

ST. ANDREWS HERALD

The Monthly Newsletter of
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

APRIL 2021

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“He is not here, but has risen.”
Luke 24:5b

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REJOICE WITH US IN EASTERTIDE!

*“...Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me,
so I send you.”* John 20:21

St. Andrews continues to meet in person on Sundays at 10AM.
The service is also streamed at 10AM and will be uploaded and
available on YouTube later in the day.

April 1st Maundy Thursday **Towel** Communion
Matthew 26:20-29
John 13:1-15

April 2nd Good Friday – the church will be open Noon – 7PM
for a “walk-through” prayer and meditation on the
‘7 Last Words of Christ.’ An at-home version will be available.

April 4th Easter Sunday **Stones** Communion
John 20:1-18

EASTERTIDE:

April 11th Easter 2
Acts 4:32-35
John 20:19-31
Believing

April 18th Easter 3 Rebecca Lister preaching
Psalm 4:1-8
Luke 24:36b-48
Easter Labyrinth

April 25th Easter 4 Rob Cochran preaching
Acts 4:5-12
John 10:11-18
What If We Are Wrong?

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A Note from Pastor Robin

Dear Beloved People of God,

I am 8 months pregnant ... and feeling it. As we come into the Spring, I wonder if the whole world feels pregnant as we wait for a clear sign that it is safe to move into a new season. We have had months and months of waiting, and we feel it. But finally, there are signs! People we know are vaccinated, some of you are vaccinated, and together with the warmer weather it feels like it is time to change. I hope sure hope it is!

Easter Sunday and the whole season of Eastertide leads us to a new way of life, in Jesus Christ. It is both immediate, as Jesus appears and the good news changes everything; and it is slow, as they wait for 50 days, until Pentecost. 40 days spent with the risen Lord, grasping, checking to see – *is it really him? Is He really with us and alive!?* 40 days in which Jesus appeared and disappeared to travelers on the Road to Emmaus, to the disciples and then the disciples again when Thomas was there, and on the side of the sea as the disciples fished...and then heard Jesus tell them to throw their nets to the *other side.*

40 days with Jesus who came for us, dies for us, rose in power and again came to us! And then he ascended into heaven and still the waiting, this time 10 days without Jesus. From that first Easter morning it is 50 days of transitioning. And they don't know the day or the hour as they wait...or even what will come...yet one morning that change does come! The Holy Spirit comes with wind and fire, bringing them into a new season, a new call as the Spirit speaks through them. It is the moment they are commissioned, called, sent to be the ones to preach the good news NOW!

There is waiting in the Easter season. I think we forget that. It is a hopeful, joyful waiting, yet still waiting. A waiting that offers revelation of Jesus in a new way, of life in a new way, of moving towards living in a new way.

I am ready for new. Ready to come out of these locked doors running...but maybe we need to not rush as we move into what we hope is a new season; we can remember the disciples and all the believers waiting...waiting for that moment. The moment they didn't even know what it would be like, until it came on Pentecost! We are in the midst. And need to remember that so many are still waiting for the possibility of the vaccine. So many are still watching the numbers that are stuck on this plateau. So many are longing to make plans. We are ready, ready for a new season. And maybe ready to hear the good news of Easter, with more eager ears.

Beloved People of God, Easter gives us the best news, Christ is alive! Death is overcome! We are still overcoming and we still need to hear this good news each day of Eastertide so that it soaks into our bones and changes us from the inside out.

If you are full of waiting and feeling it, do not lose heart. Hear the good news of Easter again, that speaks to this very moment.

Be hopeful! Be loving! Be curious of what God is doing, and how God is leading, in *this* Easter season.

Change our hearts O God, and lead us into a new season, to be those who are filled with your good news, so full it spills into this waiting world! Amen.

With the hope and trust of Christ, in the waiting,

Pastor Robin

Pastor Robin's Approaching Family Leave

Upon recommendation from the Administration and Personnel Committee, the Session approved plans for Pastor Robin's family leave, which will occur in late spring and early summer of this year. Pastor Robin will continue to lead Sunday worship services and officiate at Communion through Sunday, May 2. She will then begin her leave. She plans to return to our pulpit on Sunday, August 1.

After May 2 pastoral coverage of her twelve weeks of family leave will be provided by two ordained clergy, the Rev. Bruce Humphrey and our own Rev. Diane Pomeroy.

Diane will assume all pastoral care responsibilities of visitation and counseling for the entire twelve weeks. She will also lead worship services for six of those weeks: four in May and two in June.

