



Steeple Notes

First Presbyterian Church
225 Williams St.
Huron, Ohio 44839
419-433-5018

Lenten Study



Our Lenten study this year is “Savior: What the Bible Says About the Cross.” It is not too late to join in. Call the office if you would like to participate.



“Rejoice in the Lord always”, even during the Lenten season.



Prayer Calendar for the Churches of Huron

March 7, 2021

Zion Lutheran Church
Pastor Kristine Schroeder

March 14, 2012

First Presbyterian Church
Pastor Sara Hodsdon

March 21, 2021

Christ Episcopal Church

March 28, 2021

Light House Assembly of God



A Message from Pastor Sara

Lent and the Blues

The recent issue of Christianity Today offers an article written by Derek Sweatman called “Lent is a Time to Sing the Blues.” Because of my husband’s love of blues music, the article caught my eye. The blues just might be a distinctively American way to voice the human emotions one might feel during Lent.

The roots of blues music are found in the history of the African-American people during slavery. To endure the hardships as they worked under tremendously oppressive conditions, slaves would sing songs about their lives, their difficulties, and ultimately, about their hopes. These songs found their way into American culture on Saturday nights with the blues, and on Sunday mornings with Gospel music.

Dr. Cornell West speaks of the blues this way: “The blues is an autobiographical chronicle of a personal catastrophe expressed lyrically and endured with grace and dignity. Meaning what? Meaning that the blues are all those who are willing to look unflinchingly at catastrophic conditions. So you’ve got white literary blues men like Tennessee Williams—Blanche Dubois, the American Hamlet. She won’t look at the catastrophic; she lives in a world of make-believe. And what happened? Reality shatters the world of make-believe. Mortality shatters. History shatters.”

Lent is a struggle with the most catastrophic thing we face--our own mortality. On Ash Wednesday, we are reminded of that mortality through the imposition of ashes. This year has been especially catastrophic. We have lost 500,000 Americans to Covid-19, and 2,500,000 worldwide. Young people are facing depression at unbelievable rates. The economy continues to suffer. Reality has, indeed, shattered us. As Billie Holliday once sang, “I Gotta Right to Sing the Blues.”

The Psalms are about 1/3 blues. Psalm 3 begins “*O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; many are saying of me, there is no help for him in God.*” And yet, in the midst of the despair, there is hope: “*But you, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high. I call out to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy mountain.*”

We are living in the days of “not yet.” The vaccines are working, and we will return to something that appears to be more “normal”, but not yet. As Christians, we also live in days of “not yet.” God’s Kingdom will come, but not yet. We have pain and sorrow, but we also have hope and anticipation. The knowledge that God makes all things new through Christ is our Easter hope. It is what allows us, in the face of the catastrophes of our lives, to endure with grace and dignity.

So go ahead and sing the blues. It’s a human thing to do. It’s a Biblical thing to do. When we sing about, speak about, pray about the broken things around us, it helps us to sing about the glories of the resurrection more strongly and passionately come Easter morning.

Little Wonders *Registration*

Busy learning their letters. They went on a letter search , then had a letter experiment with liquids while learning the skills of sorting, graphing and counting.



Art and pattern skills



Open registration will be held March 6 online only. Please visit their page or contact the school for more Information.
419-433-4348

Each Child is a blessing. February they celebrated Valentines and Friendship day.

“They each made a special bracelet that represents a friend from school”.



Learning all about clouds



What's Happening

Adult Sunday School

Each Sunday after worship, Pastor Sara leads a small group in the study of the Gospel of Mark. Though we are halfway through, it is never too late to join. We study together in the parlor, about 15 minutes after worship con-



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Easter Flowers

Easter Flowers will be available to order. See Kathy Kirby, or Patti Smith. OR contact the Church office for an order form.

One Great Hour of Sharing



Scripture reminds us time and again that God's people belong with those in need, releasing people from the bonds of injustice and with the hungry whom we are to welcome into our homes, as Isaiah's 58th chapter puts it. The Church finds itself with those who are thirsty, imprisoned and suffering illness, as Jesus says in Matthew 25.

Through One Great Hour of Sharing, we build God's house and extend shelter to those who have no place to stay, offer compassion to those who have pain — be it physical, emotional or spiritual — and we set a feast, with God, for those who lack access to enough food to eat.

Thanks to the wonders of technology, you can see how your giving impacts our world by going to the OGHS website at www.pcusa.org/oghs. See all the amazing work your gifts accomplish, and offer prayers for the people that your gifts support.

