

**Office Hours:**

9 am – 2 pm  
Monday – Friday

**Rev. Dr. Darwin Collins**  
*Interim Pastor*

**Rev. Gena Sheller**  
*Associate Pastor*

**Karen Thomas**  
*Administrative Assistant*

**Tom Ulery**  
*Congregational  
Moderator*

**Brian Shaw**  
*Financial Secretary*

**Jim Cope** *Choir Director*

**Audra Allen** *Organist*

**Jody Mullis** *Pianist*

**Wray Adams** *Custodian*

**March 2020**

# Manor Talk

*A Publication of Fairhill Manor Christian Church*

## March Madness and Lent

**By Pastor Darwin**

We are nearing that special season...or should I say, seasons. In mid-March, just a few weeks away, we will practice our best attempt at prognostication and select the winners of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament. It doesn't seem to matter whether you have any talent at basketball...or even an interest. People in offices large and small and, even, small groups of friends are known to make a stab at selecting the winners. Some make their selections after careful study of records, results on neutral courts, past performances of the coaching staff...or perhaps the most scientific category...the color of the uniforms!

It's called March Madness for a reason, this season to end the basketball year. The rush of so many games in a short period. The tremendous interest even among the not-sports minded. It focuses our attention on something safe, non-political and fun. We may be disappointed with our selections, but, if not betting, we don't have much to lose, except our vanity believing we actually can make those predictions. It is generally a time of enjoyment and pleasure.

March also brings another season. One far less popular, although practiced for a much longer period. It is a season with a far more personal and serious nature. It begins on February 26 and is the annual six-weeks of preparation called Lent. It is distinctive within the Christian calendar for its more somber tone and encouragement to practice a selection of spiritual practices, such as, prayer, fasting, self-reflection. For many who practice and observe this Christian season it is a time of self-denial, remembering the sacrifices of Christ for us. Some give up the food items and sources of fun as examples of that self-denial.

The more somber and serious character of Lent generally means we may start the season with all good intentions to be more disciplined in our prayer, Bible reading and, perhaps, even fasting, but like our enthusiasm with our basketball selections as the days pass, we lose interest and daily life makes it harder to keep our commitment. The madness of our schedule and demands of life lead us off course. That's why I would encourage you this year, not to commit to anything overly sacrificial, but I hope you will think seriously about some ways you can change your life during Lent and focus on getting closer to Christ...perhaps not fasting each day, but try it for one day each week...perhaps not giving up things that make you happy, but choose a day each week to do something for someone else that makes them happy, praying for two or three people each day, rather than trying to remember a long list.

Maybe even make a calendar...not with basketball pairings, **but with an assortment of ways you can make Lent more meaningful to you and** prepare you to celebrate that joyous day at Lent's end, Easter. Make Lent not a season of madness, but of **spiritual improvement.**

**I'll be on the journey with you!**

**Darwin**



**SPRING AHEAD!**

March 8



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Washington, PA 15301  
Phone: 724-225-8610  
fairhillmanor@yahoo.com



Fairhill Family,

It's been 5 years since I first wrote the article below. Perhaps it's time to consider it again?

Children and worship. Those words bring a whole host of feelings and responses to mind, but rarest among them is *JOY*. If we are the caregiver of a child in worship, we likely spend a majority of the worship time self-consciously wondering what everyone else in the congregation thinks of us because of our child's behavior. We wonder what the secret is to getting our children to sit quietly in worship and not distract those around us. Will we ever be able to relax and enjoy worship again? If we are not the caregiver of a child in worship, we likely spend time wishing that another person's child would stop whatever s/he is doing that is infringing on our worship experience.

I have been in both positions - an observer of other adults with children in their pews and a parent with a child in my pew. I have had all of the thoughts described above (and many more!) at one time or another. One thing I know - worshipping with children is *work*. If I expect to come to worship purely for relaxation and rejuvenation, then I had better leave my child at home with someone else or send him out of the sanctuary so that I can focus.

Our discussions and thoughts about children and worship often center around "what to do with the children." I think the crux of the matter has very little to do with the children themselves and a lot more to do with how the rest of us have learned to worship.

