February March 2017



News

Leslie's Musings

Friends in Christ, every year at the time of the Christian Passover we celebrate our redemption through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent is a time to prepare for this celebration and to renew our life in the paschal mystery. We begin this holy season by remembering our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

~from Liturgical Year Supplemental Liturgical Resource 7

While Lent doesn't begin until Ash Wednesday—March 1 this year—I wanted you to know about a church-wide project. I was inspired by the wildly popular book, Wreck this Journal by Keri Smith, and challenged by the Rev. Theresa Cho, a Presbyterian pastor in San Francisco, whose church took on a "churchly" version of the project. Rev. Cho's church took the pages out of old hymnals they were replacing, and made them into Lenten journals for the congregants, with different and challenging instructions for the 40 days of Lent.

Keri Smith challenges her readers to carry a journal with them, and to explore the earthier aspects of our surroundings—literally. The reader seeks out dirt, sticky substances, water and the like and transfers them into the journal. Rev. Cho took it a step farther, in encouraging her flock to think theologically about Lent—a time of fasting, discipline, and study—and put it into a journal.

We're handing out journals to anyone who wants one, from the youngest to the most mature, with prompt words already in them. The idea is to challenge ourselves to think about our faith in new and boldly creative ways. Each day of Lent brings a new word and activity. For instance, the second day of Lent, you throw your journal from a high place. Another day, you write an entry with your non-dominant hand. As Lent is a time to explore the sin and stain in our souls and our world, Wreck This Lenten Journal is a time to creatively express how suffering affects our lives. If the idea of this creative chaos makes you uncomfortable, you're not alone.

Our schools and workplaces teach us to be orderly and even submissive. Creativity disrupts the status quo and forces us to change—and let's admit that we all hate change! Even so, Lent is a perfect season to unleash our creativity and to try looking at life from a different perspective. What we've been doing has left many of us isolated, a stranger to our neighbors, and fearful of the world around us. Jesus, meanwhile, is eating with tax collectors and prostitutes, asking us to do the same, as he journeys toward his bodily destruction on Good Friday.

If this pushes your boundaries too much, then consider joining others on Wednesday evenings during Lent for soup, bread, a short devotion and fellowship. We'll start at 6 and be done in time for our Hebrew scholars' class. (See the article inside for more details.)

Meanwhile, we continue in the season of Epiphany throughout February, so remember this is a season of light and revelation. As you come to know our Triune God in new ways, won't you tell me about it? I'll come to you or stop by my study. And as always, I'll see you in church.

Love, Leslie

Words from the Worship Ministry Team

"Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you." James 4:10



(starts 3/05), worship with communion will be held at 8:30a in the parlor.

FEBRUARY

Sun, Feb 05th - 11am - Worship with Pastor Leslie; Intinction Communion:

Sun, Feb 12th - 11am - Children leading Worship; Chili luncheon and mini golf to follow service

Wed, Feb 15th - 6:30pm - Healing Worship Service with Pastor Leslie

Sun, Feb 19th - 11am - Worship with Pastor Leslie

Sun, Feb 16th - 11am - Worship with Pastor Leslie

Tues, Feb 28th - 6pm - "Burning of the Palms" - Pastor Leslie; Pancake supper to follow

MARCH

Wed, Mar 01st - 6:00pm - Pot Luck dinner

7:15pm Ash Wednesday Worship with Pastor

Leslie, Communion & distribution of ashes

Sun, Mar 05th - 8:30am - Short Lenten/Communion Worship with Pastor Leslie

1st Sunday in Lent: 11am -Worship with Pastor Leslie; Intinction Communion and Congregational meeting

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS - CLOCKS AHEAD 1 HR

Sun, Mar 12th - 8:30am - Short Lenten/Communion Worship with Pastor Leslie

2nd Sunday in Lent: 11am - Worship with Pastor Leslie

Wed, Mar 15th - 6:30pm - Healing Worship Service with Pastor Leslie

Sun, Mar 19th - 8:30am - Short Lenten/Communion Worship with Pastor Leslie

3rd Sunday in Lent: 11am - Worship with Pastor Leslie Sun, Mar 26th - 8:30am - Short Lenten/Communion Worship with Pastor Leslie

4th Sunday in Lent: 11am - Worship with Pastor Leslie; Music Sunday





A new element to our WORSHJP service...

