

The Messenger

March 2013



The Presbyterian Church Of Johnstown

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

It seems that the big news in the media these days is that there is some movement in the Christian world. People are moving around between the denominations. Protestants and Catholics and whatever else we are calling those attached to Christ are moving from their faith and denomination of tradition to something else that is attracting them more. For us Protestants it means a decline in our numbers. Our part in the overall population of the U.S.A. is less than what it was in the past.

I am not worried! I am sure that God in his heaven is not looking for Protestants or Catholics when he counts up the faithful; I suspect God is looking for witnesses who will parade the evidence of the divine presence in their lives around wherever they go. To be a witness to any form of conviction or faith means commitment to a life style; a commitment to integrity, - to the love of God, - to the way the Lord has become the glue that holds our life together. When it comes down to it, Jesus came to show us how to live. Whether we see God through the Catholic, Protestant or whatever glasses we chose to wear I am not sure has any meaning in the final analysis.

So . . .

I am reminded of the passage from Hebrews 12:1 that says,

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down And let us run with endurance the race that God has set before us.”

Let me add to that! Life can get heavy! That is something of a reality, and Jesus has promised to help us carry that so we can have some rest. So, become a witness to what the Lord can do for you in the daily life. You never know who is watching and your witness might just make a difference in someone's life. If that is the case, that someone will ask you if they can come to your church to learn what you have learned. You never know!!!!!!

God be with you!

Oluf

A Note from the Clerk...



James 1:22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Session met on January 28, 2013. Pastor Oluf has been conducting Elder Training during our meetings. This month he gave us more of the history and how the government is set up. We appreciate his teaching.

A special thank you to the teens and their leaders for the wonderful job they did on the "Don't Go Breakin' My Heart" dinner. Everyone enjoyed the delicious meal and the Academy Award winning entertainment.

The Fellowship Committee has more fun activities planned for the months ahead. The Worship Committee is planning the services celebrating Easter. There are many opportunities for you to be involved and we hope you will join in whenever you can.

Thanking God for all of you, Diane Frazier, Clerk of Session

VOLUNTEER MINISTRIES FOR MARCH

FLOWERS:

- March 3rd Nancy Venard in memory of Ed Venard.
March 10th Dale & Monica Piper in honor of our children.
March 17th The Miller Family in honor of Peyton's 4th birthday.
March 24th Easter Lillies
March 31st Easter Lillies

ACOLYTES:

- March 3rd Wesley Cox
March 10th Boy & Girl Scouts
March 17th Wesley Cox
March 24th Phoebe Richards
March 31st Sidney Blair

NURSERY:

- March 3rd Andra Kisner
March 10th Haley & Adeline
March 17th
March 24th
March 31st

GREETERS:

- March 3rd David Blair, Rhonda & Reagan Deeds
March 10th Boy & Girl Scouts
March 17th Ashley Speck and the boys
March 24th Jeanne Voigt
March 31st open

JR. CHURCH:

- March 3rd
March 10th
March 17th Middle School kids-Tami Ashbrook
March 24th
March 31st

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

- March 3rd Pastor Oluf
March 10th Katie Miller
March 17th Pastor Oluf
March 24th Barbara Derenburger
March 31st Maci Ashbrook

WORSHIP LEADER:

- March 3rd Jeanne Voigt
March 10th Orion Irwin
March 17th Diane Frazier
March 24th Jenny Cartwright
March 31st Jeremy Derenberger

KIDS PAGE

Youth Group Activities:

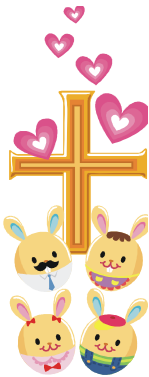
March 3rd 6:00-7:30pm

Middle School Youth at Barbara Sole's home

March 17th 12:00-3:00pm

MS & HS bowling. Meet at church, bring \$\$\$

Lent is a 40 day journey (not counting Sundays!) to focus on God and prepare to remember and celebrate Jesus dying on the cross and rising from the grave to save each of us. Many people decide to "give up" things for Lent to help them remember that Jesus gave his life for us, but you can also "take on" doing good things, just like Jesus did.



