

Church Happenings

Communion	April 1
Spiritual Formation—7:00 p.m.	April 4
Worship Meeting— 12:00 p.m.	April 8
Session Meeting— 5:30 p.m.	April 10
Friendship & Talent— Noon	April 11
Family Faith Night—5:30 p.m.	April 4, 11, 18, 25
Pitch-in Dinner— After Worship	April 29

HAPPY EASTER

APRIL SERVERS

LAY LITURGIST:

Carey Anne Curran

GREETER:

Larry Clark

USHERS:

Jean Stutz and Marilyn Woods

REFRESHMENTS:

Polly Matlock

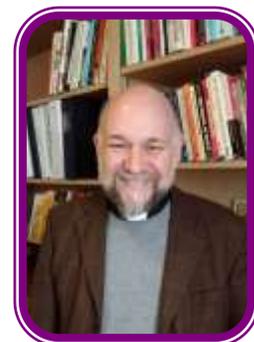
COUNTERS:

Dennis Shepherd and Larry Clark

PASTOR LAWRENCE

Calculating Easter

You may have noticed that Easter **moves around a lot. It's not a fixed date on the calendar like Christmas, which is always on December 25. This year it's on April 1, but last year it was on April 16 and the year before that it was on March 27. Easter can be any day from March 22 to April 25. Why is that?**



Well, Easter, on which Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, is linked with the Jewish festival of Passover because Jesus was celebrating the Passover feast (Matthew 26:17 ff, Mark 14:12 ff, Luke 22:1 ff, John 13:1 ff) in Jerusalem when he was arrested and executed. Passover begins on the first full moon after the Spring equinox (Leviticus 23:5) so Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring equinox. Simple enough, right?

But, that's not the end of it. In the west Christians calculate Easter based on the Council of Nicea's determination in the year 325 that the Spring equinox was always on March 21, but in reality it can be as early as March 19 or 20. To make matters worse we calculate Easter based on full moon charts dating back to 1583 that may be as much as two days off the actual full moon. This adds a certain amount of uncertainty as to when Easter is.

To make aspects more complicated, Orthodox Christians calculate Easter differently. They use the actual time of the Spring equinox and the actual full moon, which makes



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Friendship & Talent

Join us for Friendship & Talent on Wednesday, April 11. Come early for fellowship and card signing for shut-ins. Lunch is only \$3.00 and is always yummy! We eat at 12 noon, and lunch will be followed by devotions given this month by Polly Matlock. If you haven't been coming, we hope to see you.

All ladies are always welcome to come to Friendship and Talent.



Family Faith Night - Spring Edition

Family Faith Night begins on **April 4** and continues through **May 2**. We will meet at 5:30 p.m. for supper and move to our groups by 6:15.

The sessions to choose from are:

- * **Life Lessons** - Have you experienced God's hand working in your life? Is there a person or an experience that you felt made a major impact on the direction your life is taking or has taken? Have you experienced a miracle in your life? What do you think God has planned for you? This spring we will be writing about life events that had a big impact on our life. We will write about our experiences and ask ourself the **question, "Where do I go from here?"** This session is led by Diana Blanford and is for 2nd grade up thru adults.
- * **The Gospel According to Star Trek** - You will watch classic episodes of the original Star Trek (1966-69) and discuss them in light of scripture. Led by Jeff Lincourt, and is for middle school thru adults. Note that this group will let out later than 7 p.m.
- * **Nooks and Crannies** - Explore, clean, and organize forgotten areas of the church. This session is for all ages. (Small children must be accompanied by an adult.)

This summer we will hold **Wiener Wednesdays** during the month of June. Look for more information on this in the May newsletter.

Help Needed!

Presbyterian Women will be preparing and serving the **Historical Society Dinner on Saturday, April 21**. We are in need of help Friday afternoon and Saturday for preparation, and we also need help with serving and clean-up Saturday evening.

If you can lend a hand, call:

Susan Wilson, 812-663-7149, or
Kathy Denny, 812-663-3891.



IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

Mike Gommel

BIBLICAL CLASSICS (DVD)

Four movies in one pack from the 1950's and 1960's: **THE BIBLE...IN THE BEGINNING; THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD; THE ROBE; AND DEMETRIUS AND THE GLADIATORS**. Your grandchildren might be interested in seeing the kind of movies you watched way back then!

THE APOSTLES' CREED (DVD)

A two-hour study guide of the timeless power and importance of the Creed, featuring an international and interdenominational cast of notable theologians. This DVD traces the origin of the Creed, placing it in its historical context. The theologians discuss each phrase of the Creed, emphasizing its relevance and application to our lives today.

JESUS THE KING, *By Timothy Keller*

Acclaimed Presbyterian minister and author Timothy Keller unlocks new insights into the life of Jesus Christ. A cosmic, historical and personal look at the life of the Lord using the Gospel of Mark.



