



# Presbyterian Press



## HAPPY EASTER



### WHAT'S COMING UP

Maundy Thursday	April 1 <sup>st</sup>
Good Friday	April 2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>April 4<sup>th</sup></b>
Tax Day	April 15 <sup>th</sup>
Earth Day	April 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Church office closed ½ day Good Friday and all day Easter Monday	

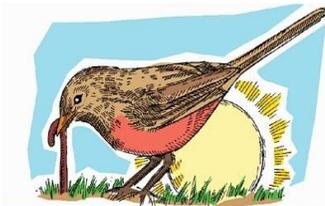
*The very first Easter taught us this: that life never ends and love never dies."*

*—Kate McGahan*



Our Bible Study!

Wednesdays at 3:30 PM



*Morning Prayer Group*

Tuesdays at 10:00 AM  
In the parlor



*"Easter says you can put truth in a grave, but it won't stay there."*

*--- Clarence W. Hall*

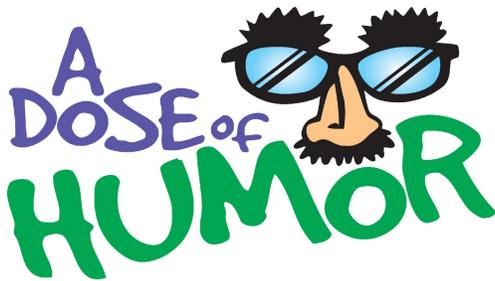


Please pray for : Jackie Carr,  
David Corsini and Tara Shaffer.

*Then they prayed and  
said, "Lord, you know  
everyone's heart."*

Acts 1:24, NRSV

**The Mustard Seed is in need of peanut butter, pasta, spaghetti sauce, toilet paper, pots and pans, and flatware (any spoons, forks, knives, etc). The volunteers of the Mustard Seed thank parishioners for the blessings of your donations.**



More churches lately have been resurrecting (pardon the pun!) the early-church tradition of celebrating the second Sunday of Easter as Holy Humor Sunday, affirming the season's joy. Need some jokes for April 11? Try these:

Easter is the only time when it's perfectly safe to put all your eggs in one basket.

Knock knock. Who's there? Hatch. Hatch who? God bless you!

What should you do after eating so many Easter treats? Eggs-ercise!

Why shouldn't you tell an Easter egg a joke? It might crack up!

An irate subscriber called the newspaper, demanding to know where her Sunday edition was. "Ma'am," said the employee, "today is Saturday. The Sunday paper isn't delivered until Sunday." After a brief pause, the caller spoke with a ray of recognition: "So that's why no one was in church today."



# Pastor John's Jottings

**When will people come back to church?** That is a question that I hear a lot. In truth some people have been coming all along, and some who haven't been here for awhile are coming back. People who have had their second vaccination are starting back to in-person church. And we are delighted to see them. We have missed them. Personally I am hoping that Easter will be a time of new life for us as a congregation. Things should be even better by Scottish Heritage Sunday. And hopefully by fall, we will be back in the swing of things.

No one knows for sure whether all the people who used to come will come back to in-person church. That is a concern, but Karl Vaters suggests that "Will the Congregation Come Back?" should not be our biggest concern. He points out that there are better questions that we as a church should be asking. These are questions that will help us think more clearly and biblically about what to do next.

Here are his questions:

1. **"Have we represented Jesus well during the lockdown?"**
2. **"Are we representing Jesus well as we come out of the lockdown?"**
3. **"What have we learned – and what are we still learning?"**
4. **"How can we better serve the people at home?"**
5. **"How well are we serving our online church members and visitors?"**
6. **"How are people hurting, and what can we do to help them?"**



I am very proud of the good work that this church has done during the lockdown. We have continued to worship. We have continued to reach out to those who are hurting. We have continued to be the church. We have represented Jesus well.

We have learned that we can still be the church even when we are not able to gather together. We have learned that technology can be used to reach people that we were not reaching before. We have learned that as the people of God we have greater strength, creativity, and resiliency than we would ever have guessed.

As we come out of this lockdown we are the more aware of people at home and of people who are worshipping with us online. So the session has committed to upgrading our video and audio equipment so that we can do an even better job of this. This will be an expensive investment. Yet, I talked with someone in another church who recently upgraded their video equipment and she said that they doubled their online participation as a result. I think our church members are realizing this more and more. Jeep Wilson commented to me the other day that if we reach even five more people as a result of the upgrades that it will be worth the expense and effort. He is right and I anticipate our reach, with God's help, being much greater than that.

