

MARCH 2018

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MINERAL RIDGE

VOL. 46 NO. 2

WWW.FPCMR.ORG AND FACEBOOK



FROM THE
Pastor

Beloved Partners in Ministry,

As March begins we find ourselves in the middle of our Lenten journey. Through the different voices and perspectives lifted up in our weekly worship monologues we are hearing about how God's will has worked in the lives of some of our Biblical ancestors. Wrapped up in these stories from the past, we are reminded of the ways in which we continue to seek God's will for our lives, and for our community of faith.

Weekly in worship (and daily for many), we pray to God using the words of the Lord's Prayer. This prayer that Jesus taught to his disciples is a treasured example of how we are to pray and what we are to pray for. It reminds us to pray for the needs of others, to forgive as we are forgiven, and to seek God's will and God's kingdom.

Reverend Ellsworth Kalas is the author of the study our adult Church School class is reading through this Lent. He tells us that included in the Lord's Prayer, is a complaint. Like many of the Psalms found in our scriptures, the Lord's Prayer includes a lament that the world is not what it should be, not the way that God has intended for it to be.

When we pray: "Your kingdom come. Your will be done," we recognize that this world does not reflect the realm of God, and we are praying for God to do something about it. We are praying for God to make this world more like the kingdom. This is a dangerous prayer for us to pray because it requires something of us. For this world to reflect God's kingdom and God's will, we've got some work to do.

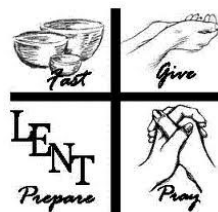
Kalas says that when we pray for God's kingdom to come, we are making our own commitment to the kingdom, and we are seeking God's help in bringing others to this commitment. Jesus' parables about the kingdom offer us a glimpse of what the kingdom of God is like...full of peace, justice, and love. That's what we have to reflect in our own lives and communities, that kingdom of God that we long for to be here and now.

Over the next few weeks of Lent, I invite you to take up a new Lenten discipline: To daily make God's kingdom visible. This will look different for each of us, but through acts of kindness and service, prayers for peace and justice, and gifts of our time and talents, we can make this world more reflective of the kingdom of God. And so we pray: "Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Amen.

In Christ's peace,

Pastor Jamie



March Responsibilities

Elder:

Jill Fabian

Deacon:

Debbie Rendes

Liturgists:

3/4 Sue McCabe

3/11 Brian Williams

3/18 Diane Koch

3/25

Greeters:

3/4 Suzie Merz &

Marlene Tincher

3/11 Paul & Debby

Wasilewski

3/18 Billie Moore &

Ginny Gilmore

3/25 Ginny Gilmore &

Gayle Hollowell

Story Circle:

3/4 Brooke Kaschak

3/11 Diane Reinhart

3/18 Katie Lindahl

3/25 Patty Postlethwait



NEWS ABOUT AND FOR OUR FOLKS



E-mail your news to
the church office:
Jane.fpc@sbcglobal.net
or call:
330-652-5712

SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 14

Church Growth is
organizing an event.

We are going to a

**PHANTOMS
HOCKEY
GAME!**

More info in the
April Church Mouse

Congratulations to **Adrianna Reese** who is on the Dean's List at Geneva College.

A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who contributed to the Souper Bowl of Caring Offering that was taken on Super Bowl Sunday. Niles Community Services will be pleased to receive our check. Our worshiping congregation put cash and checks in the pots totaling \$816.07. Others matched the giving and we are able to send a check for \$5,000.00 to NCS.

Did you know that our congregation has 5 members serving on the NCS Board: Pastor Jamie Milton, Attorney Randy Rummell, Jim Stoddard, Treasurer, Jane Meyers, Secretary, and Andria Crawford.

Congratulations to our Honor Roll Students:

Mineral Ridge School:
3rd Grade—Tyler Pugh
7th Grade—Ethan Erb
9th Grade—Evan Erb
Howland School:
4th Grade—Olivia Meyers—All A's

Congratulations to our friend **Brian Hudzik**, son of the late Don Hudzik, who was honored at the 9th Annual Recognition Dinner of Youngstown State University's College of Health & Human Services for: Licensed Independent Social Worker, Licensed Independent Chemical Dependency Counselor, Director of Region 4 National Assoc. of Social Workers, consulting, volunteering and education on the topic of human trafficking and assisting in coordinating services for survivors. He is also passionate about inspiring others with physical health challenges and has worked with his friends who began "The Huddy" Golf Outing in his honor to turn the event into something that benefits others—most recently endowing a scholarship for YSU Master of Social Work students. He is currently working on forming a non-profit organization to support those facing hardships and challenges.