Each week "someone" will follow the Pastor & the Liturgist down the aisle at the beginning of worship with a pitcher of water for our BAPTISMAL FONT. The water will be poured into the Font during the Prelude. **YOU** could be that "someone". A member of the WMT will be asking for your assistance. Be ready & willing to accept the call!

KIDS And Adults! Want to be an ACOLYTE???
Check with Janet Schurr for more information

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Please keep them short!

Utilize our message board, bulletin & GNG to pass along information!

SHARE YOUR GIFT AS AN USHER

If you are interested in being AN USHER, just once every 4 weeks, please talk to any Worship Team member or Larry Rayner.

......"Spot" the sign-up area in the Narthex to be a "GREETER", "LITURGIST", COMMUNION SERVER (those who are Deacons/Elders & had the mini training), &/or host the coffee hour after worship..... PLEASE take a turn!

Have your calendar ready!

FRIENDSHIP PADS are GONE! New Pew envelopes available for visitors & any special requests.

The WMT needs!

Won't you consider spending a short 45min on the 1st Thursday of the month at 6p (Feb 2nd & Mar 2nd). We provide the set-up for Communion, discuss ways to make the service more meaningful, plan for special worship & help to maintain continuity each Sunday. This is a "behind-the scenes" way to use your gifts!!

WMT: Co Chairs – Elders Shirley Hagle & Larry Rayner

Members: Jane Crossan, Patti Edwards, Janet Haacker, Pat Loeswick,

Marla Maertín, Laura Marohn, Janet Schurr;

Special Worship Coordinator, Peggy Brown; Spiritual Advisor, Pastor Leslie

IT'S HYMN AUCTION TIME...

...And this year, we have 2 AUCTIONS!!

The first one is to "retire" a hymn for the rest of 2017.

The second one is to sing a hymn more frequently - once a month.

The bid amount is starting at \$1.00 for each auction, going up in \$1 increments until we reach...MORE!

The auctions will be held on **February 26th** after the worship service. Please come and save our handbells - they need repair work done and the auction money will help defray the expense.

In the months leading up to the handbell trip, there will be a glass block bank in the narthex on Sundays, in which you can put any extra change you might have. This money will also be placed in the handbell fund. We will need money to ship the bells back home, so your change will make this happen!

Come on out February 26th for a great time and lots of laughs - and reach down deep into your pockets for some change!

February

02 - 6:30PM - H4W planning

7:30PM - Choir rehearsal

05 - 10:30AM - Choir warm-up

09 - 6:30PM - H4W rehearsal

7:30PM - Choir rehearsal

12 - 9:00AM - H4W warm-up

16 - 6:30PM - H4W rehearsal

7:30PM - Choir rehearsal (cake night)

19 - 9:00AM - H4W warm-up

23 - 6:30PM - H4W rehearsal

7:00PM - Bell ensemble rehearsal

7:30PM - Choir and H4W rehearsal

26 - 9:00AM - H4W warm-up

9:15AM - H4W and Choir warm-up



March

01 - 6:45PM - soloist warm up

02 - 6:30PM - H4W planning

7:00PM - Bell ensemble rehearsal

7:30PM - Choir rehearsal

05 - 10:30AM - Choir warm-up

09 - 6:30PM - H4W rehearsal

7:00PM - Bell ensemble rehearsal

7:30PM - Choir rehearsal

12 - 9:00AM - H4W warm-up

6:30PM - FHBells rehearsal

16 - 6:30PM - H4W rehearsal

7:00PM - Bell ensemble rehearsal

7:30PM - Choir rehearsal

19 - 9:00AM - H4W warm-up

6:30PM - FHBells rehearsal

23 - 6:30PM - H4W rehearsal

7:00PM - Bell ensemble

rehearsal

7:30PM - Choir and H4W rehearsal

26 - 9:00AM - H4W warm-up

9:15AM - Choir and H4W warm-up

9:30AM - Bell ensemble warm-up

11:00AM - Music Sunday Service!!

