



Reedurban Presbyterian Church

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

Reedurban APRIL 2017 Newsletter



Dear Friends,

I have so appreciated the opportunity to share faith and something of my personal pilgrimage on Wednesday evenings. You know how, when you have an “Ah-hah!” experience, you want to share it with others? That’s how I have felt over recent years of reading the spiritual insights of people like Richard Rohr, Henri Nouwen, Christena Cleveland, Rob Bell and Cynthia Bourgeaut, and participating in their seminars. All of it reflects on *the life and teachings of Jesus* and the good news of his gospel that we focus on week by week in the life of the church.

There is so much to wonder about and wrestle with: growing up by *letting go*; moving beyond the desire for easy quick answers and into *God’s simple truth*; learning to really *forgive* – even ourselves; and surrendering our ego desires so we can find our *true selves in God*. It sure changes your life! And it keeps you in the flow of Christ’s saving love, which is right where he wants us and the reason his Spirit is here for us.

The world needs people who are connected and dedicated to keep growing as Jesus’ disciples. Our witness of acceptance, compassion, mercy and honest relationships is like *salt* in the stew and a *beacon light* in the night. I’m thankful to partner with you all as we travel this faith road together. I came upon a hymn in the new Presbyterian Hymnal that really reflects the themes we’ve been considering on Wednesday evenings this month:

*Faith begins by letting go, giving up what had seemed sure,
taking risks and pressing on, though the way feels less secure;
pilgrimage both right and odd trusting all our life to God.*

*Faith endures by holding on, keeping memory’s roots alive
so that hope may bear its fruit; promise-fed, our souls will thrive,
not through merit we possess but by God’s great faithfulness.*

*Faith matures by reaching out, stretching minds, enlarging hearts,
sharing struggles, living prayer, binding up the broken parts;
till we find the commonplace ripe with witness to God’s grace.*

God bless your Lenten journey. May we arrive at Easter openhearted and receptive to the abundant new life our Lord makes possible.

Lynn

SESSION

Rev. Shetzer spoke about the visits she has made to our parishioners who can't join us in worship. She has been taking communion to some of them and asked if Elders would like to accompany her on these visits. The Lenten series on Spirituality has been well-received. Session approved 2 days of continuing education and one week of vacation. **Building and Grounds** has authorized Rick to remove the dilapidated vertical blinds from various areas of the church. Some new type of window treatment will be chosen soon. **Outreach** will continue to promote the concert by Simple Gifts duo on April 23rd. Publicity has been approved by Perry Schools as this is a free-will offering event. The Men's group is planning the Easter Breakfast. **Finance** reviewed the new forms that will be used to review our standing with a few questions being answered easily as to the changes. Our income is on par with 2016 figures. Gary Steinbach and Cal Simpson will meet with our financial advisor to review our positions and plan for maximizing our returns. **Stewardship and Mission** remind us all to support the One Great Hour of Sharing collection during the season of Lent. **Parish Health** reported that the CPR/AED training was well-attended and successfully presented yesterday. A second copy of the information on CPR will be available to be borrowed by those who could not attend--see Gwen Weston. Those in the parish with health concerns continue to receive phone calls from this group. **Christian Education** is preparing for the Easter Season especially for the Community Dinner Kids Table. **Worship** committee presented a report on their plans for Holy Week. See your bulletin for specific plans and times. The Simple Gifts concert will be heavily promoted in the schools and Lynn will attempt to get a full article and photo in each local newspaper.

World Vision is organizing a GLOBAL 6K walk/run for water on May 6th with an invitation to participants to be recognized at church on May 7th. Wendy handed out postcards with the details. She will work with local track and cross country teams and has the information to publicize the event to the local running community.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Lichtenwalter, Clerk of Session

Holy Week Worship Opportunities

Palm Sunday

April 9, 10:30am
Blessing of the Palms
Joining our Savior on
His way to the Cross
Come, sing Hosanna!

Maundy Thursday

6:30pm, *Supper and
Holy Communion*
(in Fellowship Hall)
7:30 *Tenebrae Service*
(in the Sanctuary)

Good Friday Vigil

7:00am-5:00pm
15 minute segments
Come to the church to
follow the *Way of the Cross*
or pray at home

EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION

April 16, 10:30am
"Alleluia, Christ is Risen!"
The Gospel of Matthew 28:1-10
Songs and Hymns of New Life
Dare to Hope and Believe!

