

Pres-Bits Newsletter

The Presbyterian Church of Washington

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And he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. – Luke 24:46-47

Dear Friends,

The first of March is the first day of Lent this year. So, it is fitting that I address the themes of Lent in the March newsletter. As we continue our way through the Gospel according to Luke and the Narrative Lectionary, I am reminded that the theme of repentance is both a common theme of Lent and a central theme of Luke’s writing.

The word “repentance” stirs feelings of shame and guilt in many of us. The word has an unfortunate history of manipulation: leaders of the faith using the word “repent” to shame the listener into a “closer walk with God.” Many of us have learned, inaccurately, that in order to truly repent, we need to feel *intense* guilt for our past transgressions.

However, if we take a closer look at the history of the word repentance, especially as it is used in Luke, we find a much less oppressive message. In the passage above, Luke uses the Greek word “metanoian,” that is translated into “repentance” in the New Revised Standard Version (and in the vast majority of English translations).

Very literally, “metanoian” can be accurately translated “the changing of one’s mind for the better.” “For the better” implies that the previous mindset was somehow flawed. However, even this literal translation is a bit incomplete. What it lacks is the implied “action” of the word “metanoian.” Not only should our minds be changed, but our actions should represent that change of mind/change of heart. In other words, repentance means that our actions, our behavior, have somehow changed for the better.

As we move toward the Cross and the Tomb this Lent, may we take a healthy examination of our minds, our hearts, and our actions and ask ourselves the question: “Have my actions changed for the better?” No need to shame yourself for your mistakes, no need to weep, no need to beat yourself up. Just try to live out your faith in a way that shows some true change has happened in your life because of your faith in Jesus Christ.

And, to be honest and direct, I'm not sure the attendance of an occasional worship service is evidence enough of a true "metanoian" behavior change. That's not to say that corporate worship is not of great worth. Worship along with your Covenant Faith Family is invaluable to our faith. However, your "metanoian" behavior change should be much more evident outside the worship hour.

That is the true test of repentance: Has your behavior changed for the better because of your faith? And, is your behavior change evident outside our sanctuary? Do your co-workers notice your behavior change? Your extended family? Your neighbors?

This Lenten season, may we all examine our behavior and our mindsets, not in an effort to critique ourselves, but instead, to encourage ourselves to live out some kind of evident change. Instead of hostility, gentleness. Instead of judgement, listening. Instead of rage, peace.

And, may all approach the empty tomb of Easter, in six short weeks, with minds and behavior, hearts and spirits, truly changed for the better.

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Pat

Our Church Mission Statement

Jesus Christ calls us to:

- *Enliven our spiritual lives by experiencing God among us,*
- *Grow in love for one another as children of God,*
- *Invite all to share in our fellowship,*
- *Demonstrate God's love through service to others.*



Office Hours

The church office is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Current Elders

Mary Ellenberger	314-330-0726	maryvet01@yahoo.com
Kathy Froning	636-239-7995	kathyfroning@yahoo.com
Lois Kempf	314-488-8165	loiskempf@hotmail.com
Karen Ladd	636-239-5271	jladd001@charter.net
David Brunworth	636-239-4102	dbrunworth@hotmail.com
Tim Urban	636-239-2082	tim.urban22@yahoo.com
John Anglin	636-239-6031	johneanglin@gmail.com
Vivian Marshall	636-667-0013	vmarsh1849@gmail.com
Ian McCracken	636-667-2014	ismccracken408@gmail.com
Jamie Tucker	314-814-2780	jmtsrvir09@gmail.com
Jean Weekley	636-667-4624	possumhawhill@aol.com
Bruce Wiese	636-432-1057	ssswbw@charter.net

Worship Assignments for February:

Sound Tech:

3/5/2017 Allen Vogt
3/12/2017 Miles McCracken
3/19/2017 Joe Hagan
3/26/2017 Tom Ellenberger

Worship Leader: Nancy Thater

Ushers

Mar. 5th Jean Weekly & Kay Hucke
Mar. 12th Roland Schwarzen & June Gellhausen
Mar. 19th Luther Bierbaum & Barb Hagan
Mar. 26th Open

