



Dear Friends,

“A folk story tells of the warehouse district of a town on the Mississippi River. Daily the channel had to be dredged so that the barges were able to navigate. When the sand comes up out of the bottom of the river and is dumped on the side, it creates huge sand hills which are virtually irresistible to children. As attractive as they are for play, they are just as dangerous. When the sand comes out of the river bottom, it’s wet and it creates a crust on the top of the hills. The hills feel firm, but they can easily collapse. In reality, they are a mound of quicksand.

Some years ago, two brothers didn’t come home for dinner, and their bikes were found outside the fence where the dredging occurred. The family as well as other rescuers began to search frantically for the two brothers.

They finally found one. He was buried up to his chin in the sand. Because of the pressure of the wet sand and muck around him he was not breathing so they began to dig frantically. When they uncovered him down to his waist, he regained consciousness and the family, in hysterics, began to say, “Where’s your brother? Where’s your brother?” And when he could finally reply, he said, “I’m standing on his shoulders.”

The one brother had given his life for the benefit of the other. It was the ultimate sacrifice...the ultimate display of love. Moreover, it reflects the act of Christ on the cross – an act of grace demonstrating an incomprehensible love. Jesus himself said it best: No one had greater love than this; to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. (John 15:13)

But I wonder...do we miss the impact of the death of Christ? Obviously, the death is apparent, but do we miss the bigger picture of what Christ’s death means? Why else would we struggle to experience his death as good?

So, thank God for Good Friday and thank God for Easter morning. Because within the framework of Holy Week and Easter Sunday, we experience a love that forgives and a love that goes beyond this life. Thanks be to God!

Happy Easter,  
Pastor Jim

### Mark Your Calendar

Facebook Devotions 8:30am.....	April 1
Facebook Devotions 8:30 am.....	April 2
Facebook Live 8:30 am.....	April 3
Needles & Pins 10:00 am.....	April 4
NO Church School/NO Bible Study	
Worship/Easter/Facebook Live 10:30 am.....	April 5
Facebook Devotions 8:30am.....	April 7
Facebook Devotions 8:30am.....	April 8
Facebook Devotions 8:30am.....	April 9
Facebook Devotions 8:30am.....	April 10
CHLTB 8:30am-12:30pm.....	April 12
Facebook Devotions 8:30 am.....	April 14
Facebook Devotions 8:30 am.....	April 15
Facebook Devotions 8:30 am.....	April 16
Facebook Devotions 8:30 am.....	April 17
Church School/Bible Study 9:00am	
Worship/ Facebook Live 10:30 am.....	April 19
Facebook Devotions 8:30 am.....	April 21
Facebook Devotions 8:30 am.....	April 22
Facebook Devotions 8:30 am.....	April 23
Facebook Devotions 8:30 am.....	April 24
Worship/Facebook Live 10:30.....	April 26
Facebook Devotions 8:30 am.....	April 28
Facebook Devotions 8:30 am.....	April 29
Facebook Devotions 8:30 am.....	April 30

### Our Local Mission for the month of April is the Music Continuation Fund

In 2013, The Music Continuation Fund was established to support the high quality of music at First Presbyterian Church with guest instrumentalists and soloists, especially when performing our annual Christmas Cantata. As times have changed, the fund continues to fully support additional music needs for our church. Your donation will insure that this special music will continue throughout the years. Please prayerfully consider donating. Checks should be made payable to the First Presbyterian Church with "Music Cont." in the Memo. Your contribution will be matched by the Kathleen Smith Fund. Envelopes are available on the tables in the back of the Sanctuary.

Thank you,  
The Stewardship & Benevolence Committee



**First Presbyterian Church**  
 Phone 908-689-2547 Fax 908-689-7911  
 Web site: [www.washingtonfpc.org](http://www.washingtonfpc.org)  
 Pastor, James Scovell;  
 Directors of Music, Peter & Julie Stevenson;  
 Administrative Assistants Kerri Caldaro  
 Church School Coordinator, Jean Bowers.  
 Worship: 10:30 a.m.

The May issue will be published on the April 30th. The



# Remember In Prayer



I just wanted to say thank you so much for all who helped out with our Annual Spaghetti Dinner for our Choir. I couldn't have done it without all those who volunteered to help make this a success. We have a wonderful church family. I'm so thankful that I am a part of this family.  
Thanks again,

Sincerely,  
Kerri Caldaro



**Prayer:** Dear Lord, cleanse our hearts and give us a new spirit so that your grace may be professed and proclaimed to the whole world. In the spirit of Easter, let us remember that our living Lord is faithful in hearing all our prayers. Let us come to God, and pray for all those on our hearts and minds...

**Those ill or recuperating at home:** Barbara Miller, Joan Miller, Vince Smith, Peggy Westlake, Jim Vlossak, Vicki Morgan, Eleanore Jensen, Doug Foley. Linda Walsh, Joyce Parsons, Ronald & Joan Weber, Michael Housman, DJ Pesaniello.

**Relatives of church members:** Don Johnson's grandson Dylan, Callie & Mark Kresser, Linda Darwin's sister-in-law Jenny, Lynn Alleger friends of the Ours, Lee Ann Kubbishun's brother in-law Harvey Hendershot, Pauline Albrecht's cousins Kathy & Bill, Harold Teabo, Judy Ours cousin Aurelius Newbold, Jim Morgan, Joe Kresser's brother John, Charlie Kugelmeyer, John & Elaine Boreman's daughter & son in law Jill & Ross Duncan, Joe Caldaro, Peggy Westlake's son-in-law Travis Jablonski, Barbara Miller's daughter in-law Julie, Patricia Handlos's great nephew Bear Shaw, Robert Stacie Ullrich's dad, Dorothy Thoms son Don, Pauline Albrecht's cousin Pete Lekousis, Laura Housman's mother Betty Machauer, Fred Kulick's brother in-law Jon, Joan Miller's sister in-law, Vicki Tensfeldt's mother & niece; Kerri Caldaro's mom & dad Gail & Fred Mosher.

