

The Gleaner

Piedmont Presbyterian Church, Piedmont, WV

The Lord be with you!

How time flies! Snow is in the air, but in two short weeks the season of Lent will start. Then comes Easter. Then, oh my, it's Spring! Warm weather. Sunshine. Flowers. Community gardens. Graduation! Maybe I'm getting ahead of myself.

In Lent we die to our old selves so we can be raised to new life in Jesus Christ. There is a tradition among some people of giving up something for Lent, a deprivation of some pleasure or comfort. On Ash Wednesday we put ashes on our foreheads as a reminder of our mortality and finiteness. The rest of the season, however, is spent in preparing for resurrection. It is examining and reaffirming who we are and whose we are and always will be. So, rather than setting aside something of ourselves might it be more appropriate to take on something of Christ?

Walk alongside another person for a moment, for a day, for a season, or for a lifetime. Listen and be present with them in their joys and fears, happiness and sorrows, strengths and weaknesses, successes and failures, life and death. Offer a word of encouragement, hope, gratitude, or perhaps careful admonition, not because you're above their circumstances but because you can point to Christ as the source of all joy and strength and life.

Speak a prophetic word of truth into a broken and sinful world. We can all do this even when we're broken and sinful ourselves because it isn't about us, it's about God, and it isn't our words, it's God's word. Throughout our culture and society there are those who pander to our fears. There are those who manipulate us through our fears. But look at Psalm 46, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, therefore we will *not* fear..."

Make room for the other person. When we are not fearful even in the face of fearsome things, life becomes joyful. Life becomes life in Christ and whole new possibilities of *agape* are opened to us (see 1 Cor. 13). When we make room for even the most "other" of persons in our lives and in our community we acknowledge that Christ, the Lord of all, is already there among them in their lives and in their community. Who knows? Perhaps, one day you may be the one to point Christ out to them and bring healing to one little corner of our world.

May God's blessings be with you all in this bleak mid-winter as resurrection's promise awaits.

Tom

Contact Information:

Piedmont Presbyterian Church

Website:

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Address: 63 Ashfield Street
Piedmont, WV 26750

Pastor Tom Forbes

Email: pastor@piedmontpresby.org

Phone: 304 707 1864

Please see our website for individual contact information including session members, committee chairs, and music leaders.

Dates to Remember

- ~ Sundays 9:45 AM *Sunday School*
- ~ Sundays 11:00 AM *Worship*
- ~ Wednesdays 6:30 PM *Choir Rehearsal*
 - ~ 2nd Tuesday 10:00 AM *Presbyterian Women Meeting*
 - ~ 2nd Saturday Noon *Church Women of the Tri-Towns Meeting*
- ~ 1st Sunday *Food Pantry Collection*
 - ~ Feb. 7 *Communion*
- ~ Feb. 10 6:00 PM *Ash Wednesday Service*
 - ~ Feb. 25 *Good Friday*
 - ~ March 20 *Palm Sunday*
- ~ March 24 6:00 PM *Maundy Thursday Service with Communion*
 - ~ March 27 - *Easter*

Special Offering

We are approaching the season of Lent and the promotion period for the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering. The season of Lent is a time for repentance, service, reflection, and prayer as we consider how Christ gave himself to others. Francy will have more information on the One Great Hour of Sharing offering soon!

WORSHIP SERVERS

Thank you so much for giving your time and effort in the life and work of the church!

Counters

Feb. 7 Kathy and Mike Boyce
Feb. 14 Sandra Chilcote and Andi Grady
Feb. 21 Erma Landis and Andy Grady
Feb. 28 Denise and Darlene Spitzer
March 6 Debbie and Mike Hartman
March 13 Kathy and Mike Boyce
March 20 Sandra Chilcote and Andi Grady
March 27 Erma Landis and Andi Grady

Ushers and Greeters

Feb. 7 Frances Becker and Maxine Groves
Feb. 14 Cindy and Eddie Scheermesser
Feb. 21 Debbie and Mike Hartman
Feb. 28 Kathy and Mike Boyce
March 6 Aggie and Phil Carnell
March 13 Debbie and Steve Scheermesser
March 20 Mike and Debbie Hartman
March 27 Andi Grady and Buck Knott

Liturgists

Feb. 7 Jeanne Thrasher
Feb. 14 Francy Becker
Feb. 21 Steve Scheermesser
Feb. 28 Laurie Groves
March 6 Jeanne Thrasher
March 13 Steve Scheermesser
March 20 Francy Becker
March 27 Lori Evans

Children's Time Leaders

Feb. 7 Jeanne Thrasher
Feb. 14
Feb. 21 Jeanne Thrasher
Feb. 28
March 6 Jeanne Thrasher
March 13
March 20 Frances Becker
March 27 Lori Evans

News & Notes

Thank you very much to Debbie Scheermesser for her work on The Gleaner for so long and for continuing to do our bulletins each week and keeping our directory up to date. Your hard work and dedication is much appreciated!

The Gleaner will be distributed quarterly. If you have dates or information that you would like included in the next issue or suggestions for what should be included in The Gleaner, please get it to Laurie and Evie Groves by March 15.

Check out our website! www.piedmontpresby.org.

