

Pastor's Page

“Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation”

- Joel 2:15, 16a



Dear First Presbyterian Church,

The Season of Lent has begun. We gathered Ash Wednesday evening to sing and pray, and to receive the mark of ashes on our bodies. Now, as we take our 40-day walk toward the cross, the grave, and the resurrection from the dead, we are afforded an opportunity to dedicate ourselves to intentional practices of faith.

Every day of Lent you will get a small email devotional opportunity. If you aren't getting them, check your spam folder, and if they aren't there, contact the church to update your email address. Some of our young people will be collecting money in One Great Hour of Sharing fish banks and spending time with children's devotionals. Some of our adults will take a longer daily devotional and use it every day to guide their prayer and reflection. And still others of us will pick up the ancient practice of fasting from something in our lives that we have allowed to distract us from our service to Christ or from dependence on God alone. God bless you and keep you if you are among those whose choose to fast this Lent. Be kind and generous to yourselves as you engage this practice.

I am particularly excited about our theme for worship throughout Lent and Easter. We will follow the story of Jesus' disciple Peter. This engagement will give us a place to wonder about his life of faith, to experience the story of God in Jesus Christ anew, and to consider our own journey of faith in comparison to Peter's. And while we are practicing devotion and coming to worship, all the other aspects of our church life will be swirling around us.

Watch for new opportunities for community outreach. Keep your eyes peeled for what happens next in Christian Education. Note how changing leadership opens new and different avenues for us all to be this church together. And be listening and watching for God's unfolding story in and around us. What an exciting time to be our church! Blessings, *Pastor Katie*

WORSHIP & MUSIC



- **THE WORSHIP AND MUSIC TEAM WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU OF THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR LENT. PLEASE JOIN US FOR THESE IMPORTANT WORSHIP EXPERIENCES AS WE FOCUS ON "WANDERING HEARTS", PETER'S STORY, AND "COME NOW FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING":**
- **ASH WEDNESDAY ON FEBRUARY 14 AT 5:30 - A QUIET SERVICE WITH THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES**
- **PALM SUNDAY ON MARCH 24 - A JOYFUL SERVICE WITH PALMS AND AN ANTHEM BY THE CHOIR**
- **MAUNDY THURSDAY ON MARCH 28 AT 5:30 - A SIMPLE MEAL TO FOLLOW THE SERVICE**
- **EASTER SUNDAY ON MARCH 31 - COMMUNION, SPRING BLOOMS AND A LIVING CROSS**
- **THE WORSHIP AND MUSIC TEAM INVITES YOU TO BRING POTTED SPRING PLANTS TO DECORATE THE SANCTUARY ON EASTER AND CUT FLOWERS TO CREATE THE LIVING CROSS.**

**OUR OLDER YOUTH
WILL CONTINUE TO
MEET UPSTAIRS
AFTER THE SERMON
TO DISCUSS THE
SERMON & OTHER
TOPICS & ENJOY
FELLOWSHIP.**



We will be starting a new curriculum for Jr Worship called "Wandering Heart" that will be engaging for the children & teachers alike. It will be easy to teach with a guide for the lesson, activities, & crafts. If you would like to lend a hand & your heart to teaching these lovely youngsters there is an opportunity! You are welcome to assist one of our regular teachers to see if this is something you would be interested in. Just ask one of the CE team for more information.

As we approach the Lenten season we will be preparing our hearts for this sacred time. There will be printed material & coloring pages for the children to work on while they are in worship. This material will follow the common lectionary. There is Lenten material for your family to use at home that includes a daily sharing calendar & the One Great Hour of Sharing fish box for your donations to this important mission.



Christian Education



MISSION

There are three things that will endure:
faith, hope, and love, and the greatest of these is love.
1 Corinthians 13

PCU: FEB is Hamburger Helper – MAR is Pork & Beans

“FEED THE 5,000”

*Starts on Ash Wednesday – Ends on Easter. Please donate canned meats, any variety.
Place items in the PCU box in fellowship hall.*

Meijer's "Simply Give" Campaign continues until March 30th.

