



First Presbyterian Church of Harborcreek

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March Volume 2020, Issue 2

Church Leadership

Pastor.....Robin Cuneo
Pastor Emeritus.....Rev. Sheldon "Tim"
Logan
Music Director.....Chris Thomas
Organist.....Joyce Kriner
Secretary.....Mary Stewart
Sexton & Librarian.....Eileen Kriner
Treasurer.....Jim Watson

Committee Chairs—2019

Clerk of Session.....Mary Ellen Flowers
Christian Ed.....Jennifer Wedzik
Membership Care &
Development.....Barb Griffith
Ann Nesgoda
Mission/Outreach.....Ann Nesgoda
Sue Kellerman, Jim Watson
Nominating &
Training.....Mary Ellen Flowers
Jennifer Wedzik
Personnel.....Sue Kellerman
Scott Shunk
Property.....Jared Mosier
Bob Kellerman
Stewardship & Finance.....Dave Maille
Bob Kellerman, Jim Watson
Worship.....Scott Shunk
Chris Thomas
Recording Secretary.....
Cindy Skladanowski

Deacons

Chairperson.....Nancy McNally
Secretary.....Bill Nesgoda
Treasurer.....Peggie Smith
Flower Coordinator..... Sally Wakeley
Caring Tree.....All Deacons
Scheduling.....Nancy Brown
Thanksgiving Baskets.....All Deacons
Correspondence.....Aye Mosier
Funeral Dinners.....Peggie Smith
Aye Mosier

Pastor's Message

This reflection for the beginning of Lent is taken from a PC(U.S.A.) Lenten resource entitled "Words Matter." It struck me as especially fitting for the start of our journey toward Easter.

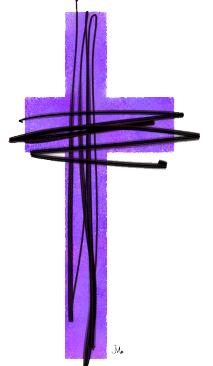
READ ISAIAH 58:1-12

Most of us don't fast anymore – not really. Not unless we are trying to lose weight, do a detox of our bodies, or decide that we won't eat chocolate during Lent. Maybe some Catholics still refrain from eating meat on Fridays; maybe some Protestants do, too. But fasting? Not really.

We wonder how our Muslim sisters and brothers make it all day during their month of fasting, but few of us join in this practice with them. The prophet in Second Isaiah didn't like people who were all show when they fasted. "Look at me! I'm fasting! I'm righteous! I'm good! I'm humbling myself! Look at me while I fast!" No, that is not what is pleasing to God, says Isaiah. Instead, the prophet says, God looks to those whose actions bring about a more just and righteous world as the kind of fast to emulate: ...break the chains of injustice, get rid of exploitation in the workplace, free the oppressed, cancel debts.



What I'm interested in seeing you do is: sharing your food with the hungry, inviting the homeless poor into your homes, putting clothes on the shivering ill-clad, being available to your own families. [The Message – Eugene H. Peterson] In this vein, let us fast or abstain from using words that cause harm to others during this Lenten season. They do matter, these words that fall out of our mouths. And I don't mean just angry or hateful words, but words that characterize people in ways that diminish their humanity, or that come from a place of not really knowing who you are talking about. Let's not talk about "Those people..." Let's talk about "Us."



(Continued next page...)

...from previous page

Use words and metaphors which lift up and uplift God's people as beloved and holy reflections of the divine. Speak from the heart – a heart that seeks to dwell in the household of God, prayer-filled and mindful. Choose your words carefully – and see what this kind of fast can do for you and for those you encounter each day. Be the word of life to others – as you would have them be unto you.

FOR REFLECTION AND ACTION This Lent, consider taking up the spiritual discipline of paying attention to what is at stake in the words you use. Imagine how your words might sound to someone of a different gender, race, or cultural background than you. Imagine what new words you would like to add to your daily speech.

--by Rev. Loey Powell

May God bless you during your Lenten journey.

Pastor Robin



The BIG EVENT

“Where’s the Light?”

Presbytery of Lake Erie

March 28th 9:00 a.m. -- 1:30 p.m.

Looking for some inspiration? Lake Erie Presbytery is hosting “The Big Event”. We will gather together in food and fellowship, choose to participate in different themed workshops and panel discussions, and listen to keynote speaker- L. Roger Owens, Ph.D. from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. For a full list of schedule and information, see back bulletin board.