As Robbie Fox Castleman writes, "worship is not a refueling to get us through another week. Worship is not a system of traditions built up over many years of congregational life until everyone feels comfortable. Worship is not a time to unwind, relax, tune out or take a mental vacation. Worship is not an hour of Christian entertainment. It is not what makes us good people, faithful Christians or successful parents. Worship is not designed as a commodity to sell or a storefront window to attract "shoppers" to come on in for a great selection of congregational programs. Worship is the surrender of our souls to a God who is jealous for our attention, time and love."\* In other words, worship is primarily about *God*, not about *us*.

Worship that is primarily about God does not come naturally to us. In Scripture we read many very specific instructions that God laid out for the Israelites about how they were to honor, love and worship God. We too have to learn how to *worship* God, not just how to be quiet and good during the worship time. And as those who are learning how to worship, we (all of us, not just parents, grandparents, caregivers) are charged with the sacred task of teaching our children how to worship, not just how to behave and sit quietly.

We know from soccer practice and math homework and piano lessons that children learn best by doing. In the same way, children learn to worship by worshipping. They learn by watching those worshipping with them. They learn through participating, practicing and receiving the grace of those around them who realize that they are "in training."

What if we think of our children as worship apprentices instead of distractions? Ourselves as guiding our children into meaningful encounters with God during the worship service? Ourselves as models for our children as we practice prayer and giving? Won't you join me in teaching our children to worship with *JOY* this Sunday?

Grateful to be learning with you,  
Pastor Gena

\*Robbie Fox Castleman. Parenting in the Pew: Guiding Your Children into the Joy of Worship (Kindle Locations 155-156). Kindle Edition.

<b>Elder Shepherds:</b>		<b>Families Served:</b>
<b>Tammie Wallace</b>	<b>(412) 217-2898</b>	<b>A-B</b>
<b>Connie Sheller</b>	<b>(724) 494-3318</b>	<b>C-Da</b>
<b>Linda Reese</b>	<b>(724) 228-3643</b>	<b>De-Go</b>
<b>Rita Puskarich</b>	<b>(724) 344-2052</b>	<b>Gr-H</b>
<b>Kevin Puskarich</b>	<b>(724) 344-8432</b>	<b>I-Mc</b>
<b>Gene Sheller</b>	<b>(724) 344-8137</b>	<b>Me-P</b>
<b>J.C. Leasure</b>	<b>(724) 263-9183</b>	<b>R</b>
<b>Cara Hritz</b>	<b>(724) 809-3250</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Gary Ford</b>	<b>(724) 344-2193</b>	<b>T-Z</b>

*Weekly Attendance  
& Giving*

Feb 2	102	\$3,616.00
Feb 9	103	\$3,588.00
Feb 16	109	\$4,604.00
Feb 23	97	\$4,177.00

**In Like a **L**ion,**  
**Out Like a **L**amb**



The month of March  
Has just blown in,  
To say that **spring**  
Will soon begin!

The month **roars** in like a lion,  
With a crash and a slam!  
Then, tiptoes out **gently**.  
Like a **quiet** little lamb.



# March Worship Assignments

## ELDERS:

Mar 1 Cara Hritz\*, Gene Sheller  
Mar 8 Gary Ford, Tammie Wallace\*  
Mar 15 J. C. Leasure, Linda Reese\*  
Mar 22 Rita Puskarich\*, Tammie Wallace  
Mar 29 Cara Hritz, Tammie Wallace\*

## GREETERS:

Mar 1 Kim Hanna, Barb Moninger  
Mar 8 Von & Lynn Lacock  
Mar 15 Judy Hanning, Katey Gardiner  
Mar 22 Rick & Darla Lewis  
Mar 29 Terry & Janet Houston

## USHERS:

Mar 1 Vicki Tipton, Sandy Todaro  
Mar 8 Rita Hritz, Linda Martin  
Mar 15 Darlene Yater, Donna Stenski  
Mar 22 Diane Palfreyman, Louie Skariot  
Mar 29 Joanne Coburn, Jane Teagarden

## DEACONS:

Mar 1 Louie Skariot, Karla Glover\*,  
Tom Ulery, Ruth Campbell  
Mar 8 Sam Caldwell, Amy Caldwell,  
Jeff Caldwell\*, Becca Caldwell  
Mar 15 Sharl Burk, Joyce Brandtonies,  
Julie Meier\*, Colby Meier  
Mar 22 Rick Couch, Dawn Couch\*,  
Matt Shetler, Katey Gardiner  
Mar 29 Janet Houston, Betty Jo  
Puskarich, Jerry Puskarich\*,  
Candy Wasalasky

**Givelify**  
Tap. Give. Done.



Fairhill Manor has entered a new era: the age of anytime, anywhere giving. We are now signed up with **Givelify**, the mobile giving app for places of worship and charities.