YOU'RE INVITED! Olhtown Methodist Church has invited us to participate in their Community Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, March 24 at 3pm. There will be games, crafts, and food!

EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERY PRESENTS . . .

Once again we are invited to join with other Presbyterian Churches to come together and learn or relearn more about the leadership positions in our individual churches.

The Kent Presbyterian Church will host the event on Saturday morning, **March 10 from 9:00 – 12:30**. The church is located just off the campus of Kent State University. There will be no charge but attendees are asked to make a reservation at www.eastminsterpresbytery.org by March 8.

The first workshops will be for Elders, Deacons, Clerks, Treasurers. After the break the workshops will be New Models for Deacons, Nominating Committee and Structuring Committees for Spiritual Growth.

If you feel called to learn more and want to attend, a car pool can be arranged. It would leave the church about 8:15am. Let Carole Rummell or Pastor Jamie know if you would like to attend.



PRAYER LIST

Members to Remember

Jim Sewell Bob Bowskill June Keeley

Health Concerns

Joan Williams Andria Crawford
 Helen Redmond Abel Rios
 Randy Pugh
 Alan Jones (Dorothy's son)
 Paula Griffiths (Glenn's sister)
 Colby Simmons (Cravers' friend)
 Wanda Burns (Sandy Larmey's friend)
 Bob Hibler (Chelsea's father)
 Jerry Bianco (Shoemakers' friend)
 Laura & Brad Haines (Cravers' friends)
 Susan Crawford (Marnie Bonsall's friend)
 Sean Brenner (Darryl & Jane Meyers' nephew)
 Zac Weber (Kathy Graham's future son-in-law)
 Laurie Carl (Betty Garland's daughter)
 Audra Stanford (Melissa Keeley's grandmother)
 Barbara Rambo (Ken & Jan's sister-in-law)
 Kathy Jones (Dorothy's daughter-in-law)

Jim Flores (Marty O'Neill's boyfriend)
 Paul Stevens (Beverly Myers son)
 Michael Rios (Abel Rios' son)
 Mary Johnson-Hardwood (Mark Rendes' friend)
 Bill Merz (Suzie's son)
 Karen (Sue McCabe's friend)

Sympathy, Concern, Nurture, & Support

Rev. Jamie Milton, Minister
 Eastminster Presbytery and staff
 Someplace Safe Needle's Eye
 Niles Community Services
 Warren & Youngstown Rescue Missions
 Refugees
 Disaster victims World Leaders
 Casa de Buen Trato
 Jed and Jenny Koball (Peru)
 Rev. Kade Mastra (Indonesian Partner)
 Our PC(USA) coworkers Revs. Scott & Elmarie Parker



Names will be kept on the prayer list for approximately six weeks unless the office hears otherwise.



IS IT A COLD—OR THE FLU

Your body aches, your throat burns, your nose is stuffed, and you're coughing like mad.

ASK YOUR DOCTOR

DO I HAVE A COLD OR THE FLU? The speed and intensity of your symptoms can give you clues to which respiratory ailment you have. Colds come on gradually and are more mild. Flu symptoms start suddenly and can wipe you out.

SHOULD I GET A FLU TEST? A rapid flu test from your doctor can quickly determine if you've caught the flu with a swipe of your nose or throat. But results aren't always accurate.

WHAT CAN I TAKE TO HELP ME FEEL BETTER? Rest is the best prescription for respiratory ailments. Pain relievers and decongestants can ease symptoms while you recover. Antiviral drugs treat the flu, but you need to start them within 48 hours after your symptoms begin for best results.

HOW CAN I AVOID GETTING SICK IN THE FUTURE? To keep colds and flu germs away, **wash your hands with warm water and soap** or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Put extra distance between you and anyone who coughs or sneezes. And get the flu vaccine every year.

10 WAYS TO DEAL WITH A COLD OR FLU

FLUSH IT OUT—use a clean neti pot or other nasal irrigation device to ease your stuffy, runny nose.

