



Reedurban Presbyterian Church

*Our dwelling place has been with the Lord for 90 Years of
Ministry*

Reedurban MARCH 2017 Newsletter



Dear Friends,

Lent begins a little later on the calendar this year with Ash Wednesday on March 1. As we look toward the season of preparation for Easter, I am hoping to interest you in a special 4-week program called *"Pilgrimage Through the Second Half of Life."*

I have been reading some wonderful books that focus on spiritual growth for people who have passed the probable mid-point of their lives and want to embrace the future in hopeful creative ways. There are challenges that come with aging to be sure. What are the opportunities and blessings? A recent issue of *Presbyterians Today* was devoted to this topic, and I also attended a seminar in January that explored it.

During Lent you are invited to join in conversations about growing into the maturity and wisdom of faith. On four consecutive Wednesday evenings *beginning on March 8*, we will meet at 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall for a simple meal of soup and bread. At 6:00pm we will convene for conversation about "growing older in Christ," including topics such as:

Growing Older and Facing Limitations
Doing Inner Work
The Gift of Community
Prayer and Contemplation
Redeeming Loss, Making Amends
Leaving a Legacy

All members of the congregation are welcome, whatever your age. *Friends and neighbors are also welcome.* This is an opportunity to reach out and welcome and include others as we seek to grow in faith. Again the particulars are:

Wednesdays in Lent (8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th)
Soup's On at 5:30pm
Program 6:00-7:00pm
In Fellowship Hall

Grace and Peace to You,
Lynn

SESSION

The Session met for their regular meeting on February 21 and received reports from the Ministry Teams. Of note was the report from *Worship* about worship opportunities during Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday, March 1. *Building and Grounds* continues to monitor a sometimes leak in the sanctuary ceiling. To date roofing consultants have not determined the exact origin of it. *Finance* has been putting in extra hours working with our Presbytery's treasurer to format the finance reports in a nonprofit model. *Stewardship and Mission* will be promoting the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering through the Lenten season and Holy Week. *Parish Health* will be scheduling training for AED lifesaving skills in the spring. *Christian Education* welcomed 5 children to a Sunday evening program titled, "God has a plan for you," on February 19. The children were enthusiastic about the evening and the teachers were impressed with the depth of the discussion. They are planning another program for the spring. Rev. Shetzer encouraged the elders to be in prayer with the question, "What is God calling us to be about at this time and in this place?" This time of great change in the Church requires real faith – *not knowing* – and trusting in God to guide us in new directions.

Submitted by: *Rev. Shetzer*

Rev. Shetzer reviewed her 2 years of ministry and passed out some reading materials for Session to consider. There will be a Lenten series of presentations with soup dinners on March 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th beginning at 5:30 pm (additional information later in this newsletter). The Valentine's coffee hour was well-received with folks appreciating the picture display. Paula Bracken had a great event for children on Sunday, February 19th, evening with 5 in attendance for food, fun and bible study. All small groups should give Paula information soon for the re-designed bulletin board in the Narthex. Ash Wednesday is March 1st and there will be a service at 7 PM. We will be privileged to host a ministerial candidate for the Church of the Covenant in April. Your generosity provided almost \$200 to the Total Living Center Souper Bowl donation. Parish Health reported that some members cannot have visitors, so it is better to phone in order to keep in touch. Building and Grounds notified the Session that minor repairs to the heating system and roof are in progress. The Simple Gifts singing group will be performing at Reedurban on April 23rd at 4 PM—the event is open to the public. Wendy described a possible 6k walk/run event for clean water globally sponsored by World Vision, an international aid agency. The event features children who can be sponsored to receive clean water for the cost of your entry donation. Wendy and Lynne will explore partnering with other local churches to run this event on May 6th.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Lichtenwalter

Ash Wednesday Worship

Service of Prayer and Penitence

Wednesday, March 1

7:00pm

In the Sanctuary

*“Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.”*

Lenten Study Being Planned

Lent begins on March 1 this year with Ash Wednesday. A service of prayer and the imposition of ashes will be held at 7:00pm that evening. On the four Wednesdays following through March, a group study exploring the topic, "*Spirituality for the Second Half of Life*" will be offered to church members and friends. Participants will look at scripture and other materials that challenge us not to settle for "*getting old*," but to become true elders, people growing older in God's grace and wisdom with gifts to bless the world. Rev. Shetzer will guide the discussion. A simple soup and bread supper will precede the study.



