



# What's Up Wickliffe!

MARCH 2024

## THE SAD PATH TO EASTER

All who have experienced soul-ripping grief at the death of a loved one would agree that time seems to stop.

Nights are endless, days drag like boulders pulled by a plow. Saying goodbye produces its own unutterable pain, but the days between death and funeral and burial—though perhaps filled with practical details—seem hours longer than the actual twenty-four. Although we may dread the more public acts of farewell, there is the incongruous something within us that cries to “just get it over with.”

Could this be similar to why we **joyfully anticipate the glory of Easter Sunday** but do our best to ignore—or at the very least de-emphasize—the emotionally-draining events of Holy Week? To shop for colorful spring clothing is far more satisfying than symbolically wrapping a rough towel around our waists to humbly serve others as Jesus did at the washing of feet. What joy in preparation for a sumptuous Easter Sunday family reunion meal while how meager—and heart-rending—to contemplate the meaning of the bread, wine and bitter herbs that Jesus and his friends ate just before going out to the Mount of Olives. Triumphant is the music of “Christ, the Lord, Is Risen Today.” Somber are the notes of Braham’s Requiem.

New clothes, good food with friends and family and uplifting music are all rightful celebrations of the resurrection, what the Apostle Paul preaches as the bedrock of our faith. But I wonder how much more meaningful would be our Easter joy if we first took the time and concerted effort to walk thoughtfully through Jesus’ last days, if we asked God to let us more deeply glimpse his agony of relinquishment in Gethsemane, if we wept over his human cry, “I am thirsty.”

Many churches of a more liturgical nature practice what is known as the Easter Vigil where individuals gather in the darkness of Saturday night to read scripture and contemplate the sadness that surrounded Jesus’ followers after his death and burial, a darkness that represents all the meanings of darkness: hidden and secret sins, the darkness of the world and of our hearts. At a point soon after midnight, one candle is lit to symbolize Christ’s resurrection and members of the congregation light their own small candles from the larger one. Those who have participated in such a service of remembrance and celebration relate how their view of Easter has been forever changed.

While this may not be practical or possible for all, let me encourage you to not avoid the pain of walking with Jesus through the days between Palm Sunday and Easter. I assure you that the sunrise of Easter will never be more glorious!

*By Marilyn Ehle  
Presbyterianchurchusa.com*

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# MARCH SCHEDULE

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- March 3      3rd Sunday in Lent
- March 10     4th Sunday in Lent
- March 17     5th Sunday in Lent  
    ♦ Support Meeting
- March 24     Palm Sunday  
    ♦ Communion
- March 31     Easter Sunday ~ He Is Risen!



## Happy Birthday!

March 1	Dow Davis
March 3	Dorothy Vaupel
March 4	Michele Grazier
March 4	Patricia Morningstar
March 5	Carolyn Lewis
March 10	Ricky Witt
March 10	Paul Velly
March 19	Michelle Manenti
March 28	Sherrie Wolfe
March 29	Steven Garstka
March 30	Aymie Hittle

**Church Office Hours:**  
Monday - 9:00am - 12:00pm  
Tuesday - Closed  
Wednesday - Closed  
Thursday - 9:00am - 12:00pm  
Friday - Closed

**(Hours may vary. Please contact the office for an appointment if you need in the church)**  
Church Website: [www.wickliffepc.com](http://www.wickliffepc.com)  
Secretary's Email: [wickliffepc@gmail.com](mailto:wickliffepc@gmail.com)

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Wickliffe Presbyterian Church  
45 Idlewood Rd.  
Austintown, OH 44515  
P: 330-792-6441 F: 330-792-1006

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TLCC Daycare and Preschool  
Director, Norma Johnson  
330-792-9048

**LENT is Spring Training  
for Christians!**

*Submitted by Sherry Yacucci*





**2024 Per Capita remains \$32.50. Per Capita information flyers are available at the church.**

### *IN STEP WITH SESSION*

*We met on February 20<sup>th</sup> with the majority of our Elders present. It was a short meeting but very productive.*

*The Deacons report stated that the upcoming communion dates are set as follows: March 24<sup>th</sup>, May 26<sup>th</sup>, Oct 6<sup>th</sup> and Dec 24<sup>th</sup>. The Ice Cream Social will be held on May 19<sup>th</sup> and the Soup and Sloppy Joe Luncheon on Oct 20<sup>th</sup>.*

*Jamie attended the Session meeting and spoke on the Financial Statement. It is in the black for January and Pledges are down slightly.*



*The following committees had verbal reports. Would hope that, in the future, the committee chairs would either submit a report or notes to the Clerk of Session. It's a struggle to capture their info at times.*

*CE-Grace Brown mentioned that she is looking for volunteers to help teach the Youth Sunday School.*

*Growth-Donna was not at the Session meeting but had me mention that the Church Women United would like to save the date at Wickliffe-April 27<sup>th</sup> @ 10 Service-Jeff reported the following: Lights in parking lot repaired with LED lighting, Tables in fellowship hall falling apart & motion was made to replace them with Black 8' tables paid for by the Memorial Committee, Emily (TLCC) to use hall on May 18<sup>th</sup> and Jeff to look for another Insurance company to cover our Church. We are currently using Church Mutual. Jeff is working diligently to reduce the costs of our Utilities.*

