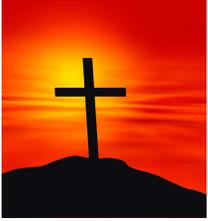


The Messenger

April 2014



The Presbyterian Church Of Johnstown



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Does God Care about the Little Things?

Does God care about the little things that trouble us in our lives? That question has come to me in some form or fashion from many folks since I entered into ordained ministry. It most recently surfaced in a conversation that I was having with an individual about an issue that they were experiencing in their life regarding where they live and the lack of meaningful relationships with neighbors. Her observation was that despite her best efforts to get to know her neighbors, they were simply not interested in anything beyond a casual wave “hello” in passing. I told the woman that I would pray for her and for that situation, and her reply to me was, “Oh, God has better things to do with his time than to be bothered with this.”

I gave the typical pastoral reply to that comment by saying God can handle anything you bring to him. But... it did leave me pondering about whether God is truly concerned about the smaller things that we face in our lives. The short answer to that question for me is a confident yes! And the reason I say this is because I was reminded of a verse of scripture that has stuck with me over the years...

“How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!” (1 John 3:1, NIV)

Anyone who has ever been around children knows what happens when a child falls down and slightly skins a knee or is just shocked at the fact they fell – they become very upset and often begin to cry. And even though nothing life threatening is going on, a child generally reacts as if the world were coming to an end. And when they do... how do adults, especially the parents of the children, react? They go over and scoop them up, talk to them, give hugs, give kisses where it hurts, and comfort and sooth the child. Parents don't generally preoccupy themselves with evaluating whether the situation warrants attention or not – it does by virtue of the fact that their child is hurt and upset. They are motivated and moved by the love they feel for their child! And when something is important to our children – no matter how insignificant or small it may seem – it is important to us.

The same is true of our Heavenly Father! When something is important to us – it is important to Him. His love is so great for us (his children), that he attends to our every concern. Nothing is too small or insignificant or trivial.

A Note from the Clerk...



Psalm 62: 8 Trust in him at all times, O people, pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

Session met on March 4, 2014, with Pastor Kevin moderating and opening the meeting with prayer.

As Pastor Kevin mentioned on March 9, the church has received a very generous donation to the Memorial Fund. The anonymous benefactor requested that the money be used for tangible items and not to pay off any debt. Session has been considering what improvements would most benefit the church body. We decided that the sound system, projector equipment and the sign outside the church would help in the area of communication. A committee thoroughly researched the purchases before they were made so we would make the best use of our resources. We are indeed grateful to the people who have made these improvements possible. God bless you for your generosity.

Our first Leadership Night was well attended. We invite you to come to the next meeting which will be on Tuesday, April 15 at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. If you are already part of a committee, or would like to begin participating in one, please join us for an hour of praise, instruction and collaboration.

If you are a handyman, we have been informed of some repairs that need to be made at our rental properties. Please check with Lee Mansell to see if there is anything you might be able to do.

Welcome home to our members who went to the Dominican Republic. We thank you for serving the Lord in this way and are looking forward to hearing all about your trip.

Our next Session meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8 at 7:00PM. The meeting was closed with prayer by Jeremy Derenberger.

Thanking God for all of you, Diane Frazier



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 9am Bible Study 5:30 TOPS	2 5:15-6:45pm Joy Ringers & Jr. Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	3	4	5
6 8:30 Teen Bells/Choir 9:15am Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service and Bell Extravaganza 6:30pm Lenten Service	7 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting	8 9am Bible Study 5:30 TOPS	9 5:15-6:45pm Joy Ringers & Jr. Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	10	11	12
13 Palm Sunday 8:30 Teen Bells/Choir 9:15am Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 6:30 Lenten Service	14 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting	15 9am Bible Study 5:30 TOPS 7:30pm Committee Night	16 1pm Elizabeth Circle @the Hot Spot 5:15-6:45pm Joy Ringers & Jr. Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	17 Maundy Thursday TBA Service and Communion	18	19
20 Easter Sunday 8:30am Teen Bells/Choir 10:30 Worship Service	21 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting 6:30 Pre-school Board Meeting	22 9am Bible Study 5:30 TOPS 7pm Church Committee Meetings	23 1pm Elizabeth Circle @Hot Spot 5:15-6:45pm Joy Ringers & Jr. Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	24	25 Women's Retreat	26 Women's Retreat
27 8:30am Teen Bells/Choir 9:15am Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Taco Lunch	28 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting 7pm Hot Spot Bible Study	29 9am Bible Study 5:30 TOPS	30 5:15-6:45pm Joy Ringers & Jr. Choir 7:30 Adult Choir			