The Deacons are collecting cleaning supplies items (i.e. Spic & Span, window cleaner, cleaning cloths, etc.) for the **Giving Tree** through March. They may be left in the basket in the Narthex.



The **Food Cupboard** is in great need of food. If you could help with non-perishable food items it would be so much appreciated.

Please remember the Deacons. They help the Church help those in need giving food or clothing or maybe just a little card to someone who is a little lonely or ill. There are envelopes in the pews. We need your help to help. Thank you.

The Deacons are in need of brown bags.

As always thank you for your support.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

As Presbyterians, We know what it means to come together, We make it a habit to unite in worship, prayer and giving.

In a few weeks our congregation will hear more on how their support to ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING helps others in need and rebuild lives.

Here is an example on how funds will be allocated...

32% Restoring Hope (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance)

36% Reducing Hunger (Presbyterian Hunger Program)

32% Partnering in Progress (self-Development of People)

Thank you in advance for your Generous Gifts!

Mission and Stewardship Team Members

PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY UPDATE



Are you feeling stressed and anxious with all the political turmoil and threats facing our nation?

Well you certainly are not alone! Remember the only thing we can control, is our attitude!

We also know that getting some daily exercise, and eating a healthy diet is helpful in coping with stress. Here are some food tips to increase our serotonin level in the brain necessary for coping and body function.

Stress Management Diet:

- Eat a bowl of warm oatmeal or have an orange
- Eat complex carbohydrates: (100% whole grain breads and wheat pasta to keep blood sugars level)
- If you need a pick up: have a piece of hard candy or handful of nuts (pistachios, plain almonds, or walnuts vitamin B foods)
- Spinach (raw or cooked increases magnesium level to relax muscles and nerves)
- Twice a week eat fatty fish (tuna and salmon excellent choices)
- Eat some raw vegetables and avocados (plain or eat with humus)
- Drink black tea or green tea, is very soothing) Avoid alcohol as it is a depressant

Other tips for stress management:

- Do not take any OTC herbal products without first checking with MD as many herbals have very dangerous drug interactions with medications
 - Limit time watching TV news; and do something you really enjoy at least 10 minutes - 1hour daily be it listening to music, reading or working on a craft
- Start your day with thankfulness and gratitude to God for your blessings
- End your evening by having an hour off phone and computer before bed; and read your devotions and spend time in prayer

Be sure your blood pressure is in control by stopping at Community Dinners from 4PM-6:30 PM on Tuesday February 28, 2017 and March 28, 2017.

Submitted by: *Gwen Weston*



Open to anyone who would like to grow in their faith in the company of loving Christians.

Seekers – Every other Tuesday 1:00 pm - Woodlawn Village Club House. Questions: Carol Kaufmann 330-546-7316.

Crafty Knitters – 2nd and 4th Thursdays 10:00 am - church. Questions: Carol Mossor 330-433-0701.

Men's Breakfast Group – 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 8:30 am – Main Street Grill (inside Buehler's). Questions: Jack Robinson 330-837-8217

Sowers – 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 10:00 am - church : Don and Jackie Peel at 330-877-8745.



The Monthly Community Dinner sponsored by the Men's Breakfast Group is held on the last Tuesday of each month from 4:00-6:30 pm. The next dinner will be on **Tuesday, February 28th**. If you can spare some time the men would welcome any help as well as desserts. Blood pressure screenings are offered as well. Jack Robinson (330-837-8217) can answer any questions.

Sharing Ministry and Mission

The church is filled with inspiring stories of faith. Each of us has a story to tell of our individual faith journeys and how the Lord has blessed us along our way through caring people and the church community. You are invited to offer your story for publication through our monthly newsletter. It is an opportunity to glorify God and inspire the church. We are blessed by *Jeanne Carson* to share her faith story this month.

When I was asked to write this little piece, I thought why not, what a piece of cake. Well, it is not. It is more like trying politely to chew a piece of tuff steak. The more I thought about it the harder it seemed to be. I am somewhat a private person when it comes to religion and politics so I haven't shared much with too many friends and those are close. Sitting here thinking what am I to say I do not remember not having the Trinity in my life? I hear a voice in my head saying "tell them what you really feel". So here goes.