*Jamie spoke on the Joint Service on Feb 18<sup>th</sup>. Bryce Wiebe gave the Sermon and there were 70 in attendance. Unfortunately, Wickliffe's count amounted to under 20 people. Would have been nice to have our membership support this Service. Those who attended, enjoyed the Service and the Brunch afterward. Thank you all who stepped in to help make this a memorable event.*

*We also addressed the Training Session for our Leaders. Will schedule a date once Debby Fabian (Head Deacon) and Carolyn Lewis (New Deacon) are able to attend. Annie Parker from Heritage is willing to lead us. More information to follow.*

*I thank all who are willing to volunteer to help in anyway as we move into our 2024 Season.*

*Blessings, Nancy O'Hara, Clerk of Session*



**Our own Ruth Capper has changed her phone number.**

**The new number is:  
330-509-2205**

**Please update your directory.**

**75 YEARS** |  **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**  
 SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
 HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing are:

- ◆Presbyterian Disaster Assistance: People work alongside communities as they recover and find hope after devastation of natural or human caused disasters and support of refugees. PDA worked in East Palestine, Ohio! Received 36% of funds
- ◆Presbyterian Hunger Fund: Takes action to alleviate hunger, care of creation and systemic causes of poverty. Receives 36% of funds
- ◆Self-Development of People: Invests in communities responding to oppression and injustice. Receives 32% of funds.

Received during our Palm Sunday Service, each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in challenging situations. OGHS provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world!

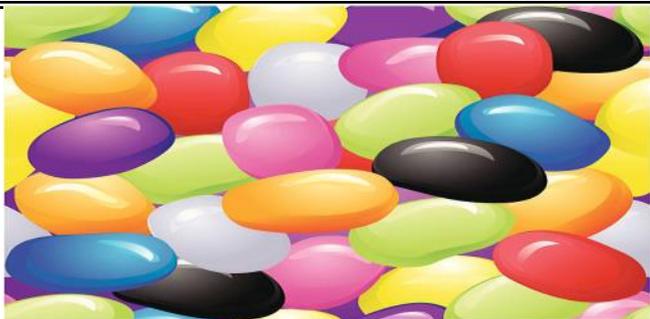
Please consider what donation you will be able to give.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE,  
IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

Donna Cooper

**GOODTIMERS will meet Wednesday,  
March 6th at 11:30 AM at  
Denny's on Mahoning Ave.  
~Grace Brown**

**DISCOVERY GROUP will meet Tuesday,  
March 19th at 12:30 PM at the church.  
~ Grace Brown**



May these colorful jelly beans remind  
you this Easter:

White is for the light of Christ,

Red is for His love,

Orange is for the warmth we feel, from the  
Holy Spirit above.

Pink is for eternal peace,

Green, for our growth in Christ.

Yellow is for the remembrance that for our  
sins He paid the price.

Purple is for the strength we feel, no  
matter where or when knowing that Jesus  
died on the cross for us, and on Easter  
rose again.

Have a Blessed Easter!

### Needle's Eye Soup Ministry

Our little basket is empty!!! Will  
donations appear by the end of  
March??? Regular size cans of beans,  
soup or jars of peanut butter will bring  
some big smiles to many elderly people  
who have more month than money to  
keep enough provisions on their shelves!  
Thank you!  
**Donna Cooper**



# Happy St. Patrick's Day





# Journey Towards Healing

An 8 Week Grief Support Group



Group will be hosted by Rev. John Bower, Chaplain

**Journey Group will be held every Tuesday  
for 8 weeks from 6:30-7:30 pm  
at Tabernacle Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
2432 S Raccoon Rd, Austintown OH 44515**

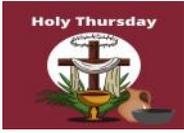
January 30<sup>th</sup> – March 19<sup>th</sup> 2024

\*Groups are open to the public and FREE of charge, however  
pre-registration is required

Please call **330-899-0180** or email [jbower@harmonycares.com](mailto:jbower@harmonycares.com)  
to register or for more information

# March 2024

**Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat**

					<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>3</i> 10:00 AM Worship Service  8:00 PM AA Mtg.	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> 11:30 AM Goodtimers Denny's 4927 Mahoning Ave.	<i>7</i>  5:45 PM Tops	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>10</i> 10:00 AM Worship Service  8:00 PM AA Mtg.	<i>11</i> 6:00 PM TLCC Board Mtg.	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>  5:45 PM Tops	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>17</i> 10:00 AM Worship Service Support Mtg.  8:00 PM AA Mtg.	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> 12:30 PM Discovery Group-WPC  6:00 PM Session Mtg.	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> Newsletter Deadline  5:45 PM Tops	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>24</i> 10:00 AM Worship Service  8:00 PM AA Mtg.	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>  5:45 PM Tops	<i>29</i> 	<i>30</i>
<i>31</i> 10:00 AM Worship Service  8:00 PM-AA Mtg						