

“Red Door” News: Lenten Offerings

*Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2026 * Sunday Worship: 10 AM*



**ONE GREAT
HOUR OF SHARING**

Dear “Red Door” members and friends,

To view or print OGHS fish, giving calendar, M4M, and/or this RDNews – see attachments

**"O Lord, make this Lenten season different from the other ones.
Let me find you again." ~Henri Nouwen**

Daylight saving time begins at 2:00 AM Sunday morning, March 8th – Spring ahead 1 hour

Wherever you are on your Lenten journey this year, our 10 AM Sunday morning worship followed by our Lenten Soup Lunch offers an opportunity to engage with others about questions of faith and life. On Sunday, March 15th we will ordain Thais Burkhalter as a Ruling Elder. She'll be installed with Fran Puffer and Eleanor Schaefer to serve on the 2026 Session.

Mission & Outreach

Covers of Love: A special offering in memory of Karen Jones was gratefully received by Kathy Watkins at St. Paul's Episcopal in Sidney. Karen led this ministry to provide bedrolls for the unhoused of Chenango and Broome Counties for 15 years. It continues to be one of three services at St. Paul's Mission Wednesdays along with a free clothing closet and a hot meal.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is our March Mission Emphasis

Presbyterians have participated in the One Great Hour of Sharing since it began in 1949. Over the years, various coin banks were used to encourage children to participate in the Offering. Eventually the fish-shaped banks caught on. In 2006, a church-wide contest invited young people to suggest names for the fish. The name “Gracie” was selected followed by children’s stories, coloring sheets, and activity pages to help children learn how their gifts are used.

Gracie is now a paper “fish” to color and cut out to wrap around a can, jar, or cup – or put on a No. 10 envelope. Gracie is 10 inches long and 3¾ inches high. In 2026 OGHS updated the Giving Calendar to help us all be aware of how our donations are at work to support God’s justice and healing in the world. See 2026 OGHS materials attached to this newsletter.

OGHS addresses Disaster Recovery -- Hunger Relief – Poverty -- Immigration/ Migration/ Refugees -- and the Sustainable Living and Earth Care Concerns program.

How to Donate: Create a fish bank (*collected on Palm Sunday, March 29*) – or put cash or a check payable to FUPC (*marked OGHS*) in the Sunday offering or mailed to church -- or give online at <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/make-a-gift/gift-info/oghs/>

Our Right Handers’ Fund was created in 1991 as a confidential source of assistance for our church family at times of financial emergency. Currently, the funds are lower than the team prefers to have on hand. To donate to this special fund, please mark your envelope or check with *Right Handers’ Fund*. For more information, contact Pastor Walton-Leavitt.

FUP Book Club will gather at church at 6:00 PM on Monday, March 30, 2026, in the Blue Room to discuss The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt. All are welcome. For more info, contact Rebecca LaBarr.

Upper Room devotional offers daily scriptures, ponderings, and prayers submitted by ordinary people from around the world. March/April issues are available at church.

SCAMS, SCAMS, and more SCAMS!

Our Presbytery, local pastors, and others continue to report the increase in scams being sent via email – or received by phone. Scammers will impersonate a friend asking for money -- or a well-known company soliciting gift cards -- or government employees threatening you with loss of benefits or demanding immediate payment to avoid arrest or other legal action.

These scams are designed to look legitimate, so please be extra careful. To help protect yourself and others from falling victim to such phishing attempts, here are some guidelines:

1. Verify the Sender's Email Address: Scammers may use similar looking addresses.
2. Do Not Respond to Unusual Requests that seem out of character for the sender.
3. Never Share Personal or Financial Information or Passwords, or Social Security numbers, or credit card details
4. Look for Red Flags: Poor grammar or spelling errors
5. Be cautious of messages with a sense of urgency or pressure to act quickly.
6. When in Doubt, Contact Sender Directly to confirm its legitimacy.

If you receive one of these fraudulent messages, you are encouraged to:

- STOP communication with the scammer immediately.
- REPORT the incident to the person or company being impersonated – as well as your bank, credit card companies, the State Police, Social Security, and others as advised.
- MONITOR your accounts for any signs of unusual activity.

Attached:

- 1) 2026 OGHS Fish "bank" wrapper
- 2) 2026 OGHS Fish Bank Coloring Page
- 3) 2026 OGHS Giving Calendar
- 4) 2026-03-08 OGHS – Earth Care
- 5) This RDnews

Thank you for sharing this news with others – especially those who do not use email...



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