



The Presbyter

April 2017

The First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit



On **Sunday, April 9**, the Christian Education committee welcomes all to participate in an intergenerational

program held after worship. From the shouts of the crowd on Palm Sunday to the taste of bread at the Last Supper to touching the wooden cross of crucifixion, Holy Week engages all of our senses in telling the story of Jesus' last days. Join us for this multi-sensory exploration as we learn, remember, and reflect on this important week. Refreshments will be provided.



Arts Concert: The Unheard Brubeck Sunday, April 23, 2017 at 4:00 pm Presbybop Quartet and friends



This is a special opportunity to hear rare compositions by jazz legend Dave Brubeck. In June 2016 Rev. Bill Carter, leader of the Presbybop Quartet, spent a week researching Mr. Brubeck's archives in Stockton, California. He emerged with a sheaf of music by the master that has rarely been heard.

Bill will bring together Al Hamme and Mike Carbone on saxophones, Ron Vincent on drums, and special guests Steve LaSpina on bass and Jennifer Cowgill on vocals. It promises to be an afternoon of great music by an amazing composer.

The concert is open to the public, free of charge, and we encourage you to invite your friends to hear this excellent ensemble. A free-will offering will be taken.

- **Palm Sunday, April 9**
10:00 AM Worship
11:15 AM Holy Week program for all
- **Maundy Thursday, April 13**
7:30 PM Communion and Tenebrae
- **Good Friday Service, April 14**
12 noon to 1:00 PM Good Friday Worship
- **Easter, April 16**
8:30 & 10:00 AM Worship w/Communion
- **Holy Humor Sunday, April 23**
10:00 AM Worship
- **Arts concert, April 23**
4:00 PM "The Unheard Brubeck"

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**Notes from the Committee Chairperson Meeting,
March 20, 2017**

1. There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, April 9, 2017 to elect new elders and deacons.
2. Volunteers will be assisting in parking cars for our 10 o'clock service on Easter Sunday.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

In April we will be studying "Who is Jesus" according to the other two Abrahamic faiths—Judaism and Islam.

We hope to become better informed about how these traditions view Jesus and explore similarities and differences among the three religions: Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

The Dorcas Circle will meet at 10:00 a.m., Priscilla Circle at 1:30 p.m., and Eunice Circle at 7:00 p.m. on April 18. All will meet at the church.

Only two more lessons left before our June luncheons. Hope to see you there.

Welcome to our new members!

- Diana Pope-Albright
- Erin Albright
- Karen Eelman
- William Fulton
- Susan Fulton
- Colin Jeschke
- Victoria Jeschke
- Linda Orcutt



Financial Assistance Needed

Last year when our budget discussions were held, we did not know our slate roof was in need of repair. The repairs have been made and the final cost was \$18,000.

We have receive \$4,500 so far to offset this unexpected expense. **Thank you!**

If you would like to help, you may make your check payable to the church and note that it is for the Building Maintenance Fund. Any contribution will be truly appreciated!

**The Presbyterian deadline for
The May issue is
April 14, 2017**

The Presbyter is a monthly newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church, 300 School Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411.

All visitors are welcome to worship with us. **Worship services are held on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m.** Child care is available. Communion is observed the first Sunday of every month.

If you do not attend a church in this area, we invite you to any and all of the events, programs, and worship services described in this newsletter. Please call the church office to arrange child care. Our sanctuary and Fellowship Hall are both handicapped accessible.

Church Office	(570) 586-6306
Fax	(570) 587-3784
Web Page	www.fpccs.org
Pastor	William G. Carter
Administrative Assistant	Nancy Owens
Coordinator of Children & Youth	Jana Schillinger
Treasurer	Wayne Griffiths
Editor	Lindsey Hardy
Clerk of Session	Beverly Bright
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Director of Bells	Richard Cochrane
Director of Chapel Choir	Kay Ten Eyck
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Sexton	John Conklin

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION
FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE
FOR THE MONTH ENDING February 28, 2017**

REVENUE

Budget	\$ 58,750
Actual Received	<u>54,044</u>
Difference	\$ (4,706)
	=====

EXPENSES

Budget	\$ 61,091
Actual Expenses	<u>58,150</u>
Difference	\$ 2,941
	=====

BUDGET VARIANCE (\$1,765)

PLEDGE INCOME

Budget	\$ 53,333
Received	<u>49,006</u>
Difference	\$ (4,327)

Per Capita 2017 total received to date - \$2,130.