**One Great Hour Offering is being collected
each Sunday during Lent.**

Please remember how our gifts serve people in our community and around the world by alleviating hunger, rebuilding after crises or catastrophes and working with communities to overcome oppression, and be generous with your gift.

Lenten Series

We have one week left (March 29th) for our Lenten Series. 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.

Soup's On at 5:30pm
Program 6:00-7:00pm
In Fellowship Hall

HOLY WEEK REMINDERS

Maunder Thursday, April 13, 6:30 pm – POT LUCK SUPPER in Fellowship Hall. Sign-up sheet will be on the Welcome Center counter for 3 Sundays before; 3/26, 4/2 & 4/9. **(NO DESSERTS)**

Good Friday Prayer Vigil, April 14 – Sign-up sheet of 15 minute intervals between 7:00 am and 5:00 pm will be on the Welcome Center counter beginning on Sunday 4/2. (Sign up for either at church or at home.) Good Friday meditation booklets will be available on the Welcome Center counter for use either place.

Submitted by: *Carol Kaufmann*

EASTER MORNING BREAKFAST

The men of the church will be cooking and serving a great pancake and sausage breakfast on Easter morning beginning at 9:00 am. Come and join us for wonderful fellowship and great food.



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



Please help the Deacons replenish the food cupboard. It is bare! All non-perishable items are needed except for corn. They are also in need of brown bags. As always your generosity is greatly 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.



Mark your calendars: Saturday, May 13th, the Deacons will be having their Annual Spaghetti Dinner. This is the day before Mother's Day and an opportunity to feed your out of town guests with fun and fellowship. Adult tickets are \$7. More information to come.

Would you like a CD of our Sunday Services?

Every Sunday faithful Carol Frye records a CD of our Sunday Worship. Are there any members or friends who would like to listen to one? This question goes out especially to kwho are unable to be present on Sundays. We would love to share the songs, prayer and scripture with you. Just call the office and let us know. Great idea for shut-ins.

As always thank you for your support.



Church School Teachers

April 2	Children worship w/parents
April 9	Pam Baxter
April 16	Paula Bracken
April 23	Debbie Anderson
April 30	Darlene Mock

Submitted by: *Darlene Mock*

PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY UPDATE



Springtime is here! Everyone gets excited to start planning their outdoor work projects and flower gardens. Maybe you plan to do more walking, or participate in sporting events, visit a popular tourist attraction or just see some ballgames. The following are some safety tips for protecting yourself and your home.

Protect Your Home

- Don't leave house unlocked during the day while working outside.
- Close first floor windows when not home or while sleeping.
- Don't hide spare key in mailbox, under planters or doormats. Give a key to a trusted neighbor.
- Never open your door before knowing who is there! Install a peephole.
- Keep your garage door down and doors locked when you are home.
- Have dead bolts installed on doors.
- Vary your daily routine.
- Have your cell phone with you when working outdoors or walking.

Protecting Your Purse and Wallet

- Wear your purse over your shoulder and under coat if possible. Don't dangle or swing purse.
- Carry your wallet in front pants pocket or inside coat pocket. Don't carry large sums of money.
- Beware of cars driving past you slowly. Purses are grabbed by criminals in moving vehicles.
- If someone tries to steal your purse, let it go! Your safety is more important.
- Be observant of your surroundings at all times.

Come to a free blood pressure screening at the Community Dinners on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 and April 25, 2017 from 4-6:30 PM.

Submitted by: *Gwen Weston*

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! (See insert)

Calling all Cookie Bakers!

Would you be willing to donate a couple dozen cookies for a reception honoring the musicians after the "Simple Gifts" concert on Sunday, April 23rd? Please bring your cookies to the church on Sunday morning so we'll have everything in readiness for after the 4:00pm concert. THANK YOU!



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 or Pam Baxter 330-477-3389.

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, March 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 *Victoria Brunk* to share her faith story this month.

I was raised in a Pentecostal and Jehovah Witness which made for an interesting upbringing childhood. After going to a Pentecostal Church from my younger age until my young adulthood I discovered the mainstream type of church and my spiritual life changed dramatically. I began to look into the scriptures to see what they truly meant, not what I was told they meant what are reality check that turned out to be.

I was originally ordained through a Pentecostal Church, but I became ordained through a mainstream Church where I stayed for several years, but it wasn't until I became active in the Presbyterian Church that I found what I was looking for - a denomination that really believed in speaking out on the issues that concerned me.