Givelify gives you a beautiful, easy giving experience using your smartphone. There are no frustrating web forms to fill out, and recurring gifts are easy to set up and modify. Even better, it's free to download and use. It's safe and secure and gives you access to your complete giving record.

Want to see how it works? [Watch the demonstration video](#) that shows you all about how to make and track donations.

Ready to get started? [Download](#) the Givelify app for Android or iPhone.



# Happy Birthday

- 4 Nyka Rash
- 7 Nicole Fowler
- 8 Chris Lewis
- 9 Dana Hess
- 11 Mallory Jones  
Jordan Keener
- 14 James Hritz
- 15 J. Brian Ashmore
- 20 Sandy Harton  
Evelyn Ringer
- 21 Jim Chase
- 22 Pat Donahoo
- 23 Trenton Shriver
- 24 Ashley Fowler
- 25 Ruth Campbell
- 27 Patty McConnell  
Anthony Mountain
- 28 Cathy Duchess  
Adeline Dye  
Amanda Puskarich  
Morgan Puskarich  
Darlene Yater
- 29 Terry Houston
- 30 Maggie Graff
- 31 Debbie Dague



- 15 Matt & Tiffany Shetler
- 17 Jason & Erika Vanatta
- 20 Paul & Sandy Harton

The logo features the word "UP" in large, bold, red letters. Above the "U" is a black triangle pointing up, and above the "P" is a black triangle pointing down. Three black stars are scattered around the top of the "UP" text. A black line extends from the bottom of the "UP" text to the right, where it meets the word "COMING" in black, uppercase letters. Below "COMING" is the word "EVENTS" in a larger, black, uppercase font.

# UP COMING EVENTS

April 5	Palm Sunday
April 12	Easter Sunrise Service 7am Easter Worship 10:15am
May 2	“Gathering of Women”
June 5	Tour of City Mission and Luncheon

## **Membership Class**

Are you interested in baptism? Have you recently joined Fairhill Manor and/or would you like to learn more about what Church membership means? Join Pastor Darwin in a 4-week Membership Class on Sunday mornings from 9-10 am beginning March 8. We will celebrate the sacrament of baptism on Palm Sunday, April 5.

## **Disciples History**

Are you new to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)? Have you been around for a while but would like to know more about our roots, our development and who we are today? Join us for six one-hour sessions during Lent, led by Pastor Darwin! Monday evenings, 6:30-7:30 pm, March 2-April 6.

## **Tri-County Christian Men’s Fellowship**

All men are invited to the TCCMF dinner on Thursday, March 19 at 5pm, here at Fairhill Manor. The menu is ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, coffee, tea and dessert. The entertainment will be the Ambassadors for Christ. The cost is \$10. Sign up in the Narthex.

Pies are needed for the Tri-County Christian Men’s Fellowship dinner on Mach 19. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you are able to make a pie.



Regular Crop


March 13 @ 6 pm    March 14 @ 10 am

**Spring into Summer Large Crop**

April 3 @ 6 pm    April 4 @ 10 am

To stay up to date on all activities, call Peggy Oliverio at 724-225-5772 or 412-997-4257 or e-mail the Croppers at [fairhillcroppers@gmail.com](mailto:fairhillcroppers@gmail.com)

*Prayer  
Shawl Ministry*



*The Prayer Shawl Group  
will meet in the Parlor  
on March 2, 16 & 30.*

**Coffee  
Hour**



*Signup in the  
Narthex to bring  
danishes or  
muffins for the  
Coffee Hour.  
Coffee & Tea  
provided.*

## *Disciples Read*

The *Disciples Read* book club is held each Tuesday at 4:30 pm.



See Linda Reese for details.

