

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE VOICE

March 2024

TO KNOW
HIM AND TO
MAKE HIM
KNOWN

Siblings in Christ,

The last few months have been packed full as we celebrated Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, and Ash Wednesday, which began the 40 days of Lent. By the end of *this* month, Jesus will have triumphantly entered Jerusalem, been betrayed by his followers, suffered, died, and risen again. In three months, we will have told the whole Jesus story!

The short span between Jesus' birth and resurrection has more to do with calendar dates than Christology (the study of Christ).

Historically, the origin of Christmas celebrated on December 25 has been unclear. While it's documented that Rome began commemorating the holiday near the end of December in the fourth century, there is no evidence for *why*. It may be that the Nativity of the Lord replaced another festival in that timeframe. Others believe that Christ's death, which early Christian tradition documents as March 25, corresponds with his birth nine months later in December.

Easter, however, is a bit different. Named from an old English word meaning dawn and shining, "The date for the festival of the Resurrection of the Lord changes from year to year as it is calculated in relation to the phases of the moon. Since the Council of Nicaea in 325, Western Christians have celebrated Christ's resurrection on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the spring equinox (March 21), occasionally shifting the date to the following week to avoid coinciding with the Jewish Passover. This elaborate computation means Easter Sunday may take place as early as March 22 or as late as April 25. Eastern Christians use a different set of astronomical tables based on the Julian calendar instead of the Gregorian; for this reason, the Catholic/Protestant and Orthodox celebrations of Easter typically occur on different Sundays" (*PC(USA) Book of Common Worship*, "The Season of Easter," pg. 316). Additionally, Spring is generally seen as a season of new life as the earth awakens post winter slumber. A fitting season for Easter, as it is Christ who raises us from our tiresome sinfulness and grants us new life.

Though it may seem fast, telling the tale of Christ in such a short timeframe reminds us that the good news of Christ's life, death, and resurrection is something to be shared with others immediately. We must not wait for the perfect time to spread the Gospel, because the Gospel *cannot* wait. Our weary world needs hope *now*; begs for new life *now*; yearns for peace *now*. Knowing what's gained through the life of Jesus, we spend the majority of the year affirming Christ's presence among us. The last three months set the stage for the next 9 as we, having heard the story, now live it.

With Lenten Peace,

Lex



CONTACT

Address:

200 N. 7th St.
Paducah KY 42001

Phone:

270-442-3545

Email:

firstprespaducah@gmail.com

Worship Times:

Sunday, 10:45am

In-person + Livestream on Facebook

(First Presbyterian of Paducah)

WORSHIP

March 3

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Provoking Anger

John 2:13-22

March 10

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Rich in Mercy

Ephesians 2:1-10

March 17

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

The Gift of Death

John 12:20-30

March 24

PALM SUNDAY

Ignorance is Bliss

Mark 11:1-11

March 28

MAUNDY THURSDAY & COMMUNION

Christ's Last Meal

1st Corinthians 11:23-26

March 29

GOOD FRIDAY

Tenebrae Service

March 31

EASTER SUNDAY & COMMUNION

To Be Continued...

Mark 16:1-8

SUNDAY SCHOOL & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FELLOWSHIP HALL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Spring has arrived even though officially it doesn't get here until the 19th of March. Already buds have presented themselves and the trees and flowers should begin displaying their beauty very soon.

This spring our quarterly unit title is Examining Our Faith. In March we will be looking at Faith-FULL versus Faith-LESS. All month will keep us in the New Testament. We will explore turning life's challenges into life's opportunities.

Our Scriptures will not tell us stories about individual Biblical heroes but rather are letters written to the early churches. I think that we will enjoy the fresh discoveries of our own faith in life during this study.

We invite anyone to be a part of this class in a regular attendance or just occasionally. Grab a donut and some coffee and join us for our look into God's Word for help.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women will be gathering on Monday, March 4, at 10:30am in Memorial Hall. Margaret Kaltenbach will be leading us through Lesson Seven of the Horizon's Bible study, "Sacred Encounters." Upon completion of the 2023 Historical Annual Report, Paducah First's PW donation \$1,779.52 to missions through PW Mission Agency, Birthday Offering, Thank Offering, and Least Coin. A special offering was given to send our children and youth to Montreat of \$1,251.65 from the proceeds of the Tag Sale.

