Riley and Carla Stine-King
April 30 Mark Atma and Ruth TenBroek

Refreshments

Christine Ayres and Martie Dull
Lois Shubert and PW
Joann Preston and Joan VanOrman
Susan Jordan and Chris Beaver
Bill and Sandi Rothney



In Memory of:

Family and Friends by **Lila Back**

Nelson M. Dull by **Martie Dull**

Sam Prince, Ruth Fugate and Hazel Plunkett by **Jessica Harvath and Family**

Harden and Dorothy Hoffman by **Steve and Jeannette Higgs**

Berta Glaser, Berta Schuh, and Rev. Leon White by **Rev. Annemarie S. Kidder**

Garry Lines and Walt McFadden by **Judy Lines-McFadden**

Archie MacGregor and Natalie Taylor by the **MacGregor Family**

Linda Shaw and Margaret Riley by **Tom and Laurie Riley**

Our deceased family members by **Bill and Sandi Rothney**

Family members who have passed by the **Scheuffele Family**

Carl and Mary Belson and Bea Shaffer by **Dennis and Sandy Shaffer**

All our loved ones by the **Shubert Family**

Our parents and grandparents by the **Stine Girls**

To our loved ones who have gone before us by **Deanna Stults**

Loved ones by **Donna Teichman**

Our daughters, Diane VanBoven, Jolie VanBoven and Lynda

VanBoven by **Sam and Jo VanBoven**

Douglas Edward VanVleet by **Darrell and Marcia VanVleet**

In Honor of:

Frank and Marie Higgs by **Steve and Jeanette Higgs**

Politicians and those working for peace by **the Baxter Family**

Stewardship

Thank you so much for your 2023 pledge. If you have yet to turn in your pledge card, please do so by mailing it to the church or dropping it in the offering plate. You may also call the church office directly and let our financial secretary, Jean Smith, know of your pledge. Also, please remember to pay your per capita of \$39, which is separate from the pledge.



Property and Finance

We now have heat in most of the lower level and throughout the church. The whole system is working more efficiently. We continue to work with the insurance company for more coverage as we have only received from them one third of the actual cost of the broken boiler pipe.

Again, we want to thank also our cleaners, both those working weekly and those on an as-needed basis. They are doing a terrific job in keeping God's house sparkling clean. Thank you for supporting our ministries and mission.

--Lois Shubert, Chair

Worship: In-Person and Via Facebook Live

We meet for in-person worship and we livestream via facebook. If you attend in person, please be present no later than 9:50 a.m.

We livestream worship each week from Pastor Annemarie's Facebook page at 10 a.m. Please leave a comment. Each Wednesday the Pastor posts a devotion and on Fridays the scripture on which the upcoming sermon is based. All posts are also on our church's FB page and remain there.

Office Hours are Mon.-Tue. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Jean Smith, our financial and office secretary, is in the church office from **9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays**, along with a few hours on either Thursday or Friday.

Deacons' Corner

Here is the updated list of which deacon is assigned to which members.

Jessica Harvath will serve: Adler - Carter

Karen Newhart will serve: Cope- Heath

Harry Scheuffele will serve: Hewitt- Metzger

Susan Jordan will serve: Monroe - Riley

Carla Stine-King will serve: Rose - Stevens

Mark Baxter will serve: Stine-King - Walker

Lila Back will serve: Joan Preston, Jay and Sally Moore, Rev.

Roxie Perry and Franklin Ballard

Steve Phillips will serve as our handy man for repairs and running errands and deliveries.

Please contact the deacon moderator if you have not heard from your deacon yet.

In addition to the prayer cards available on Sundays, you may ask for prayers directly by contacting me at jessicaharvath1964@gmail.com. All prayer requests are being kept confidential.

--Jessica Harvath, Deacon Moderator



Northeast Food Pantry News

Thanks for all the goodies that were donated during February and March from the congregation. We have been able to help feed our neighbors in need because of your donations. The pantry is always in need of canned fruit, soup, crackers, cereal and individual packaged snacks (chips, cookies, pop tarts, granola bars, etc.)



Thanks to everyone who donated money to the Beckley Meijer Double Match days for the winter campaign. This is a fantastic ongoing way to provide funds for pantry use. On double match days for every \$10 that people donate, Meijer matches with \$20 for a total of \$30. The spring campaign will begin **April 2, 2023, through Saturday, July 1, 2023**. The Double Match day for this campaign will be Saturday, June 17, 2023. I will again be willing to take any donations for this Double Match to Meijer for that day.

Thanks also for all the Family Fare receipts that were brought to church. Northeast pantry completed its collection of \$150,000 and have received its \$1000. The sad news is that Family Fare (Spartan-Nash) is no longer running this campaign as of March 1, 2023. You no longer need to save your receipts.

Thanks again for all you do to support the Northeast Food Pantry by your volunteering and through monetary and food donations and your prayers.

--Laurie Riley, Coordinator

Presbyterian Women (PW)

In April, the Presbyterian Women will be collecting for the PW Birthday Offering. This year, the offering underwrites two projects, one a group home in Talahassee, Florida, the other an elementary school and kindergarten in Ethiopia. For more information, please see the last issue of the PW Horizons Magazine. Birthday Offering envelopes may be found in the pews



Hannah Circle

We will be studying Lesson 7 from our Horizon Bible Study titled, "Sabbath and Self-Care." The scripture is Luke 13:10-21. The key idea from this lesson is that even though self-care is a crucial part of the Christian journey, it's important to remember the Sabbath is not primarily about caring for ourselves. Sabbath is first about God.

All women of the church are invited to join us, as we gather **Tuesday, April 18 at 12:30 p.m.** in the church library. Please bring your own lunch and drink. Our study begins at 1 p.m.

--Deanna Stults and Marie Hull, Bible Study Facilitators

The Session

The Session, composed of six elders and the pastor, governs every area of ministry in our church. It also oversees the work of the Deacons. The Pastor is the teaching elder who equips and calls forth by preaching and teaching those willing to hear and respond to God's call in service.

Property and Finance--Lois Shubert (Chair), Christine Ayres (Elder), Mike Monroe (Elder)

Fellowship and Evangelism--Sara Galloway (Chair)

Christian Education--Kathy Lyon (Chair)

Stewardship and Mission--Aaron Jordan (Chair), Lois Shubert (Elder), Christine Ayres (Elder), Mike Monroe (Elder)

Worship and Music--Christine Ayres (Chair), Aaron Jordan (Elder), Kathy Lyon (Elder)

Administration and Personnel--Lois Shubert (Chair), Christine Ayres (Elder), Kathy Lyon (Elder)

Clerk of Session: Kathy Lyon

Moderator: The Rev. Dr. Annemarie S. Kidder

