

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

120 S. PARK AVENUE FREMONT, OH 43420 419-334-7171 WW.FREMONTFPC.ORG

## WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN MARCH:

- March 3 - "The Wonder of It All"
- March 6 - Ash Wednesday Evening Service, 6:30 pm
- March 10 - "Depth or Superficiality"
- March 17 - "All You Need is Heart"
- March 24 - "Heaven's Kitchen"
- March 31 - "Welcome Home"
- March 31 - Lenten Retreat, 11:30 am

## PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

### "Our Lenten Journey Begins"

As I write this today, I feel spring is in the air! While it is windy outside today, the sun is beginning to shine. I can see a few patches of brown grass beginning to turn green, a sign that spring may come to Ohio... eventually! With Spring, we begin to think of Easter, but before Easter is the period of preparation for Easter known as Lent.

In "Ashes to Ashes" D.D. Emmons writes:

"The word Lent is from an Old English term meaning springtime, and by the second century the term was being used to describe the period of individual fasting, almsgiving and prayer in preparation for Easter. Among the Christians of the first three centuries, only those aspiring for baptism — the catechumens — observed a defined period of preparation, and that time lasted only two or three days. The idea of Lent being 40 days in length evolved over the next few centuries, and it is difficult to establish the precise time as to when it began. Among the canons issued by the Council of Nicaea, the Church leaders, in Canon Five, made reference to Lent: "and let these synods be held, the one before Lent that the pure gift may be offered to God after all bitterness has been put away, and let the second be held about autumn." The language of this canon seems to validate that Lent, in some fashion, had by the fourth century been established and accepted by the Church. While the exact timing and extent of Lent both before and after the Nicaea council is unclear, what is clear from historical documents is that Christians did celebrate a season of Lent to prepare themselves for Resurrection Sunday and

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#### Special points of interest:

- ◇ **Worship 10 am**
- ◇ **Christ University 9 am**
- ◇ **Session Summary**
- ◇ **Announcements**

used a variety of ways to do so.

That Lent evolved into a period of 40 days in length is not surprising as there are numerous biblical events that also involved 40 days. Moses was on Mount Sinai receiving instructions from God for that number of days (see Ex 24:18); Noah and his entourage were on the Ark waiting for the rains to end for 40 days and 40 nights (Gn 7:4); and Elijah “walked forty days and forty nights to the mountain of God, Horeb” (1 Kgs 19:8). Mostly, though, the 40 days of Lent identifies with the time our Lord Jesus spent in the desert fasting, praying and being tempted by the devil (Mt 4:1-11).”

Our Lenten Journey 2019 begins with Ash Wednesday. I invite you to join us on Wednesday, March 6, for our Ash Wednesday Service with Holy Communion. The service will begin at 6:30 p.m. In addition to our Sunday Worship Services, we will also have several additional opportunities for prayer and reflection during the Lenten season. On Sunday, March 31, from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. we will have a simple Lunch and a Lenten Retreat with prayer and Scripture study. On Wednesdays, April 10 and April 17, we will have other opportunities for quiet prayer and reflection during our Lenten Prayer Services beginning at 7:00 p.m. Then on Thursday, April 18, we will celebrate Communion and walk with Jesus to the cross during our Holy Week Maundy Thursday Service which begins at 7:00 p.m.

During this Lenten season, spend some time in prayer and quiet reflection, especially pray for our church as we strive to be Christ’s disciples and our world that God’s love, justice, and mercy may prevail.

Pastor Julie

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, March 17, following the worship service. Please plan to join us. The annual report and updated directory will be available for you to pick up beginning Sunday, March 3.

### Coffee with Calvin



Please join us for Coffee with Calvin on Sunday mornings at 9 am. If you are interested in attending, have ideas for topics of discussion, or if you are interested in church membership, please see Pastor Julie.

## Here’s a great idea: Invite your friends to church on Friendship Sunday, April 7

Here are a couple reasons why you should bother to pray, ask, and invite people to come with you to church on Friendship Sunday and lunch that follows. An invitation is enclosed in this newsletter.

1. Life is scary. Tornadoes, terrorism, hurricanes, and even peanut butter aren’t safe. There is a lot to be afraid of in our world today. But those who have Jesus, the One who calms storms, know that though the journey might be challenging, we are ultimately promised a safe harbor. Invite your friends to meet Jesus, the only reliable guide through scary times.
2. People are lonely. Lies, abandonment, abuse, disappointment, no matter how wonderful the person or relationship, there are times when the best of human companionship will disappoint. That is because, as St. Augustine said, we all have a God-shaped place inside that only Jesus can fill. Invite your friends to meet Jesus, the only person whose love will never fail through all of life, through death and into eternity.