Going back about 60 years or so I asked my mother how do you know God, Jesus and the Holy Ghost are real? She didn't hesitate with an answer and simply said "because I have Faith". Well, that made it clear. Not! It did, however, open my heart and mind to the possibility.

I remember sitting in a classroom at St, Joan of Arc daydreaming as normal when I turn my face to a wall and saw a picture of Jesus looking at me. It is one of those odd moments that you never forget. It felt like He was really looking right into my eyes to let me know that He is indeed real. That did it. From that moment on I knew God is real and watching out for me. God is my Father, Jesus is my Lord and Savior and the Holy Ghost fills me with hope and love every day.

Of course, especially in my younger adult years I didn't follow the way I should have. Those few hours of sleep on a Sunday seemed more important than going into a church for a whole hour to hear what I have heard my entire life. Then suddenly you realize that hour is nothing compared to those hours Christ endured for us. Thankfully, we are forgiven for our rebellious moments and are taken back into His arms as any father would. When I need it most it seems somehow or another I can feel that comfort and gain strength to face another day. As you grow older you realize and remember we are here on a temporary basis. My belief in Him helps me deal with death. When I lost my parents and sister I knew they were at rest, no longer having to deal with the trials of life and able to have the joys they had in life tenfold because they are truly home now.

I talk to God every day sometimes just because I am lonely or I need help with what I am dealing with and of course to thank him for all I have. Just talking things over can help me see things more clearly especially when I know it is not a one-sided conversation. If I keep my heart open and listen I know the answer will be there. It may not be what I think I want but it is what He thinks I need. Hard for me to accept at times but every day my belief grows and I know so far, His plan for me has been pretty awesome.

Jeanne Carson



Church School Teachers

March 5	Children worship w/parents
March 12	Pam Baxter
March 19	Paula Bracken
March 26	Darlene Mock

Submitted by: Darlene Mock

Coming in April:

Palm Sunday, April 9, Service of Word and Sacrament

Blessing of the Palms

Maundy Thursday, April 13, Communion Around the Tables

Potluck Supper in Fellowship Hall

Service of the Last Supper

Tenebrae Observance in the sanctuary

Good Friday Prayer Vigil, April 14

Easter Sunday Celebration, April 16, "Christ is Risen!"

And on Sunday, April 23:

"Simple Gifts"

(A Musical Duo)

4:00pm

In the Sanctuary

Two award-winning musicians plus 12 instruments equal one good time! Music includes: *Irish jigs, American reels and folk tunes, Gypsy melodies, Klezmer, Balkan dances and Scandinavian twin fiddling.* Members and friends welcome!

"Souper Bowl Sunday" Report: Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the special offering taken on Super Bowl Sunday for local hunger needs. Our contribution this year more than doubled last year at \$199.36! *The Total Living Center* is the recipient of your generosity for their several food ministries.

**A Few Words About Refugees
from the PCUSA Office of Public Witness**

(The following is shared as food for thought.)

"Knowing that Jesus himself entered this world as a refugee, faithful Presbyterians have been urging the welcome of refugees and asking higher annual admissions into the United States since the refugee crisis of World War. II.

The Presbyterian Church is present in many of the countries from which refugees and asylum seekers are flowing. This includes Syria and Lebanon, where we have been present since 1823. Because we have a presence with people of faith and communities in these countries, we understand why these refugees are fleeing and are further committed to welcoming them.

Thousands of Presbyterians across the U.S. have personally reached out to welcome refugees and asylum seekers. They have seen first-hand the struggles and the determination of our new neighbors to rebuild their lives in dignity. We have also seen how difficult it is to focus on survival while worrying about family members who are still overseas.

Right now nearly *60 million people are displaced by war and persecution; 30 million of those displaced are children.* *Eleven million displaced Syrians* cannot go to school, tend to their land, or raise their children in the place they know as home. Families are risking their lives and fleeing their homes to seek safety. They are spending months journeying, sleeping outside, paying smugglers for safe passage and praying for a future for their families in a place that is safe from conflict. Our nation has historically stood for hope and welcome for those fleeing war and persecution.

We are called to welcome the stranger and treat the sojourner as we would our own citizens. Our nation will be judged by how we treat the most vulnerable, the widow, the orphan, and the refugee during these trying times. We must send a message of hope and healing, of peace and justice to those fleeing desperate situations."



