

The Messenger March 2020



“THE WALK”

A Lenten Study

**Thursdays, 10:00 am
March 5 – April 2, 2020**

If you plan to attend this years Lenten study, please sign up on the bulletin board. We will be utilizing Adam Hamilton's newest book: The Walk, as we study “Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life”.

Hamilton states: *“I wrote this book to be a simple guide for the Christian life written for ordinary people whose faith is sometimes messy...There are five simple foundational practices that Jesus' followers have always pursued as they sought to walk with Him.”*

We will focus on these practices for our five week study. They are:

- Worship and Prayer: A Living Hallelujah
- Study: The Importance of Listening and Paying Attention
- Serve: Here I Am, Lord, Send Me
- Give: Where Your Treasure Is
- Share: Going Fishing, Reflecting Light

My hope and prayer is that you will choose to join us as we enrich our lives and grow together as Christ's disciples.

CHURCH PRAYER CHAIN

Over the past few months we have neglected our prayer chain. We are now attempting to rectify our misdeeds. We have two different prayer chain lists: One for those who desire to receive notification via e-mail and a second who wish to receive news by telephone. We need to hear back from you as to how you would like to learn about prayer needs of our members and friends. You can help us update our lists by simply writing down on a piece of paper, your preference. Put on the paper your name, e-mail or phone number and give us your e-mail address or phone number. Please do this as soon as possible so that we might get updated. Thanks for your help.



Our Deepest Sympathy is extended to the families of Mrs. Betty Davis who died on January 19, 2020; Mr. Gary Anglin who died on January 30, 2020 and Mrs. Phyllis Anglin who left us for her eternal home on February 2, 2020. Please keep these families in your prayers as they grieve.

Respect the Deadline!



Newsletter Deadline
for April is
March 18th.



Ruth Esther Circle
meets Tuesday,
March 17th
at 9:30 am.



12 **Bonita Gay**
17 **Dale Alvey**
23 **Stacey Smith**
24 **Emmalee Brittain**
31 **Bob Estridge**



**Deacon's
Corner**

Happy New Year!

The Deacons are collecting donations of cleaning products (laundry detergent, dish soap, hand soap, all purpose cleaner) in March for the Christmas Project. Thank you for giving so generously each month. Plans are also underway for a "Spring Fling" dinner in early May. More details will be forthcoming on this event, and we will need volunteers to help make it a success. Your support is greatly appreciated!



COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Deacons – March 8 – after worship
Administration – March 15– after worship
Spiritual Gr/Outreach – March 16 – 6 pm
Session – March 16 – 7 pm

Westwood Financial Report - 2020

January:	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Current Funds	6,649.50	6,933.99	-284.49
Per Capita	125.00	0.00	125.00
Benevolence	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	6,774.50	6,933.99	-159.49
Year-To-Date:			
Current Funds	6,649.50	6,933.99	-284.49
Per Capita	125.00	0.00	125.00
Benevolence	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	6,774.50	6,933.99	-159.49

Attendance for January:

5th --28
12th --35
19th --30
26th --31
Total 124

*More detailed financial reports
are available upon request
from Steve Anglin
or the church office.*



**FINANCE
REPORT**



FROM THE PASTOR

“A Matter of Perspective”

Lent is usually a time of introspection and reflection for me, as it should be for all of us. We need to think about our lives, where we have been, where we are, and where God might be leading us. For me it resembles a medical “check-up,” collecting all the test results and then deciding what the prescribed course should be.

You don't go through this alone. With the medical check-up you have people who guide and talk with you about your health. In the same way, with our personal and spiritual evaluation, we have help available. We certainly have a God who desires to “walk with us and talk with us.” Beyond that, we have one another to share with—a community of faith that desires to be all that God has called them and us to be. We need to draw on these resources as we reflect and grow.

We are not perfect and need all the help we can get. One article that caught my attention has been helpful this Lent as I reflect on my perspective on things, especially the desire for perfection, which I have yet to attain. See if it gives you any help:

A group of Alumni, highly established in their careers, got together to visit their old university professor. The conversation soon turned into complaints about stress in work and life.

Offering his guests some coffee, the professor went to the kitchen and returned with a large pot of coffee and an assortment of cups. Some were porcelain, some plastic, some glass, some crystal, some were plain looking, some were expensive and some quite exquisite. He told them to help themselves to a cup and some coffee.

After all the students had a cup of coffee in hand, the professor had this to say: “If you noticed, all the nice looking cups were taken first, leaving behind the plain and cheap ones. While it is normal for you to want only the best for yourselves, that is the source of your problems and your stress. Be assured that the cup itself adds no quality to the coffee. In most cases it is just more expensive and in some cases even hides what we drink. What all of you really wanted was coffee, not the cup, but you consciously went for the best and most attractive cups and then began eyeing up each others' cup.”

Now consider this: Life is the coffee...the jobs, houses, cars, things, money and position in society are the cups. They are just used to hold and contain your life. The type of cup we have does not define nor change the quality of life we live. Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the coffee God has provided us.