6:30PM - FHBells rehearsal

30 - 7:30PM - Choir rehearsal



Wednesday Soup Suppers



It's long been a "church tradition" for folks to gather around a table on Wednesdays during Lent, to share food and fellowship. We'd like to revive that tradition, so starting on March 8 at 6:00, we'll gather in the parlor for homemade soup and bread. Pastor Leslie will offer a devotional or exercise, and we'll be done in time for Peggy Brown's Old Testament scholars to buckle down to their tasks. On March 15, our devotion time will be the Healing and Blessing Service at 6:30, so if you've meant to come, now is your chance! The remaining dates are March 22, 29 and April 5, all at 6:00 pm.

There will be a signup sheet in the narthex for those who would like to provide soup and bread each week. We hope you'll enjoy this new/old Lenten practice.

Page 5 GOOD NEWS GAZETTE

Glory Bee



CE Meeting – 7:00 pm Tues. Feb. 14th & March 14th

(please note: Parents & Teachers are **always welcome** at the meeting)

Youth Usher Feb. 26th & March 19th

Youth Leading worship February 12th

You are invited to a Chili Cook Off and Putt Putt Contest

At First Presbyterian Tonawanda NY on February 12th at 12:15pm; Enter your favorite pot of Chili in the contest or pay \$5 and sample as many as you like. (kids under age 10 are free); Bring your putters and test your skills on our indoor putt putt course set up throughout the building No putter? No problem! We'll have extras! RSVP to Diane Charsley by 2/10/2017 at 716-481-9730 or decharsley@roadrunner.com or sign up in the Narthex.

Youth Group's Annual collection for the Food Pantry Souper Bowl of Caring

Youth will be collecting for Souper Bowl of Caring following Church on 2/5/2017. Bring a can of soup or cash donation. Contributions will be given to food pantry.



Birthday Fun



Happy Birthday to the

members of our Church Family who celebrate their birthday in

February/March

Thank God for You!

February

- 7 Bob Eshelman
- 10 Mia Foley
- 12 Nicholas Nolan
- 14 Wilma Bender
- 22 Juliana Haacker
- 24 Robin Tyrrell
- 24 Sophia Auer
- 28 Ann Drapo
- 28 David Charsley

March

- 4 Adam Liberti
- 5 Skye Norton
- 6 Diane Eshelman
- 10 Jeannette Welch
- 10 Kevin Martinelli
- 10 Hannah Vecchio
- 20 Janet Haacker
- 21 Bonnie MacLeod
- 22 Mary Ferro
- 26 Alvssa Auer
- 27 Tammy Kolnacki



Women's News



CIRCLE SALES 2016

April 5th Welcome Spring
May 3rd Month of May
June 7th Joyful June
September 6th Early Autumn
October 4th Octoberfest
November 1st Happy Holiday
Join us to shop and have lunch!

Please remember items you no longer need are still accepted. Please be sure they are in re-usable and clean condition. Please no electronics. Your help is always appreciated.

Church Women United of the Tonawandas



World Day of Prayer

March 3, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary

149 Broad Street

Tonawanda, New York

Program: The Philippines
"Am I Being Unfair to You?"

Presbyterian Women's Winter Gathering

First Presbyterian Church of East Aurora 9 Paine Street, East Aurora, NY 14052

> Saturday, February 11, 2017 10:30am - 2:00pm

"Worship Leader - Rev. Geri Lyon

Speaker - Sherry Pomeroy, PhD, RN, Faith Community Nurse: "Understanding Addiction and how to find help."

Cost of lunch is \$7.00

Reservation for lunch are requested by February 5th to Peggy Fanning at (716) 826-7542 or email to peggyfanning@hotmail.com

Page 7 GOOD NEWS GAZETTE

A Stephen Ministry Message by Janet Haacker

HEY!

YES - YOU OVER THERE!

Come on over here a minute. This message is for YOU!

How do I know it's for you? Well, actually YOU know it's for you because God is whispering in your heart right at this very moment and YOU know He wants you to read this. He's telling you this is exactly what you need; exactly what He has planned for you!

"You are not alone," He says!

He knows the difficulty you are going through. He knows how hard it is for you right now. He knows how heavy your heart is and He has a plan for you! He has a way for you to feel His love and comfort.

