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We observed the beautiful and solemn service of Ash Wednesday on February 14. The church season of Lent is here. Reverend Lang reminds us that people hold this time of prayer and penance differently. Some give up coffee, chocolate, or wine. Others may add something: volunteering at a non-profit or reading or re-reading the New Testament. We hope your journey through the 40 Days of Lent provides a meaningful experience for you.



Other important dates to note on this progression toward Easter are Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday.

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week and commemorates Jesus’s arrival in Jerusalem, where cheering crowds were waving palms. We will distribute and hold palms as a physical reminder of Christ’s journey on Palm Sunday, March 24.

Maundy Thursday, on March 28, follows rapidly afterward. Maundy derives from the Latin *mandatum*, or command, and refers to the instructions Jesus gave his Apostles at the Last Supper. This beautiful and stark service retells the events of the Last Supper of Christ and his Apostles. The music and voices of the choir will be moving.

Easter Sunday falls on March 31. Join us for this celebratory service that brings together familiar hymns, special instrumental music accompanying the choir, and the traditional singing of the Hallelujah Chorus. Please share the joy of Christ’s resurrection with us!

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March
2024

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A Message from our Minister

One writer advocates the importance of the resurrection in this way: "The bodily resurrection of Jesus isn't a take-it-or-leave-it thing, as though some Christians are welcome to believe it and others are welcome not to believe it. Take it away, and the whole picture is totally different. Take it away, and Karl Marx was probably right to accuse Christianity of ignoring the problems of the material world. Take it away, and Sigmund Freud was probably right to say that Christianity is a wish-fulfillment religion. Take it away, and Friedrich Nietzsche was probably right to say that Christianity is a religion for wimps. Put it back, and you have a faith that can take on the post-modern world that looks to Marx, Freud and Nietzsche as its prophets; you can beat them at their own game with the Easter news that the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

Those who celebrate the mighty resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, therefore, have an awesome and nonnegotiable responsibility. When we say "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" we are saying that Jesus is Lord of the world, and that the present would-be lords of the world are not . . . Are we ready to speak up for the truth of the gospel over the dinner table and in the coffee bar and in the council chamber?"

The resurrection of Jesus is at the heart of the Christian faith. The Apostle Paul ground the claims made on behalf of the gospel in the resurrection of Jesus: 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. The risen Jesus becomes the standard by which all human systems of thought and life are judged.

Josh McDowell in *Evidence That Demands a Verdict* presents a powerful case for the historical veracity and the theological importance of the resurrection.

In the Bible's Story, several people were resuscitated, and raised from death. Elijah raised the widow's son (1 Kings 17:17-24), Elisha raised the son of the Shunammite woman (2 Kings 4:35), and a dead man returned to life after being touched by the bones of Elisha (2 Kings 13:21). Jesus raised the widow's son at Nain (Luke 7:13-15), Jairus' daughter (Mark 5:42), and his friend Lazarus (Luke 11:43-44). The Apostle Peter raised Tabitha (Acts 9:36-42), and the Apostle Paul raised Eutychus (Acts 20:9-12). While those people were resuscitated from death, they would all die again.

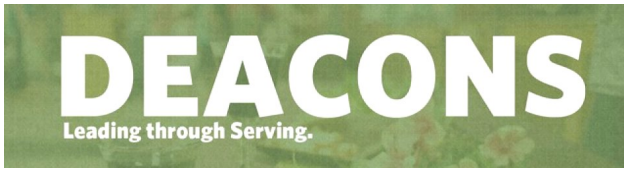
The resurrection of Jesus was qualitatively different from those resuscitations. His body was glorified, he could appear and disappear at will (John 20:19, 26). Jesus ascended to heaven in his physical, glorified body (Acts 1:6-11). Those saved by Christ will themselves one day be raised from death and receive a glorified body like his, 2 Corinthians 4:14.

The resurrection is the reason for the sending of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:33), the conversion of sinners (Acts 3:26), the forgiveness of sins (Acts 5:30-31), our own resurrection, and the future judgment of the world (Acts 17:31).

The resurrection received multiple attestations in the gospel accounts: Matthew 28:11-15, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-12, and John 20:11-18. The risen Jesus was witnessed on multiple occasions by numerous witnesses: at the empty tomb, on the road to Emmaus, by the disciples with and without Thomas, next to the Sea of Galilee, on a mountain in Galilee, to over 500 believers and Jesus' brother James.

The early church fathers of the second century, who, in some cases, knew apostles, like Ignatius and Polycarp, testified to the veracity of the resurrection.

(continued on page 8)



The Deacons offer prayer, companionship, rides, or meals, but don't always know where care is needed. If you know of a need (your own or another's), call the church office or any of our Deacons: Moderator, Susan A, Marianna B, Jane J, and Diane L.