Mark your calendar for the Spring Gathering of the Presbytery's PW on Thursday, April 11, 2024 in Mayfield. We will also be remembering our lost loved ones during worship during the necrology service. More details will follow next month.



LENTEN JOURNEY

- Noonbreak Services February 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20, 27 12:15 - 12:45pm in the sanctuary. Lunch will be served on March 27 only.
- Palm Sunday the entrance of Christ to Jerusalem, March 24, at 10:45am.
- Maundy Thursday service of communion, the Last Supper, March 28 at 7:00pm.
- Good Friday Tenebrae service of darkness, the Crucifixion, March 29 at 7:00pm.
- Easter Sunrise Service—Noble Park Amphitheatre—March 31 at 6:38am.
- Easter service of resurrection with communion (bring flowers), March 31 at 10:45am.

PADUCAH COOPERATIVE MINISTRY

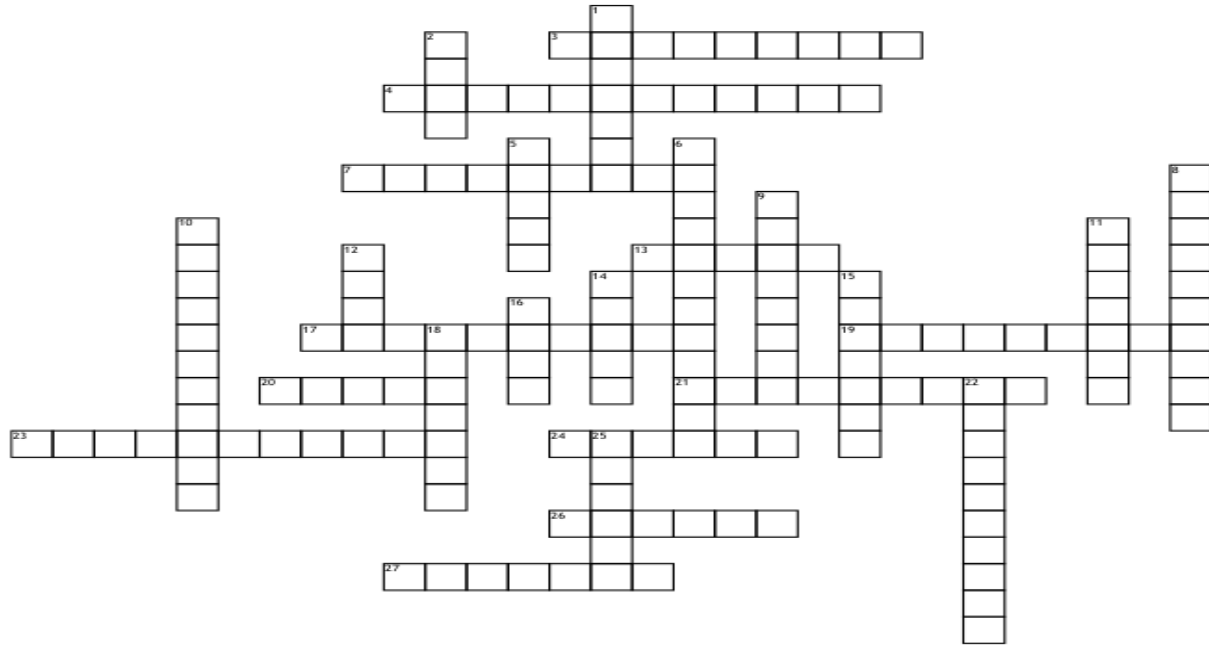
Paducah Cooperative Ministry will hold their annual dinner on Thursday, March 14, here at First Presbyterian Church. This will give our church representatives, Donna and Robert Worden, an opportunity to hear the state of PCM over the past year. According to PCM Bylaws, Chris Krueger, our current Board representative, must rotate off the Board upon completing her second consecutive 3-year term of service. Canyon Bowden has agreed to serve so that First Presbyterian Church will continue to be represented. We thank Canyon for her willingness to serve. The Moonlight Bike Ride sponsored by BIKEWORLD is scheduled for July 27.

A special thank you to those who made a contribution to PCM for those families who were displaced from Noble Lodge in January. The final expenses by PCM were \$8,141.12. They received \$8,911.38. No funds were needed from the operating budget. Thanks be to God.