SLEEP IT OFF—quality sleep gives your body the opportunity to fight infection, so get plenty of rest.

GET STUCK—guard against the flu with an annual flu shot. Get yours today.

AVOID ANTIBIOTICS—they can't fight cold and flu viruses, so don't take them.

CALL IN SICK—don't share your illness with others. Instead, stay home and get better.

ENHANCE IMMUNITY—eat well and exercise regularly to help prevent colds and flu.

GET HELP—call a doctor if you have trouble breathing or you've been sick more than five days.

ACT FAST—take a prescription anti-viral within 48 hours of getting the flu to ease some symptoms.

HANDS OFF—Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your sleeve, not your hands.

KEEP IT CLEAN—Clean and disinfect surfaces you frequently touch to stop the spread of germs.

**OUR DEACONS**

Marnie Bonsall
 Lori Brendlinger
 Rusty Garland
 Bethany Glidewell
 Melissa Keeley
 Diane Koch
 Valerie Meyers
 Marty O'Neill
 Debbie Rendes
 Ken Wilson

Your Parish Nurse says:



MISSION — AROUND THE CORNER & AROUND THE WORLD



Community Food Cupboard

Our next food distribution to the community will be on March 20. Currently we need mac & cheese, ramen noodles, canned meals and fruit, pasta and sauce, peanut butter and jelly. We will be sorting the food after worship on March 18 and packing on Monday, March 19 at 6pm. Your help with one or both of these times would be greatly appreciated.



40 Days—40 Items

We will be handing out bags again this year for **40 Days—40 Items**. We ask that during Lent you put an item of clothing in the bag each day. At the end of Lent we ask that you take it somewhere of your choosing to donate or bring it to the church for donation.



Don't Be Afraid to Ask!

Deacons are offering to assist members of the congregation, that are in need, with light chores such as light bulb changes or grocery runs. ***Don't be afraid to ask a Deacon for help.*** We will help in any way that is possible. Just contact one of our Deacons, Debbie Rendes or Pastor Jamie.

We are also looking to do a spring cleanup in the sanctuary/different areas in church before Easter so we may call upon you to give us a hand!

INTERPRETATION & STEWARDSHIP

I & S Committee Update



The financial secretary will be issuing quarterly statements in March. We are going to try something different this year and send the quarterly reports via e-mail. We will continue to use a paper statement for the end of the year statement. If you wish to receive a paper statement quarterly, please contact the financial secretary, Billie Moore, and she will get a copy to you.

Just a reminder that the I & S Committee has set up an **amazonsmile** account for the church. Amazon will donate 0.5% off all eligible purchases made through the website to our church. To designate our church as the recipient of **amazonsmile** funding, go to smile.amazon.com and sign in using your Amazon sign-in information. Go to "Your Account" at the top of any page and then select the option "Your Amazon Smile." There will be a search box on the page to find your charitable organization. Type in the code 34-1173898 into the box and type enter. (If you type in First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge, it doesn't come up so please use the code). Select our church on the following page to complete the set-up. Each time you shop on Amazon, go to smile.amazon.com to shop. If you do not use that link, the money will not be allocated to our church.



Please consider participating in this program to support the mission and operations of our church.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS



Multi-Age Class Is Busy with a Service Project ...

How can we thank our firefighters for the tough job they have in protecting our homes when the smoke alarm goes off? That was the question. Our multi-age class which is for 5 year olds through Grade 6 decided they would take on that **BIG QUESTION**. Under the leadership of Lori Brendlinger and Debbie Rendes, teachers, our children decorated 72 cookies to be taken to the firefighters as our thank you for the job they do. Pastor Jamie delivered them to the Weathersfield Administrative building where they were then distributed to the three fire stations. Our children are learning how to care for others as they take on a task such as this.

A Reminder to All Our Youngest Children and Their Parents ...

Palm Sunday, March 25, will be celebrated with a celebratory palm procession leading us into Holy Week. We will have child care available for Palm Sunday and both the Holy Week services, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

Easter morning, April 1, we will also have child care (Story Circle) available at both services.

You may want to make certain you are at our outdoor service at 10:00. ***This is where we decorate the outdoor cross and release the beautiful white doves that remind us of the resurrection of our savior Jesus Christ.***

Committee Reviewing Policy ...

