



NORTH LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



Webpage: <http://www.northlibertypc.org>
209 N. Liberty-Plain Grove Rd., Grove City, PA 16127

March 2021

Vol. 50 : Num. 3



Brothers & Sisters,

As we reflect this Lenten season upon Christ's road to Calvary and our redemption, we should give particular thought to the great weight and burden of pain, despair, isolation and evil that he bore on our account.

My own reflections on these themes this year are very much shaped by the circumstances occurring around me. As I write this, we are one year into the COVID-19 Pandemic, we face domestic political turmoil, economic and foreign policy chaos. In short, we're in a heck of a mess. But, in a real sense, every year is a Heck of a Mess in one way or another.

I think back to Lent 8 years ago and remember that I had just heard the news that a pastor colleague of mine suffered the loss of his wife when his mentally disturbed grandson murdered her at the breakfast table in their North Hills home. All of us in this congregation have come out of sustained seasons of transition (whether because of pastoral transition, pandemic lockdowns, job or school layoffs and closures) that, though working fairly well now, have undoubtedly left at least a few potholes to step in and yard rakes to step on so the handles hit us in the face.

But, the great news of the Cross is that the pain and isolation that Christ did bear on our account — consider that the weight of all of the sin of the world rested on His shoulders, and His alone — bore infinite fruit for those who rely on, and reside in Him. As Jesus traveled closer and closer to Jerusalem for that final visit, He knew what His disciples did not. He knew He was going there to die cruelly and as a sacrifice in which He would stand utterly and wholly alone. The rejection He bore was complete; in order for His sacrifice to be effective even the Father had to stand back from Him. This is seen in no bolder fashion than in the words of the 22nd Psalm quoted by Jesus from the Cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

His solitary suffering has given us the ability to bear one another's burdens in love. It gives meaning to our existence in the face of meaningless and brutal evil in the world around us.

It means that when we see the horrors we can perpetrate on each other, or armed mobs fighting with police in city streets or the nations capitol, or EVEN when a young man who suffered from mental illness was driven by the deception of the devils in his head to kill his own grandmother, the sufferings caused to his family, church, community and himself are not without purpose. Though we may never understand (this side of eternity) what possible order can be salvaged or purpose served by such horrors, we may still trust that God is working out a greater purpose for our good and the good of all creation.

And though our suffering may seem, at times, to be both solitary and unendurable, we can and should have hope and trust that they are neither solitary nor unendurable. Christ is with us in the midst of all of them. Though He DID suffer a solitary passion and death, He did so in order that we might not;

that we might cling to Him and be strengthened by the ministry of the Holy Spirit Whom He sends to us as advocate, comforter and guide, and in His own spiritual presence among us as the body of Christ.

As we face a time of difficult transition, the evils of a world that seems increasingly “off its moorings” and our own daily trials, temptations and difficulties, let us reflect more fully on the deep beauty and love of the Son of Man manifested to His Chosen People in the midst of horrendous injustice that bought, brought and delivered perfect redemption for us.

In our joy, sorrow, gratitude and thanksgiving for this new reality, let us live into the New Life and Light He has delivered and do so with great love and strong purpose.

Grace & Peace

Rusty +



SESSION REPORT:

The Regular Session Meeting with the Treasurer and the Deacon's president was held on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall at the church and on Zoom. We began with prayer and dealt with the normal business items. Allen Fleming gave a report from the Deacons, and Abbey Novotny shared an oral Trustees' report from Mike Novotny. Deb Hartman, Treasurer shared the written financial report and responded to questions. We continue to be in good financial health. We are blessed to have members who have been faithful during these unusual times.

Joyce Youshock shared two (2) written reports from Janice McElhinny

Worship Committee:

Advised NOT to hand out Palms for Palm Sunday,
NO Easter Morning breakfast or Sunday School.

Maudy Thursday Communion Service, 4/1 at 7 PM. The Presbytery will also be offering a recorded Maudy Thursday video Communion service which will be available on-line. Teaching and ruling elders and members from around the presbytery will be taking part. If you are uncomfortable or unable to worship in person this could be a great opportunity for you. More details to follow in the bulletin.

OUTDOOR Easter Sunrise Service on portico April 4th @7:00AM

Regular church service will be at 11:00AM

Nominating Committee:

Dan Stoops was asked and he agreed to serve on the Trustee Board Still need another Elder, if you feel led to serve, contact Session.

Mission:

Elder Abbey Novotny advised that they are collecting coffee for Joshua Haven and if we have a great response will share it with another agency.

Elder John Hemmerlin volunteered to represent North Liberty for the Presbytery meeting on February 23, 2021 at 6:30pm on Zoom. Session continues to evaluate our worship and church activities during the pandemic.