We will be collecting our OGHS offering on Easter Sunday, April 4th. Look for a giving envelope or fish bank in the narthex, or attached to the paper newsletter. Join in this special opportunity to witness to God's abundant love on Easter Sunday!



Holy Week Plans

Holy Week begins on March 29th. As of now, we are planning a Maundy Thursday service for Thursday, April 1st at 7:00 p.m. There will not be an in-person Community Good Friday service again this year, but the pastors are preparing a virtual service which will be posted on Facebook Live.



Sunday March 28



Sunday April 4

Looking ahead

Music Under The Steeple



Join Dr. Steven Young, DMA, AAGO

for a virtual organ recital event Sunday
March 21 @ 3:00 P.m.

Prayer Group All are welcome

Monday March 8 & Monday March 22
at 1:00 p.m. Via Zoom.

Have you heard of Brother Lawrence? He was a Carmelite friar in 17th century France. He was born of peasant parents and had limited schooling. During his conversion experience at the age of 18, he says he “received a high view of the Providence and power of God”. He became a soldier in the Thirty Years War, but upon being injured he became a footman for a time.

Then at the age of 26 he decided to join the Carmelite Priory in Paris. Working at first in the priory’s kitchen and then repairing sandals, he gained a reputation for experiencing profound peace, and his character and simple wisdom attracted many to him. As a friar he was “much preoccupied with cultivating a keen sensitivity to the presence of God in everyday life” even to the point of recognizing that picking up a piece of straw from the floor could be as grand a service to God as preaching to the multitudes in the grandest of cathedrals.

After his death, a cleric compiled his conversations and letters into a book entitled The Practice of the Presence of God. Thus we still benefit from his humble words. “The time of business”, he said, “does not with me differ from the time of prayer; and in the noise and clutter of my kitchen...I possess God in as great tranquility as if I were upon my knees....” Is this what Paul means when he says pray without ceasing? 1Thess 5:17.



Sunday March 14

Set your clocks ahead one hour
before bed Saturday night .

Daylight-Saving
Time Begins



*Let's celebrate with **Judy Andrews** for blessing us with 22 years of service. God has called her to do his work and that she has done by maintaining the cleanliness of our Church. She is greatly appreciated for all her hard work and dedication!*

**Session Wednesday March 10th
@ 7 p.m. Via zoom.**

Session Members: Pastor Sara Hodsden

Phillip Hopkins—F & M Chair

Sarah Blakeman—N&M, Nominating Co-Chair

Chuck Kaman—Christian Education Chair

Francesca Lendrum—Stewardship



March 2

Kathryn Wittmer

March 5

William Marsh

Harry Wright

March 9

Bob Kaman

March 12

Katherine Brouse

March 15

Andrea Kaman

March 26

Carol Mack

March 28

John Phillips

March 29

Ann Marie Koch

Carolyn Culbertson—Nominating Co-Chair

Ellen Drumm—N&M

Doug Quinn—F&M

Cynthia Brown-Mathews—G & P

Thank
You!



February 2021

Dear Pastor Sara and Friends,

Thank you so much for
your donation.

We truly appreciate your
thoughtfulness, generosity and
support.

Best wishes always!

The Humane Society of Erie County

St. Patrick's Day Prayer

I arise today Through God's strength to pilot me; God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's eye to look before me, God's ear to hear me, God's word to speak for me, God's hand to guard me, God's way to lie before me, God's shield to protect me, God's hosts to save me Afar and anear, Alone or in a multitude.



2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 HDM @ 12	2 Lenten Study @ 7p.m. via Zoom	3	4	5	6 Little Wonders Open Registration Online only
7 Worship @ 10 Adult Sunday School @ 1045	8  HDM @ 12 Prayer Group @ 1p.m. VIA ZOOM	9 Lenten Study @ 7p.m. via Zoom	10 Session @ 7 p.m. Christ Meal	11	12	13
14  Worship @ 10 Adult Sunday School @ 1045	15 HDM @ 12	16 Lenten Study @ 7p.m. via Zoom	17	18	19	20
21  Worship @ 10 Music under the Steeple @ 3 p.m.	22  HDM @ 12 Prayer Group @ 1p.m. VIA ZOOM	23 Lenten Study @ 7p.m. via Zoom Steeple Notes due	24 Christ Meal @ 5 p.m.	25	26	27
28 Worship @ 10	29  HDM @ 12 Holy Week Begins	30 Lenten Study @ 7p.m. via Zoom	31			