

The Cornerstone News

First Presbyterian Church, Paulding Ohio

Volume 2 Issue 3



Out of the Saltshaker...

“You shall see greater things than that ... you shall see heaven open” ...
(John 1:50 - 51)

Your desire for more of God than you have right now ... is the truest thing about you . (Ruth Haley Barton, *Sacred Rhythms: Arranging Our Lives for Spiritual Transformation*)

In the 1990's Holiday Inn ran a series of very funny tv ads which always ended with the catchy phrase: “Holiday Inn gives you more, and more is better.” We certainly know that more isn't *always* better (think drought, tornadoes, stress, etc.), but we also know that more of what we need the most *is* always better. And when what we need the most and what we want the most intersect and there is an abundance, then there is nothing better than that.

This is exactly what the death and resurrection of Jesus has done. When Jesus died on the cross the curtain which closed off the Holy of Holies from the rest of the temple was torn from top to bottom, symbolizing the removal of the barrier between God and people - - between heaven and earth. There is now nothing separating the followers of Jesus from the resources of heaven. Through the ministry of the Holy Spirit there is more of every good

thing accessible to God's people, and more is better.

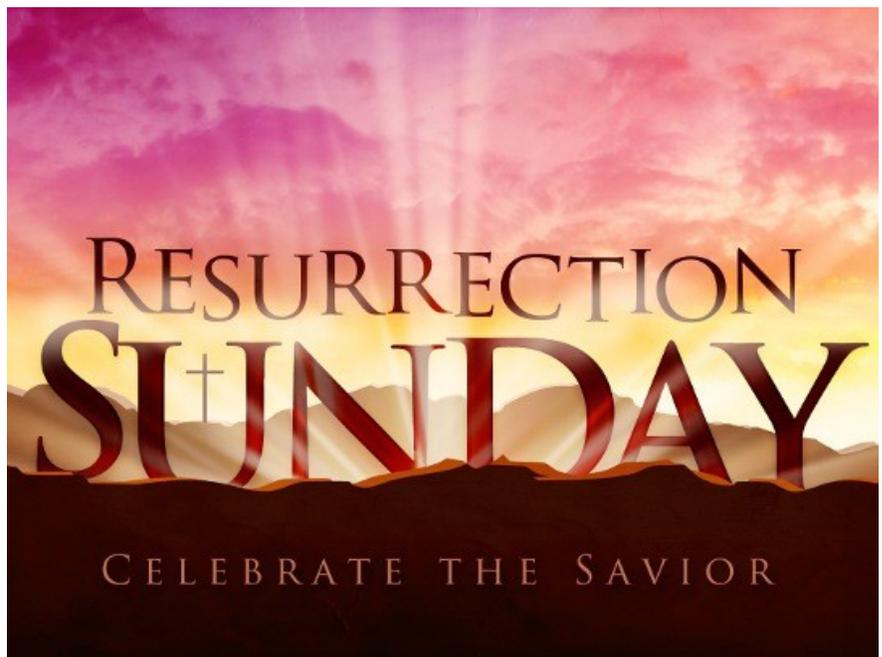
Ephesians 4:16-20 says, I pray that out of God's glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit... And I pray that you ... may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. The fullness of God is the intersection where our deepest needs and our deepest desires meet. We've all been created in God's image and we've all been hard-wired to want more of God. These are the most fundamental facts of human existence. The fundamental fact of Jesus' death and resurrection is that the floodgates

of heaven have been opened and the Spirit is pouring out more and more of **God's glorious riches.**

The glory of Easter is that our sins have been paid for and our hearts are now free to receive more of what we long for the most - God himself. Christ has died, Christ has risen and Christ has given us **immeasurably more that all we ask or imagine** (Ephesians 4:20) -- all we need, and more. And more is better.

Shalom!

Pastor Dave



March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Circle 7:00	2 Lenten Lunch noon Supper 5:30 Mike Pennington speaking at 6:15 7:00 Youth Group	3 Community Prayer and Worship 7:00 At the Senior Center	4	5
6 Pastor Dwayne Richardson will be preaching	7	8 Planning meeting for celebration of Sue Crossland's 50th Anniversary 6:00	9 Lenten Lunch noon Supper & worship 5:30 & 6:15 7:00 Choir 7:00 Youth Group	10	11	12
13 Communion	14	15 Session 7:00	16 Lenten Lunch noon Supper & worship 5:30 & 6:15 7:00 Choir 7:00 Youth Group	17 Prayer and Worship 7:00 St. Patrick's Day	18	19
20 Palm Sunday Service	21	22	23	24 Maunday Thursday service 8:00 pm	25 Good Friday Service, noon House of Love	26
27 Easter Sunrise here at 7:00 am Easter Service at 10:15	28	29	30	31		