For more information can be found at:

<https://pbylakeerie.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/The+Big+Event/2020/Big+Event+Flyer+2020.pdf>

Jenn Wedzik



Connectional Ministry 2020 Per Capita

As part of a connectional church system, we contribute \$32 per member to help support the Lake Erie Presbytery, Synod of the Trinity and the Biennial General Assembly. We ask members of the congregation to help with this obligation by covering their part of the apportionment by the end of March. There is a special blue envelope in your offering box or you can just write “per capita” on a generic pew envelope (or memo line of your check).

Bread of the World, In Mercy Broken

Bread of the world, in mercy broken,
Wine of the soul, in mercy shed,
By Whom the words of life were spoken,
And in Whose death our sins are dead.

Look on the heart by sorrow broken,
Look on the tears by sinners shed;
And be Thy feast to us the token,
That by Thy grace our souls are fed.

Reginald Heber (1783-1826)



PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a request for the prayer chain, please speak to any 2019 Deacon or Peggie Smith (814-899-9103) to activate the prayer chain. We care about confidentiality so please let us know what information you would like to share and what is confidential.

OFFICE HOURS!

The church secretary will be in the office from 9 a.m.—12 noon on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Pastor Robin will continue her hours 10-1 Monday and Wednesday. Please keep in mind since pastors serves on required Presbytery committees she might not always be available during the planned office hours.

Office Phone number: 814-899-1031

Email Address: Harborcreek.fpc2@aol.com

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Worship Schedules and Events



Lectionary Readings for March

<u>Sunday, March 1</u>	1 st Sunday in Lent
<i>Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7</i>	<i>Psalms 32</i>
<i>Romans 5:12-19</i>	<i>Matthew 4:1-11</i>
<u>Sunday, March 8</u>	2 nd Sunday in Lent
<i>Genesis 12:1-4a</i>	<i>Psalms 121</i>
<i>Romans 4:1-5, 13-17</i>	<i>John 3:1-17</i>
<u>Sunday, March 15</u>	3 rd Sunday in Lent
Sacrament of Holy Communion	
<i>Exodus 17:1-7</i>	<i>Psalms 95</i>
<i>Romans 5:1-11</i>	<i>John 4:5-42</i>
<u>Sunday, March 22</u>	4 th Sunday in Lent
<i>1 Samuel 16:1-13</i>	<i>Psalms 23</i>
<i>Ephesians 5:8-14</i>	<i>John 9:1-41</i>
<u>Sunday, March 29</u>	5 th Sunday in Lent
<i>Ezekiel 37:1-14</i>	<i>Psalms 29</i>
<i>Romans 8:6-11</i>	<i>John 11:1-45</i>



Liturgists and Greeters/Ushers for March

<u>March 1</u>	Liturgist: Nancy McNally
	Greeters: Maggie Luke and Marge Suter
<u>March 8</u>	Liturgist: Jim Stewart
	Greeters: Hedlund Family
<u>March 15</u>	Liturgist: Joanne Scott
	Greeters: Mosier Family
<u>March 22</u>	Liturgist: Brian Griffith
	Greeters: Beighley Family
<u>March 29</u>	Liturgist: Larry Hanes
	Greeters: Joanne Scott and Cindy Skladanowski



The Season of Lent Begins

During Ash Wednesday services, on the first day of Lent, many pastors will invite their congregations “to observe a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s Holy Word” While you may be aware of this season leading up to Easter, you may wonder how you might “observe a holy Lent.”

There is no one prescribed way. Instead, we are each encouraged to find our own method of confronting our sinfulness, remembering our mortality, and giving thanks for the gift of salvation we receive through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. We will be observing the tradition of receiving ashes.

Drive-Thru Ashes

Wednesday, February 26

10 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 2 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, February 26

7:30 p.m.

Spiritual Formation...

Breakfast and a Movie for Lent



"Jesus Christ Superstar"

Please consider joining a spiritual journey at 9:30 each Sunday with "Breakfast and a Movie". We will feature the classic movie "Jesus Christ Superstar" beginning Sunday, March 22 and concluding on Palm Sunday April 5th. We watch approximately 35 minutes of film and then have a good discussion of what we just saw.

Come and enjoy a tasty meal and stay for the movie and lively discussion, or just come to see this classic film which starts around 9:55 every week. Hope to see you there!

Brian Griffith



SO YOU KNOW THE BIBLE QUIZ

I KNOW THE BIBLE QUIZ CHALLENGE!

Quiz 1

Kings - First Kings covers reign of David's son, King Solomon, known as the wisest man alive. It contains the stories of the important prophet Elijah, who appeared at the Transfiguration with Jesus 800 years later. Second Kings covers the reigns of many kings of Israel, good and evil. It ends with the Babylonian invasion of Judah and the end of the line of kings.