The Rev. Bruce Humphrey will lead worship services for the remaining six weeks of Pastor Robin's leave: two in June and four in July. He will also officiate at Communion on June 6 and July 4 and will moderate Session meetings on June 1 and July 6.

Neither interim pastor will hold regular office hours in the church building. Individuals needing any pastoral services should present their requests to Clifffy in the church office; she will forward such inquiries to the appropriate clergy person.

SESSION NOTES

The session met on Tuesday, March 2, 2021. We opened with a reading from Exodus 16 by Pastor Robin. This was followed by a discussion relating to this past year's surprising forms of manna for each of us. We noted the uplifting things that we recognized during what has a difficult year in the life of our church and it's members.

Stuart, Penny and Carla reported briefly on the recent presbytery gathering...2/27/21 Presbytery met via zoom and held a business meeting plus separate learning sessions on current topics with different facilitators.

Committee notes and highlights were received.

+ Worship Committee: Holy Week services:
Maundy Thursday 7PM service with live streaming.

Good Friday 12:00PM – 7:00PM the church will be open from for a walk through with reflection and prayer.

Easter Sunday 10:00AM service inside with a total of 65 people. Reservations will be required.

Easter Sunday 12:00PM a second service either outside or in Snyder Hall (weather dependent)

+Administration and Personnel Committee: reported that Rev. Bruce Humphrey and Rev. Diane Pomeroy will be filling in during Pastor Robin's family leave. It was also noted that the Praise Team Leader, Kent Pierce had his exit interview. The committee is considering the next steps regarding two music leader positions that are now open.

+Stewardship and Finance Committee: reported that due to the continued generosity of our church family and the 2020 investment performance, our financial position is sound.

+Congregational Life: reminded all that the (Ordinary Grace) book discussion via zoom will be held on 3/26/21 at 7PM.

+Nominating Committee: reported that Donna Kuntz has been elected to the board of Deacons. There is still one vacancy to be filled on Deacons.

There was a general discussion about the use of meeting rooms in the church. As building use increases, it's important that this be organized so that they can be routinely cleaned and sanitized.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by Carla Dowd

DEACON DOINGS

These are uncertain times. But we can focus on Paul's words: "Do not be anxious about anything. Instead, in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God, and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:6-7). You are not alone. Your Deacons are here if you need help, or need prayer, or want to talk. Let us know!

I was thinking about what to write for the Deacon's article, and this hymn, "Cuando el pobre" or "When a Poor One" came to my heart, particularly these two verses. I hope you can hear the tune in your head. In our hymnal, it is hymn #407. You can also look it up on YouTube and listen:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jc97y9qtA6c>

When at last all those who suffer find their comfort,
When they hope though even hope seems hopelessness,
When we love though hate at times seems all around us,
Then we know that God still goes that road with us.

When our homes are filled with goodness in abundance,
When we learn how to make peace instead of war,
When each stranger that we meet is called a neighbor,
Then we know that God still goes that road with us.

Stay healthy and keep the faith!
Mary Lynne Mulligan



Deacon Ministry



Presbyterian Women



Lebanon Valley Youth for Christ Preschool Lunch Program

A Presbyterian Women Community Outreach

What: Prepare and drop off (Or you can stay and help serve) lunch for 12 three- and four- year olds.

Where: Youth for Christ building at 10th and Lehman Streets in Lebanon.

When: The first Thursday of each month during the school year; lunch is served at 11:45AM.

Menu: Keep it simple: main course suggestions are hot dogs, pizza, mac and cheese, PB&J, plus fruit and dessert. Drinks and paper products are provided by YFC

Cost: Save your receipts for reimbursement from Women of the Congregation

St. Andrews Contact: Sue Mechura (smechura@hotmail.com)
717-273-7507

YFC Contact: Courtney Hershey
(courtneyhershey@gmail.com)

EPYC Expectations

Easter has arrived, and what a wonderful exclamation it is to say Christ Has Risen! It is also a great joy to say that the Lent Video Devotions have been a great success! Thank you to everyone who has helped in this process! The list for readers filled up quickly and I was often asked if additional readers were needed. In addition, I have heard many positive interactions from everyone on the video series and how it connects us further. So, a deep thank you to everyone from Christian Education and the readers for the time and effort put into the videos!