March Birthdays

1st - Becky Mayer
3rd - Marcia Brune
4th - Chris Henson
6th - Anna Karlstadt
8th - Tiffany Razo
10th - Sarah Buzzell
Morgan

11th - Dick Paulus
16th - Kristen Razo
21st - Danielle Pennington
Haas
23rd - Olivia Henson
24th - Kayleigh St. John
25th - Brenda DeLong

Session Highlights

At the Feb. 16th Session meeting, elders:

*met with Joe Barker, owner of Paulding's new local radio station, wMYw, 102.7. Joe shared his passion for lifting up the positives of Paulding County, and is working on Sunday morning programming that will include separate hours of traditional hymns, Bible study, sermons, and contemporary worship music. Joe requested that our church provide a series of sermons for Sunday morning programming. Later in the meeting, Session approved airing taped (not live-broadcast) sermons during March and April on 102.7. Pastor Dave will work with Mr. Barker to coordinate.

*learned that the organ repair contract with Lima Pipe Organ Co has been signed. This is the mid-level repair, between the 'bandaid' and the 'full repair'. Donations have exceeded the \$62,200.00 contract amount. Sue C is coordinating the timing with them. *approved renewing the agreement with the local Red Cross to serve as an emergency shelter, after consulting with our insurance agent, Dan Straley.

*approved the membership transfer of Russ and Mary Herman to Antwerp Presbyterian Church

*heard that the van transmission repair has been completed, the towing bills paid, and that the whole project was well under the budgeted \$2500.

*adjusted membership class dates to Sat., March 19 for youth, and Sat., April 2 for adults. Anyone who considers Paulding Presbyterian to be 'their church' who is not a member is warmly encouraged to attend one of these classes. *heard that a generous donation has been made toward replacing the cottage garage with a 3-car garage with a storage mezzanine. The property committee is exploring plans, zoning and other considerations to be able to move forward.

*were reminded that a meal fund has been created. When a person or family volunteers to provide a '1st Wednesday' meal (not the Lenten meals) for the community, they may request reimbursement from this fund. Also, any donations made toward meals, or at the meal itself, would be held in this fund. It was created from the remaining carryover dollars as we moved from the 2014 to the 2015 budget year.

*learned that the EPC General Assembly meeting will be close to home this year, June 22-25 in Livonia, MI.

approved the following calendar items:

1. Thurs.-Fri., April 21-22, Hands of Hope training event in the Fellowship Hall, no charge. Their speaker will be a guest at the cottage, with Patty Meriwether as the church sponsor (makes sure all is ready before the visit, and that all is returned to readiness after the visit)
2. Sun., April 24 celebration to honor and thank Sue Crossland
3. Sat., May 7 Bridal shower for Rhonda Smalley's niece, Alyshia, in the Fellowship Hall, rental
4. Sat., June 4 Kacie Karlstadt graduation party, no charge
5. Sun., June 12 Pastor Dave marks 25 years serving our church

YOUTH MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Pastor Dave will be teaching a membership class for youth (middle school/high school) on Saturday March 19, from 10 am to 1 pm, in Cornerstone Cottage. The class will cover the Essentials of Christian Faith and a brief overview of how our congregation functions and is connected with our denomination (the Evangelical Presbyterian Church) Refreshments and lunch will be provided.



Lenten News

Lunches:

The Lenten lunches will again be held in our fellowship hall with the following churches fixing lunch on the dates listed. Lunch will be served at noon. Each church will also have a representative bring a meditation to those attending. Last year was our highest attendance ever, with 75 to 80 attending each week. You are invited for good food and great fellowship to the Alpha and Omega - All Soul's Café.

- ~~FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - February 10~~
- ~~CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE - February 17~~
- ~~ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH - February 24~~
- FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH - March 2
- UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - March 9
- DIVINE MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH - March 16

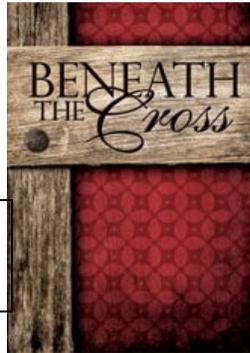
Suppers:

The schedule for our Lenten Suppers, prepared and hosted by a group within our church are as follows:

- ~~WOMEN'S GROUP - February 10~~
- ~~CHOIR - February 17~~
- ~~DEACONS - February 24~~
- YOUTH - March 2
- SESSION - March 9
- ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL - March 16

These meals will this year be open to the public, and offered as free meals to the community. They will again be followed by a Lenten worship service. Meals will be served at 5:30, with the service following at 6:15. Regular activities (choir practice and youth group) follow at 7:00.