Be a good friend on Friendship Sunday, April 7.

# RAINBOW STATION NEWS



Welcome to Spring! We are excited to see warmer weather come to stay for awhile. Since the play yard has been so wet, we have been going on neighborhood walks. Not the same as playing outside, but it is a good substitute.

We should be getting information soon on the Heartbeat Hope Medical Flower Sale. As soon as I receive this information, I will pass it on to the office. We appreciate everyone's help on this sale. Both Heartbeat Hope Medical and Rainbow Station benefit from this sale.

Over the next 3 months, we will be preparing for our Step Up to Quality renewal. This will not interfere with our care of the children, as most of the paper work will be done when they are napping. It is a good time every year to make sure we are staying on track with where we need to be.

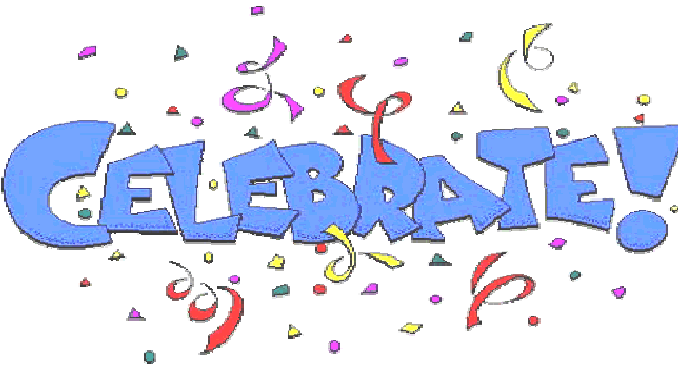
We want to thank everyone for their prayers and support, as they are greatly appreciated.

Rainbow Station  
Staff



## **KROGER FUNDRAISER**

Thank you to the 139 households who shopped at Kroger between November 1, 2018 and January 31, 2019. You helped Rainbow Station earn \$750.57!! If you don't see Rainbow Station listed at the bottom of your Kroger receipt, please call the church office at 419-334-7171 to be enrolled. Every little bit helps!



**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

5	Cade Ochs
9	Grant Leathhead
11	Logan Horrighs

					1  <b>World Day of Prayer</b>	2
3 9:00a - Christ University 9:00a - Coffee W/ Calvin 10:00a Worship - Luncheon hosted by choirs 5:00p - VIDA Church	4 10:00a - PW Mtg 8:00p Alanon 8:00p AA	5 6:30p - Vida Church Bible Study	6 5:30p - Choir 6:30p-Ash Wednesday Service 7:15p - Session  <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	7 6:00p - Girl Scouts	8	9
10 9:00a - Christ University 9:00a - Coffee W/ Calvin 10:00a Worship 5:00p - VIDA Church <b>Daylight Savings Time</b>	11 8:00p Alanon 8:00p AA	12 6:30p - Vida Church Bible Study	13 11:30a - Satellites 6:00p - Choir	14	15	16
17 9:00a - Christ University 9:00a - Coffee W/ Calvin 10:00a Worship - Congregational Mtg 5:00p - VIDA Church	18 8:00p Alanon 8:00p AA	19 6:30p - Vida Church Bible Study 7:00p - Rachel Circle	20 6:00p - Choir 6:30p - Deacons  <b>NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE</b>	21 6:00p - Girl Scouts	22	23
24 9:00a - Christ University 9:00a - Coffee W/ Calvin 10:00a Worship 5:00p - VIDA Church	25 8:00p Alanon 8:00p AA	26 6:30p - Vida Church Bible Study	27 6:00p - Choir	28 5:30p - Habitat	29	30
31 9:00a - Christ University 9:00a - Coffee W/ Calvin 10:00a Worship 11:30a - Lenten Retreat 5:00p - VIDA Church						

# MARCH

## Birthdays

- |   |                |    |                  |    |                   |
|---|----------------|----|------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Betty Sargeant | 6  | Carol Van Dyne   | 20 | Carolyn Clark     |
| 3 | Hannah Biller  | 9  | Jay Provonsha    | 20 | Stephanie Stull   |
| 3 | Betsy Kohman   | 10 | Bill McConnell   | 21 | Cole Kinsey       |
| 4 | Alex Clark     | 16 | Janice Zimmerman | 23 | Gloria Walters    |
| 5 | Michael Clark  | 19 | Susan Myers      | 25 | Nathaniel Cowdrey |

## Anniversaries

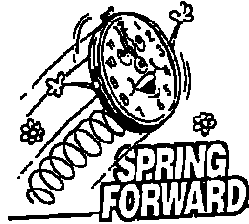
- |    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|
| 3  | Rod & Linda Combs     |
| 18 | Chip & Donna Cominsky |

## MARCH LUNCHEON

Join us Sunday, March 3rd, immediately following the worship service for our March luncheon. This meal will be provided by the Chancel and Bell Choirs. Come join us for worship at 10:00 am and then stay for a great meal and great fellowship after! See you then!