The 2017 Church Per Capita due to the Presbytery of Lackawanna, General Assembly, and The Synod = \$16,500.

Shake . . . Rattle . . . Believe

As we approach Holy Week, I wanted to give you a head's up: this is the "Year of Matthew." Just like the others, the first gospel tells the story of Palm Sunday, the Cross, and Easter. We will hear the familiar story of our redemption. But Matthew is very particular about repeating an important detail: ***the whole city shook***.



Palm Sunday, for instance, is a seismic event. As Jesus rode his donkey into town, the people sang "hosanna" and the whole city shook. The verb "shook" is the work "seismos." It's earthquake language. That is curious since Matthew is normally a straight-shooter who doesn't talk in metaphors. Yet when he says Jerusalem was "shaking," he means to say that Jesus came to town and suddenly it was 9.7 on the Richter scale! ***The whole city shook*** (28:10 - "in turmoil" is the way the NRSV translates it). The religious leaders were greatly disturbed.

When Jesus was crucified on Friday, the religious leaders were pretty sure that he wouldn't interfere with them ever again. It took a few hours to watch and ensure he wasn't breathing any more. And then what happened? Matthew says that at the very moment of Jesus' death, ***the earth shook and shuddered***. (Matthew 27:51) The rocks split. The tombs opened. The temple tapestry ripped in two. Finally it was quiet. They took him down and sealed him in a tomb. Everybody thought, "Jesus will not ever bother anybody again."

And then, on Sunday, the first day of the week, some women went to his tomb in the early morning. And just as they got there, ***the ground began to shake***. (28:2) The large stone that sealed the tomb had been rolled away and their lives would never again be the same.

If we come every Holy Week to see Jesus ride into town, it is easy to get the picture wrong. He looks like a gentle prophet on the back of a humble donkey, surrounded by a crowd that sings the same, old psalms. But let's not be naive. When God sends Jesus into town, there is a whole lot of shaking going on.

The truth of Holy Week is that we can never stand totally secure in our own strength. We can never declare ourselves free from God's interference in our lives. And we may be provoked by two continuing questions: Who is this Jesus? And what right does he have to shake us up?

He is Savior and Lord. He saves us as he gives himself that we would be reconciled with God. And as Lord, he is the One who has authority over all things, even death.

Come and worship with us for Holy Week. It is going to be a rich and deeply meaningful festival of faith.

With every good wish,

Rev. Bill Carter

Board of Deacons

Care Team Ministry **Coordinators are:**

Independent & Assisted Living:	Sara Ann Hosier	587-0371
Deacon Meals:	Donna Kepler	587-2729
Time of Loss:	Anne Rich	587-2802
Emergency Home Repairs and Maintenance:	Joe Waters	586-7233
	Greg Matthews	587-2644

Please let the Board of Deacons Care Team Coordinators or the church office know if anyone is in need of care.

We're here to care for FPC members and friends and we count on all of you to let us know when help is needed. This is our ministry and our Christian privilege to care for you.



STATE HOSPITAL LUNCHEON

Please join us on Tuesday, April 4th at noon as we celebrate the arrival of spring and a visit with friends from Clarks Summit State Hospital.

There will be food, entertainment and activities for all in Fellowship Hall.

Come. Enjoy. Assistance with the meal and activities would be appreciated.

Presbyterian Women

MISSION AND JUSTICE



Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

Received during the season of Lent, ending on Easter, OGHS makes a difference in the world through three programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, The Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. Please give generously.



Earth Care - Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up

The first Highway Clean-up will be April 8th. We will meet at the parking lot of the Clarks Summit Methodist Church at 9 AM. All individuals 16 and older are invited to participate.



The Earth Care Committee invites you to learn about migratory birds in our next Table Talk. On May 7 at 11:15 in the Session room, Meg Hatch will give a brief presentation on migratory songbirds and the threats they face. In addition, you are invited to meet at the church at 8:00 AM to carpool to the Trolley Trail to spend about an hour birdwatching. Bring your binoculars and hopefully we will spot some migrants!