Our Session has had both a Sexual Misconduct Policy and a Child Protection Policy in place for many years now. Every so often we review them to make certain they are up to date. The PC(USA)'s constitution now requires that every session maintain those two policies. It has been five years since they were reviewed. Elder Chuck Hudzik and Educator Carole Rummell have been asked to make a review of the policies and report back to the Christian Education Committee who in turn will report any recommended changes to the Session.

It is good to know ...

our super congregation really stepped up on Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday.

Would you believe that we were able to give \$5000 to Niles Community Services for them to serve the communities of Mineral Ridge, Niles, and McDonald? It is like we fed **Miracle Grow** to the offering received from the congregation. They filled the soup pots that were waiting at the doors of the sanctuary with \$816.07. That of course is far short of the \$5000. However we have a couple of very generous members who decided they would match the congregational giving. Then the offering was \$2448.21. **WOW!!** But that isn't all ... One of our members stepped up and said she would match that to raise the amount to \$4896.42. Then when that was announced to the congregation we had \$104 more added to that. So we now had \$5000 to support Niles Community Services.

All who contributed, those who gave a dollar or those who gave more, are thanked for supporting this special offering.

Your Super Bowl team may have not won but NCS certainly did.





Memorial Gifts to the Glory of God and in Memory of

Vicki Williams

have been given by:

Marsha Brozier

Tom & Helen Redmond



Memorial Gift to the Glory of God and in Memory of

Jane Almira (Nass) Johnson

Has been given by Carole Rummell



Memorial Gifts to the Glory of God and in Memory of

Don Hudzik

have been given by:



Janel Anderson
Janice Rayle
Cyndi Fazio
Lisa Abraham & Richard Hart
Richard & Karen Bonner
Jim & Maureen Davidson
Kevin & Sandy George
Judy Hudzik & Ken Chemlikas
Rev. Thomas Kraszewski
Dennis & Chris McNamara
Mike & Mary Nicholas
Bill & Renee Ruman
Karen Sima
Jane Tock
Jim Yuhasz & Julie Abraham
Delbert & Kelley Richards

Kevin & Debra Baker
Nexstar Broadcasting, Inc.
James & Patricia Yuhasz
Paul & Judy Antonchak
Anita Conlin
Bob & Kathy DeVita
Gary & Randi Green
Ginny Johnston & Family
Mike & Mary Ann McMahon
Carol Mulichak
John & Diane Ross
Michael & Karen Schimley
Simunich Family
Roger & Mary York
Stephen & Martha Barton

Marsha Brozier
Frank & Diane Bordonaro
Frank Beleny
Chuck & Darcy Beleny
Meg Daniluk
John & Vicki Garland
Jennifer Harris
Marguerite Kovach
Joey & Linda Margullo
Mary Kay Nicholas
Dom & Jackie Rozzo
Chuck & Jan Shonk
Rosemarie Stasko & Family
John & Linda Yuhasz
Scott W. Hartman



SESSION NOTES FROM FEBRUARY 27, 2018

Session Minutes of January 23, 2018 were approved

Received the Treasurer's report for January

Heard that membership is 144 as of February 27, 2018

Ratified e-poll to approve the submission of the PC(USA) Statistical Report for calendar year 2017

Received thank you card from Christian Educator, Carole Rummell, for the Appreciation gift she received at the joint Session and Deacon Dinner on February 16, 2018.

Heard that Per Capita for 2017 will be paid in February in the amount of \$4,800

Approved hosting of the Pancake Breakfast on June 17, in conjunction with the community Flag Day Festival

Approved Pastor Jamie's vacation and study leave

Heard that a Water Backflow Preventer must be installed at the Manse and approved the funds for the installation

Approved a modification to the Confirmation Class in preparation of having one student eligible for the next class

Heard that there will be a check presentation for the Souper Bowl Offering donation to Niles Community Services

Heard that Deacons will be giving food out in March

Heard that cards and cookies were delivered to the Weathersfield Fire and Police

Heard that Kim Crozier agreed to be on the Sexual Misconduct Task Force

Heard that the April Session Meeting is rescheduled to April 18, at 6:30PM

Approved to hold a Craft Show at the church on November 17

Heard that the next Presbytery meeting is on March 6

Heard Elder of the Month for April Jill Fabian

Heard that next Committee Night will be March 20 and Session meeting will be March 27

Prayers were offered up for those we know to be in need of prayer

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Lenten Prayer Wall:

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, you will find the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall transformed into a Prayer Wall. During the season of Lent, you are invited to deepen your connection with the community and your church family by praying for one another. Write a prayer on a tag and hang it on the wall, you can be as specific or as anonymous as you feel comfortable. Take a prayer tag home and pray for this person or situation each day for that week, then return it to the wall.