It has a wealth of information from an event calendar to live streaming of our services each week. Past events including our annual Christmas concerts, Children's events, past Gleaners, and sermons are also archived so you can watch them all year long. Thank you so Shawn Groves for all the work he does each week on the website. Thanks for using your gifts and talents for our church! We're also adding a section to the website with links to the Revised Common Lectionary that we use each Sunday. You can click a link and go right to the Bible passages online. This will be added as a button on the left side of the front page of the website and linked on our church calendar under the Church Events button.

[Thank you so much to Elder Lori Evans, Elder Jeanne Thrasher, and Rev. Harry Coleman for filling the pulpit during January while Tom has been away at school. Thank you so much for leading us in worship!](#)

[Our community garden is still a work in progress.](#)

[We have some interested community groups including the food pantry and Girl Scouts who are planning to participate in gardening. More information will follow!](#)



Feb. 12 Emma Shay

Feb. 17 Denny Lynch

Feb. 20 Pam Neder

Feb. 21 Brenden Rounds

Feb. 22 Denise Spitzer

Feb. 22 Francy Becker

March 4 Pat Knott

March 12 Addalynn Everett

March 19 Phil Carnell

March 23 Debbie Scheermesser

March 26 Josh Everett

March 28 Kaitlyn Everett

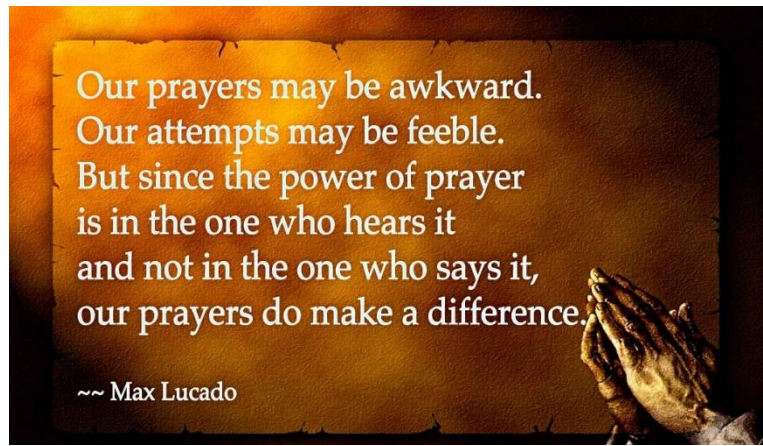
March 28 Bryan Jose

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our youth use “Growing in Grace and Gratitude” from the Presbyterian Church as well as seasonal lessons such as Lent and Easter. Each lesson is rooted in Bible Stories that reveal God's grace.

The Youth Sunday School will be performing during Children's Time on Palm Sunday with Music and Songs, Easter Sunday with a Puppet Skit, and Mother's Day with a special performance on May 8.

Teachers are Francy Becker, Cindy Scheermesser, and Jeanne Thrasher.



Ongoing Prayer Requests

Tonia Brandlen
Erma Landis and Family
Peggy Boal
Floretta Kelly
Francy Becker
Tom's father, Dick Forbes
Alison's Mother, Isabel Fain
Theresa Wolford
Ginny Flick
Mary Brandlen
Nina McCarty
Lawrence, Gloria, and Lauren Cook
Paula Swayne
Laura Nell Hill
The Family of Artie Hartman
George Tasker
Jack & Tess Tasker
Darlene and Denise Spitzer

PPC Ministry
Virginia Metcalf
John Michael, Christopher, Bryan,
Mike, and Debbie Hartman



Our country, our leaders, & our troops
Caregivers
Orphans of Belize
Missionaries in Belize
Glynnna and Shawn Harbaugh
Jim Wilson
Ernie and Carol Kelley
Our Ethiopian Partner Synod
Illulabar Bethel Synod
Kathryn Harvey and Family

Please let Laurie know of any prayer requests to be added to or removed from the next Gleaner. It will be distributed at the end of March. Thank you!

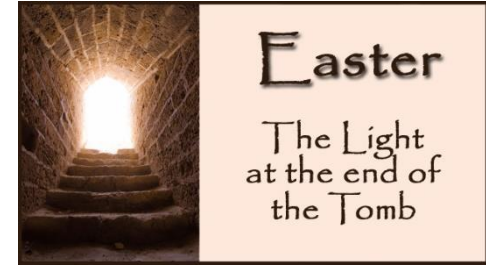




If you're not already worshipping with us in person, please stop by. We'd love to celebrate with you, pray with you, and welcome you. You can always join us online at www.piedmontpresby.org. Sermons are streamed live each Sunday starting at about 11:00 A.M.

"Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity." Joel 2: 12-13

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63 Ashfield Street
Piedmont, WV 26750



"How Could You Say No"
Julie Miller

Thorns on his head, spear in his side
Yet it was a heartache that made him cry.
He gave his life so you would understand.
Is there any way you could say no to this man?

If Christ himself were standing here,
Face full of glory and eyes full of tears,
And he held out his arms and his nail printed hands -
Is there any way you could say no to this man?

How could you look in his tear stained eyes
Knowing it's you he's thinking of?
Could you tell him you're not ready
to give him your life?
Could you say you don't think you need his love?
Jesus is here with his arms open wide.
You can see him with your heart
if you'll stop looking with your eyes.
He's left it up to you; he's done all that he can.
Is there any way you could say no to this man?

How could you look in his tear stained eyes
Knowing it's you he's thinking of?
Could you tell him you're not ready
to give him your life?
Could you say you don't think you need his love?
Thorns on his head, your life is in his hands.
Is there any way you could say no to this man?
Is there any way you could say no to this man?