Easter Sunday Worship

10:30 a.m.
at
Greensburg First Presbyterian Church

Calculating Easter—Continued from page 1

a certain amount of sense, but they also **reckon that Easter can't fall within the** week of the Passover celebration. So sometimes they have to wait an entire lunar cycle before they have their Easter. As such the range of dates for Easter for the Orthodox is from April 4 to May 8.

This year Orthodox Easter falls on April 8. Last year Easter fell on April 16 on both calendars. Two years ago we celebrated Easter on March 27 while our Orthodox brothers and sisters had to wait until May 1!

Easter, then, is special in that it is tied both to the solar and lunar cycles. It reminds us of rhythms in nature that we pay too little attention to these days. Time, in the ancient world, was an organic thing. We read it in the heavens and in the earth, in the ebb and flow of seasons, with moonrise and sundown.

Our relationship to time is often not natural. It is like a metronome ticking away on our wrists or on our phone. It ticks on relentlessly and dispassionately, ignorant of the natural world around us. As we celebrate Easter and new life, perhaps it is not a bad thing to contemplate our relation to time and the world around us.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Lawrence

HELP with Bread of Life

The Mission and Outreach Committee **NEEDS YOUR HELP** to continue its commitment to provide full service to Bread of Life.

For more than 15 years we've been responsible for the first Monday of each month. Our responsibility includes food preparation beginning about 12:00 noon; serving clients who either eat-in or carry-out meals beginning around 2:30 p.m. and delivery of meals beginning around 4:00 p.m.

Our greatest need is for servers (2:30–5:00 p.m.) We have had a couple of volunteers who are no longer able to work, plus, snowbirds who are not available during the winter months. The time commitment is only about 2–3 hours a month, but that brief amount of time is very important to the Bread of Life.

Please let Marilyn Woods, 812-614-3311, know if you can help the first Monday of each month. Our mission statement reminds us that we are **“seeking to live God's word by serving others.”**



PRAYER FOCUS FOR APRIL:

What is Our Purpose?

Whenever Easter approaches we think about the death and resurrection of Jesus. **The purpose of Christ's life was to offer himself as a sacrifice for sins of mankind. Jesus** was so certain of his purpose that he predicted when and how he would die. (*Matthew 26:2*)

As followers of Jesus, what is our purpose? Some would answer that our purpose is to love God. Others might say that it is to serve God.

Jesus looked beyond the suffering, shame, punishment, and death. Christ knew the joy that was yet to come, so he focused on the future. What is this joy that motivated him? The Bible says that there is great joy in heaven whenever a sinner repents. (*Luke 15:10*) Also, Jesus anticipated the joy that would take place when each person would repent and be saved. He also looked forward to the joy that would result from each good work done by believers in obedience to God because he first loved us. (*1 John 4:19*)

So, what is our purpose? Here's an amazing thought: We can give God joy! What a wonderful God we have who honors sinners like us by allowing us to give him pleasure. Our Father rejoices and experiences joy as we respond to him in repentance, love, and good works that bring him glory.

Let us give Jesus the gift of joy. That is our purpose!

Kathy Denny—Care of Parish Team



Fifth Sunday "HEIFER" Farm Bundle

The Mission Committee, with approval of the Session, is undertaking a new project. Living in Decatur County, a farming community where food, seed, equipment, supplies and education are available in abundance, it seemed fitting that our new project is a **"Farm Bundle."** **In the past the children's offering in Sunday school and vacation Bible school have bought chicks for the Heifer Fund.**

The "Farm Bundle" is a project of Heifer International with a goal of \$1,300. A "Farm Bundle" will provide people in need with a sustainable source of income and nourishment. It includes chickens, goats, and other livestock, as well as seeds, tools and training to help support successful farming.

The project requires NO volunteer hours – **only your "special gift" to be received in months with five Sundays which is four times during 2018. The first "special gift" will be received on April 29; the remaining three will be on July 29, September 30 and December 30. A special envelope will be available in the bulletin. "Farm Bundle" should be written in the memo area of your check. You may also send your check to the church office.**

A display will be in Reception Hall to chart the progress as we build our farm and add animals, seeds, tools and educational material to the display. If we are blessed to raise more than \$1,300 we can add more items to the project.

SESSION AND COMMITTEE NEWS

Care of Parish:

- ◇ The **prayer list** has been a problem as people forget to remove names when prayers are no longer needed. It was decided to leave people's names on the prayer list for three weeks. If the name has not been renewed, it will be taken off the list at that time. All are welcome to put names back on the list if it is needed. This is in effort to keep our prayer list updated.
- ◇ **Pitch-in dinners** for the year have been decided. They will be: **Maundy Thursday** at Kingston; **April 29**; **May 20**, graduates dinner; None in June, July, or August; **September 9**, Outdoor worship; and the final one on **October 28**. There will not be a pitch-in in November and December, although we may have a Thanksgiving dinner in November if we can get the volunteers needed to plan and implement it.