Regardless of what happens as a result of this pandemic, the church will still be needed. People's problems will not be over when the pandemic ends. People will still be going through difficulties. In the days ahead we may see a record number of divorces, bankruptcies, evictions, homelessness, mental breakdowns, joblessness, and other issues we can't foresee.

More than ever, people are going to need the compassionate, energetic, loving, and God-powered ministry of the church. Vaters says, **"Whether people come back through our church doors is not the big issue. How we honor Jesus by reaching the hurting people outside our doors is what matters."**

We don't have all the answers. But with God's help may we continue to honor Jesus by being the church and reaching hurting people wherever they may be.

Hope and Confidence and Peace,  
Pastor John

# First Presbyterian Church

# Session Highlights

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:30 p.m.

- Received Jennifer Wetzel into the active membership of the church.
- We are pleased that people who have received both of their vaccinations are starting to come back to church. We missed you and we welcome you back!
- Since the children are now attending school in person, we will be restarting children's church during worship. Also if the person doing the children's time in worship is comfortable with it, he or she may invite the children to come forward. Parents can decide whether or not to send their children forward.
- We will be using artificial palms for Palm Sunday.
- Plans are being made for Scottish Heritage Sunday. We plan to have at least one bagpiper present. We do not plan on marching down Main Street, but we may do the processional into the church with the one piper and the banners. Rev. Bruce Macbeth will be the guest preacher that day.
- The session has approved spending \$16,000 - \$17,000 for much needed upgrades to our video and sound equipment. Our sound board is going bad, our main speakers are cutting in and out, and the sound quality on our videos is still not good. In addition we would like to have the ability to have a second camera and have all that operated from the back of the sanctuary. While we hope that most people will be able to return to in person worship before long, we are reaching people with our livestream that will likely never come to church. So we will want to continue the livestream. There are some details that still need to be worked out, but the session has committed to making this happen. We will be applying for a grant from the Presbytery to help with this. We also have about \$2,500 donated in memory of Donna Smith that will be used for this purpose. If you would like to help with this upgrade, just mark your check or envelope for video/audio upgrades. Thank you.
- It was noted that the tiles in the hallway past the parlor are coming loose and breaking. This has been referred to the property committee.
- Gave permission to extend clients served in our Laundromat Ministry to include the homeless. We will work with the Clarksburg Mission to get a few names each week.
- Renewed membership in World Vision storehouse in Philippi. The cost of the membership is \$100 per year. The membership allows us to get items from the storehouse for our outreach ministries such as the Hygiene kits and feeding ministries.
- We have been left some money from the estate of John W. Boggess. The people named to be executors in the will have declined and asked Mr. Steven E. Quinnell of the law firm, Quinnell Elder Law of Gulf Breeze, FL to take on that responsibility. Session agreed with the petition to make that happen.

## Pastor's Report:

**Hospital visits:** 5 **Other significant Pastoral visits:** 24 almost all by phone

**Funeral:** 2-22-21 Donna Faye Robinson Kerns, burial at Floral Hills Mem. Gardens

**Weddings:** 3-6-21 Carrie Malone and Carl White at their house in Parkersburg.

**Baptisms:**

**Sacrament of Communion:** Was celebrated on March 7 serving 28

**Home communion** was not served because of the pandemic.

**Pastor's Discretionary Fund 2021 -**

## Pastor's Discretionary Fund

2021

MONTH	REQUESTS	COMPLETED	AMT PLEDGED	AMT DISBURSED
January	2	2	\$190	\$190
February	3	2	\$317.13	\$317.13
Totals	5	4	\$507.13	\$507.13

# April 2020 Scriptures and Sermons

## **April 4 Easter Sunday - The Resurrection of the Lord** (Holy Communion)

Scriptures: Acts 10:34-43  
John 20:1-18

Sermon Title: "The Brightest Dawn Comes After the Longest Night"

Theme: In the midst of the bright colors and joyous music it may be hard to remember that Easter was born from the darkness of night. As the women approached the tomb that day, they were sad and downcast. But out of their despair, hope was born anew with Christ's rising from the dead.

## **April 11 Second Sunday of Easter - Holy Humor Sunday**

Scripture: \*Ecclesiastes 3:1-8  
\*John 20:19-31

Sermon Title: "A Time to Laugh"

Theme: There is an ancient tradition in the church that on the First Sunday after Easter, Christians gathered to tell each other jokes, to play practical jokes, and to rejoice together. The events of Holy Week leading up to Easter are emotionally heavy. There isn't a lot to laugh about then, but after the resurrection things change. The burden is lifted. We can laugh. We can rejoice. We can fully live!