PCM was named "Outstanding Non-Profit of the Year" by the Chamber of Commerce. Congratulations to all who support this ministry.



EASTER



Across

- 3. Last Supper
- 4. He has risen!
- 7. Those who follow The Way
- 13. Betrayed Christ and was forgiven
- 17. Jesus prayer place
- 19. God's great gift to us
- 20. Symbol of Jesus' death
- 21. Christ's special circle of friends
- 23. Christ's ultimate sacrifice

Down

- 1. No fear with Christ
- 2. Go when God says "go"
- 5. Don't receive what I deserve
- 6. Beginning of season
- 8. Jesus enters Jerusalem
- 9. Group who cares and has your back
- 24. Communication with God
- 26. My ultimate Kingdom
- 27. Father, Son and Holy Ghost

- 10. To live forever
- 11. Helping others
- 12. Our job
- 14. Receive what I don't deserve
- 15. Giving up food for prayer
- 16. 40 days
- 18. Shout "Lord, save us"
- 22. Sharing my Christian beliefs
- 25. Changed as a believer



Pictured Left: Youth Group serving lunch at The Community Kitchen.



Pictured Right: First LILs Gathering at Dry Ground Brewing Co.



NEWS FROM THE EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Please mark your calendars for April 13-16 when our church will be hosting Dr. George Anderson, senior pastor of Second Presbyterian Church in Roanoke, Virginia. Dr. Anderson will arrive on Saturday, April 13 and preach in worship the following morning. On Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday evenings, he will teach at the church around the theme "A Fresh Look at Old Doctrines." Dr. Anderson is an engaging preacher and teacher, so we anticipate a meaningful few days of Christian education for our congregation and members of the community. The E&O Committee will be organizing some meals and recreational activities for Dr. Anderson. If you would like to host a meal or activity, please contact Robin Kelly, E&O Committee Chair.

MONTREAT SUMMER CONFERENCES

It's not too early to be planning ahead for the Montreat Youth and/or Worship & Music Conferences. If your child, grades rising 9th through graduated 12th, would like to attend the Montreat Youth Conference June 2-9, we need your \$150 deposit by April 1. If your child, grades rising 6th through completed 12th, would like to attend the Worship & Music Conference June 23-July 30, we need your \$150 deposit by April 1. Please contact Whitney if you have questions about making your summer Montreat plans: 270-559-6918.

BUDDENBAUM HOUSE

As we move forward towards Quilt Week, the Buddenbaum House is getting more attention. Here's a sample of the feedback received from some of our guests.

"Buddenbaum House was a gem! What a lovely find here in Paducah. We loved the history, the local art, and overall feel of the home. Enjoyed exploring Paducah museums, shops, artist galleries, coffee, and more. Found we enjoyed the house so much we preferred dining in. Took a quick trip to Southern Illinois to visit with our son at SIUC. Thank you for restoring this beautiful home and opening such a precious piece of history to the public for all to share."

J & R from Reading, PA

A special thanks goes to Jim and Linda Gould for keeping this outreach ministry alive in our community.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

February was a short but busy month for our youth: we decorated and filled Valentine's Day treat boxes for our college students, collected donations for the Souper Bowl of Caring, and attended the installation of Rev. Patrick Wallace, Mayfield First's new pastor. March activities will include doing some outdoor projects around the church, helping to prepare and serve lunch at the Community Kitchen, and a shopping trip to Walmart for the church pantry. Church children's and youth activities can create meaningful bonds and lasting memories for our young people – we hope that you will commit to engaging your kiddos in our church this year.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| March 3 – | Youth Choir 4:30 pm
Dinner and Service Activity 5:30-7 pm |
| March 10 -- | Youth Choir 4:30 pm
Walmart Shopping on a Budget for the church pantry |
| March 17 -- | Youth Choir 4:30 pm
Dinner and Just-for-fun Activity |
| March 24 -- | Youth Choir 4:30 pm
Dinner and Educational Activity |
| March 31 -- | Easter Sunday – No Youth Choir or Youth Group |

PALM CROSS WORKSHOP

Our annual Palm Cross Workshop will take place on Wednesday, March 20, at 10 a.m.