Session recorded that 28 were served communion on Sunday, February 21, 2021.

Lenten Prayer Vigil: G.C. Ministerial Assoc. to have Lenten Prayer service at GC Park Main Pavilion on Sundays 12:30 PM: Feb. 28, March 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th.

As we journey through Lent, a Lenten devotional is available for your use, pick one up at the church or let us know if you would like one.

**** CONGREGATIONAL MTG., SUNDAY MARCH 14TH AFTER WORSHIP Please remember to keep the work and worship of our congregation in your prayers.

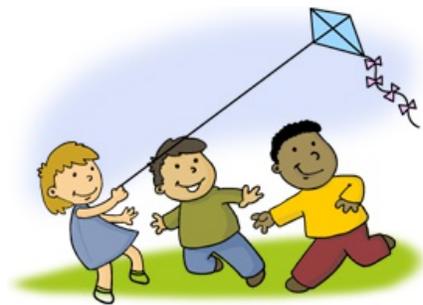
Feel free to contact any Session Member with your concerns or suggestions. My number is 724-735-4629 or joyce.youshock@gmail.com

Joyce A. Youshock, Recording Clerk

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S NEWS

Winds of March

Winds of March we welcome you,
There is work for you to do.
Work and play and blow all day,
Blow the winter cold away.
Unknown



In lieu of our regular March morning and evening circle meetings, we will be having a combined meeting Thursday March 18 and again on Thursday March 25 at 6:30 pm in the church social hall. There we will have a special Lenten / Easter study. The study will be from Kathy Lee Gifford's book entitled "The Rock, The Robe and The Rabbi". We hope the winds of March will gently blow you to the church for this interesting study.

As we keep the people of Texas in our prayers, we will be sending a monetary gift to the Presbyterian Disaster Fund, Texas. Please give your contribution to treasurer, Dorry Sankey. We are also collecting personal care items for both men and women living in our area. The items will be given to our local food pantries for distribution. Feel free to bring your items to our circle meetings.

PW moderator and vice moderator for 2021 are:

Moderator: Janice McElhinny

Vice Moderator: Susan Black

This is a correction from last month's newsletter.

Although not an elected officer, Linda Beatty has been our faithful historian for many years and will remain so in 2021. We thank her for her diligent work which you can enjoy by taking a trip down memory lane via the yearly albums she has filled with pictures, articles and all sorts of happenings from our Presbyterian Women's group. They are kept on a shelf in the kitchenette. Feel free to browse.

Secretary, Terri Pizor



REPORT FROM THE 2020 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Following is the current list of members of North Liberty serving on the boards.

Session: John Hemmerlin, Janice McElhinny, Abbey Novotny, Gerry Sankey and Joyce Youshock.

Trustees: Jack Atcheson, Alex Campbell, Bruce Martin, Mike Novotny, Dan Stoops, Kevin Uber.

Deacons: Becky Dunkerley, Allen Fleming, Dorry Sankey, Kathy Schultz, Diana Stiles, Bev Uber.

As you can see there are only 5 members currently serving on the Session. Many of you have been approached with much prayer to serve as an Elder. No one has agreed to serve. If you are one of those members asked to serve, we ask that you prayerfully reconsider serving. The Nominating committee and Session are in prayer that one of you will come forward and accept the position of serving as the 6th Elder. You may respond by calling Janice at 724-992-9106.

In His Service,

Janice McElhinny, Chair



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

GriefShare is a support group that meets weekly. You'll find it to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see your group as an "oasis" on your long journey through grief.

GriefShare Meetings (2021): Lessburg ECO Presbyterian Church, 1831 Perry Hwy., Volant, PA 16156. leesburgecochurch@gmail.com

Gatherings held each Sunday 3-5 p.m., March 7th – June 6th (will not be held on Easter). Come when you are available.

THANK YOU

Dear Deacons,

Thank you for your kind, thoughtful, and incredibly generous gifts. These will be helpful in taking care of the medical bills and traveling costs for treatments. The love and support is truly appreciated.

With love,
John, Kim and Family

SEASON OF SPRING

Springtime seems to fill the air

With music all its own;

Frogs and crickets come to life
With such a pleasant tone.
Flowers peek their tiny heads
Above the fertile ground;
No other season of the year
Can such beauty ere be found.
Dear God, I am so thankful
For this season You bestow;
It fills my heart with gladness
And it helps my spirit grow.