1. It is written that this King had more wisdom than people from the east. (1 Kings 4:30)
2. This prophet asked God to light a fire on a totally drenched altar. (1 Kings 18:36-37)
3. This prophet watched as his predecessor and friend was taken away in a Chariot of fire and horses of fire up to heaven. (2 Kings 2:11-12)
4. This commander of the army was told by Elisha to dip himself seven times into the Jordan to heal himself of his leprosy. (2 Kings 5:1).
5. Ephesians 6 warns us of an invisible enemy who engages in spiritual warfare. Elisha's prayer in 2 Kings 6:15 reminds us to pray to the Lord "to open our _____ that we may see."

Choose from:
Elijah; Naaman; Elisha; Eyes; Jeroboam;
Solomon; Hearts

Quiz 2

Chronicles - The purpose of it was to present an entire history of Israel, starting with Adam. First Chronicles gives the history from Adam through King David. Second Chronicles covers the reign of King Solomon plus all the kings of Israel and Judah after the split of the united kingdom. Like the Kings, 2 Chronicles gives little snippets about each king and notes whether they grieved or pleased the Lord. (Only a handful, all from Judah, pleased the Lord.)

David shared with his son Solomon that he had been told by God not to build the temple. The reason was that he had done too much of this. (1 Chronicles 22:7-8)

Goliath the giant was killed by this man.

King Solomon's famous prayer before becoming king, he impressed God by asking for this, instead of riches, power, or long life. (2 Chronicles 1:10)

Give _____ to the Lord for he is good; his love endures forever. (1 Chronicles 16:34)

This king built up Israel's security and destroyed false idols. (2 Chronicles 17:1-6)

Choose from:
Jehoshaphat; thanks; shed blood; Solomon; wisdom;
David; sacrifices

On Sunday Mornings...



Breakfast and a Movie

9:30 a.m. **BREAKFAST** in the Fellowship Hall

9:45-10:30 a.m. **MOVIE** in the Youth room downstairs

We hope we see you there even if it is just for breakfast or just for the movie. But COME for BOTH if you can!!!

A short discussion of the movie and how it pertains to our lives and our faith follows the movie. See **YOU** there!



What's in the Bible?

Kid's Sunday School

Every Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Come along with us and learn about God's great rescue plan! This year we will be learning about the stories in the Bible in new and exciting ways - movies, music, and more! This is one journey through the Bible you won't want to miss. Find out why you want to know more about "What's in the Bible."

**Every Sunday at
9:45 a.m.**



Come and chat with Rev. Tim at the manse (parsonage) or at the picnic table. What's on your mind? Do you have any questions? Rev. Tim can help you sort out the mysteries of life in Harborcreek.

On Monday Evenings...



Wine and the Word

The next edition of Wine and the Word continues!

On Monday, March 9 at 6:30 p.m., we meet at the home of Dave and Andrea Maille.

What the Sunday bulletin for updates and the topic for our next study.



Lenten Devotions during Worship

Our youth will offer special readings to begin worship during Lent.

Under the direction of Spiritual Formation Elder Jenn Wedzik, they will focus on a different symbol of the Passion each week. The symbols include: the basin, a moneybag, a chalice, a lantern, a rooster, a crown of thorns, the cross and a lily.

It should be inspiring!

One Great Hour of Sipping



**"High Tea and Cocoa"
Sundays, March 8th and 15th**

The youth will host a "High Tea and Cocoa" gathering before church on Sunday, March 8th and Sunday, March 15th in back of church. They will serve hot beverage choices at tables so you can sit down and enjoy some fellowship with others before church starts. Donations for your hot beverages will be given to One Great Hour of Sharing.

One Great Hour of Sharing



For over 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world.

...in a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Here's what is happening...



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP

Do you enjoy visiting with each other at Fellowship Coffee hours or a lunch? Do you think it is important to send cards to members who are absent? Do you enjoy receiving a birthday card?

Your Membership Committee is looking for volunteers and YOU can decide just how much you can do.

Here is list of some help that we need:

- Punch maker for after church functions
- Send cards to absent members noting "We Miss You"
- Send birthday cards
- Send a "Visit With Us Again" card to recent visitors
- Help us decide fellowship functions & when
- Plan what occasions to celebrate and when
- Clean-up crew needed for after church functions

We are not asking for an "every month meeting or function commitment". You can help as much or as little you want. You decide when you are available to help.

If you can help please speak to Barbara Griffith at Church or call her at #882-4523.