## SPRING FORWARD!

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 10, so don't forget to set your clocks one hour forward before you go to bed the night before!



### 2019 Mission Opportunity:

The children will be selling baked goods and treats every month to raise money for our mission opportunity, which will be going toward Operation Christmas Child and Samaritan's Purse International Relief. Last year the children raised \$262.25 so we hope to increase that amount throughout 2018 - 2019. The following is the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the schedule we have put together so that the congregation can be prepared to buy goodies during the months of March, April and May.

#### Selling Dates:

March 10 & 24 – Leprechaun Hat  
S'mores/Shamrock Bark

April 14 & 28 – Jelly Bean Prayer/Easter Trail Mix

May 12 & 19 – Popcorn/Oyster Crackers

Thank You and Happy Eating,

The Christian Growth and Nurture Team

## SATELLITES

Our March eat-out will be on Wed., Mar. 13 at 11:30. We will meet at Peking's on W. State St. Anyone is welcome. Bring a friend. Please call your reservation to Audine (419-334-3494) by Sunday, Mar. 10th. If you need a ride, please tell Audine too.

## CHILI COOKOFF!

The Fellowship and Service committee invites you to a fun filled evening of food and fellowship on Saturday, March 16th at 5p. All you "chili masters" out there prepare to battle off your own recipe to earn the title of Chili Master !! We look forward to seeing you there!



## One Great Hour of Sharing

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future. Our church will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering next month on Palm Sunday, April 14. Envelopes and more information will be available next month. Our One Great Hour of Sharing gifts will go to the [Presbyterian Hunger Program](#) and [Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](#). Contact John Roush if you have questions about this offering.

## SPRING CLEANING REMINDER

As you do your spring cleaning during the next couple of months, remember the annual spring rummage sale is coming soon on Friday, May 3. There's no better place for those usable items you are removing from your closets or garages!



Out to  
LUNCH!

# Neighbors' News



In Matthew 25:35 & 40 Jesus says "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat." "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for

one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Thanks to all who have put extra items on your grocery list to fill the containers in the Social Room. As always, please look for sales and help only as you are able.

Thanks for your help neighbor!

Rod and Linda Combs

*Dish Soap (optional)*

*Liquid Laundry Detergent (optional)*

**March**

**3 - Corn**

**10 - Applesauce**

**17 - Saltine Crackers**

**24 - Peanut Butter**

**31 - Jelly**

## ***March Assisting In Worship***

<b>DATE</b>	<b>USHERS</b>	<b>COMMUNION PREP, SERVING &amp; CLEAN-UP</b>	<b>LOCK DOORS</b>
<b>March 3</b>	Team 5 Pam Clark- Captain Russ & Ellen Abbott	Kyle & Jody Amor Harry Sargeant Bill Taylor	Bob Gamble
<b>March 10</b>	Team 1 Dannita Cowdrey - Captain Bob Cowdrey Rod Combs	No Communion	Bob Gamble
<b>March 17</b>	Team 2 Bill Taylor -Captain Carolyn Taylor Jan Zimmerman	Larry Stout John Roush Bill Taylor	Bob Gamble
<b>March 24</b>	Team 3 Mike Opre - Captain Bob & Lisa Zimmerman	No Communion	Bob Gamble
<b>March 31</b>	Team 4 Susan Myers - Captain Larry & Barb Stout	No Communion	Bob Gamble

# SUMMARY OF SESSION MEETING

February 6, 2019

**Motions:**

- To accept the minutes of the January 13, 2019 Stated Session Meeting.
- To receive all reports with thanks, including the treasurers report.
- To set the rate for the Child Care Assistant Secretary for 2019.
- To accept the budget as presented with a correction as discussed to line 305.
- To receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering on April 14.
- To adjourn.