## CHRISTIANS MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Christian Men's Fellowship meets on the third Monday at 6:30 pm in the Shepherds Room. We host events during the year.

God bless, Carmen

The Disciples Women's Ministries will meet Tuesday, March 10 at noon in the Library. ALL women of the church are invited. Please bring a sack lunch, a drink and your Bible.

# Disciples Women's Ministries



During the month of March, Disciples Women's Ministries and the Outreach Ministry will be co-sponsoring a "Sock Ministry" for the homeless. Any size socks, for men or women, are needed. A collection container will be in the Narthex each Sunday in March. The City Mission will distribute the socks to the homeless.

The DWM is providing a Lenten Calendar for everyone: "Let God be your guide and the Bible be your map". It begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Easter. Each day you are asked to read a scripture and then answer a question. From the answer to the question, you will contribute a few cents to your own collection container. This money will be collected after Easter by the Disciples Women and used for a special outreach project.



## Paint & Graze

The Disciples Women's Ministries will sponsor a Paint & Graze on Sunday March 15 at 2pm.

The cost is \$25.

From the Disciples Women's survey that was taken last fall, many women indicated that they would like a group to be formed that would meet on Wednesday afternoons.

The group met on February 19 and decided their name will be DISCIPLE ADVENTURERS. A meeting will be held on the third Wednesday of each month. The meeting will include a devotional and prayer time, a craft, attending a movie, doing a mission project, enjoying a meal together, and other ideas. ALL women are invited! Our next meeting will be Wednesday, March 18, at 5pm. If you would like, bring a bagged snack or dinner.

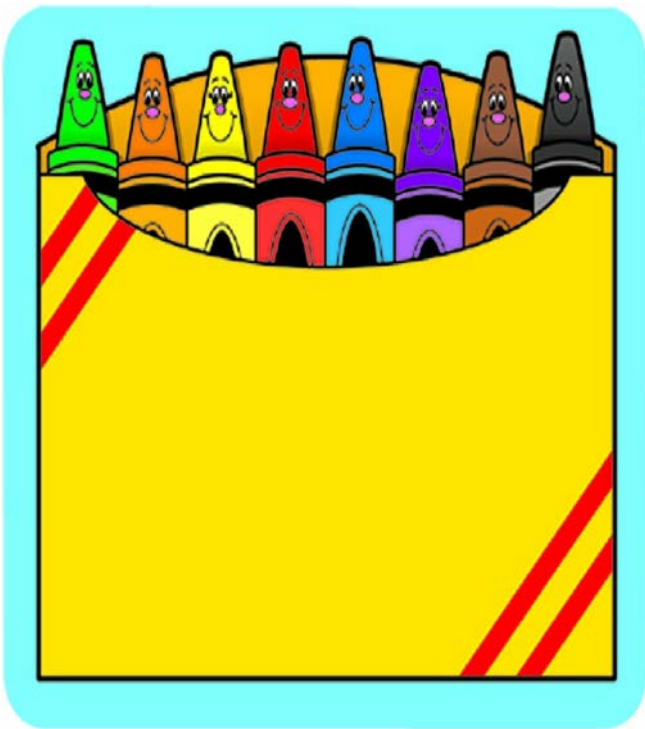
Any questions, please contact Linda Reese or Connie Sheller.





**TYLERDALE FOOD PANTRY** – Saturday March 21 from 8:30-10am. The food pantry is located at the 4<sup>th</sup> Presbyterian Church, 1000 Jefferson Avenue. Every little bit of help is needed and appreciated.

**COLLECTIONS FOR MARCH** – The Outreach Team will work with the DWM collecting socks for the City Mission. Also, our local housing for domestic violence victims is in need of cleaning supplies, e.g., (but not limited to) window cleaner, bleach, disinfectant sprays and wipes, Comet, dish soap. These items can be placed in the Caring and Sharing Center at the front of the Church across from the Beverage Station.



### A Colorful Lesson

We could learn a lot from a box of crayons.

Some are SHARP.

Some are PRETTY.

Some are DULL.

Some have WEIRD NAMES.

All are DIFFERENT COLORS.

But they ALL exist very nicely TOGETHER  
in the same box. 😊



Flowers

Please fill out this order form and return to the Church Office with payment by March 22. Indicate the number of flowers you would like. Cost per plant is **\$10.00**. Make checks payable to **“Fairhill Manor Youth”** and indicate ‘Easter Flowers’ in the memo.