4th Tuesday Fellowship - 2020

All gatherings will be held at
12:00 Noon in Fellowship Hall
at 1st Presbyterian Church
unless otherwise stated

March 24 The Erie Zoo – they will bring some small animals (no snakes) and let us know what events, etc. they are having this year.

April 28 Steve Oler – New HC Twp. Supervisor will join us for lunch and to talk about his vision for the township.

May 26 NWPA K9 Search and Rescue – Kathy Lamb and others from group will bring some dogs and show us how they train them to search for people needing rescued or found.

June 23 Dodge House – We will eat lunch at the Dodge House, tour the house and Nancy Brown will speak on the history and family of this historic home. Come directly to Dodge house.

July 28 Betsy Wiest from the Sisters of St Joseph will do a power point presentation and talk about Human Trafficking in Erie Co.

August 25 Rev. Mary Stewart - Will talk to us about her Mission Trip to Puerto Rico.

September 22 Threshold Choir of Family Hospice of UPMC They will sing for us and explain what they do for hospice.

October 27 The Sons of Lake Erie (this might not be until 2021?)

November 24 Sue Fuller will speak about her mission teaching in Russia including what Christmas is like there.

STEAK DINNER

Spring Swiss Steak Dinner

Saturday, April 4

4:30—7:00 p.m.

Adults \$11.00

Children \$5:00 (6-12 yrs.)

Under 6 free

See how you can help support this "famous" event. Sign up sheets will be posted at the rear of the church.

LENT

Pray + Fast + Give

God's love at work...

Mission Updates

THANK YOU, THANK YOU,
YOU ALL ARE WONDERFUL!

At the recent SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY, you not only had great soups to choose from but you were "souper" generous and we collected \$140 for the Food Pantry. It is much appreciated.

We will be collecting Easter bags of groceries again this year. They will be returned to the Church on April 5. Needs: Can sweet potatoes, can of green vegetables, scalloped potatoes, apple sauce, drink mix and a canned fruit. A bag of Easter Candy is always an optional treat. Thank you in advance!

Mark your calendar for March 29 for the next Upper Room lunch. The menu will be announced later. If you have not been there, please consider going along to help the less fortunate.

Ann Nesgoda



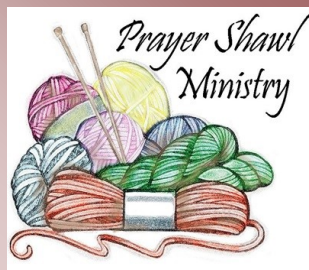
Easter Flowers

Watch the Sunday bulletin for the Easter Flower Order Form.

Experience the joy of Easter with flowers!

Do you love to knit or crochet?

Join our Prayer Shawl Ministry and wrap God's love around a loved one of God. We meet the third Tuesday each month in Pastor Robin's office at 4:00 p.m.



"Shawls ... made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles..."

Don't Miss These...

Mission-Go!
Mission-Go!
BINGO
and more!

Friday, March 6th, 2020
6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

The night will be filled with a variety of activities and Mission. The evening will start with Mission Bingo. You will be playing bingo for a small prize AND a donation to your favorite charity or mission.

Please bring a small gift that will be used as a prize, and a donation that will be given to three possible charities.

Then, we'll have some snacks and fellowship.

And finally, we will have a couple of different hands-on activities and crafts to be completed for others. Something for everyone!

Lenten Craft Night



Friday, March 27, 2020
6:30-8:30 p.m.

We are creating a special Easter craft you will want to hang on your wall. You will learn some basic "fancy" lettering. Learn, reflect and pray about your project choice and complete an awesome project for your house. Minimal craft experience is needed for this project.

-> Do you know calligraphy and would like to help out with the event? Let Jennifer Wedzik know!

The more that you read,
the more things you will know.

The more that you learn
the more places you'll go.

--Dr. Seuss

Recycling and Blessing Others !!



Aluminum Cans

A ministry start that start a number of years ago is growing! Dick Smith began collecting cans to recycle. All the money he collected went to benefit our outreach ministries to those in need. Peggie continues this ministry in memory of Dick.

But it has grown...the East Erie Moose Family Center is donating all their aluminum cans...it now takes a truck to get them to the recycling center each week!

You can help by placing your cans in the recycling can behind the church.

Cancelled Stamps

Please bring your cancelled stamps to church and place them on the table on the old entrance. The stamps are boxed and forwarded to a Leprosy Organization to benefit their cause.