The Lord's Supper

The sacrament of Communion will be served on Sunday, March 5th



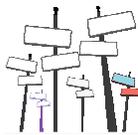
All-Church Potluck

The next potluck will be March 8th, and stew will be the main dish. The guest speaker will be Jennifer Meyer with the Mid East Area Agency on Aging. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Washington Bridal Extravaganza

Many thanks to Christy Eckert, Gretchen Farrell and Barbara Schofield for assisting me at the Bridal Show. It was a great opportunity to market our facility for weddings and receptions.

Judy Bierbaum, Bridal Show Booth Organizer



Fundraising Dinner

Anna Mae Boehmer furnished and prepared a turkey and dressing dinner on February 19th after the service of worship which raised \$1,162.00 for the new sign project. A big "thank you" to all who participated or donated to this worthy project.

PRES-BITS VIA E-MAIL

If you would like to receive the Pres-Bits through your email, please send an email to Bonnie Borgmann at presby@yhti.net and we will add your address to our group.





Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry will continue to meet in March. We will have a brown bag breakfast on Saturday, March 25th. We will discuss ongoing service projects and how we can expand our mission.

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday, the first of March, marks the beginning of our Lenten journey. The Lenten journey is a journey of meditation, penitence, and sacrifice. To honor this beginning of our journey together, we will hold a special worship service that evening at 7 pm. This will be a quiet and meditative worship service along with the Lord's Supper and the imposition of ashes.



Lent Begins
Ash Wednesday

Progressive Dinner

You won't want to miss the fun Italian dinner planned for March 4th. You can make reservations until February 27th. Singles, couples and guests are welcome. Please add your name to the list on our bulletin board. We could use a few more hosts and cooks. Everyone will meet back at the church for Tiramisu dessert and coffee. The main course will be the Maggiano's recipe Lasagna.

"Faith in Film" Series

Pastor Pat will be leading an Adult Education series during Lent on Wednesday nights that he is calling "Faith in Film." This series will focus on various depictions of Christ in film and how these representations can feed our soul as we approach Easter. Currently, we will plan to watch three films (divided into two sections each) and discuss in the sanctuary. If you miss the first half of a movie, a synopsis will be given before viewing the second half. Here is a tentative schedule of the series (all on Wednesday evenings at 7pm):

- March 8 and 15: "Jesus Christ Superstar" – G, 1hr 48min, 1973

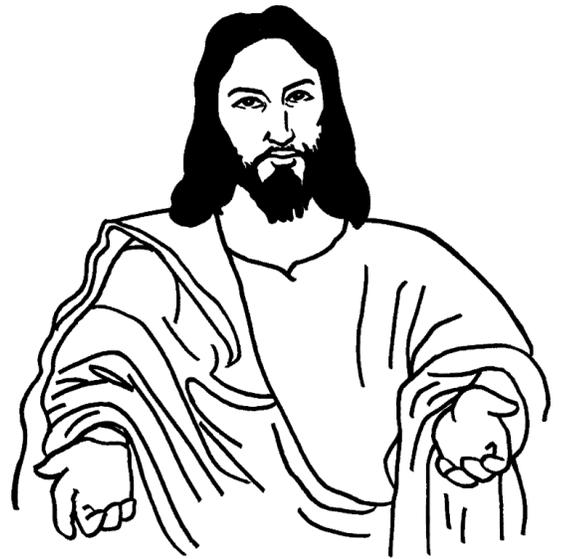
The timeless film version of the Andrew Lloyd Webber-Tim Rice successful stage musical examines the last weeks in the life of Jesus.

- March 22 and 29: "The Last Days in the Desert" – PG-13, 98 minutes, 2016

This film follows Jesus (Ewen McGregor) in an imagined chapter from his forty days of fasting and praying in the desert.