**Summary**

Rev. Dr. Kling called the meeting to order and declared a quorum. Devotions were shared from Psalm 31. The meeting was opened with prayer

**Clerk's Report**

	10:00
January 6	52
January 13	45
January 20	No Service
January 27	30

Pastor Julie reported that she completed the following in the month of January:

During this past month, I have preached at Sunday worship and special services, prepared a monthly pastor's reflection for the newsletter, moderated Session, celebrated the Lord's Supper, attended social events such as Sunday meals, made communion calls, and provided pastoral care and counseling to individuals, I planned themes, sermons, and hymns for services through January. I spent some of my vacation time volunteering at Give Kids the World in Florida. Give Kids the World is affiliated with various Make-A-Wish foundations and hosts children with terminal or chronic illnesses in helping with wish fulfillments in the Orlando area. Returning to the cold and snow of Ohio, I used housebound time to begin to prepare for services for February, Ash Wednesday and Lent. I attended two area social ministry events. If you have any topics for Coffee with Calvin on Sundays, please feel free to contact me.

A new budget for 2019 was presented.

The audit of the 2018 church books will be scheduled in March.

The boilers have been inspected. Repairs were made as needed.

Utility expenses are being reviewed.

PW wants to have a place to store stuff for the upcoming Rummage Sale. There is a place in the social room for donations.

The church has possession of 2 burial plots that can be given to a family in need.

May 5 will be Teacher Appreciation Sunday.

An interactive board has been displayed. Members may share favorite Bible verses.

Decorations were posted in the library.

VBS will be June 17-21 with the Rainbow Station Children.

The shut-ins will be visited on Palm Sunday.

A chili cook-off will be scheduled for March 16.

Mulch will be used for landscaping. Flowers will also be planted.

Flameless candles have been purchased for the Sanctuary and for the Advent candles.

There will not be communion on Sunday Feb. 10.

Ash Wednesday is March 6. The service will be at 6:30.

A Lenten Retreat (March 31 after the service) and evening prayers (April 10 and 17 at 7 pm) will be offered. Maundy Thursday service is March 18 at 7.

Friendship Sunday is April 7. A fried chicken dinner is planned.

May 5 the deacons will be doing a Taco Bar for Cinco De Mayo. We will invite the Vida church and Terra students to join us.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be on April 14.

The Annual report was submitted with the certification of Racial Non-discrimination.

There are opening pending waiting call lists.

They will need mulch for the playground.

Recommendation was given for the child care assistant position hourly rate..

Contacts have been made to those going off Deacons or Elders. As of now, The Clerk's position and 2 other Elders need to be filled. The Deacons Board has 3 open positions.

There was a discussion about changing the number of Elders and amending the by-laws.

The new General Presbyter is Matt Meinke.

The next meeting will be Feb. 19 in Toledo at Christ Presbyterian. Bill Taylor will be the representative.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Session will be Wednesday March 6, 2019, after the Ash Wednesday service.

Pastor Kling will be out of town February 10.

The Congregation Meeting will be held March 17.

Pastor Julie will moderate the Session at East Side Presbyterian Church.



**THE BOARD OF DEACONS**

- Rod Combs*
- Dannita Cowdrey*
- Bob Gamble (Moderator)*
- Anne Humberger*
- Steve Kennedy*
- Susan Myers*
- Amy Oprie*
- Josh Ross*
- Diane Roush*

**THE CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM**

- |                                  |                        |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Pastor                           | Rev. Dr. Julie Kling   |
| Choir Director                   | Lori Damschroder       |
| Organist Emeritus                | Paul Livingston        |
| Secretary                        | Amy Monk               |
| Children's Ministry Coordinator  | Nicole Whetstone       |
| Rainbow Station Director/Teacher | Roberta Patterson      |
| Rainbow Station Teacher          | Nikki Whetstone        |
| Rainbow Station Teacher          | Kathleen Daley         |
| Rainbow Station Floater          | Shari Mehling          |
| Co-Treasurers                    | Larry & Carol Van Dyne |
| Volunteer Parish Nurse           | Linda Hamilton         |
| Custodian                        | Scott Slatter          |

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**  
**COORDINATING TEAM**

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Moderator        | Dannita Cowdrey |
| Secretary        |                 |
| Treasurer        | Carol Van Dyne  |
| Funeral Luncheon | Susan Myers     |
| Rachel Circle    | Dannita Cowdrey |
| Rummage Sales    |                 |
| At Large         | Susan McKnight  |
|                  | Jo Elder        |
|                  | Lois Livingston |

**THE SESSION**

- Jody Amor*
- Linda Combs (Clerk)*
- Linda Hamilton*
- Bob Humberger*
- John Roush*
- Don Steen*
- Larry Stout*
- Bill Taylor*
- Nicole Whetstone*
- Rev. Dr. Julie Kling (Moderator)*

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

To contact the pastor, call the church office at 419-334-7171.  
In case of a pastoral emergency, call 419-341-2548.



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