**Those in care centers:** Connie Allen, Joan Vasko, Bob Pesaniello and Nancy Vlossak.

**Those in mourning:** The family and friends of Grace Murphy.

**Friends of the church:** Kerri Caldaro's friend Jason Leonard, Pat Hawkins sister Susan and her husband John, Stuart Ours friend Don Walker, Fred & Karen Graf's friend Renee Wise, Carol Kain's friend John Vybihal. Joe Groff friend of Doug & Jolene Foley, Gale Soler & Ellen Gulick friends of Joan Miller, Barbara Miller's friend Patrick O'Malley.

**Also, pray for our servicemen and women and their families:** Albrecht's nephew Captain Kyle Mogensen, Vimp Smith's grandson Cory, Stephanie Farley's nephew John, Kathy Perry's nephew Jimmy, Linda Darwin's friend Sean Devine.



# BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH



April 1

Jeanne Bowlby  
Laura Housman  
DJ Pesanniello

April 4

Charlene Jones

April 11

Melinda Fazzari

April 14

Gail Scovell

April 20

Sharon Fargo

April 22

Tami Phelps

April 23

Judy Ours  
Joe Watters

April 24

Eleanore Jensen

April 27

Ashley Sozanski

April 28

Penny Atkinson



## MUSIC NOTES - APRIL 2026

What a joy to see croci coming up in my yard! Beauty and warmth after such a seemingly endless, cold winter is so welcome. The brown all around us will soon start to change to green . The many different colors and varieties of flowers that will soon bloom are a reminder that we are each unique creations, beautiful in our own way. Each of us has something to offer the world that we are uniquely qualified for.

The entertainer, Steve Harvey, says: *“God never created a soul without giving them a gift. He put it inside you. You ain’t gotta look under the ocean or on a mountain. It ain’t under no rocks. It’s the thing that you do the absolute best with the least amount of effort. That’s your God-given gift.”* I love that! And God wants us to share our gifts with the world.


Spring is a time of new beginnings, a time to take a fresh look at our lives and do some “spring cleaning”. Time to shake off old habits that don’t serve us anymore. Time to try something new and challenging. Time to get rid of the clutter in our homes and our lives. Time to make new friends and enrich our existing friendships that may have grown stale. Time to be open to change.

We have seven weeks of the Easter Season in which to focus on the risen Christ and shout Alleluia! One of my favorite Easter hymns is “Rejoice, The Lord Is King.” The refrain resonates with me as a reminder for us all to *lift up our hearts, lift up our voices and REJOICE!*

Another thing that I am rejoicing about is the fact that Peter will be able to be with us in worship every Sunday from now on. After serving the Whitehouse United Methodist Church for 10 years, in addition to his duties here in music ministry, he has decided to resign that position and be with us full-time again. I look forward to Peter and I being able to share our leadership of the music ministry more fully. Alleluia!

Peace and Love,  
Julie Stevenson





You're invited to our  
activities for ladies!

# Ladies' Fellowship

Following the Weds. noon brown bag lunch & devotions

OR

Come at 1pm for our activity

March 4: Trivia

March 18: Bingo

April 1: Book reviews: bring a book you either like or dislike.

Tell us a little bit about it & if we should read or pass

April 15: UNO

April 29: Uzzle- an easy, newer board game

**LOOKIN FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON MARCH 4!  
BRING A FRIEND!**

# WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN A **BOOK CLUB?**

If you would be interested in joining a NEW book club at church,  
date & time to be determined, please see or email Jean Bowers  
at [corkydale@comcast.net](mailto:corkydale@comcast.net)

Books would be recommended by book club members.



# THE CHURCH HAS LEFT THE BUILDING



## APRIL 12

There is no regular worship service.  
Instead, join us that morning as we live what we  
believe...that we should love one another.

BREAKFAST 8:30-9:30AM  
OUTREACH ACTIVITIES 9AM-12:30PM  
LUNCH 12:45 FOLLOWED BY REFLECTION

*Sign up to join us. A list of activities is on the table in the Coffee Room*

			Facebook Devotions 8:30 am Carillonaires 7:00-7:45 pm Chancel 7:45-8:45 pm	Facebook Devotions 8:30 am	Facebook Devotions 8:30 am	<b>Grace Murphy's Memorial Service 11:00 am Needles &amp; Pins 10:00am</b>
<b>5</b> NO Church School/NO Adult Bible Study Worship 10:30 am Facebook Live HAPPY EASTER	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am	<b>8</b> Facebook Devotions 11:30 am Carillonaires 7:00-7:45 pm Chancel 7:45-8:45 pm	<b>9</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am	<b>10</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> TCHLTB 8:30AM-12:30PM SEE FLYER	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am Deacon's Meeting 7:00 pm	<b>15</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am Carillonaires 7:00-7:45 pm Chancel 7:45-8:45 pm	<b>16</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am	<b>17</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Church School/ Adult Bible Study or Confirmation Class 9:00am Worship 10:30 am Facebook Live/ Baptism	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am	<b>22</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am Carillonaires 7:00-7:45 pm Chancel 7:45-8:45 pm	<b>23</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am Session 7:00 pm	<b>24</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Church School/ Adult Bible Study or Confirmation Class 9:00am Worship/ Confirmation- Sunday 10:30 am Facebook Live	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am	<b>29</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am	<b>30</b> Facebook Devotions 8:30 am		