God brews the coffee, not the cups...enjoy your coffee...being happy doesn't mean everything is perfect. It means you have decided to see beyond the imperfections. So live, in peace and peace will live in you.

Now what does this have to do with you and Lent? Heck if I know. The point is, Lent is a time to reflect on your life. People and stories like the one above inspire me to do just that. I don't know what does it for you. My hope is that you will slow down enough during the Lenten season to think about and consider where you are personally and spiritually. Why not allow the resources available help and guide you?

May God's peace be yours.

Your Pastor,

In Christ,

Norman

SERVING
THIS
MONTH



Ushers: Bob Estridge

Worship Leader:

- 1 Steve Anglin
- 8 Kristi Craft
- 15 Tim Turber
- 22 Andrea Estridge
- 29 Marlene Sloneker

Sunday School:

- 1 Kristi Craft
- 8 Sandra Warren
- 15 Kristi Craft
- 22 Andrea Estridge
- 29 Marlene Sloneker

Coffee Hour:

- 1 Bonita & Estil Gay
- 8 Marion Flynn & Marilyn
Compton
- 15 St. Patrick's Day
- 22 Carol & Norman Godfrey
- 29 Eat Out!!!

Kitchen Duty:

Andrea Estridge

Communion Preparation:

Reva Johnson

Communion Servers:

Steve Anglin, Andrea Estridge
Dale Alvey, Cindy Anglin

Prayer Concerns

Hospital:

Linda Sutton (Estridge family) Christ Hosp/heart
Penny Ryan (Estridge family) throat surgery

Miscellaneous concerns:

Julie Baldwin (Loretta) – chemo & radiation
Family of Phyllis & Gary Anglin
Family of Betty Davis
Family of Lucy Dorrel (Loretta)
Summer Estridge – back pain
Friends & Family of Debbie Middleton (Estridge)
Kelly Estridge (Wayne Estridge) stomach procedure
Bonita Gay rehab at home

Shut-Ins: Ruth Mollett

In Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Windsor of Cape Coral: Dick Flynn
Westover: Catherine Gibson
Sheridan at Mason: Bill Mountsier
Berkeley: Frank Dougherty

National & International Concerns:

Our country, Natural disasters, violence, unity
Our armed forces worldwide
Missionaries across the world
Peace in our world

Local Concerns:

Our church
Cities of Hamilton & Fairfield
Serve City / Haven House / Community Meal Center
Churches in community

Congregational Prayer:

As we continue to pray for our sister churches in the
Miami Presbytery, we are remembering Collinsville
Presbyterian Church of Collinsville, OH.



March 17, 2020



Thank you to our Coffee Hour hosts and hostesses. Special thanks to the February volunteers:
Spiritual Growth, Cindy & Steve Anglin, Loretta Otto, Marilyn Compton, Reva Johnson
Andrea, Summer & Bob Estridge

Thank you to the following who were Ushers for the month of February:
Dale Alvey, Dianne Hurst

Thank you to the following Sunday School volunteers for the month of February: Kristi Craft, Andrea Estridge, Marlene Sloneker.

Thank you to all of our Kitchen Clean-up people. Special thanks to Cindy Anglin for the month of February.

Thank you to Bob & Andrea Estridge for preparing communion for February.
Thank you to the following volunteers for serving communion:
Steve Anglin, Kristi Craft, Karen Conrad, Betty Gambrell.

Thank you to the following volunteers who worked at the Community Meal Center on Friday, February 21st: Bob Estridge, Marlene Sloneker, Sandra Warren.
Donations: Andrea Estridge, Marlene Sloneker, and Sandra Warren.

Special thanks to Estil and Bonita Gay for their constant care and timely messages on our church sign.



Per Capita Request

Each year The Presbytery of the Miami Valley publishes "Expected Payments" for each active member of each church. For the year, 2020, they are requesting a total of \$48.20 (\$36 for "Presbytery Connectional Report", \$8.95 for "General Assembly", and \$3.95 for Synod). This request adds \$2,169 to our 2020 budget. In years past, the Session has voted to give what fits our budget. The Session also invites members, who are able, to pay all or a portion for yourself. If you have questions, please talk to Rev. Godfrey or a member of the Session.



**One Great Hour Of Sharing Will Be on
Easter Sunday, April 12**

Frequently Asked Questions About One Great
Hour Of Sharing (OGHS) Offering.

1. When and how did One Great Hour of Sharing begin? More than seventy years ago, in response to the devastation of World War II, a Saturday evening nationwide broadcast asked Americans to give generously the next morning in their churches. A remarkable variety of national leaders and celebrities gave their efforts to the broadcast and more than 75,000 churches responded. For more on this dramatic story, see www.pcusa.org/oghs/history.htm.

2. I hear the word “ecumenical” used to describe OGHS. What does it mean to say the offering is ecumenical? Many Christian denominations work together cooperatively to create the resources that interpret the offering. Each denomination gives some of the gifts it receives for shared ministry through Church World Service.