Have You Seen the Bulletin Boards?!

Several of the church's bulletin boards that display helpful and inspirational information have gotten a make-over. Thanks to the creative talents and dedicated efforts of Paula Bracken and her crew (Pam Baxter, Darlene Mock and Jackie Peel) there are beautiful displays that present important aspects of the life and work of the congregation and invite us to grow in faith.

Thank you, friends, for sharing your talents, helping enable our mission, and beautifying our church building.

Many thanks to Paula Bracken, Darlene Mock and Dona Tumlin who assisted in the Church Office while Janice was on vacation.

2017 SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Lynn Shetzer
Class of 2017:

Class of 2018:

Class of 2019:

Clerk: Wendy Lichtenwalter
Victoria Brunk
Chuck Leeser
Charles Blackstone
Dwight Newsom
Debbie Anderson
Gary Steinbach

Carol Kaufmann
Gwen Weston
Paula Bracken
Jack Robinson
Wendy Lichtenwalter
Jim VanEtten

2017 DEACONS

Moderator: Linda Radsick
Class of 2017:

Class of 2018:

Class of 2019

Vice-Moderator: Darlene Mock
Pam Baxter
Linda Radsick
Marge Merrin
Tim Shetzer
Jeanne Carson
Lois Pinhard

Sue Larke
John Whitacre
Darlene Mock
Renate White
Katie Hinson
Margaret Whitacre

MARCH



1st Olivia Catlett
 2nd Juanita Luoni
 3rd David Oplinger
 4th Derek DiLorenzo
 8th Kendall Anderson
 Cal Simpson
 10th David Crotsley
 Mary Lou Upton
 13th Carol Mossor
 23rd Paul Daniluk
 24th Gwen Weston
 28th Maggie Larke
 29th Carrie Larke
 30th Don Peel
 Elijah Peel



March 5 Sue Larke
 March 12 Dave & Barb Wright
 March 19 **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
 March 26 **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

We are looking for volunteers to be greeters. Please sign up for a Sunday or two. For more information on being a Greeter, please contact Pam Baxter at 330-477-3389.



The **April** newsletter deadline is **March 15th**. Please have your articles to Cheryl Robinson (330-837-8217) (email: car929@aol.com) or to the church office by then.



March 5 **OPEN**
 March 12 **OPEN**
 March 19 Dona Tumlin for the gift of Thomas
 March 26 Jackie & Don Peel in memory of siblings



Congratulations to Mary Lou Upton on the birth of her Great Granddaughter Adalind (Addie) VanBooren. Proud parents are Jared and Megan VanBooren.

2017 FLOWER CHART

The 2017 Flower Chart has been posted on the bulletin board outside the office. If you would like to give flowers for a special occasion or a special person, please fill in your name next to the date. You will be billed from Flowers By Pat.

PER CAPITA

Many thanks to all who have paid their 2017 Per Capita already. If you haven't done so yet, the amount is \$29.11 per member.

OFFICE HOURS

8:00 am – 12:30 pm Monday – Thursday

If you call after office hours, please leave a message on the machine and someone will get back to you as soon as possible. If it's an emergency, please call Rev. Shetzer at home 330-494-2288.

LITURGIST SIGN-UP

Thanks to all who have volunteered to be a liturgist for February. The sheet for March/April is posted. Won't you consider volunteering?

If you are interested, please sign your name. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Kaufmann at 330-546-7316.



The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Gary and Elaine Steinbach and family on the passing of Gary's mother, Clara Steinbach on February 12, 2017.

Condolences are extended to Kathy Steiner and family on the passing of her father, Clarence Ogle on February 11, 2017.



Phyllis Greene (Laurels of Massillon)
Marge Showers (Hanover House)
Bill Bowen
Dorothy Bowen
Paul Daniluk
Jerry Givens
Edna Harper
Katie Hinson
Bob Hookey
Jackson Kiger II
Marge Merrin
Nadine Regula
Kathy Steiner
Jim Trimmer
Lori Waibel
Paul Waibel

If you or a family member is admitted into the hospital, please call the office and let us know. We cannot set up visitation or put you on the prayer chain if we do not know. The hospitals no longer call us.



Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 12th. Turn your clocks ahead 1 hour before retiring on March 11th.