There will again be a box available each week to donate items to the local Caring and Sharing Food Pantry.



"and from my smitten heart with tears, two wonders I confess, the wonders of His glorious love and my own worthlessness."

Rejoice! He is Alive!

This Easter as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our church has the privilege of hosting the Community Sunrise Service. In our tradition we surround the altar and the cross with an abundance of live flowers. These luxurious spring flowers have been ordered and average \$16.00 per plant. We invite you to offset this cost by funding a plant in honor or in memory of a loved one, or simply in praise of the resurrection, giving glory to God.

To donate, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number of plants: _____ Amt enclosed: _____

In honor or memory of: _____

You may pick up your plant/s following the 10:30 service on Easter Sunday. Thank you!

Special Lenten Services:

- ~~Ash Wednesday - here at 6:15~~
- Maundy Thursday - here at 8:00 pm
- Good Friday - House of Love at noon
- Easter Sunrise - here at 7:00 am
- Easter Service - here at 10:15 am

Prayer for Lent

"Oh, God, show me more of Your holiness.
Show me more of my sinfulness.
Help me to hate sin and to love righteousness as You do.
Grant me a deeper conviction of sin
and a more thorough spirit of repentance.
And make me holy as You are holy."
In Jesus' Name, Amen

Submitted by Becky Fishbaugh

CARING & SHARING FOOD PANTRY

Hygiene Items for men and women:

Shampoo & Conditioners
Body Washes
Hand Sanitizers
Deodorant
Tooth Paste & Toothbrushes
Lotions for children &
adults
Diapers
Toilet Paper
Bars of soap

Greatest need right now is:

Hygiene!

Hygiene!

Hygiene!

“If you can’t
**FEED A
HUNDRED
people, then
just feed ONE.”**
- Mother Teresa

Organ Repair

Session has approved going ahead with the repair on our organ. The original estimate a few years ago was just over \$58,000. We currently have over \$62,000.00 in the Organ Repair fund.

Keep your eyes and ears open!

We’re Gonna Have a Party!

In April, Sue Crossland celebrates her 50th anniversary of playing the organ at this church.

We will be celebrating with her on Sunday April 24 during the worship service and at a lunch following. Watch for more detail.



Sue Crossland playing “her” organ.



New Sign!

Our new sign has the capability of having the message changed. We can use it to promote 5th Quarter parties, Wednesday evening meals, the women’s retreat or anything else that we would like to promote. Thanks to Brune Printing for doing the work and Barb Searing for making the idea a reality.

This article is copied from *Transcript*, a publication used by Ohio Department Of Transportation to communicate news of importance to their employees. The whole publication can be found at www.transportation.ohio.gov. Carol Razo is the District 1 Auditor for ODOT, as well as the treasurer of First Presbyterian Church.

Bidding freedom

Rhonda Pees, District 1

I was not looking forward to this.

Our district is currently engaged in a project to install exterior signs on our facilities to finally, and professionally, communicate the location of District 1 to those we serve. But this meant facing the process of seeking at least three quotes from companies chosen at random, then going with the lowest bidder. Having experienced the ODOT quoting process before, it all seemed so inefficient and limited.

But then, I had forgotten about the eQuote system and one of its key figures, District 1 Auditor Carol Razo. Introduced in September of last year, eQuote is a digital application that offers an easy way to solicit and collect project bids. Each vendor registers under a commodity code representing the type of services that vendor provides. When a project is entered into the system, the applicable commodity code is attached to it, and the system automatically sends notifications to all appropriate vendors. Those interested then submit their best bids for consideration and possible award.

The statewide system was established just in time for our sign project; eQuote yielded bids from nine companies, including firms we hadn't known existed before. We could now choose the lowest and best quote from a more inclusive list of vendors.

This was all the awesome idea of Razo and some of her classmates participating in the Ohio Certified Public Manager (OCPM) program. Their class required the completion of a group project, and Razo knew the department was searching for a new way to obtain quotes. The new system was the result, and today she helps walk people through this brave new world of efficiency and broader choices.

"The new eQuote system is beneficial in many ways," said Razo. "It gives more vendors the opportunity to know there's something out there to bid on. By doing this, it increases competition, avoids targeting the same vendors for every project, reduces the potential for receiving quotes from fictitious vendors, guarantees that everyone receives the same information and it ultimately ensures that ODOT is paying the lowest price."

Jessica Parker, District 1 PIO Intern, contributed to this story.

