



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) Plain City, Ohio

PPC PRESSing News

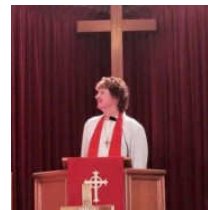
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Word from Pastor Alice



Dear Church Family,

I don't know about you, but I think this Spring was the most anticipated one I have ever experienced. I love Spring...my very favorite time of the year. Following this long year of dealing with Covid and the dreary days of winter, I think most people were extremely anxious to see warmer temperatures, buds beginning on trees, and crocuses, daffodils, and lilies starting to pop through the soil. There is something refreshing and exciting about springtime as we witness new life emerge all around us. It certainly can lift one's spirit.

I love that Easter falls during the springtime. Could you think of a better place to reflect in one week upon the suffering and death of Jesus and celebrate His ultimate Resurrection? We can only imagine the despair of His followers after His crucifixion. They were lost, confused, and scared before they met the Risen Christ in their midst! Christ was alive! Because He was alive and conquered sin, death, and Satan, they too could have the promise of eternal life, the grace of forgiveness, and new life every day! They moved from the depths of despair to abundant living! That promise is for each of us who believe and trust in Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

We have had to experience the difficult and dreary days of winter and Covid to fully appreciate the springtime days. What is true in nature is true for our spiritual lives as well. We must walk through the entire Holy Week to really experience the fullness of Easter. Remembering the Last Supper and Jesus washing the disciples' feet and his brutal crucifixion are an essential part of Holy Week. We must remember the suffering in order to fully appreciate the joy of Easter. So, I encourage you... don't jump from Palm Sunday to Easter without making two very significant stops in the coming week. Be present for worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday...whether in person or virtually. Easter will mean so much more to you if you do.

Here is the Holy Week Schedule:

March 28th - Palm Sunday - 10:00 a.m.

Parade of children with palms

April 1 - Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion - 7:00 p.m.

April 2 - Good Friday

Tenebrae Service - 7:00 p.m.

April 4 - Easter Sunday - 10:00 a.m.

Special music

Looking forward to seeing many of you during Holy Week!

Love being your pastor!

Love and Blessings in Jesus!

Alice

Church Treasurer Report for February 2021

The general fund for the month of February ended with a strong balance, with expenses being within the normal range for the month, and having a substantial carryover from the prior month. The weekly average donations were down from the last few months. Please note that additional donations were received for last year, and had not been included in last month's general fund balance.

General Expenses Fund

Beginning Balance 2/01/2021	\$ 10,720.17
Additional donations from 2020	6,011.98
Income	8,997.78
Expenses	<u>(10,646.35)</u>
Ending Balance 2/28/2021	\$ 15,083.58

For the month, \$500 was sent to the Plain City Food Pantry. If there are any questions, please let me know.

Best Regards,
Gary Gibeaut, Treasurer

Where to send your offering? For now keep sending your tithes directly to Suzanne Merkle or to the church: Suzanne will continue as financial secretary until things ease up with the pandemic when meeting to discuss her job would be easier. **For those using offering envelopes,** they are here at the church to pick up if you are attending or give the office a call and we will get them to you or arrange a pick up.

The Judy Walker Music

Scholarship Still Collecting Donations

Judy Walker has faithfully served our church as organist for the past 54 years. The Session has wanted to find some way to honor Judy for her many years of service and decided to establish the Judy Walker Music Scholarship Fund. Each year a graduating student will be chosen. The amount given each year will be determined by the funds that become available. Please mail your gift to Suzanne Merkle; or if you are worshipping in person, you may bring your gift to the church. **PLEASE** designate on your check/envelope that it is for the Judy Walker Music Scholarship Fund.



Sunday April 11- Installation of New Officers

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS - New officers will be installed on April 11 during the a.m. worship service. All officers whose term is completed this year will stay on until April 11 when the new class is installed.

Session class of 2023: Sally Petznick
Whitney Reed
Harley Bodenbender

Trustees class of 2023: John Watson-
Chic Foust

Deacons class of 2023

Karon Kaufman
Sharon Newell
Kim Moody

Music & Worship: Janet Johnston (2023)

Audit Committee: Chris Johnston (2023)

2021 Nominating Committee:

At-large: Donna Rihl and Leanne Manning,
+ 1 Elder, 1 Deacon, 1 Trustee
Alternates: Judy Weeks and Brynn Craney

We want to take time to thank those officers who served extra time due to the delay caused by Covid as well as their earlier service. Thank you for your commitment.

Session: Shane Manning, Chris Johnston, Bob Merkle

Deacons: Connor Johnston, Sharon Newell, Whitney Reed, Judy Weeks

Trustees: Gary Gibeaut, Steve Patterson, Donna Rihl

Music & Worship: Suzanne Merkle

Audit: Harley Bodenbender

SPRING ROAD CLEAN-UP



Help the environment and help the mission trip fund at the same time. The Darby Township Trustees have again graciously approved the church's request to clean up the township roadsides for funds for future mission trips. Great activity for families and young people. If you are willing to help out, please contact Jim Kaufman at 937-243-1653 or jnkkaufman@gmail.com.

Shut in Visitation If you are shut-in and would like a visit, or if your family member is shut-in and you would like Rev Alice to visit him/her, please let her know.