Ella Cochran (Harborcreek) Food Pantry



Just a reminder our congregation supports the Harborcreek Food Bank. Nonperishable food items, paper products and personal hygiene items are always needed and can be left at the top of the stairs in the main entrance of our church.

Helping the Homeless

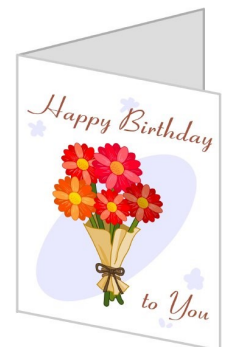
A BASKET has been placed in the old vestibule for collection of travel size personal care products to be given to the homeless at The Upper Room. Please consider donating those little bottles from your hotel stays. Thanks, Mission Committee



Greeting Cards

Thanks to everyone who has brought greeting cards to church. I recently mailed another box of cards to St Jude's Ranch for them to repurpose and sell in their gift shop and on their website.

Please continue to bring the cards to church and place them in the basket provided on the table in our old vestibule. There are additional restrictions so PLEASE provide the entire card.



Blessings,
Sue Kellerman
Mission Committee



Church Family News...



March Birthdays!

March

- 1 Aye Mosier
- 2 Carrie Woodard
Mary Skladanowski
- 4 Bill Nesgoda
- 6 Ron Flowers
- 10 Ann Nesgoda
- 11 Michael King
- 13 Jackie Foust
- 16 Bonnie Ducket
Judy Elwood
- 18 Linda DeAngelo
- 20 John Erickson
- 22 Ron Washe
- 24 Dave Maille
- 28 Amy Erickson



March Anniversaries!

March

- 17 Bonnie & Don Duckett

If you notice an incorrect or missing birthday/anniversary, prayer request or one that is listed that should no longer be there, call the church office 899-1031 and we will update our records.



Prayer List: For those serving in the armed forces. Ricky Hinkle, Jeremy Rockwell, Ryan Lemke, & Brian Hellmann. For the Lake Erie Presbytery & its leaders; for our pastor, Robin Cuneo, for church members, family & friends, we pray.

Barb Bemis	Rachel Hube	Emily Mellish
Claudia Brown	Family of	Jim Nelson
& Mike Faycheck	Dave Johnson	Yvonne Peters
Lois Cochran	Judy Johnson	Sandy Spangler
Jeanette Comstock	Pat Kocher	Bill & Sandy Stewart
Margaret Crider	Ann Marie Kodba	Larry Stultz
Donna Fannin	Beverly Leighton	Megan Sweezey
Kevin Fisher	Dick May	Sally Wakeley
Paul Foust	Hannah May	David Zacks
Shirley Hamm		



Remember Our Homebound

Some of you have asked about what you can do to keep connected to those who are unable to come to worship or participate in church activities. Listed below are some of those you could send a card or a note of encouragement.

Lois Cochran
4400 E. Lake Road
Apt. 257
Erie, PA 16511

Margaret Crider
Heritage House
30 East Street
North East, PA 16428

Jessie Denniston
1885 Rifle Range Rd.
Cove 34
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

Jim & Peggy Nelson
2 Gibson St. Apt. 102
North East, PA 16428

Sandy Spangler
Sarah Reed Retirement Ctr.
Room 9
227 W. 22nd Street
Erie, PA 16502

Eleanor Stanley
Springhill Retirement Com.
2301 Edinboro Road
Erie, PA 16509

lent



March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Sunday School and Worship	2 Women's AA Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.	3	4 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. (when indicated)	5	6 Mission-Go! Bingo and More! 6:30- 9 p.m.	7
8 One Great Hour of Sipping before worship Sunday School and Worship 	9 Wine and the Word 6:30 p.m. at the Maille's Women's AA Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.	10	11 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. (when indicated)	12 MEETING Deacons 2:00 p.m. Session 6:00 p.m.	13	14
15 One Great Hour of Sipping before worship Sunday School and Worship 	16 Women's AA Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.	17 Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:00 p.m.	18 Lunch Bunch @ Ricardos Choir Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. (when indicated)	19	20	21
22 Sunday School and Worship	23 Women's AA Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.	24 4th Tuesday Fellowship 12:00 noon	25 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. (when indicated)	26	27 Lenten Craft Night 6:30-8:30 p.m.	28 THE BIG EVENT First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
29 Sunday School and Worship Upper Room Lunch	30 Women's AA Fellowship Hall 5:00 p.m.	31	Every Sunday: Breakfast and a Movie 9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Teen Talk 9:45 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m.		Elder of the Month: Chris Thomas 899-8658 Deacon of the Month: Sally Wakeley 397-4601	