# \_\_\_\_\_ Tulips (6” Pot)

# \_\_\_\_\_ Mums

# \_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinths (3bloom)

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
(circle one)

In Memory/Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
(circle one)

In Memory/Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
(circle one)

# March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 SS 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am	2 Home School 8:30-3:30 Prayer Shawl 11 am Literacy 4-7 pm Disciples History 6:30-7:30 pm NA 7 pm	3 Literacy 11-2 Disciples Read 4:30 pm Scouts 6:30-9 Dartball 7 pm @ E Buffalo	4 Literacy 9-3 Literacy Board 4:15-6:15 NA- Hope 6-8 It Takes a Village (coupon grp) 6:30-7:30pm	5 Literacy 9-12 & 1-3 Choir 6:30 NA 7:30	6 Literacy 9-12	7
8 SS 9:00 am Membership Class 9-10 am Worship 10:15 am	9 Home School 8:30-3:30 Literacy 4-7 pm Disciples History 6:30-7:30 pm NA 7 pm	10 Literacy 11-2 DWM noon Alpha 1 pm Disciples Read 4:30 pm Dartball 7 pm @ Home	11 Literacy 9-3 NA- Hope 6-8 Elders 6pm Board 7pm Scouts 7-9pm	12 Literacy 9-12 & 1-3 Choir 6:30 NA 7:30	13 Literacy 9-12 Croppers 6pm	14 Croppers 10am
15 SS 9:00 am Membership Class 9-10 am Worship 10:15 am Paint and Graze 2 pm	16 Home School 8:30-3:30 Prayer Shawl 11am Literacy 4-7 pm CMF 6:30 pm Disciples History 6:30-7:30 pm NA 7 pm	17 Literacy 11-2 Disciples Read 4:30 pm  Regional Meeting 10 am-4 pm	18 Literacy 9-3 Disciple Adventurers 5 pm NA Hope 6-8 pm It Takes a Village (coupon grp) 6:30-7:30 pm	19 Literacy 9-12 & 1-3 Tri-County Men 5 pm Choir 6:30 pm NA 7:30 pm	20 Literacy 9-12 noon	21 Food Pantry 8:30-10 am @ 4 <sup>th</sup> Pres. Church
22 SS 9:00 am Membership Class 9-10 am Worship 10:15 am	23 Home School 8:30-3:30 Literacy 4-7 pm Disciples History 6:30-7:30 pm NA 7 pm <b>Newsletter to office</b>	24 Literacy 11-2 Alpha 1 pm Disciples Read 4:30 pm Von Lacock 6 pm shepherds room	25 Literacy 9-3 NA- Hope 6-8 pm	26 Literacy 9-12 & 1-3 Choir 6:30 pm NA 7:30 pm	27 Literacy 9-12 noon	28 Large Hall Reserved Noon-8
29 SS 9:00 am Membership Class 9-10 am Worship 10:15 am	30 Home School 8:30-3:30 Prayer Shawl 11 am Literacy 4-7 pm Disciples History 6:30-7:30 pm NA 7 pm	31 Literacy 11-2 Disciples Read 6 pm				



### **In Need of Prayer**

Avery Allen  
Bill Behrens  
Bristol Allan Berry  
Mark & Susan Britko  
Jim Chase  
Sue Donaldson  
Fred Engle  
Bonnie Gregg  
Judy Hanning  
Ed & Harriet Jackman  
Tom Lane  
Ed Palfreyman  
Joe Palfreyman  
Jeannie Riffle  
Lori Riffle  
Betty Jo Riggle  
Emily Cope Robinson  
Barb Roupe  
Shirley Sanders  
Beth Teagarden  
Melissa Teagarden  
Shirley Teagarden  
Nikki Wells  
Susan Westcot  
Tom Williams  
Chuck & Mary Wiseman

### **In the Military**

Emily Chase  
Lance Dague  
Shawn Dallatore  
Andrew Gregg  
Zachary Keene  
Brandon Lipscomb  
Sarah Lipscomb  
Terrell McClain  
Travis Ringer  
Daniel Robinson