Volunteer Ministries for April

FLOWERS:

April 6	The Irwin family to the Glory of God
April 13	Easter Lilies
April 20	Easter Lilies
April 27	Rhonda Deeds in memory of her brothers, Joe & Brian Caudill

ACOLYTES:

April 6	Charlie Richards
April 13	Phoebe Richards
April 20	Grace Almendinger
April 27	Megan Miller

NURSERY:

April 6	Jamie Pardee
April 13	
April 20	
April 27	

GREETERS:

April 6	The Richards Family
April 13	Phyllis Kraner
April 20	
April 27	

JUNIOR CHURCH:

April 6	
April 13	Marie Richards
April 20	
April 27	Rhonda Piper

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

April 6	Jane Muller
April 13	Pastor Kevin
April 20	Jenny Cartwright
April 27	Jeremy Derenberger

WORSHIP LEADER:

April 6	Rhonda Piper
April 13	Diane Frazier
April 20	Karen Blair
April 27	Jeanne Voigt

Birthdays and Anniversaries



6	Jeremy Butt	17	Chris Mack
7	Carolyn Whitesel	18	Laura Carver
8	Joey Almendinger	19	William Orr
9	Dick Moseley	20	Melissa Wittmer
12	John & Jane Muller	23	Debbie Farley Jamie Pardee
13	Arika Sayer Norma Clark	27	Clint Perkins
14	Ray Green Ben Heckathorn	28	Karen Blair Andrew Wahlenmaier & Abigail Voigt
15	Kevin Heckathorn		

Our Church Groups

Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee meets in the choir room once a month, at 7pm. We would love to see you there. It is never too late to join this committee!!!

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 15th at 7:30pm



ELIZABETH CIRCLE

This group meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Hot Spot coffee house. The group has a short bible study and plenty of fellowship time. Come and see what we are all about!

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 16th at 1:00pm.

Tabitha Sewing Circle

The circle will be on hiatus beginning December 10th.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our Tuesday morning Bible study group meets at the church on Tuesday from 9am-10am. We welcome any new faces.



Women's Association

The Women's Association is selling their cookbooks and brooms. The new price is \$5 for the cookbooks, and \$8 for the brooms. You can purchase these through Norma Johnson, or bring the money into the office during office hours.



PRAYER CHAIN

Please send all prayer chain requests to Carolyn Friedberg.

The email address is JPCPrayerRequest@hotmail.com.



Church Happenings

Sunday Evening Lenten Services



The season of Lent is a time for reflection. With that thought in mind, we are offering Sunday evening Lenten services that will continue through Palm Sunday. The services will be presented by people from our congregation. The topics vary and are determined by the presenter. These services are intended to be brief, beginning with a musical prelude at 6:30pm, followed by the service at 7:00pm. The hope is that this meaningful time together will help us prepare our hearts for Easter.

March 30 - Jenny Cartwright

April 6 - Erich Almendinger and Brad Ashbrook

April 13 - Penny Replogle



Attention High school seniors:

Senior Sunday is quickly approaching!

As is our tradition, there will be a bulletin board dedicated to you.

Please begin to gather your pictures and write your bio!!

You may drop them off in the office or give them to

Rhonda Piper, Marie Fleming, or Marie Richards any Sunday.

May 18th is Senior Sunday.

Are you ready for a SPRING FLING??

This is an invitation to women and girls of all ages to join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 4, 2:00 PM. This year we will celebrate the HISTORY OF DOLLS. We encourage you to bring your favorite doll. This annual event is sponsored by the Presbyterian Women's Association so put this event on your calendar NOW!



Café Chocolat, Women's Retreat



The retreat begins Friday, April 25th 6pm and ends Saturday April 26th We will be at Mohican State Park Lodge, 4700 Goon Road Perrysville, Ohio. If you have made a reservation and have any questions, please call or see Karen Blair or Melanie Main.

Bell Choir Extravaganza!!!