Easter Word Search

B M A L M H B B K I N G R N R
N O I T C E R R U S E R E O O
A P O S T L E S E Y S C D I O
S E C I F I R C A S H J E T S
N S N A M O R O O R R E M A T
R C D S G T T R I I K S P V E
O Y R A M B C S S V Z U T L R
H L O V E L T E M M A S I A Y
T C R O W N N Y L O H S O S Z
X C R U C I F I X I O N N K Q

Easter Day

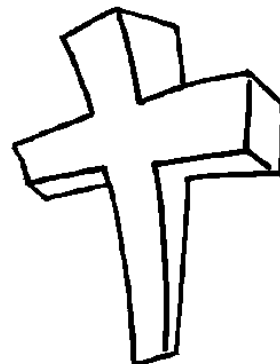
by Evaleen Stein

Christ the Lord is risen to-day!
Angels rolled the stone away
From the tomb wherein He lay!

Little children, come and sing,
"Glory, glory to the King,
Christ the Lord of everything!"



APOSTLES
CHRIST
CROSS
CROWN
CRUCIFIXION
HOLY
JESUS
KING
LAMB
LOVE



MARY
REDEMPTION
RESURRECTION
RISEN
ROMANS
ROOSTER
SACRIFICE
SALVATION
SAVIOR
THORNS

Birthdays and Anniversaries in March



1 Paul Dorsey
Mike Schirtzinger

2 Alice Main
Tyler Wright
Aja Irwin
Kaitlin Piper

4 Ann Moseley

5 Keaton Dove

6 Riley McMahon

7 Liz Perkins

8 David Dove

10 Alyssa Childers

14 Jeff Childers

16 Noah Wade Blair

17 Cathy Neff
Peyton Miller

18 Carolyn Friedberg
Sidney Blair
Kaidrie Mast

20 Pat Blair
Mary Ann McCartney
Doris Dorsey

21 Reis Mason

22 Margaret Jolley

24 Pete & Kim Hill

25 Bob & Mary Ann McCartney
Laurie Mooney

31 Christy Dove
Jeremy Derenberger

Thank You Notes



A huge THANK YOU!!!

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped with tearing down of the Valentine dinner last Sunday. Marie Richards, Kris Almandinger, Madison Blair, Grace Almendinger. They stayed at church the Youth group did a wonderful job with waiting tables and also providing incredible entertainment. We have awesome kids among us! I am truly amazed with each event how our church family comes together. With over 100 people in attendance, we collected over \$1200 toward the completion of the basement. I feel so blessed to be a part of The Presbyterian Church of Johnstown.



the set-up, cooking, preparing, and A special thank you to Melanie Main, Carrie Almendinger, Crissy Willeke, and entire day to help put it all together. The Youth group did a wonderful job with waiting tables and also providing incredible entertainment. We have awesome kids among us! I am truly amazed with each event how our church family comes together. With over 100 people in attendance, we collected over \$1200 toward the completion of the basement. I feel so blessed to be a part of The Presbyterian Church of Johnstown.

Blessings,
Karen Blair

Thank Heaven for You!

To the Church Congregation.

Thank you so much for your notes of cheer and encouragement and your prayers. It means so much to me. Doctors are still running tests and hopefully will have answers soon.

You are a very special Congregation.

Norma Duncan





March 2013



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 7pm Euchre Night
3 9:15 Sunday School and Confirmation Class 10:30 Worship Service-Communion 6pm Middle School Youth Group at the Sole's home	4 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting	5 9am Bible Study 5:30 TOPS	6 5:15 Jr. Choir & Bells 7:30 Adult Choir	7 6pm Girl Scouts	8	9
10 Scout Sunday Dimes for the Dominican 9:15 Sunday School and confirmation class 10:30 Worship Service 12-1:30 Membership Class/lunch	11 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting	12 9am Bible Study 5:30 TOPS 7:15 Session Mtg	13 1:00pm Elizabeth Circle at the Hot Spot Coffee House 5:15 Jr. Choir/Bells 7:30 Adult choir	14 6pm Girl Scouts	15	16
17 9:15am Sunday School and Confirmation Class 10:30 Worship Service-New Member Recognition	18 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting	19 9am Bible Study 5:30pm TOPS	20 1pm Elizabeth Circle @ Hot Spot 5:15 Jr. Choir & Bells 7:30 Adult Choir	21 6pm Girl Scouts	22	23
24 9:15am Sunday School and Confirmation Class 10:30 Worship Service 12-3 Youth Group bowling	25 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting	26 9am Bible Study 5:30pm TOPS	27 5:15 Jr. Choir & Bells 7:30 Adult Choir	28 Maundy Thursday 6-6:45pm Soup Supper 6:45pm Agape Dinner		

Our Church Groups

THE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Submitted by Jim Frazier

The PNC has begun evaluating resumes of potential candidates for the position of Teaching Elder (Pastor) of the Presbyterian Church of Johnstown. This follows the recent submission of our Congregation Information Form to Session, Presbytery and the Church Leadership Connection of the PCUSA. The CLC matched candidates' information with our information and the search has begun. We ask for your prayers and patience as we seek the person God is preparing for our church. The PNC is: Chair, Linda Lockwood, Madison Blair, Jenny Cartwright, Jim Frazier, Mona Hilderman, Melanie Main, Kevin Piper, and Mark Trimble.



Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee meets on the 3rd Monday of each month, at 7pm in the choir room. We would love to see you there. It is never too late to join this committee!!!

Upcoming Fellowship events:

March 2nd

Euchre Night

Bring an appetizer to share, drinks are provided.

March 18th

Monthly Committee Meeting

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!

This month's meeting is on March 20th.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

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

We are currently studying the Parables.

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.

Church Happenings

MAUNDY THURSDAY AGAPE FEAST

You are invited to a very special

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Led by Pastor Oluf!

At 6:00

We will begin with the traditional

SOUP SUPPER

Then at 6:45

We will proceed to the Sanctuary for a

WORSHIP SERVICE

Of Hymns and Lessons

Then we will return to the Fellowship Hall for a

very special

COMMUNION!

Pastor Oluf will end the evening with Prayer!

Two Devotionals that didn't quite make it to the booklet:

The first graders were asked their thoughts about Easter:

Charlie Richards - candy, hiding eggs

Megan Miller - finding eggs, Easter baskets

Aja Irwin - Easter Bunny

The 4th and 5th graders were asked -

What does it matter that God sent Jesus to die for our sins?

David Mansell - Without forgiveness, the world wouldn't be a very good place.

Moriah Fleming - If we weren't forgiven, people would just do bad things and forget about Jesus.

Phoebe Richards - If Jesus didn't rise from the dead, we would forget that God is with us and worship things that aren't real.

Wesley Cox - If Jesus didn't die for our sins, there would be no Christian Churches.

Sidney Blair - Without Jesus, the sins we do would stay with us forever.

Dear Lord, we lift up our children to you!

Submitted by the Sunday school children



Adult Membership Class

Pastor Oluf will be holding an Adult Membership Class on Sunday, March 10th from 12-1:30. Lunch will be provided to those who attend. New Member Recognition will be the following Sunday during our regular Worship Service.

Euchre Night



Euchre Night has been planned for Saturday, March 2nd beginning at 7pm. Drinks will be provided. Please bring a snack to share.

OUR WEBSITE

We are currently working to make our website, www.thejpc.org, a source for information and fun for people to see who we are all about. Your ideas and contributions would help achieve our goal. Please send information, pictures, or simply ideas to Scott Lockwood at splockwood@columbus.rr.com.





Food Pantry News

The Food Pantry is in need of any kind of canned meat, canned vegetables or canned fruit. There is also a need for muffin mix. Since Christmas there has been an increase in the people coming in needing help feeding their families. Ruth Krumm said last month they made over 124 boxes for families. Before Christmas it seem like things might be getting better because they only had to make around 80 boxes in December. However, in January the need was back up there. Anything you can donate is very much appreciated.

Thank you.

Karen & George Dreisbach

VBS Team

The VBS team has selected this year's curriculum. Be prepared for a Rip-Roaring Good Time with Jesus. Our church will be transformed into SonWest Roundup. More details soon!!



PRAYER CHAIN

Please send all prayer chain requests to Carolyn Friedberg.

The email is JPCPrayerRequest@hotmail.com



Worship Drama

We are looking for people who are interested in taking part in our worship dramas. You don't have to be a professional actor, sing, or dance you just need to be able to memorize a few lines. If you would like to join, or if you have questions about this, please contact Kathy Trimble at either kmtrim@earthlink.net or 740-924-3132.

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday: March 28th from 6-6:45pm will be the Soup Supper. The Agape Feast will be led by Pastor Oluf and begin at 6:45pm. The Agape Feast is a Maundy Thursday service that is about 25 minutes in the sanctuary and will end in the Fellowship Hall with a special communion of bread, cracker, nuts, and juice.