For the protection of everyone, she will only visit outdoors at nursing homes, assisted living places, or homes with everyone wearing a mask and social distancing. No home communion at this time, unless you or family has the communion elements available and already there for his/her loved one.

Matthew 25 Church What must we do to revitalize our own congregation?

To some extent, many local churches find themselves spiritually exhausted, financially fragile and structurally unsound. Sometimes, congregational life is discouraging — both for pastors and other church leaders who see apathy in their members, and for members who see the numbers in the pews declining year by year.

The Presbyterian Mission Agency of the PC(USA) has made a profound commitment to help you turn things around.

We propose that there are seven marks to help you determine your current level of vitality — and then various processes for self-assessment, discernment and renewed commitment to the habits that foster an energetic engagement with the Spirit's work in the world.

Here are the seven marks:

1. A commitment to forming disciples over every member's lifetime. This leads first to personal transformation, as people put on the heart of Christ, and then to social transformation, as people joyfully go forth into the community and tackle the issues facing today's culture.
2. Embracing the call to evangelism. We show forth the love of Christ by our actions and our lives even more than by our words. Our relationships are genuine and caring. People know we are Christians by our love.
3. An outward focus. Our church is not a place to escape from the world, but rather our gateway to our community where we may be the hands, feet, heart and mouth of Jesus Christ for people who are suffering or marginalized.
4. Empowering every member to discover their individual calling and the gifts God has given them so they can go forth and serve.
5. Spirit-inspired worship that challenges, teaches, transforms, convicts and energizes us so when we are sent out, we have experienced the wonder of God and are changed for the better from when we arrived.
6. Caring relationships modeled on God's love. We open our doors and hearts to all people, and we build relationships modeled on God's love, which leads to genuine reconciliation and peace.
7. Congregations with healthy systems. Our mission focuses are clear. There is fiscal responsibility and accountability. We have thoughtful decision-making structures. Our leaders and staff enjoy a sustainable balance of work/rest time.

God's gifts of Word and Sacrament establish and equip the church as the body of Christ in the world. The mission of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church flows from baptism, is nourished at the Lord's Supper, and serves to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ to all.

Worshiping communities experiencing congregational vitality will find themselves following Jesus into places of injustice and struggle bearing light and hope, demonstrating love and mercy, and working faithfully for justice and peace. Their efforts will be sustained by personal and congregational patterns and practices of prayer and worship, learning and reflection. They will be stewards of God's abundant gifts in service to God's children here and everywhere. They will demonstrate to the world God's promises and life-giving power in this age and the world to come.

Scriptures for study and reflection

Matthew 25:31–46

Acts 2:42–47

John 4:1–41

John 13: 2–17

Isaiah 6:1–13

Acts 6:1–7

2 Corinthians 5:11–21

EVENTS FROM OUR PRESBYTERY: Global Mission Event Mission Engagement 101 White Paper

Dates/Time: All sessions will be held on Saturdays [from 10:30 a.m.](#) to noon via Zoom . Registration: Email Les Sauer at lessauer@hotmail.com to receive a Zoom link before each

****Session 4 (April 17) – “What is Presbyterian about doing mission? How do congregations plug in?”** Conversation with Victor Makari and Doug Dicks, serving in Israel and Palestine

****Session 5 (May 15) – “Next steps--where do we go from here? Growing engagement in global mission in your congregation”** Conversation with Dan and Elizabeth Turk, serving in Madagascar



04/03	Lauren	Erdman
04/08	Jim	Kaufman
04/14	Meredith	Foust
04/14	Elaine	Wilcox
04/16	Renee	Troyer
04/17	Brian	Erdman
04/17	Natalie	Walker
04/18	Brandon	Bradley
04/19	Ian	Reed
04/20	Katelyn	Rihl
04/22	Tom	Verne
04/22	Briar Rose	Wilcox
04/24	Beth	Beach
04/27	Mary Lou	Rihl
04/29	Sarah	Ferguson
04/29	Shane	Manring
04/30	Larry	Myers



04/05	Brandon &	Elizabeth	Bradley
04/08	Jay &	Paula	Ferguson
04/19	Roy &	Lisa	Woods
04/20	Dave &	Rita	McCray

THANK YOU to the following individuals for providing music each Sunday. Session has decided to send them monthly gift cards from our church family in appreciation. If you would like to send a note of thanks to them, here are their addresses.

DR. AILENE ALBRECHT & CAITLYN MACKAY
2235 Hackney Ct
Hilliard 43026

DIRK AHLGRIM
139 N Powell Ave
Columbus, OH 43204



REMEMBERING OUR SHUT-INS

Being shut-in this past year should have given us a better appreciation for those on our shut-in list. Please take a moment to remember our shut-ins. Drop them a card or give them a call!

Mary Mitchell— Prestige Gardens Marysville
 Bob Schlitz—Home
 Connie Zimmerman—Arizona home
 Dick Harper—Home
 Fred DeLeon - Home
 Marian Thomas & Pat Stenner & Bruce Keiser—Dublin Retire Village Assisted Living
 Chuck Stoker—Home Pat Stoker- Bluebird Retirement, Marysville
 Alice Shalosky— Home
 Bryan Becker—Home
 Arlene Perkins— Walnut Crossing Assisted Living, Marysville
 Ray Russell, Emily Baker, Mary Lou Rihl. - Edgewater Assisted Living
 Georgianna Rymer- daughter's home