Albert Theel





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Choir 7 p.m.	3	4	5	6
7 11:00 Worship 12:30 GC Min. Prayer Vigil @ GC Park	8	9 Choir 7 p.m.	10	11 Session 7PM	12	13
14 11:00 Worship Cong. Mtg after worship 12:30 GC Min. Prayer Vigil @ GC Park	15	16 Choir 7 p.m.	17 	18 PW combined Meeting 6:30	19	20
21 11:00 Worship 12:30 GC Min. Prayer Vigil @ GC Park	22	23 Choir 7 p.m. Newsletters Due	24	25 PW combined meeting 6:30	26	27
28 11:00 Worship 12:30 GC Min. Prayer Vigil @ GC Park PALM SUNDAY	29	30 Choir 7 p.m.	31	1 Maundy Thursday Communion 7 P.M.	2 GOOD FRIDAY	

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the North Liberty Presbyterian Church is to *serve Christ*. We seek to *introduce Jesus* as the Christ and *become disciples* so that together we are enabled to *love one another* and *share His love* with those around us.

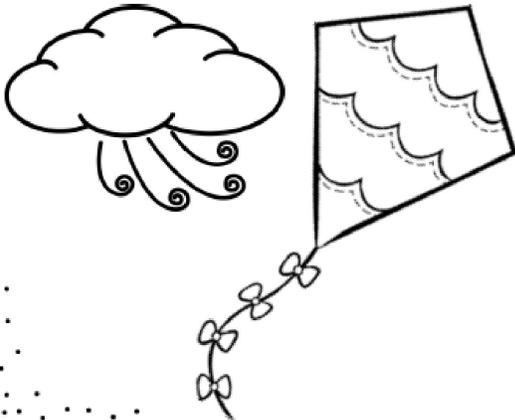
March is Windy!

Find each word in the search.

Words go ↑, →, and ↘.

March	comes
in	like
lion	and
out	like
lamb	proverb
weather	windy

a	p	t	r	o	u	t	o	i	n
M	a	r	c	h	y	r	x	f	j
o	a	c	o	m	e	s	n	l	r
l	o	v	e	v	w	i	n	d	y
l	i	o	n	z	e	w	r	e	y
i	i	l	l	p	a	r	t	r	e
k	i	k	p	j	t	l	b	a	s
e	i	n	e	m	h	t	a	h	c
l	o	g	d	c	e	r	t	m	z
q	v	b	a	q	r	o	k	g	b
a	n	d	i	o	b	c	d	t	y



© 2017 Mama's Learning Corner



- 1 Nina Cooper
- 5 Shirley Croll
- James Stiles
- 11 Ray Campbell
- Jessy Pizor
- 12 Bonnie Tidd
- 14 Laura Stull
- 16 Chelsea Mahaffey
- 17 Lorna Carothers
- 19 Brenda Eperthener
- Patrick Shea
- 21 Julie Moyer
- 23 Bob Pizor

- 2 Bob & Terri Pizor
- 11 Al and Anne Treanor



EASTER FLOWERS

\$10.00 Each - all 6" pots



ALL ORDERS MUST BE TURNED IN NO LATER THAN MARCH 14, 2021

	Number	Cost
White Lilies (1 plant)	_____	_____
Hyacinths (3 blooms)	Pink _____	_____
	White _____	_____
	Blue _____	_____
Tulips (6 blooms)	Red _____	_____
	Yellow _____	_____
	White _____	_____
	Pink _____	_____
	Orange _____	_____
Total Number Ordered	_____	
Total Cost		_____

Name _____

Please enter information as you want it to appear in the bulletin

From: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of _____

And in honor of: _____

ORDERS, WITH MONEY, CAN BE PLACED IN THE BOX IN THE NARTHEX NEAR THE OFFERING PLATES, OR TURNED TO: ALLEN FLEMING OR BECKY DUNKERLEY.

Be Joyful in Hope, Patient in affliction, Faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12

DEACONS' REQUESTS

Friends of the Carpenter

Would you like to serve on the Friends of the Carpenter Committee? If so, please complete the following:

Name _____ Phone Number _____

What type of things would you be interested in helping with? (i.e., yard work, house cleaning, sewing, help with providing meals, window washing, gutter cleaning) _____

Thank you for your support! Please give this form to Allen Fleming or Becky Dunkerley.

Caregiver Support

The Deacons would like to help caregivers with different jobs that they may have. If you are interested in serving as a caregiver, or if you already serve as a caregiver, please fill out the following information:

Name _____ I am ___ I am not ___ currently a caregiver for _____ (optional).

I would like to serve as a support for caregivers. I am willing to do the following:

- Help with meals
- Sit with the person to give the caregiver time to run errands, etc.
- Clean
- Help with laundry
- Drive to various appointments or errands

What have we not listed that caregivers could use?

Please return to Allen Fleming or Becky Dunkerley. Thank you!!!

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