### **In Care Centers:**

#### **Southmont-Presby Med**

Bill Behrens Room 437  
Rev. Marge Frank

#### **Homebound Members**

Phyllis Cimino  
Strabane Trails # 325  
Mary Lou McDonough  
949 Bruce Street

#### **Pastoral**

#### **Search Committee**

Becca Caldwell  
J.C. Leasure, chairperson  
Jackie Nelson  
Diane Palfreyman  
Rolinda Sprowls  
Mike Sweeney



*Fairhill Manor  
Christian Church  
extends its  
deepest sympathy  
to Joe Rydzak  
and family on the  
passing of Joe's  
step-father  
Marlin "Andy"  
Anderson on  
February 2.*



PSALM 62:8

**C  
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**And the Winners of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
Cornhole Tournament are.....**

1<sup>st</sup> Place

Isaac Mayen and Gene Sheller



2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Chuck Riggle and Charles McConnell



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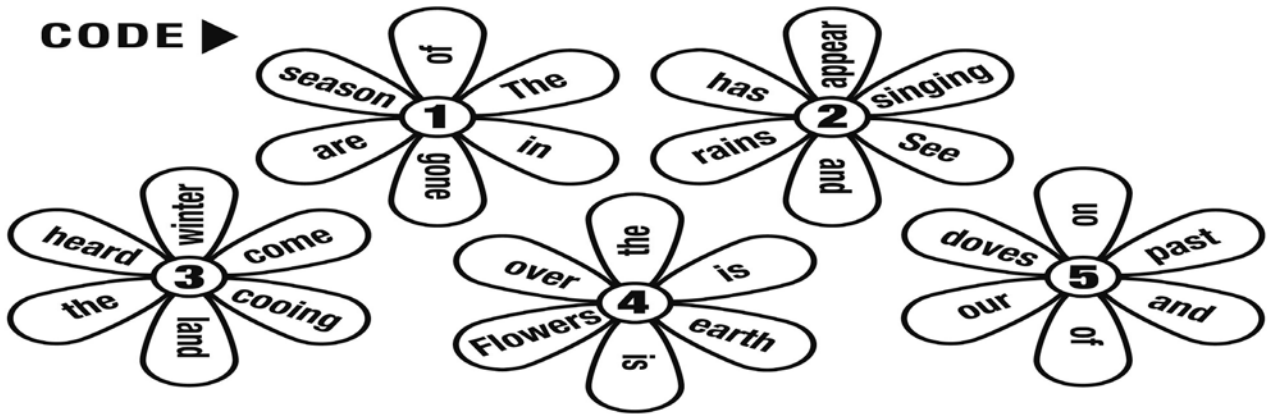
Thank you to everyone who participated. We were able to donate \$705 to the Community Circle Food Bank.

**Winners**

# Puzzle!

Using the flower code, fill in the blanks to complete the springtime words from Song of Solomon 2:11-12, NIV.

**CODE** ▶



\_\_\_\_\_ ! \_\_\_\_\_ ;  
 [2] [1] [3] [4] [5]

\_\_\_\_\_ .  
 [3] [2] [1] [4] [5] [1]

\_\_\_\_\_ ;  
 [4] [2] [5] [3] [4]

\_\_\_\_\_ ,  
 [3] [1] [1] [2] [2]