- April 5 and 12: "Risen" – PG-13, 1hr 47min, 2016

The first forty days after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ are told through the eyes of an agnostic Roman Centurion (Joseph Fiennes) charged by Pontius Pilate to investigate rumors of a risen Jewish Messiah and locate the missing deceased body of Jesus of Nazareth.



Name Badges

Let's make a renewed commitment to wearing our name badges. It is especially important for our new members and visitors to be able to put a name and face together. You don't need to be a member to request a name badge. There is a new sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board to request a name tag.

Pictorial Directory Update

Last month a year had passed since we received our directory that was prepared in the fall of 2015. There is a copy of the directory on a table in the Narthex for you to write in any changes such as phone numbers, email, etc. It is not necessary to be a member to be included. It is especially important that the church office have contact information for death notices, worship cancellations, or any other urgent messages.



Cookie Baking for Mercy Cancer Center

Karen Ladd, Jenny Scheibe, Wilma Luker, Jean Weekley, Jan Hardin and Judy Bierbaum baked about twenty dozen cookies for Mercy on February 14th. 90 bags of cookies were delivered to the hospital on Valentine's Day. They especially enjoyed the heart shaped decorated sugar cookies.

Scrip Program

The Presby Scrip Program has added the following new gift cards/certificates to our inventory. They are available immediately at the Scrip Table in the foyer every Sunday:

- \$100 & \$25 gift cards to WalMart;
- \$100 & \$25 gift cards to Walgreens;
- \$25 gift certificates to The Creek;
- \$20 gift cards to Aldo's;
- \$25 gift cards to Fazoli's
- \$20 gift cards to Imo's



Rummage Sale

The rummage sale and community book sale are sharing storage space until their sale dates. With that in mind, any items for the rummage sale will only be accepted after May 22nd to allow time and space to organize for the book sale.

Circle

The monthly Women's Circle will meet March 23rd in the church library. We shall be discussing Lesson 5 in the study guide to learn how Paul understood Jesus.

Valentine's Date Night Thanks!

To All Our Wonderful Guys-

Thank you for a delicious and romantic evening with the steak and lobster meal, and the entire four course meal, on Saturday, February 12th! Everything was beautiful and it was so nice to be treated like princesses, especially with the roses and sweet dessert and movie!



Your Adoring Ladies!

SOUP-ER Bowl THANK YOU!

Many, many thanks from the Youth Group for a fantastic record of collections on SOUP-ER Bowl Sunday, February 5th!! This was our 16th year of participating in the event and it was by far our biggest collection year as we combined two events into one day with our Soup-er Bowl canned food collection of 185 non-perishable food items and \$214.41, all going to our local Loving Hearts Outreach. We also had a first time Soup Luncheon where we served 70 people and collected \$362.75, all being donated to the Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services of Missouri organization. This all totaled \$577.16 and we are so proud of our Youth for working hard towards this wonderful collection day! Thank you, everyone!

Youth Group News

Our Youth Group had a lot of fun in February making more cookies for our Harvest Table event on February 18th and gearing up for our SOUP-ER Bowl events, the food drive and the Luncheon, both on February 5th! We will continue to meet in March with our regular meeting dates of Wednesdays, March 1st and 15th, 2017. (We will NOT meet on the 5th Wednesday of March 29th.) Our Youth Group meets on our regular schedule of meetings with the first and third Wednesday nights in the Church Youth Group room (Room #10), the first room to the right off of the Fellowship Hall. The first Wednesday of the month we usually do a mission project and on the third Wednesday, we usually have a fun activity(always a surprise!). All Youth from 6th – 12th Grades are welcome to come have some fun, snacks, a short Bible Lesson and a great time to be with other Christian Youth. Any questions? Just ask any of the YG sponsors: Laura Conley, Gretchen Farrell, Ian McCracken, Miles McCracken and Heather Miller.

Easter Egg Hunt is ON!

Yes, our 8th Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt is on, once again, after breaking all kinds of attendance records last year! We are planning it for the day before Easter, Saturday, April 15th at 11am and hoping for a spectacular weather day again! We will have an Egg Filling Party on Monday, April 10th, where we plan on filling about 4000 plastic eggs with candy, so please help us by buying an extra bag of small, individually wrapped candy so we can have LOTS of eggs this year! Look out soon for our candy collection box in the hallway. Any questions, just ask Gretchen Farrell or Laura Conley.