After I discovered what I had been looking for, unfortunately, I had a major stroke. God has blessed me so much that I can hardly fathom it. He has given me peace and happiness throughout this ordeal that I would never have thought possible. God is good all the time, and all the time God is good. Praise His wonderful name.

Victoria Brunk



Heartfelt Thanks Goes To:

- Our gifted choir director, Charles Blackstone, who has done double duty for the last month, serving as organist as well – Yea, Chuck!
- The elders and deacons who have assisted with home communions
- Sue Larke, Linda Radsick, Pam Baxter and Gary Steinbach who provided home-made soup for the mid-week Lenten programs, and Paula Bracken for the home-made dinner rolls – delicious one and all!
- Chuck Leeser for his extra gifts of time and presence as the church dealt with unexpected boiler issues.
- The Worship Ministry Team for all their extra work and planning for Holy Week and Easter.
- Gwen Weston and the Parish Health Team for arranging and providing the CPR workshop to update our skills
- Paula Bracken for her creative work to update the Welcome Center bulletin board; Thanks also to Debbie Anderson for the “Journey to Easter” bulletin board in the education hallway.
- Gary Steinbach, Carol Frye, Linda Radsick and Debbie Anderson for all the extra, (and there’s been a LOT of extra), time given to working on the church’s financial forms and reporting. God bless you.
- Lloyd Hinson for his invaluable help with some computer technicalities and related issues.



THE PRESCHOOL AROUND THE CORNER

In the month of March Preschool 2 studied dinosaurs, Dr. Seuss, and rhyming. We celebrated 100 days of school and St Patrick's Day. The children brought in 100 edible treats, which we combined to make a friendship mix.

Preschool 1 studied transportation. The children used various forms of art and dramatic play in their learning.

Spring break is March 27 - 31. The teachers will be in and out.

We are currently enrolling for next school. Children must be 3 and potty-trained.

Have a wonderful month.

Tricia Conner and Reta Hale

Reminder: For safety reasons no one will be permitted to use the back entrance or go beyond the partition from 8:30 to noon Monday – Thursday while they are in operation. Thanks for your cooperation.

Teaching Children about Easter with Special Easter Cookies

(Share this special teaching experience with the children in your life.)

Ingredients needed: 1 cup whole pecans
 1 teaspoon white vinegar
 3 egg whites (MUST BE AT ROOM TEMPERATURE!)
 1 cup sugar
 Pinch of salt
 Wooden spoons or mallets
 Hand mixer
 Glass or metal mixing bowl (no plastic)
 2 cookie sheets lined with wax paper
 Zip lock baggies
 Tape
 Bible

Preheat oven to 350 degrees; Bake cookies about 20 minutes, till dry and cracked.

Put pecans in baggies and let children beat them with a wooden spoon to break into small pieces. Explain that after Jesus was arrested he was beaten by Roman soldiers. (John 19:1-3)

Let children smell the vinegar. Put 1 teaspoon into mixing bowl. Explain that when Jesus was thirsty on the cross he was given vinegar to drink. (John 19:28-30)

Add egg whites to vinegar. Eggs represent life. Explain that Jesus gave his life to give us life. (John 10:10-11)

Sprinkle a little salt into each child's hand. Let them taste it and brush the rest into the bowl. Explain this represents the salty tears Jesus' followers shed and that we shed for our sins. (Luke 23: 27)

Add 1 cup of sugar. Explain the sweetest part of the story is Jesus' love for us. (John 3:16)

Beat with mixer on high speed 12-15 minutes until stiff peaks form. Explain the color white represents the purity of being cleansed of sin by Jesus' love on the cross. (Isaiah 1:18)

Fold in broken nuts. Drop by teaspoons onto wax paper. Explain each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid. (Matthew 27:57-60)

Put cookie sheets in oven and close door. Give each child a piece of tape and seal the oven door. Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed. (Matthew 27:65-66). Go on to some other activity and say Jesus promised his followers sadness would turn to joy. (John 16: 20-22)

Open the oven. See the cracked cookies. When cooled, take a bite. The cookies are hollow! On Easter Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty. (Matthew 28:1-9)

"Master Plan" in Concert

A popular area praise band, featuring our own Chuck Blackstone will be in concert on Friday, April 7 in Alliance. *"Master Plan"* concerts have been on hiatus for some months as one of their members battled serious health issues and treatment. Thank God, Marty has rejoined the band! You can hear them in downtown Alliance, 346 East Main St. from 8:00 – 10:30pm.