Carol Razo
District 1 Auditor

Photo by Rhonda Pees, District 1



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Pastor Dave and family gone the week of 2/29 to 3/7



A visit to New Jersey

Sue Paulus spent a few days in Pitman with her granddaughter and great granddaughter, where she was then joined by her daughter and grandson. Pictured above are Adam Leever, Quinn Morrison, Pam Leever and Danielle Morrison. While there she had lunch and a great visit with Bruce and Mary Becker.



Pictured on the right is little Quinn on one of her first walks outside this winter. She continually fell down the "big" slope.

While Dave and Patty are out of town for a family wedding, we will be having some guests fill in for him: On Wednesday evening, March 2nd, Mike Pennington will be speaking. On Sunday March 6, Pastor Dwayne Richardson from the House of Love will be filling the pulpit. All are invited to be here for both worship services.



Lenten Lunch, February 10 Ash Wednesday





Two of our teens have a leadership project going on at this time:

Kacie Karlstadt, along with partners Taylor Schooley and Emilee



Ringler, are working on their senior project.

They are collecting items for San Salvador Hurricane Relief. Items that they feel they can ship easily are:

Bath Towels, Kitchen Towels, Work Socks: for under work boots

The decision made to collect these three items came after Kacie talked with her cousin, Tiffany Razo, about what is still needed there following Hurricane Joaquin in October 2015. Tiffany has been in San Salvador assisting the residents there most of November and December, and is there again as this is written.



Erin Karlstadt, along with Allison Rieneck of the Nazarene Church, is working on her freshman project, a Hands of Hope diaper fund raiser.



The collection for the Hands of Hope Diaper Drive ends on Sunday the 28th.



Cooking the Spaghetti Sauce

Dick Paulus, Ruby Crossland, Sue Crossland, Don Crossland, Barb Searing, Jill Straley and Sue Paulus spent Valentine's afternoon cooking spaghetti sauce for the choir Lenten Supper. Not shown is Rhonda Smalley, behind the camera. Below are the pots of sauce on the spattered stove, cooking away.



Warm Hearts/Warm Homes

Help our less fortunate Paulding neighbors afford their utilities this winter.

This is the last time this winter that you will read about Warm Hearts/Warm Homes as the program is officially over for this year the last of February.

Checks should be made out to the church, please put Warm Hearts /Warm Homes in the memo line. 100% of these funds will be used in Paulding County.

This has been a project of Women's Fellowship since 2005.



More “Thank You” Notes

Again this month we received several thank you notes from groups and individuals receiving our mission donation:

God’s Share Program: Thank you so much for your financial gift! What a blessing. We are currently sending school supplies (to include food containers, socks and underwear) by boat to the Philippines. Even in 3rd world countries children are shamed by teachers if they don’t have underwear! So many children need to experience Jesus’ love and provision through receipt of school supplies. We’re also gathering school supplies to go by boat to Zambia. Some of these supplies will be distributed to children attending school at a prison—cause if Mom’s in prison sometimes the children live there as well.

The missionary gets to hand out school supplies and teach the children about Jesus! We’re also working on helping supply seeds and Perilte for gardening in the Philippines to feed thousands in poverty. We’re also currently sending clothing and supplies for refugees in several countries.

As we’re busy being about the Father’s business we are **excited** about you partnering with us.

Kim C. Wilson, God’s Share Program

Ron and Donna Schumacher: sent an e-mail stating that they are thrilled with the extra financial support we have sent for them within the past 12 months.

Caring and Sharing Food Pantry: sent a note stating that we are a huge help with feeding and caring for those in need in the Paulding Community.

House of Love Ministries: Pastor Dwayne actually walked across the street to say a huge “Thank you” for the financial support sent to them. We was very excited and encouraged by this church’s financial and emotional support.

Youth For Christ and the Christian Campus Coalition sent thank you’s with their receipts. This congregation is a giving and loving group of Christ Followers.



Our Beautiful Babies

Miriam Teura Brown was born February 22, weighing in at 8 lb. 1 oz. and 18 1/2 inches long. She is the daughter of Allie and Matt Brown, the granddaughter of Dave and Patty Meriwether. Miriam also has a big sister, Lucy shown holding her in the bottom photo.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS & OFFICERS

Ruling Elders :

Ed Cline
Phyllis Lutz
Barb Searing
Rhonda Smalley
Dan Straley
Dave Nice

Deacons :

Darwin Cline
Brent Fishbaugh
Stan Searing
Jane Nice
Marcia Wiebe
Jeff Summers

Vision Team

Sue Crossland
Dave Nice
Matt Reineck
Barb Seariang
Rhonda Smalley-
Jeff Summers
Dave Meriwether



Worship Schedule

Sunday School 9:00
Praise Music: 10:15
Worship Service 10:30

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First Presbyterian Church

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**In Essentials, Unity.
In Non-Essentials, Liberty.
In All Things, Charity.**