April Book Sale coming soon!

Our 8th Annual Community Book Sale is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, April 28th and 29th, from 8am-6pm. We will be setting up once again on the Sunday prior to the sale, April 23rd, and would appreciate lots of hands then and will start to take any book donations at the time up until Thursday, April 27th. Any questions? Please ask Gretchen Farrell or Kathy Froning. Thank you!

Money Handling Policy

All money collected from church events and /or projects shall be turned into the church office for deposit or safekeeping within a reasonable time after the event and should not be removed from the church or taken home.

Money being turned in shall be counted by 2 people. At least one person designated to count shall be active elder, officer or church employee.

Multiple day projects shall allow for the turning in of the money daily. The church shall designate a location for safekeeping by a key holder and arrange for the pickup before the next day activity.

All purchases and expenditures for the project/event shall be done by church credit card, check, personal expenditures or direct billing; not from the cash proceeds.

The church SALES TAX EXEMPT number should be used for all expenditures when possible and feasible.

Personal expenditures shall be reimbursed by the church upon request and submission of receipts.

Exceptions to this policy may be permissible BUT must be pre-arranged thru Finance Committee.

Purpose of this policy is to be more in compliance with Generally Acceptable Accounting Principles and allows for better fiduciary measures of church funds and project coordinators.

Reception for Dorothy Clarkson

A cake and punch reception and luncheon will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Union to honor Dorothy Clarkson's 50 years as an organist. It will be held on Sunday, April 2nd at noon.

Mission

A big thank you to the 12 volunteers who served at the Harvest table on February 18th. 67 friends enjoyed great food and fellowship. If you have not have the opportunity to join our church in this rewarding experience, save the date of May 27th. You will have a great time serving friends and being served through faith and fellowship. More info to come as the date approaches.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS



3/3	Anna Mae Boehmer	3/15	Sarah Spear
3/4	Luther Bierbaum	3/15	Stanley Joel Barnhart
3/4	Bill Kellermann	3/19	Tom Farrell
3/5	Jim Conley	3/20	Sharon Fenner
3/7	Jan Eade	3/29	Libby Farrell
3/10	Jean Van Der Kamp		

Answer to the Bible Cryptoverse on last page

You will walk in the ways of good men and keep to the paths of the righteous. For the upright will live in the land
Prov 2:20-21 N.I.V.

Comittees for 2017

Christian Ed

Meets the 3rd Monday at 6:00 pm

Kathy Froning (Chair)

Jamie Tucker

Ian McCracken

Laura Conley

Kaci Conley

Gretchen Farrell

Jocelyn Van Buskirk

Heather Miller

Gerry Urban

Church Life

Meets the 2nd Tuesday at 9:30 am

Judy Bierbaum (Chair)

Vivian Marshall

Karen Ladd

Jean Weekley

Shirley Coulter

Jan Hardin

Anna Mae Boehmer

Sharon Wiese

Nancy Klingert

Jenny Scheibe

Finance

Meets the 3rd Monday at 10:00 am

Bruce Wiese (Chair)

Karen Ladd

Becky Vogt

Kay Hucke

Tom Ellenberger

Laura Evans

Mission/Outreach

Meets the 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Lois Kempf (Chair)

David Brunworth

Jean Weekley

Gretchen Farrell

Barb Hagan

Christy Eckert

Personnel

Meets the 2nd Thursday at 6:00 pm

Tim Urban (Chair)

Bruce Wiese

Mary Ellenberger

Gretchen Farrell

Roland Schwarzen

Property

Meets the 2nd Sunday after worship

David Brunworth (Chair)

Mary Ellenberger

Mark Thayer

Joe Hagan

Anna Mae Boehmer

Scott McCracken

Bob Eade

Barbara Schofield

Worship

Meets the 4th Monday at 7:00 pm

John Anglin (Chair)