We are rededicating the bells and our new cases during the worship service on April 6. We will have a day of bell ringing featuring 4 different choirs: the current cast of Joy Ringers and Sounds of Celebration, an Adult Choir, and a choir composed entirely of former bell ringers. We are looking forward to showing the congregation the history of the bells in our church.

Food Pantry

The Johnstown-Northridge Food Pantry is being run temporarily by Joe & Becky Urdock until a board meeting is held to determine who will be the new coordinator. Joe would like me to thank all of you for all of your donations. Some of the things that the Food Pantry is in need of are canned fruit, canned green beans, pork & beans, pancake mix, canned meat, and soap.



Any donation that you can give is very much appreciated.

Thank you.

Karen & George Dreisbach

News from Christian Education



There will not be Youth Sunday school Easter April 20th due to all the morning activities.

Please note a new time change!!

Youth Sunday school start time has been changed to 9:30 am.

Save the date:



April 27th following the church service there will be a taco lunch. DON'T spend your lunch money anywhere else. Stay after church and share fellowship with others. The money raised will help the youth group with their mission trip to New Orleans in July.

Notes and Thanks

A HUGE thank you to Melanie Main for taking the time out of her busy schedule to put together the Lenten Services. We are so blessed to have you share your beautiful gift. Your musical talent is moving and inspirational.

Dear Friends,

Ken and Jean wish to thank our church family for prayers, cards, and phone calls to Florida. Giving us comfort, peace, direction, and hope, as we made decisions at the time of Ken's brother Gary's death.

Nothing in life or in death can separate us from the Love of God in Christ our Lord.

Your friends in Christ

Ken and Jean Weaver

I am so pleased and grateful for the many prayerful cards and calls. This is a wonderful caring congregation. When the situation seems gloomy, cards and prayers are such a morale booster.

Thank you!

Carolyn Whitesel

*We have received letters and pictures of the two young ladies that our church sponsored this year in the Dominican Republic. Please take a moment to read their thanks.

**Hazel has sent us several postcards. They are posted on the bulletin board near the pre-school office.

Prayer Chain Requests for March 2014
JPCPrayerRequest@hotmail.com

CONTINUED PRAYERS

- Our Governmental Leaders.
- The situation in Ukraine/Russia, etc.
- David Lee, friend of Maxine Pardee, has asked for prayers for his congregation. Dave ministers to the Presbyterian Church in Nitro, WV. They continue to deal with the results of the chemical leak that has been in the news lately.

JOYS/THANKSGIVINGS/SUPPORT:

- Abigail Voigt & Andy Wahlenmaier are expecting their 2nd child around August 1.
- Pamela Howell, Kirk Friedberg's postal supervisor, returned to work March 18. She was assaulted while delivering packages on January 14.

CONTINUE PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

- Carolyn Whitesel is recovering from shingles. She had been hospitalized for a week and has lost a lot of strength. She will be getting physical therapy.
- Shalon Pardee Snyder recovering from gall bladder surgery March 16.
- Arika Sayer injured her left knee playing volley ball. 100 Timber Creek Alexandria, Ohio 43001
- Melody Frazier Dickens was in a car accident and was seriously injured. She is greatly improved and is resuming day-to-day activities. She is receiving vision therapy. She has had surgeries to remove a metal plate in her skull, remove a filter that removes blood clots. She has passed her driving evaluations and hopefully once the surgeries are done and she's recovered from them, she will be able to go back to work.
- Ron Goodman (brother-in-law to Jane Muller) has the latter stages of Parkinson's disease.
- Mike Robison, paralyzed from the waist down.
- Maxine Pardee myasthenia gravis and extreme pain. Will be going to OSU Hospital for further testing in May.
- Gene Shellenbarger frail health.
- Jim Frazier to have his eyesight restored to normal.
- Rev. Edward Carlson, Maxine Pardee's son-in-law, has serious medical issues. Tests indicate his condition has stabilized.
- Carrie Wheaten, who is in her mid-40's, is home after having a stroke at work. She still has residual effects in the movement on her left side and speech.
- Margie Wheaten, Betty Ford's daughter, is in a nursing facility because of her Parkinson's.
- Charlie Hayes, friend of Kaye Cook, had a stroke. He is now home.
- Jeannette Dunlap, neighbor of Levene Baughn, has been having heart problems.
- Dolores Leistikow, who worked for Charlie Parker for 25 years, in the sudden loss by heart attack of her oldest son, Jack. He died on the 3rd hole of a golf course, playing alone, at the age of 62. Jack leaves a wife and 3 children, 1 still at home.
- Faye Bailles, the Parkers' Florida next door neighbor here in FL, who has recently been diagnosed with Hepatitis (non-contagious and thought to be caused by medication she is on).