- Susan and Snowden A
- Mike and Diane B
- William B
- Levi C
- Susan G
- Gene M
- Katie W
- Charlie A
- Mary and mission team
- Daniel K



The Deacons offer rides to church activities, medical appointments, etc.—but we need additional members of our congregation to supplement our efforts. If you are willing to provide transportation occasionally, please let Susan know.



Meet the Staff
the Rev. Jeffrey Lang

- Amy**
Director of Music and Organist
- Kate**
Choir Director and Vocalist
- Paisley**
Videographer

- Clara**
Vocalist
- Deborah**
Administrative Assistant
- Logan**
Vocalist

Items for the **April 2024** edition of this newsletter are accepted in the church office through **9:00AM, Monday, March 18, 2024.**

Early submissions are joyfully accepted!

Submitted information will be edited for clarity, accuracy, and length.





Mission in Motion...



Dave and Brad delivered 62 lbs. of food, personal care items, and cleaning products to Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center (VICRC) in January. That's a great start for 2024; keep up the good work!



Remember ...

...the monthly food offerings are now accepted any day of the month, not just on the third Sunday.

Dave will delivery your generous donations to VICRC early in the next month, and then new items will appear in the basket in the Narthex and on the table in the Church House.

Save these dates

Saturday, March 16—Pancake Breakfast *(see page 7)*

(To show our appreciation to the Glendale police officers and fire fighters, we are inviting them to be our guests and enjoy a free breakfast. If you would like to sponsor pancakes for a police officer or fire fighter, the cost is \$8.00. Cash or checks accepted. If you donate by check, please be sure to mark it police officer/fire fighter pancake sponsor. For more information, or to make a donation, stop by the food donation table after worship.)

Saturday, June 15—Fill the Glendale Village Square with Food

Wednesday, July 17—Fellowship Dinner at Montgomery Inn

Wednesday, August 21—Fellowship Picnic at the Lyceum

Saturday, September 21—Twenty-seventh Annual Golf Outing



Women's Book Club

All women are invited to gather in the church library with your favorite morning beverage at 10:00AM.
The books for the next few months are ...



Wednesday, March 13



Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor

by Yossi Klein Halevi

Halevi's letters speak not only to his Palestinian neighbor, but to all concerned global citizens, helping us understand the painful choices confronting Israelis and Palestinians that will ultimately help determine the fate of the region.

Wednesday, June 12



Have a Little Faith

by Mitch Albom

A book about life's purposes; about losing belief and finding it again; about the divine spark inside us all. It is one man's journey, but it is everyone's story.

Wednesday, April 10



The Guernsey Library and Potato Peel Pie Society

by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

Juliet begins a remarkable correspondence with the society's members, learning about their island, their state in books, and the impact the recent German occupation has had on their lives. Captivated by their stories, she sets sail for Guernsey, and what she finds will change her forever.

Wednesday, July 10



The Summer of '69

by Elin Hilderbrand

As the summer heats up, Ted Kennedy sinks a car in Chappaquiddick, man flies to the moon, and Jessie and her family experience their own dramatic upheavals along with the rest of the country. This historical novel is rich with the details of an era that shaped both a nation and an island thirty miles out to sea.



Wednesday, May 8

The Sentence by Louis Erdrich

Juliet begins a remarkable correspondence with the society's members, learning about their island, their state in books, and the impact the recent German occupation has had on their lives. Captivated by their stories, she sets said for Guernsey, and what she finds will change her forever.

March 
*Birthdays and
 Anniversaries*



The Sacrament of the Lord's
 Supper will be celebrated
 Sunday, March 3, and Maundy
 Thursday, March 28.
All are welcome to the table.

Pam	3
Dick	4
Snowden	6
Dotty	10
Jane	13
Diane and Joe	19
Stu	23
Alison and Joe	23
Rev. Jim	27
Rich.....	29



Men's Lunch

All men are invited to gather for
 lunch at Gold Star on Springfield
 Pike in Springdale, Wednesday,
 March 13.

Fellowship begins when you
 arrive; lunch begins at 12:30PM.



Calling all Coffee Fellowship hostesses and hosts ...

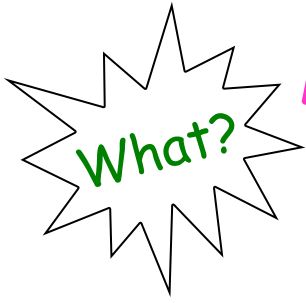
The April-June Coffee Fellowship sign-up sheet is on the
 Church House bulletin board. Please consider when you
 might host and write your name on the date of your choice.

Dave will make coffee for you if you let him know in
 advance.

There is someone who will bake if you need help. Please
 contact the church office so Debbie can get you connected
 with her.

Coffee, tea bags, sugar, creamer*, serving plates/platters, and
 coffee cups are provided.