Jamie Tucker

Ian McCracken

Anna Mae Boehmer

Karla Becker

Judy Bierbaum

Tom Kempf

Barbara Schofield

MARCH, 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			ASH WEDNESDAY 1 Youth 6:30p Worship 7:00p	PDO 9:00a 2	3 Bridge 7:00p World Day of Prayer 7:30p	4  Progressive Dinner 6:00p	
5	6	PDO 9:00a Yoga 5:30p	7 Faith In Film 7:00p Potluck 5:30p Mission Outreach 7:00p	8 PDO 9:00a Personnel 6:00p	9	10	11
DAYLIGHTSAVINGS Time 12 Property 11:30a	13	14 PDO 9:00a Church Life 9:30a Yoga 5:30p	15 Faith In Film 7:00p Youth 6:30p	16 PDO 9:00a	St. Patrick's Day 17  Bridge 7:00p	18	
19	20 Finance 10:00a Christian Ed 6:00p	21 PDO 9:00a Yoga 5:30p	22 Warblers 11:00a Faith In Film 7:00p	23 PDO 9:00a	24 Bridge 7:00p	25 Men's Ministry 7:30a	
26	27 Worship 7:00p	28 PDO 9:00a Yoga 5:30p	29 Faith In Film 7:00p	30 PDO 9:00a	31 Bridge 7:00p		



MEMBERS WITH CONTINUING NEEDS

Heather Miller, Barbara Pierce, Whip Schultz, Don & Connie Conrad, Janet Aaron, Laura Fenner, Patricia Bagley, Pam Schwarzen, Karen Gruber, Laura Evans, Mike Becker, Jocelyn Van Buskirk, Mary Lais, Boots Bonney, Sharon Wiese, Jim Watson

GRANDVIEW: Christine Lewis

SOUTH POINTE: Elsie & Jack Truesdell, Elaine Dodson, George Peters

CEDAR CREST: June Kleberger, Dorothy Mutert, Beth Saunders,
Lisa Conrad

FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH REQUESTING PRAYERS:

- Vicky Vogel (sister of Karla Becker)
- Anna Roetheli (friend of the church)
- Laura Leigh Rhoades (daughter of Laura Evans)
- Jeff Pierce (son of Barbara Pierce, brother of Janet Aaron)
- Eddie & Sarah McGurthy & family (daughter and son-in-law of Ollie & Virginia Whyte)
- Holly Stoltz-Smith (friend of the church)
- Jean Kimme (friend of Barbara Schofield)
- Rena Middendorf & Family (niece of Kathy Froning)
- Pam Evangelist (sister of Sharon Fenner)
- McKenna Kleinheider (granddaughter of June Gellhausen)
- Felix Frye (brother-in-law of Trisha Bagley)
- Charles Bagley (brother of Trisha Bagley)
- Eunice Linda (sister of Jim Watson)
- Maxine Lohr (mother of John Bugele)
- Linda Tillman (friend of Bob & Jan Eade)
- Kathryn Whyte (daughter of Ollie & Virginia Whyte)
- Brian Gordy (brother of Beth Brehe)
- Doug McNeil (friend of Vivian Marshall)
- Ron Whitebred (father of Gretchen Farrell)
- Kathy Boyles (friend of Jan Hardin)
- Helen Smith (friend of Tim Culp)
- Jamie Griffin (son of Robert & Loretta Griffin)
- JoAnne Hagedorn (friend of the Fenners and Shirley Coulter)
- Fran Mittler (friend of Shirley Coulter, Barb Schofield, & Karla Becker)
- Margaret Magill (sister-in-law of Jean Van Der Kamp)
- Betty Marshall (mother-in-law of Vivian Marshall)
- Sharon Kempf (sister-in-law of Lois Kempf)
- Fran Talken (co-worker of Tom Kempf)

BIBLE-CRYPTOVERSE (Scripture verse in code)		No.10																							
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Letter used:																									
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Clue: X – “o” F – “u”
L – “f” H – “t”