CONTINUE PRAYERS FOR HEALING OF CANCER:

- David Irwin's cancer is decreasing. He continues to work from home.
- Norma Duncan needs continued prayer. Her conditions have been causing additional trouble.
- Colton Zigo, Northridge graduate. Because he was injured in an auto accident his planned stem cell transplant was cancelled. Cancer has progressed.
- Laura and Bruce Wright's daughter Tina has had treatments for breast cancer. She has also been diagnosed with Lupus.
- Kathy, Roger & Carl -- Susie Speck's cousins
- Diane Crooks and Nancy Wiseman, friends of Suzy Sayer, have been diagnosed with ovarian cancer.
- Brian Fisher, friend of the Miller's and the Frazier's, has finished his colon cancer treatments and is awaiting results from additional tests.
- Paul Kiser former Johnstown High School teacher has been battling cancer for 7 years. Treatments are no longer effective.
- Victoria, New Albany high school student, has an inoperable brain tumor.
- Megan Johnson Cervi, daughter of Bill Johnson, is having treatment for two areas of melanoma cancer.
- Milt Jordan, cancer has returned.
- Bob Evans, friend of the Almendingers, has cancer and is undergoing experimental treatment just approved by the FDA.
- Brionna, a six-year old who is critically ill at Children's Hospital.
- Ceisa Friedberg recovering from surgery as a result of uterine cancer.
- Wilma Hendren, friend of Kaye Cook.
- Charles "Copper" Thacker has advanced lung cancer.

THOSE SHUT IN OR CONFINED TO THEIR HOMES:

- Roy H. Sarbaugh (Carol Hoff's father)
- Alice Neibarger
- Arthur Miller (Kathy Trimble's father) has dementia.
- Betty Ford, 524 Jamesway, Room #127, Marion, OH 43302, phone (740) 251-2023.
- Lawrence Bishop at Sharonbrooke Senior Living Center in Newark.
- Cecil and Maryann Grimes, brother and sister-in-law to Maxine Pardee, are having difficulty caring for each other. Maryann has a lung condition and Cecil has worsening Alzheimer's disease.

Deaths

- Ruth Krumm, former food pantry administrator, died on March 2.
- Jean Neff, former member, died March 3, 2014.
- Robert E. "Bob" Maibach, Jr, died Thursday, March 20, 2014
- Roger Bailles, Faye's brother-in-law, died this week-end after battling cancer
- Prayers for those affected by the Malaysian airline disaster

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Office hours & Contacts

Pastor Kevin will be in the office Monday through Thursday.

Marie's hours are Monday–Friday from 9am to Noon.

Our phone number is 967-7541

Pastor Kevin's email address is pastorkevin@thejpc.org

Our email is johnstownpres@gmail.com

Prayer Chain email is JPCPrayerRequest@hotmail.com

www.thejpc.org

We present to you many opportunities to get involved in the church life. There are sign-up sheets for ministry involvement that need volunteers in our foyer. Take a chance and sign up! You will be blessed. Here are the names to contact if you have any questions.

Flowers for Worship:	contact the Office
Greeters:	contact Karen Blair
Acolytes:	contact Marie Richards
Ushers:	contact John Alexander
Nursery & Jr. Church:	contact Rhonda Piper
Children's Message:	contact Marianne Derenberger
Special Music:	contact Marilyn LeClair
Property Maintenance:	contact Lee Mansell
Church Sign:	contact Tami Ashbrook or Marie Richards
Wedding Coordinator:	contact Sally Uhde

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY



If you signed up to place flowers in our chancel for a special remembrance on Sunday mornings, please don't forget to put your \$17.00 donation for cut flowers, or \$25.00 for Planters in an envelope marked "Flowers" and place it in the offertory plate on that Sunday, or before. We appreciate the beauty of your generous donation and hope to know your tender "remembrances" and make them as special to our church family as they are to you. You may take the flowers home after the Sunday morning service.

Finances

Monthly financial information may be picked up or viewed in the church office.