3. So just how does the PC(USA) use its offering gifts? They are roughly divided into thirds. Each of the programs—Self-Development of People, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 32 percent of the offering; the remaining 4 percent goes to the Presbyterian Hunger Program for its work on homelessness and affordable housing.

4. How much money does the offering receive each year? For at least the past ten years, the offering has received about \$20 million among the denominations.

5. Does a portion of the offering stay in the congregation? No, not for OGHS or the Christmas Joy Offering. Both of these offerings were well established before the idea of giving the congregation responsibility for a share of its offering was initiated in order to promote newer offerings.

**Special Offering to Presbyterian
Church USA**

Dear Partners in God's Mission,
We give thanks to you for your support of Special Offerings, our collective witness to the love of Jesus Christ. By participating in Special Offering, your congregation joins other churches to change lives around the world through ministries of compassion, advocacy, development, peacemaking, Christian formation, education and witness.

On December 31, 2019, we received \$205.00 for the Christmas Joy Offering. Your congregation's giving, when combined with that of others, will share the love of Christ with those in need.

With gratitude to God for our shared mission,

Bryce Wiebe
Presbyterian Mission



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
BEGINS**

Sunday, March 8th

**Don't forget to set your clocks
forward one hour.**



SAVE THE DATE:
May 12 at 6:30 pm
Spring Banquet

Dear Friends,

I appreciate the effort that was put into acknowledgement of the choir.

Choir – Thanks for all of the personal messages written on the lovely card. Your financial gift was very generous!

Spiritual Growth – I can't wait for next Christmas to hang the beautiful ornament on my tree.

You are all so very thoughtful!

Love & Blessings,
Treva Boardman



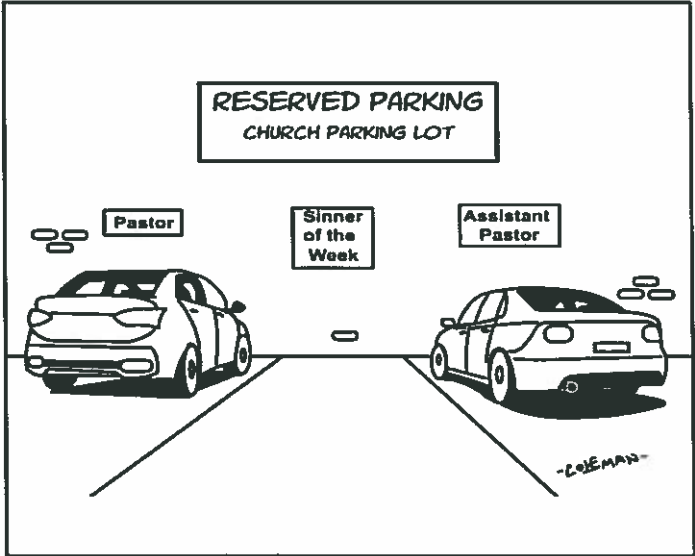
A Special Thanks to the Spiritual Life and Outreach Committee and those who prepared the soups and desserts for our annual Souper Bowl Sunday Celebration on February 2. Three hundred cans of soup were collected, valued at \$185. The soup was delivered to Serve City, who is very thankful for your gift. God bless each of you!

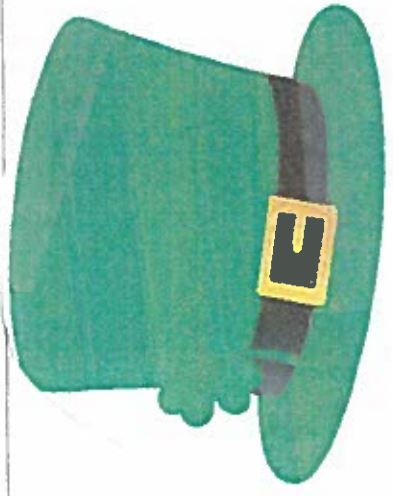
THANK YOU
Dear Westwood Family,

Thank you for all your love and care recently during my health crisis. Your support through prayers, cards and comforting words helped more than you know. God bless each of you.

Sincerely,




Carol Godfrey





WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN

MARCH 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:45 AM Worship Communion First Sunday of Lent	2	3	4	5 10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY	6 7:00 PM AA	7
8 10:45 AM Worship Devil's Savings Fun Deacons Second Sunday of Lent	9 	10	11	12 10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY	13 7:00 PM AA	14
15 10:45 AM Worship Admin. Com. after worship Third Sunday of Lent	16 6:00 PM Spiritual Gr/Outreach 7:00 PM Session	17 10:00 AM Ruth Esther Circle 	18 	19 10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY	20 3:00 PM Community Meal Center 7:00 PM AA	21
22 10:45 AM Worship Fourth Sunday of Lent	23	24	25	26 10:00 AM BIBLE STUDY	27 7:00 PM AA	28
29 10:45 AM Worship Fifth Sunday of Lent	30	31				

Westwood Presbyterian Church
1068 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, OH 45013
Address Service Requested

<Label>