With Spring here as well it is time to start looking at this summer! While Covid-19 has in the past put dampers on gatherings, CE is exploring Ways that we can gather and safely reach out to the community. While this is a little fluid as we continue to look towards the continued roll out of the vaccine and the warmer weather to slow the spread, it is certainly a light at the end of the tunnel, offering new outlooks and means of ministry! As more information and planning grows, I will pass it along as soon as possible!

April 4th Easter Sunday, Easter egg hunt after second service.
NO Sunday, Trailblazers, or Epyc\\
April 11th 4-5pm Trailblazers, 5-6pm Epyc
April 18th 4-5pm Trailblazers, 5-6pm Epyc
April 25th 4-5pm Trailblazers, 5-6pm Epyc



April Mission Spotlight

Hot and Cold Cereals

IN MEMORY



Ted Kalb

Ted joined St Andrews January 1977 when he moved here with his wife, Liz, and children, Deb and Kevin. Ted was an active member of the church, serving a number of terms on the Board of Trustees. He also was a youth Sunday School teacher and was involved as a parent in youth fellowship activities.

Ted and Liz were active members of the Twelfth Streeters and attended their many social activities. He was a manager with Butler Manufacturing and was active in the Rotary club.

Ted joined the church triumphant March 6, 2021



April Birthdays

2	Henry Overholt	19	Brennan Mulligan
3	Veronica Juppenlatz	20	Judy Borger
5	Elizabeth Burkholder	23	Joy Eubanks
	Susannah Heister		Kristen Heister
7	Bill Mulligan		Jessica Goetze
8	Fred Jones	26	Charles Jones
9	Benjamin Sensenig		Pat Yates
11	Livvy Huisman	27	Wanda Bechtold
12	Andrew Hofman	28	Scott Shreve
16	Emma Heister	29	Beth Hamme
17	Barbara Shreve	30	Bill Birt
	Howard Hockenbury		



A Grief Support Group
of
St. Andrews Church

And time remembered is grief forgotten, And frosts are slain and flowers begotten, And in green underwood and cover, blossom by blossom the spring begins.

Algernon Charles Swinburne

Though we can scarcely believe it when our grief is new, there will come a time when what we remember will be, not the so-sorrowful occasion of the death, but the rich and happy times in the life of our loved one.

It won't happen all at once, any more than the winter passes in one glorious sunny day that takes away all the cold and melts the snow.

But one day, just as crocuses and daffodils appear one at a time as solitary harbingers of spring, we will find ourselves smiling (laughing, even!) as we remember our loved one. The lift of that memory is, for a while at least, far removed from the overriding sadness we've known.

During the meetings of the St. Andrews Grief Support Group, we often share good memories of happy times with the loved one who has passed. It is encouraging to some who are new to the group when an “older” member shares a story and can smile and even laugh, to know that they too will reach a point in their grief journey when they can share a good memory and feel happy about it. We all agree that, yes, there will still be sad days, but as time goes on, for most of us the happy days far outnumber the sad days. It is often a slow, “baby-step-by-baby-step” process, but it does happen eventually. Sharing these experiences with each other is probably what we do best during our meetings: sharing and lending encouragement and support to the others who are at different places in their grieving.

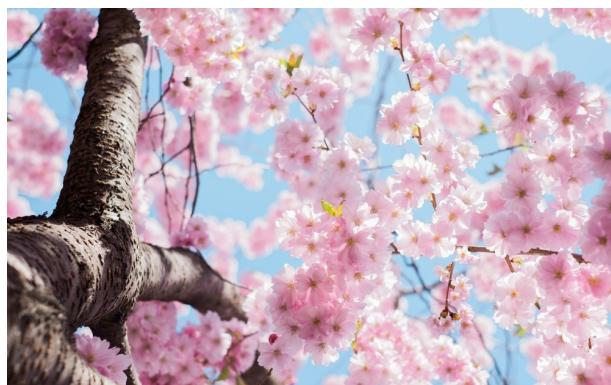
Anyone is welcome to come to our meetings. If you or someone you know would benefit from getting together with us, please feel free to join us. We would welcome you to come join with us as we share this journey together.

Our usual meeting time is the 2nd Thursday of each month at 2:00 PM, in Cassel Chapel. For April, we will be meeting on April 8, the May meeting will be on May 13, both starting at 2:00.

If you have any questions, please contact our Advisor, Diane Pomeroy, at 454-0756; Pat Yates, at 273-9297; or the church office at 272-9933.

“Blossom by blossom”, memory by memory, the spring-time returns.

Somewhere in the midst of my grief is the confidence that spring will come.



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