HOLY WEEK

By Ann Weems

Holy, consecrated, belonging to God...

We move from hosannas to horror with predictable ease of those who know not what they do.

Our hosannas sung, our palms waved, let us go with passion into this week.

It is a time to curse fig trees that do not yield fruit.

It is a time to cleanse our temples of any blasphemy.

It is a time to greet Jesus as the Lord's Anointed One,

To lavishly break our alabaster and pour perfume out for him without counting the cost.

It is a time for preparation...

The time to give thanks and break bread is upon us.

The time to give thanks and drink of the cup is imminent.

Eat, drink, remember:

On that night of nights, each one must ask, as we dip our bread in the wine, "Is it I?"

And on that darkest of days, each of us must stand beneath the tree and watch the dying if we are to be there when the stone is rolled away.

The only road to Easter morning is through the unrelenting shadows of that Friday.

Only then will the alleluias be sung; only then will the dancing begin.

Submitted by: *Carol Kaufmann*

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

Clean Drinking Water: A Human Right

Americans take for granted that when we're thirsty all we have to do is turn on the faucet, and clean palatable water will flow. We take it for granted so much we're liable to waste the vital resource. In many parts of the world people do not have such a ready resource, and they would never waste it, because it is the difference between life and death for them and their families. Especially on the continent of Africa, people walk miles every day for water. Imagine if we were forced to do that!

Two events highlighting the need for safe, drinking water are involving members of our congregation. The first is a seminar, sponsored by Trinity Episcopal Church in New York City with satellite sites around the county, March 23-26. Our own *Wendy Lichtenwalter* will be a presenter at the gathering in Columbus at St. Philip Episcopal Church. Wendy is a "water sentinel" for Sierra Club's Clean Water Campaign. She collects data from local water sources and posts it along with other data from around the country on the Sierra Club website.

The title of the conference is, "*Water Justice*" which is described as follows:

*"Water is a gift. Water is life. As water crises increase, access to safe
And clean drinking water decreases. From Flint to Standing Rock,
Many of today's most pressing social issues revolve around water.
Faith communities worldwide can help."*

The conference is infused with spiritual principles and prayer along with science and solutions to allow those who participate to deeply examine what connects us, and empowers us to take unified, faith-based action for water justice.

Our service in Jesus' name does not take place only on church property or through church programs. Wendy witnesses to the fact that when "*the church leaves the building*" we serve our Savior in a variety of ways, including researching and advocating for clean drinking water for all God's children.

Coming in May: *Global 6K Walk or Run for Water*

Our congregation will be one of those sponsoring and promoting a fundraiser to provide safe drinking water for people all over the world. **Saturday, May 6** is the date. Sponsored by *World Vision*, participants *pledge \$50* each to walk the average distance many people in the developing world walk for water. An easy course in our area is being mapped out. *Participants get to wear the name and photo of a clean water recipient* and receive a t-shirt and finisher's medal.

More information will soon be available.

APRIL



2nd Bob Radsick
 Kathy Steiner
 3rd Jackson Kiger
 5th Pam Baxter
 Isaiah Hayes
 6th John Whitacre
 8th Yvonne Wise
 10th Barbara Wright
 17th Blake Newsom
 Megan Swihart
 18th Rod Anderson
 30th Chuck Blackstone
 Phyllis Greene

April 2 Jeanne Carson
 April 9 Linda Radsick
 April 16 Dona Tumlin
 April 23 Dick Hambleton
 April 30 Marge & Ron Merrin

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

2017 FLOWER CHART

The 2017 Flower Chart is 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.



April 2 Darlene Mock in memory of her father, Roy Hines
 April 9 Gary & Elaine Steinbach in celebration of their 26th wedding anniversary
 Dave Wright in honor of Barb's birthday
April 16 EASTER LILIES
 April 23 John & Margaret Whitacre in celebration of their wedding anniversary
 April 30 **OPEN**

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 March. The sheet for 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.



Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to:

Bob and Linda Radsick and family upon the death of Bob's brother, Jim.

Our prayers are with you and may the Lord extend his comfort to all.

Phyllis Greene (Laurels of Massillon)
Juanita Luoni (Aultman Woodlawn)
Marge Showers (Hanover House)
Bill Bowen
Dorothy Bowen
Paul Daniluk
Jerry Givens
Edna Harper
Katie Hinson
Bob Hookey
Jackson Kiger II
Christopher Luoni
Marge Merrin
Scott Phillips
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.



Norma Nebo
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