The Table: Good food; good time. Join the fun!

February: Theme is Valentine's Day; Entrée is Lasagna

March: Theme is Traveling to Italy; Entrée is Spaghetti

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

This special offering will kick off on March 10th ending on Easter Sunday.

THE COCOON

Our church will be collaborating with the First Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green for the funding & manual labor needed to install a dog park/run at the shelter this spring. This is a congregational ministry project, including the older youth.

NOSA CARDS: The January total = \$1,675

Congregational Care



JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT TEAM MEETING!
ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE CHURCH ON
MARCH 21, 2024 AT 1:00 P.M.

**THE CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM IS
MAKING PLANS FOR ANOTHER
INFORMATIONAL EVENT FOR THIS APRIL,
2024! IF YOU HAVE ANY TOPICS YOU ARE
SPECIFICALLY INTERESTED IN HEARING
MORE ABOUT, PLEASE REACH OUT TO
ONE OF OUR TEAM MEMBERS.**



Pray for our shut-ins
and members in need

HEAVENLY FATHER, WE LIFT UP OUR BROTHER / SISTER IN FAITH
TO YOU TODAY, ASKING FOR YOUR HEALING TOUCH UPON THEM.
WE TRUST IN YOUR LOVE AND POWER, AND PRAY FOR COMPLETE
RESTORATION IN THEIR BODY, MIND, AND SPIRIT. GIVE THEM THE
STRENGTH AND HOPE TO FACE EACH DAY, AND THE COMFORT OF
YOUR PRESENCE TO EASE THEIR PAIN.

FEBRUARY 2024

11	12	13	14 ASH WED. 5:30pm Worship 7pm AIAnon	15	16 5:45-8:45pm Toastmasters	17
18 1st Sun- day of Lent 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10am worship & baptism	19	20 10am Bible study Presbytery meeting	21 5:30pm The Table 7pm AIAnon	22	23 Pastor Katie away	24
25 2nd Sunday of Lent Barb Esterly preaching	26	27 10am Bible study 6pm Joy Belles	28 7pm AIAnon	29		

UPCOMING WORSHIP LEADERS:

Feb 18: Stephen Potts, Cecilia Richardson & Delbert Duckins/Marty Sloan, Jack Simmons, Gretchen Downs

Feb 25: Don Youel, Sarah & Lizzie Crawford/Allison Mackin, Rhyn Davies, Stephen Potts

Mar 3: Stephen Potts, Jay & Jo Salvage, Gretchen Downs, Nancy Gates
Communion: Matt Hollar & Michelle Chavez

Mar 10: Don Youel, Rick & Mary Beth Gilts, Kathy East, Kathy Jarosz

Mar 17: Stephen Potts, Rauscher Family, Jay Salvage, Gretchen Downs

Mar 24: Don Youel, Karen & Tom Lingeman, Kathy Jarosz, Stephen Potts

Mar 31: Stephen Potts, Carol Sprague & Allison Mackin, Allison Mackin, Marty Sloan

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Pastor Katie back
3 3rd Sun. of Lent 10am worship Communion Annual Congrega- tional Meeting CE Meeting	4 Amy out of office	5 10am Bible Study	6 5pm Worship Team 6pm Mission Team 7pm AAnon	7	8	9
10 4th Sunday of Lent  DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME 10am worship	11 Amy back in office	12 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Session	13 7pm AAnon	14	15	16
17 5th Sunday of Lent 10am worship 	18	19 10am Bible Study	20  Mr. Rogers Day! 5:30pm The Table 7pm AAnon	21 1pm Cong. Care Team meeting	22	23
24 PALM SUNDAY 10am worship 	25	26 10am Bible Study 6pm Joy Belles	27 7pm AAnon	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY 5:30pm worship	29	30
31 EASTER  10am worship Baptism Communion	 HAPPY EASTER					