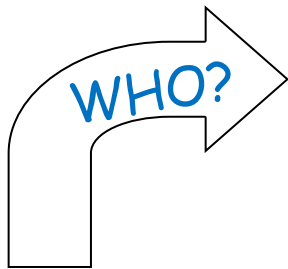
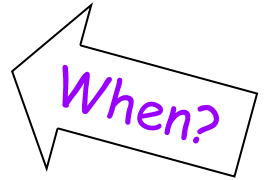
** individual portions of Half and Half, which do not require
 refrigeration, are stored on the kitchen counter near the
 dishwasher. There is no longer a need to wonder what is
 available in the refrigerator or if it is outdated.*



Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, March 16

8:30AM to 11:30AM



The First Presbyterian Church of Glendale

155 East Fountain Avenue Glendale, OH
513.771.6195



Pancakes
Sausage
Sausage gravy and biscuits
Fresh fruit cup
Orange juice, Milk, Coffee, Tea



Adults—\$8.00

Children ages 5 to 12 years—\$5.00

5 years and younger—free!



*All proceeds support
mission outreach programs of
the church.*

A Message from our Minister

continued

While others make claims about how to fix what is wrong in human life, Jesus proved himself the real answer to the human condition. Easter morning verified and vindicated the message of Jesus. The resurrection is the ground of trust in Christ as savior for those who look to him in faith.

Jesus was resurrected with a glorified body, but scars remained. The resurrection provides hope in death, but also hope and power for negotiating your way through life's ups and downs in the here and now.

Philip Yancey, in his book, *The Jesus I Never Knew*, explains the meaning of those Easter morning scars this way: “Presumably [Jesus] could have had any resurrected body he wanted, and yet he chose one identifiable mainly by scars that could be seen and touched. Why?”




I believe the story of Easter would be incomplete without those scars on the hands, the feet, and the side of Jesus. When human beings fantasize, we dream of pearly straight teeth and wrinkle-free skin and sexy ideal shapes. We dream of an unnatural state: the perfect body. But for Jesus, being confined in a skeleton and human skin WAS the unnatural state. The scars are, to him, an emblem of life on our planet, a permanent reminder of those days of confinement and suffering.

I take hope in Jesus' scars. From the perspective of heaven, they represent the most horrible event that has ever happened in the history of the universe - the crucifixion - Easter turned into a memory. Because of Easter, I can hope that the tears we shed, the blows we receive, the emotional pain, the heartache over lost friends and loved ones, all will become memories, like Jesus' scars. Scars never completely go away, but neither do they hurt any longer. We will have re-created bodies, a re-created heaven and earth. We will have a new start, an Easter start.”

Easter celebrates the bodily resurrection of Christ and an empty tomb. May this Easter provide us assurance and hope for the world and ourselves in the risen Christ who described himself as the way, truth, and life.



March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3  10:30AM- Worship <i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i>	4 2:00PM- Squirrely Stitches 3:00PM- Mission committee	5	6 10:00AM- Buildings and Grounds mtg	7 6:30PM- Choir Rehearsal	8	9
10 10:30AM- Worship  <i>Spring Ahead</i> <i>4th Sunday in Lent</i>	11	12	13 10:00AM- Women's Book Club 12:30PM- Men's Lunch (Gold Star)	14 6:30PM- Choir Rehearsal	15	16 8:30AM- 11:30AM- Pancake Breakfast
17 10:30AM- Worship <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i>	18 9:00AM- Session reports <i>AND</i> Newsletter items due 2:00PM- Squirrely Stitches	19	20 6:30PM- Session meeting	21 6:30PM- Choir Rehearsal	22	23
24  10:30AM- Worship <i>One Great Hour of Sharing offering</i>	25	26	27	28  7:00AM- Worship	29	30 9:00AM- Choir Rehearsal
31  10:30AM- Worship <i>OGHS offering</i>	<p>This calendar is a living document subject to frequent changes.</p> <p>Check the website (firstpresbyterianglendale.org) for the most accurate calendar.</p> <p>Please contact the church office with calendar updates.</p>					



**First Presbyterian Church
of Glendale**

155 East Fountain Avenue
Glendale, OH 45246

513-771-6195
glenpres@fuse.net
firstpresbyterianglendale.org

the Reverend Jeffrey Lang

Worship begins at 10:30AM
Sunday, September 10, 2023 through
Sunday, June 2, 2024.

Worship begins at 10:00AM
Sunday, June 9, 2024 through
Sunday, September 8, 2024.

Church Office Hours

Monday, 9AM-3PM, Tuesday, 9AM-1PM
Wednesday, 9AM-1PM, Thursday, 9AM-3PM
The office is *closed* every Friday.

Shared with you in Christian love



*YOU are invited to gather for worship on these
special dates, or on any other Sunday.*



Remember to set your clocks
ahead one hour
before retiring for the evening,
Saturday, March 9.



March 24
10:30AM worship



March 28
7:00PM worship



March 31
10:30AM worship