God has been at work preparing a Stephen Minister's heart and mind to be ready for your particular trouble. He has been guiding this special person to grow, study, and pray for you even though your name is not known yet.

Don't believe me?

Go ahead and test it! Pray! Ask God what He wants you to do!

Go ahead and talk with Him and then LISTEN. He will in some way direct you to make that phone call or speak to someone who can continue to move God's plan along just for YOU!

I dare you to take the test!

Pray for guidance and see where He leads you!

"The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him."

Nahum 1:7

Pastor Leslie (490-0420) or Janet Haacker (694-4290) will be expecting YOUR call!

Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual Congregational Meeting will be held in the Sanctuary, after worship, on March 5th. All church groups, ministry teams and deacons need to complete a Year-end report and turn it into Kathy Nolan no later than

Monday Feb. 9th . Thank you!

The "Karing Kitchen"





It's off to a wonderful start! Thanks to all of you who have contributed to making this a means to bring joy, love & concern to those having a "rough", "lonely", "bumpy" or "recovery" time! Soups and stews would be greatly appreciated! See Theresa Rayner if you have

Easter Flowers

Deacons will be selling assorted Easter Plants ~ orders will be taken March 19, March 26 and April 2nd for the plants to honor loved ones.

Coffee Hour

after CHURCH can only happen when YOU volunteer to be the host! Take a turn! All supplies are provided but you can add to them with your own ideas...cookies, crackers, fruit, cheese or whatever! Please sign to help out!

Hunger Sunday

Is now the third Sunday of the month ~ food and cash donations are welcome and proceeds are donated to the Twin Cities Community Outreach.

Thank you for your support.

Flower Committee

Is now purchasing silk flower arrangements for our Sanctuary but if anyone is interested in purchasing real flower the cost is still 30.00. Please contact Laura Marohn @ 695-1201.

Reminder



Please call the church office if you or a loved one are ill, hospitalized or in need of a visit.

Worship Assistants

Greeters: February

- 5 Joya Palermo & Peggy Brown
- 12 Mary Ferro
- 19 Diane & Bob Eshelman
- 26 Jane Crossan & Ruth Gebera

Greeters: March

- 5 Bill & Janet Bearfield
- 12 Linda & Jon Apple
- 19 Nancy Dietrich
- 26 Judy Geerkin, Kelsey & Kaitlyn Burns



<u>Ushers: February</u>

- 5 Randy Marohn, J. William Haley, Bonnie Zimmer, Linda Barry, Larry Rayner
- 12 Dave Holovics, Brian Burns, Diane Charsley, Alvin Marohn, Laura Marohn
- 19 Youth
- 26Tom Dugan, Leslie Dugan, Mary Ferro, John Faux

Ushers: March

- 5 Randy Marohn, J. William Haley, Bonnie Zimmer, Linda Barry, Larry Rayner
- 12 Dave Holovics, Brian Burns, Diane Charsley, Alvin Marohn, Laura Marohn
- 19 Youth
- 26Tom Dugan, Leslie Dugan, Mary Ferro, John Faux

Liturgist

February:

- 5 Pastor Leslie Latham
- 12 Peggy Brown
- 19 Alvin Marohn
- 26 Kathy Greenawalt

March

- 5 Billy Welch
- 12 Pat Loeswick
- 19 Diane Charsley
- 26 Connie Holovics



Coffee Hour ~

February

- 5
- 12 Chili & mini golf
- 19 Jane Crossan & Nancy Rolando
- 26 Bonnie Sibley

March

- 5 Laura Marohn & Jane Crossan
- 12 Judy Geerkin & Shirley Hagle
- 19
- 26

Ministry Team Chairs, Deacons, Church School, Presbyterian Women & Circle groups – it is your responsibility to submit announcements and/or information on events or meetings to the office by the following date if you wish them to be published:

April/May Gazette articles must be in by: Wednesday March 15, 2016 @ 9:00am.

Announcements for the weekly bulletin must be submitted to the office by <u>Tuesday</u> before <u>Noon</u> to be included in the following Sunday's bulletin.