***We need a team to set up supper in the Hall, then tear down, clean up, and set up for the Feast during the service.

***We also need child care provided for this service. Contact Jane Muller if you would like to help with this.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Office hours & Contacts

Pastor Oluf's hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9am to 2pm

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

Our phone number is 967-7541

Pastor Oluf's email address is pastor_oluf@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 Jeremy Derenberger
Property Maintenance:	contact John Alexander
Church Sign:	contact Tami Ashbrook
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.

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS AND UPDATES FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2013

JOYS/THANKSGIVINGS/SUPPORT:

Diane Bauman, cousin to Cathy Neff and also former member of JPC, was in very serious condition for a week or more is now at home and recuperating. She is improving and happy to be at home. She and Roy are grateful for all our prayers.

Marilyn Parker, continues to feel well and is cancer free after 2 years. She is enjoying her second winter in FL and will visit her Oncologist when she returns in May for her 6 month check-up.

Amy Williams, Marilyn Parker's daughter, completed her initial chemotherapy, followed by radiation therapy, while continuing her very active life with her family. She is taking a second round of chemotherapy at her doctor's suggestion. Marilyn and Amy both thank everyone for their prayers and concerns, because prayers do help.

PRAYERS FOR ILLNESS, SURGERY, EMERGENCIES:

Mike Rivercomb, many know him as Mr. Mike from Oregon school, has terminal cancer and is home. He has met with his Hospice Care Unit. There was a benefit for him and it was amazing. They raised over \$10,700 and checks are still coming in. He was speechless and feels blessed for the love and support Johnstown has provided. Continue prayers are needed for Mike and Jeannie.

Scott Lockwood, had low back surgery on 1/8. The surgery went well and he is home recovering. He still has a long way to go in healing. Continue to pray for his recovery and for Linda as she cares for Scott.

Norma Duncan continues to have vascular problems and must walk with a walker. Pray for the the Lord's healing touch. Elizabeth, a six year old who had her tonsils and adenoids out along with some surgery on her face is doing well. Pray for a speedy recovery.

Don Hollis, friend of so many in the Johnstown community, has been diagnosed with liver cancer. Pray for his healing. Cards may be sent to 184 South Main Street, Johnstown.

Gene Almendinger, Daniel Almendinger's father, is recovering from knee replacement surgery. He is completing his therapy at home and doing well and continues to progress. Gene Almendinger, 4986 Caswell Road, Johnstown.

Jim Peal, nephew to Cille Childers. Jim underwent surgery for colon cancer. Pray for good results and a quick recovery. Jim is the strength coach at Butler University in Indianapolis.

Steve Miles, a friend of the Almendinger's, is staying with his sister in Reynoldsburg. His cancer has returned and she will be caring for him in the months ahead. Steve Miles, 6940 Tanya Terrace, Reynoldsburg Oh 43068

Betty Ford's hip replacement surgery was successful. She continues to recover in a Nursing facility. Cards can be sent to her home address 65 S. Williams St. Johnstown 43031 Apt.214.

THOSE SHUT IN OR CONFINED TO THEIR HOMES:

Roy H. Sarbaugh
Alice Neibarger
Betty Ford

CONTINUE PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Norma Duncan - multiple health issues
Ron Goodman (brother-in-law to Jane Muller)
Katherine Kissel, grandmother of Jaime Pardee
Steve Miles (friend of the Almendinger's)

Gary Weaver (Ken Weaver's brother)
John Dalton, Northridge parent
Ellen Howell (sister of Hazel Almendinger)
Jane, Aunt of Susie Speck, stroke
Mike Robison, paralyzed from the waist down.

CONTINUE PRAYERS FOR HEALING OF CANCER:

Stacy Sayer
Susie Harrison (Aunt to Dani Cox)
Bob Thomas (of Johnstown)
Amy Williams (Charlie Parker's daughter)
Marilyn Parker (needs recurrent checkups)
Betty Scully (friend of the Weaver's)
Mike Chambers
Northridge resident, Val Kauahi

Colton Zigo, Northridge HS Senior
Carol Stires
Mary Bowles
Kathy, Roger & Carl -- Susie Speck's cousins



EASTER LILIES

Lilies will adorn our Sanctuary again for the Easter season. If you wish to donate a lily, please fill out the following and place in the offering plate or cut and paste it into an e-mail to the church office.

Cost is \$7.50 payable to the church.
(Please make out a separate check and mark it "Easter Lilies")
Orders must be turned into the office by
Sunday, March 17th
Questions can be directed to Dick & Sally Uhde at 967-7113

Your Name: _____

Dedication: In Honor/In Memory of: _____

You may take your lily home after the service on Easter morning.