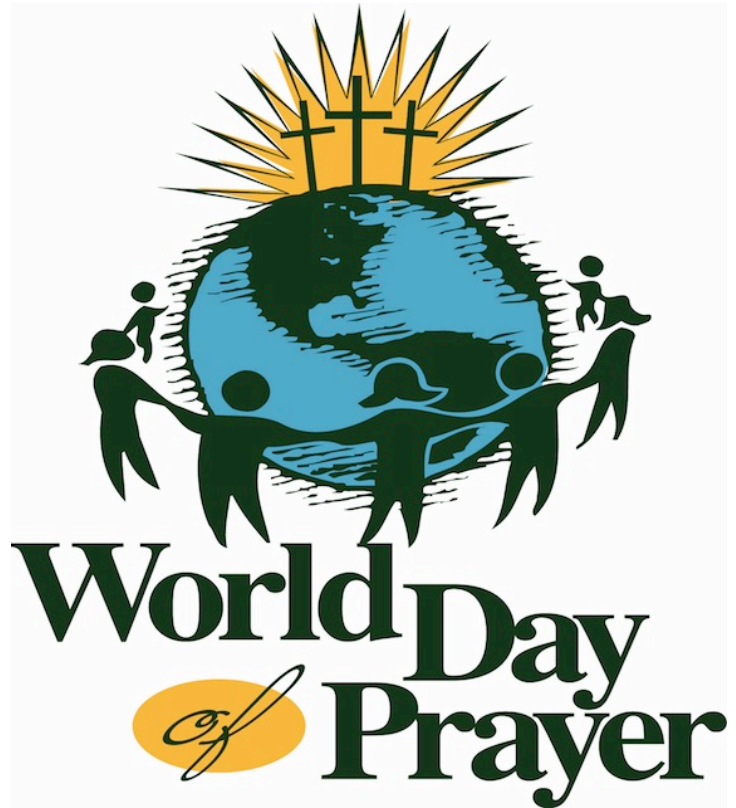
\_\_\_\_\_ ,  
 [3] [3] [3] [1] [5]

\_\_\_\_\_ .  
 [4] [3] [1] [5] [3]

SONG OF SOLOMON 2:11-12, NIV

Answer: See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land. Song of Solomon 2:11-12, NIV

**World Day of Prayer is March 6. World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.**



**WF** WASHINGTON FINANCIAL  
**CF** CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

**YOU VOTE, WE LISTEN**

At Washington Financial Bank, we understand the importance of listening to needs—those of our customers and our communities. Our Customer Choice Campaign is a perfect example of this.

Each year, we award grants to local charities based solely on your votes. Since the inception of Customer Choice, local charities have received hundreds of thousands of dollars in support. To vote, simply fill out the reverse side or visit us at [mywashingtonfinancial.com](http://mywashingtonfinancial.com).

Are you a Washington Financial Bank customer? If so, it's time to vote for a local charity to receive a grant through the Customer Choice Campaign.

**Vote online at [mywashingtonfinancial.com](http://mywashingtonfinancial.com) through March 27.** This is a great way to support non-profits like the Literacy Council of Southwestern PA.

Name/Address of Charity \_\_\_\_\_

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of charity \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

You may drop your ballot off at any of our convenient locations or mail it to Washington Financial Bank, 190 North Main Street, Washington, PA 15301.

**WF** WASHINGTON FINANCIAL  
**CF** CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

[mywashingtonfinancial.com](http://mywashingtonfinancial.com)

To be considered for funding, charities must have 501(c)(3) non-profit status, and should receive at least 25 votes. In the event that an agency receives less than the required minimum of votes, the eligibility of said agency will be at the discretion of the Washington Financial Charitable Foundation (WF CF). Only Washington Financial Bank customers are eligible to vote for Customer Choice. One vote per customer. Ballots must be submitted by March 27, 2020. Nominations of a charity does not guarantee funding. All funding decisions are at the discretion of the Board of Trustees of the WF CF.

# Where we are in the



## For Our New Pastor

- 4 We participate in a **Congregational Self-Study** to help the **Pastoral Search Committee** describe our congregation in a **Congregational Profile**.
- 5 The **Regional Minister** presents the **Pastoral Search Committee** with information about interested candidates matching our **Congregational Profile**.
- 6 The **Pastoral Search Committee** considers all candidates.
- 7 The **Pastoral Search Committee** selects a short list of candidates.
- 8 The **Pastoral Search Committee** gathers additional information and interviews these candidates.
- 9 The **Pastoral Search Committee** invites one candidate for a face-to-face interview and community visit.
- 17 We join in worship to welcome and install our new **Pastor!**

*On average, it takes a congregation from 9 to 18 months to complete this Search and Call process.*



The person who was to become St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was born in Wales about 385.

In 432, it is said that he was called back to Ireland to Christianize the Irish from their native polytheism. Irish folklore tells that one of his teaching methods included using the shamrock to explain the Christian doctrine of the Trinity to the Irish people. After nearly thirty years of evangelism, he died on 17th March 461, and according to tradition, was buried at Downpatrick.



If you see anything in the newsletter that needs corrected, please contact the office.

Have a great day!

Choose Happy 😊

Karen