Weekly Meetings of Guest Groups

Mon.	10:00 AM A. A.	Morning After Group – FH			
Mon.	6:00—7:30 PM	Troop 30878 — CSB Sept-Aug			
Mon.	6:30 PM	T.O.P.S. Group – FH			
Tues.	6:30—8:00 PM	Troop 30994 Sept—June			
Tues.	6:30 - 8:00 PM	Troop 31347 Sept- June			
Wed.	6:30—8:00 PM	Troop 31078 Sept—June			
Thurs.	10:00 AM A. A.	Morning After Group – FH			
Thurs.	6:30-7:30PM	Yoga class			
Also Girl Scout Leaders Meetings listed on reg. calendar.					



Page 11 GOOD NEWS GAZETTE

	February 2017					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			T Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a Hebrew scripture class 7-8:15p	A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p Worship mtg. 6p H4W 6:30p planning Choir 7:30p	3 UFO 7p	4
5 Sunday school 9:30a Choir 10:30a Worship / Commun- ion 11a Souper bowl of caring	6 A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	7 Leslie Fredonia Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Deacons 7p	8 Leslie returns Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a Hebrew scripture class 7-8:15p	9 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	10 UFO 7p	11 PW winter gathering 10:30-2p First Pres. East Aurora
H4W 9a Sunday school 9:30a Youth leading Wor- ship 11a Chili and mini golf 12:15p	13 A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	14 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p CE 7p	15 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a Healing service 6:30p Hebrew scripture class 7-8:15p	16 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p Choir 7:30p	17 UFO 7p	18
19 H4W 9a Sunday school 9:30a Worship 11a	20 office closed A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	21 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p	22 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a Hebrew scripture class 7-8:15p	23 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p Bell ensemble 7p Choir & H4W 7:30p	24 UFO 7p	25
26 H4W 9a Choir & H4W 9:15a Sunday school 9:30a Worship 11a Hymn Auction 12:30p	27 A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p Session 6:30p	28 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Burning of the palms 6p Pancake supper	Notes:			

	March 2017					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Soloiet 6:45n	2 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p Worship mtg. 6p H4W planning 6:30p Bell ensemble 7p Choir 7:30p	3 CWU 1p World Day of Prayer First Pres. Tona UFO 7p	4
Morning prayers 8:30a 8:30a Sunday school 9:30a Choir 10:30a Worship / Communion 11a Congregational meeting	6 A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Deacons 7p	Circle II 9:30a Soup supper 6p Hebrew scripture	9 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p Bell ensemble 7p Choir 7:30p	10 UFO 7p	11
12 Morning prayers 8:30a H4W 9a Sunday school 9:30a Worship 11a FHBells 6:30p	13 A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	CE 7p	6.30n	16 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p Bell ensemble 7p Choir 7:30p	17 UFO 7p	18
19 Morning prayers 8:30a H4W 9a Sunday school 9:30a Worship 11a FHBells 6:30p Deacons sell flowers	20 A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p	Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a Soup supper 6p	23 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p H4W 6:30p Bell ensemble 7p Choir 7:30p	24 UFO 7p	25
26 Morning prayers 8:30a H4W 9a Choir & H4W 9:15a Bells 9:30a Sunday school 9:30a Worship/music Sunday 11a FHBells 6:30p Deacons sell flowers	27 A.A. 9a-11a TOPS 6:30p Girl scouts 6-7:30p	28 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p	29 Girl scouts 6:30-8:30p Circle II 9:30a Soup supper 6p Hebrew scripture class 7-8:15p	30 A.A. 9a-11a Yoga 6:30-7:30p Choir 7:30p	31 UFO 7p	Notes:



Elders

Class of 2016

Linda Barry, Nancy Burns, Dave Holovics, Larry Rayner
Class of 2017

Tom Dugan, Janet Haacker,

Class of 2018

Nancy Rolando, Shirley Hagle, Sue Schurr, Laura Marohn

Deacons

Class of 2016

Tammy Kolnacki, Joy Richardson, Marlene Tyrrell

Class of 2018

J. William Haley, Theresa Rayner,

First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street Tonawanda, NY 14150-2111

Phone: (716) 692-1319

E-mail: church@firstprestona.org
Web address: www.firstprestona.org

DATED MATERIAL
Good News Gazette
February/March 2017