Listen for God's presence in Word and world

Entrust these prayers to God

Nurture this discipline of prayer every day

Thank God for listening and trust God to move you to a new place of deeper faith this Lenten season

FORTY DAYS PRAYER



OUR LENTEN JOURNEY 2018 — *THY WILL BE DONE*

UPCOMING LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES:

MARCH 4: *Week 3 of Lent*

In this service we remember that, in humility, Mary dutifully accepted the role God had given her to become the mother of our Savior. That Son would later accept his role, faithfully following the path his Father had in mind for him to save us all. Sue McCabe will play the role of Mary.

Thy will be done

MARCH 7: *Mid-Lent Dinner and Communion*

At 7pm we will SKYPE with Rev Kade Mastra from Indonesia who was with us last fall. We look forward to hearing how God's Spirit has been at work in Bali since her visit with us. Following the SKYPE call we will celebrate communion together. Dinner will be served from 6-6:45pm.



MARCH 11: *Week 4 of Lent*

In this service we remember that, on the road to Damascus, Paul had his worldview turned upside down when God called him to preach the name of the Christ he had been persecuting. We follow God's will by putting the crucified Christ at the center of our worldview. Brian Williams will play the role of Paul.

March 18: *Week 5 of Lent*

In this service we remember that Lydia followed the will of God by responding in faith and hospitality when the Gospel message of Christ's sacrifice was preached to her. We follow the will of God by responding in love and service to one another in return for what Christ has done for us. Diane Koch will play the role of Lydia.

March 25: *Palm and Passion Sunday*

Palm Sunday begins with shouts of "Hosanna!" and a joyous procession into our worship space. We are reminded how the same people that received Jesus into Jerusalem would quickly change their tune and turn against him. Join us as we usher in Holy Week.



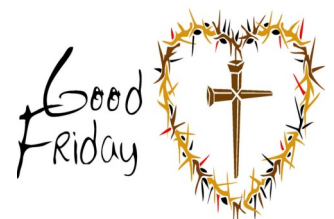
March 29: *Maundy Thursday*

Through music, scripture, and poetry, we will remember the events of Jesus and the disciples in the upper room where Jesus taught them about true servanthood and shared in a last meal with them. We will celebrate communion and remember Jesus washing the disciples' feet. Time of this service is 7:30pm.



March 30: *Good Friday*

Joined by musicians Eric McClellan and Anita Miller we will remember the events of Good Friday in a service of Tenebrae. As the light of Jesus life is extinguished on the cross, we extinguish candles and give thanks for the amazing sacrifice of God's own Son for each one of us. Time of this service is 7:30pm.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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The *Church Mouse* is the monthly (except in July & August) newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church. All visitors are welcome to worship with us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. (except Memorial Day through Labor Day when worship is at 10:00 a.m.)

CHECK US OUT
ON FACEBOOK &
WWW.FPCMR.ORG

**THIS IS GOD'S HOUSE
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

MARCH 2018

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Return Service Requested

MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ, we joyfully strive to create a community of faith that welcomes and nurtures all who seek to experience God's love and grace.

With this as our mission, we willingly choose to develop a fellowship through which we will no longer be strangers, but friends in Christ.

**One Great
HOUR
OF SHARING**

The OGHS Offering is a special offering of our denomination and is collected during Lent.

Gracie the Fish will be with us each Sunday during the Children's Message to help us understand the importance of being generous in giving to this special offering.

The children will be taking up this offering during the Children's Message. If you want your OGHS offering to be included on your giving statement, please use one of the special OGHS offering envelopes in the pew racks or in the newsletter.

Gifts received are distributed between:



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**
OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Works to restore communities around the world affected by natural or human-caused disasters.

Works with Presbyterians and other partners to make it possible for all to be fed.



PRESBYTERIAN COMMITTEE ON THE
**Self-Development
of People**

Works to affirm the dignity of all by assisting in the empowerment of economically poor, oppressed, and disadvantaged people.



*Offering envelopes are included in this **Church Mouse** for your convenience. Please give generously.*