## **April 18 Third Sunday of Easter**

Scriptures: \*Acts 3:12-19  
Luke 24:36b-48

Sermon Title: "The Scars"

Theme: When the disciples had trouble believing that the risen Christ was actually present to them, Jesus showed them his scars. His scars show what he has been through for us. His appearance to the disciples promises that death is not the end. What do the scars of Jesus mean to you?

## **April 25 Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Scriptures: Acts 4:5-12  
\*1 John 3:16-24

Sermon Title: "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

Theme: The thing that most identifies us as Christians is the way that we show the love of Jesus Christ. And that is what the world most needs to see in us. "They won't care how much we know until they know how much we care."

\*Indicates main text for the sermon

*He was oppressed and afflicted...*

*Led like a lamb to the slaughter...*

*Isaiah 53:7*



## OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM  
Phone: 304-622-6831 Fax:304-622-6831  
[www.clarksburfpc.org](http://www.clarksburfpc.org)



## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor  
Rev. John F. Koerner  
209 Ohio Ave  
Nutter Fort, WV 26301  
Phone: 304-534-2324  
[johnkoerner75@yahoo.com](mailto:johnkoerner75@yahoo.com)

### **Parish Associates**

Rev. Charla Waters Koerner  
Rev. James A. Harris

### **Session**

Jenna Bennett, Clerk  
Ginger Delawder, Asst.Clerk

### **Office Volunteer**

Elsa Davis  
[Elsadavis59@gmail.com](mailto:Elsadavis59@gmail.com)

### **Education Coordinator**

Terra M. Burnett  
[angeleyes11\\_77@hotmail.com](mailto:angeleyes11_77@hotmail.com)

### **Choir Director**

Jeanne Harris  
[Jagapelove50@gmail.com](mailto:Jagapelove50@gmail.com)  
Phone: 304-669-9191

### **Organist**

Dr. Mary Kay Devono

### **Church Treasurers**

Wayne Northey	Jenna Bennett
Chuck Leuliette	Dave Allman

### **Nursery Attendant**

Ashleigh Burnett

### **Church Secretary**

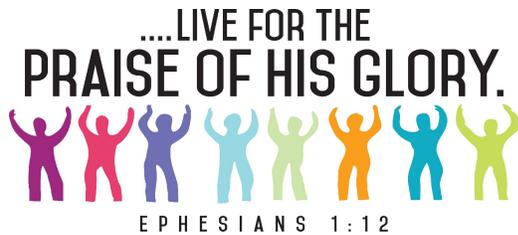
Cathy Libert  
[CburgFPCSecretary@yahoo.com](mailto:CburgFPCSecretary@yahoo.com)



Sunday Worship  
Church School 9:30 AM  
Worship 10:45  
Live on WPDX Radio  
109.4 FM or 750AM



April 4-Easter Sunday-Rev. James A.Harris  
 April 11-Beckie Alvaro  
 April 18-Dawn Woodburn  
 April 25-Terra Burnett



April 4- Jeff Mitchell  
 April 11- Ginger Delawder  
 April 18- Rev. James A. Harris  
 April 25- Hank Lawrence



April 4-Kandy Atkinson  
 April 11-  
 April 18-Megan Strange  
 April 25-Jeanne Lynch



April 4-Bradley & Hannah Burnett  
 April 11-Amelia & Kierra Harris  
 April 18-Hannah Burnett & Gia Corsini  
 April 25-Bradley Burnett & Anthony Corsini

Lily Sigmon	April 1
Janet Wilson	April 3
Bonnie Coleman	April 5
Anna Corsini	April 5
Sara "Sadie" Graham	April 5
Helen Layfield	April 5
Maria Morrison	April 5
Anne Sedera	April 5
Jenna Bennett	April 6
Hugh Gainer	April 6
Katy Clark	April 8
Marcia Graves	April 9
Trey Simmerman	April 9
Kenneth Oldaker	April 10
Phil Northey	April 11
Chad Sigmon	April 12
Paula Bomhoff	April 14
Pat Woodburn	April 16
Lynna Moen	April 19
Mary Virginia Paletta	April 20
Maria Moore	April 22
Robert Sabatino	April 22
JD Bailey	April 24
Amy Strange	April 25
Mary Beth Paletta	April 27
Amanda Wallace	April 27
Danielle Rinehart	April 28
James Jarrett	April 29
Parker Lawrence	April 30

If you would like to order flowers for the reredos, please call the office @ 304-622-6831 or email me at CburgFPCSecretary@yahoo.com