TREASURER'S REPORT

	As of 1/31/24		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER (UNDER)
Income	58,967	35,943	23,024
Expenditures:			
Benevolences	7,054	7,513	(459)
Church Staff	21,958	22,588	(630)
Administrative	7,671	3,910	3,761
Worship	150	604	(454)
Christian Ed.	-	592	(592)
Property	5,322	5,947	(625)
Pastoral Care	-	25	(25)
Evangelism & Outreach	-	150	(150)
Programs	231	234	(3)
Buddenbaum House	383	417	(34)
TOTAL	42,769	41,980	(789)
Net Income (Loss)	16,198	(6,037)	22,235

The summary financial statement for January is presented above. The year is off to a great start as revenues exceeded expenses for the month by \$16,198. Giving statements for 2023 were sent via email in mid-January. If you need the church to provide a paper copy of your statement, please let Alyssa or me know.

Karen Durbin, Treasurer



Is your garage full of gadgets that need to go? Do your closets runneth over? If so, we have the solution for you! We will be having a tag sale on May 4 and would love to have your extra "stuff" to sell. We will be accepting gently used household items, toys, books, and just about anything else (except clothing) that you no longer need but that would still be of use to someone else. And we are happy to provide a receipt for your tax records. Please contact Whitney if you need more information.

SOUPERBOWL OF CARING SM

Thanks to your generosity, the youth collected \$749.77 on Super Bowl Sunday. These donations will be split between the Sunday Community Kitchen and Paducah Cooperative Ministries.

FAMILY NIGHT SUPPER

Tuesday, March 20th - 5:45 - Fellowship Hall.

Please join us for an evening with good friends and good food. The church will provide barbecue, buns and drinks. Please bring sides that pair well with barbecue or desserts. The program will be a fun game night.

BOOK CLUB

The March Book Club selection is Tracy Buchanan's *Toward the Corner of Mercy and Peace*. We will meet at the home of Shirley Wrinkle on March 19th at 1:30 p.m.

Also:

Our annual Palm Cross Workshop will take place on Wednesday, March 20, at 10 a.m.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

4	Avery Miller	18	Anita Lentz
5	John Hoy	22	Chandler Smith
6	Polly LeBuhn	26	Ainsley Ballert
8	Jim Gould	28	Charlie Wolfrom
10	James Flynn	30	Mina Smith
11	Alyssa Arnold	31	Harrison Stratemeyer
11	Sandy Meredith		
13	Sally Marshall		
13	Lisa McClintock		
15	Finola Bowden		
15	Emory Masthay		
18	Seamus Bowden		

ANNIVERSARIES

14	Dana & Ken Marvin
26	Linda & Jim Gould
28	Martha Emmons & Hutch Smith



Pictured right: Sally Marshall enjoying February's Shrove Tuesday Family Night Supper.

Pictured Left: Harrison and Henry Stratemeyer and Lucy LeBuhn creating Valentine's Day cards on Shrove Tuesday.



March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30am - Sunday School 10:45am - Worship 4:30pm - Youth Group 5:30pm - Youth Choir	4 10:30am - PW Circle Meeting	5	6 12:15pm - Noonbreak 4:15-5:30pm - WW 7:00pm - Adult Choir	7	8	9
10 9:30am - Sunday School 10:45am - Worship 4:30pm - Youth Group 5:30pm - Youth Choir	11	12 6:00pm - Worship Committee	13 12:15pm - Noonbreak 4:15-5:30pm - WW 7:00pm - Adult Choir	14	15	16
17 9:30am - Sunday School 10:45am - Worship 4:30pm - Youth Group 5:30pm - Youth Choir	18	19 7:00pm - Session	20 12:15pm - Noonbreak 4:15-5:30pm - WW 5:45pm - Family Night Supper 7:00pm - Adult Choir	21	22	23
24 9:30am - Sunday School 10:45am - Worship 4:30pm - Youth Group 5:30pm - Youth Choir	25	26	27 12:15pm - Noonbreak/Lunch 4:15-5:30pm - WW 7:00pm - Adult Choir	28 7:00pm - Maundy Thursday with Communion	29 7:00pm - Good Friday Tenebrae	30
31 6:38am - Easter Sunrise—Noble Park Amphitheater 9:30am - Sunday School 10:45am - Easter Worship with Communion						

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
200 NORTH 7TH STREET
PADUCAH, KY 42001**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE VOICE March 2024