Spiritual Formation:

- ◇ **Wiener Wednesdays** coming each Wednesday in June. We have volunteers to host a wienie roast at their home for each Wednesday in June. This will be a pitch-in dinner get-together and we hope you all will participate. This is a wonderful way to get to know your church family and the visitors that they may bring with them.
- ◇ There is an all new Bible Study coming this summer. The Bible Study will be held in the "Bride's Room" starting at 9:15 a.m. before Sunday Worship, and will be led by Darleen Fox.

Pastor Lawrence:

- ◇ This summer Pastor Lawrence will be taking a break from the lectionary to preach on the **hymns of our lives**. He's asking you to suggest hymns that you'd like for him to preach on. On Sundays this summer he will be focusing on a particular hymn in its scriptural, historical, biographical, and theological context. We'll also, of course, sing the hymn. The series will begin in June.
- ◇ Pastor Lawrence is looking for suggestions on where to hold Coffee Hours. He especially enjoys the times when folks are hosting the coffee hours in their homes. It gives it a much more relaxed feeling.

Church Memo:

Reneé McClintic has sold her house and is moving to Grove City, Ohio (Just outside of Columbus, Ohio). She will be moving right after Easter. Although we know she will be back from time to time, we will miss her. We want her to know how much we appreciate all the years she spent as our youth director and all the time and pressure she went through in accomplishing her goals with the children. For that we are thankful. If you see her this Sunday at church, please wish her well.

Flowers donated to the church in loving memory of :



Bill Morrison & Trevor and Margaret Morrison
From Nancy & Bill

Sheldon and Elizabeth Smith
From the Family

Holly and Tom Fox
From Michael Steele (Holly's brother)

W. Earl and Alice Jeggle & Dr. and Mrs. R.C. Woods
From the Families

Art Ewald
From his loving wife Rose



**First
Presbyterian
Church**

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Visit us at:

WWW.
fpcgburg.org

Prayers

Each week, our church is praying for a member or family in our congregation.

We are also selecting a church in the Whitewater Valley Presbytery every week to pray for as well.

For the month of April we have selected:

Rock Linville
Jean Long
Polly Matlock
Rebecca Stamper
Reneé McClintic
and
John Knox
Presbyterian Church
Korean
Presbyterian Church
Northminster
Presbyterian Church
Iglesia Nueva Creacion
Church
Orchard Park
Presbyterian church
All in Indianapolis

2018 Session

2018
BETTY ZILICK
MARILYN WOODS
MARY STRADLEY

2019
JEFF LINCOURT
ROY SIMPSON
KATIE PRAIRIE

2020
CAREY ANNE CURRAN
DAVE SCHLEMMER
POLLY MATLOCK

CLERK OF SESSION
DARLEEN FOX

PASTOR
REV. LAWRENCE LEE

THINKING ABOUT VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME TO HELP A LOCAL ORGANIZATION?

- Bread of Life • 812-662-4887
- New Directions • 812-662-8822
- Meals on Wheels • 812-663-6099
- AGAPE Center • 812-222-4273
- Big Brothers, Big Sisters • 812-663-7556
- Kids Closet • 812-663-2084
- Decatur County Special Olympics • 812-663-4690
- Decatur County United Fund Adult Literacy Program • 812-560-3820
- Hospice of South Central Indiana • 812-314-8000



Seeking to Live God's Word by Serving Others

Per Capita 2018— \$39.05

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS:

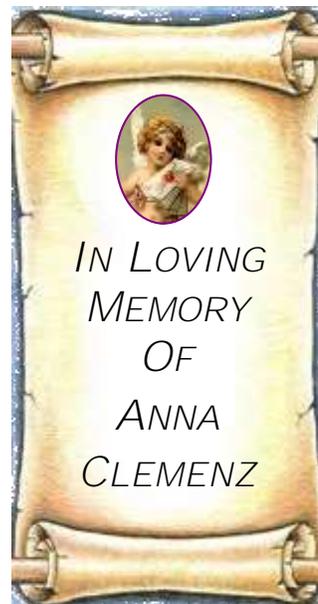
Shut-ins

Mary Gommel
8975 W. County Rd. 600S
Greensburg, IN 47240

Hazel Shonk
Home— 1029 E. Tara Rd.
Greensburg, IN 47240

Don McKinney
At Daughter's Home

YOUR PRAYERS DO
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



PRAYERS

Elias Pagel





Two showers were held at the church the last full weekend in March.

↑ Saturday, March 24, a Baby Shower was held for Laura Simmonds who is expecting a baby girl.

↗ Sunday, March 25, A Welcome Shower was held for Katy Prairie who is in the process of becoming a new foster parent to William.

➔ Palm Sunday Worship Service
Meet and Greet