Questions? Contact Meg mihatch13@yahoo.com or 570-487-1264.



JESUS IS RISEN!

When Jesus' disciples saw that the stone was rolled away from his tomb, they knew he had risen. Make a moveable tomb to celebrate Easter.


What you need:

- 4 pieces of paper (brown, blue, black, yellow)
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Glue stick
- Brad fastener
- Marker



What you do:

1. Fold the brown paper in half, short side to short side. Cut along the fold. On one half, draw and cut out a large half-circle (the tomb). On the other, draw and cut out a palm-sized circle (the stone).
2. Glue the brown tomb onto the blue paper.
3. Cut a black circle (the inside of the tomb) the same size as the brown stone and glue it onto the brown tomb.
4. Place the brown stone over the black half-circle; this is the entrance. Push the brad through one edge so the stone can move from side to side.
5. Cut out a cross from the yellow paper and glue it by the tomb.
6. Write "Jesus is risen!" atop the blue paper.

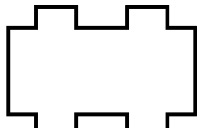



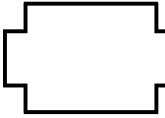

> NEW LIFE <



How did God work through Jesus to give us new life at Easter?


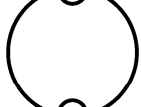
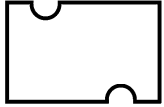
Directions: Use the puzzle pieces from the box to complete 1 Peter 1:3, NIV.


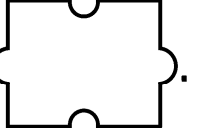
dead	hope	resurrection	given	of
birth	living	Christ	mercy	great
Jesus				

In his   he has

 us new  into a

  through the

 from the .

1 P E T E R 1 : 3 , N I V

Answer: In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3, NIV

Christian Education



It's for life!

THE W.A.Y.

The Wednesday Aadults and Youth Christian Education

"I am the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE"

Supper, 5:00 * Classes for all ages, 6:15

IMPORTANT DATE

Sunday, April 9 - Palm Sunday - following worship, join us downstairs for a special Christian Education program intended for all ages, *Sensing Resurrection*: a multisensory exploration of the events of Holy Week.

Spark (Newborn - 3 year old) enjoy Bible stories, songs and games in the nursery. In April they will hear stories about the Last Supper, Holy Week, the Empty Tomb, and the Road to Emmaus.

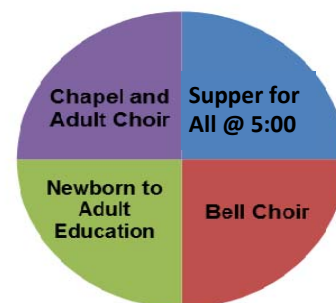
Power Xpress (4 year old - Grade 5) Experience Bible stories through interactive rotation classes. In April they will continue to discover the Symbols of Holy Week as well as to learn the Easter story from Peter's perspective.

We Believe (Grades 6-8) This spring, students will explore a unit called *Paul & the Prophets*, learning about several Old Testament prophets and digging into Paul's letters. In April, students will focus on the prophets, their teachings, and what they can show us about God.

Adults: On April 5, 12, and 19 we will continue the study of 24 Hours That Changed the World. April 5 talks of the Torture and Humiliation; April 12 will focus on the Crucifixion; April 19 celebrates that Christ is the Victor! On April 26, we'll begin a new study, "**Challenging Voices: Richard Rohr.**" Join us in Room 206 at 6:15 p.m.

The class, "**Ancient Roads**" continues through April 12. The topic on April 5 is "Pagans and the Cult of Martyrs," followed on April 12 by "Constantine." "**Church History**" is the next topic for consideration. April 19 opens with the study of St. Augustine. Martin Luther will be the person of interest on April 26 and May 3. We'll meet in Room 210 at 6:15 p.m. See you then!

Welcome to Wednesdays



Christian Education is an important part of who we are and what we do...and we need **YOU** to make it happen. How? You can enrich your own faith and help our church grow in Christ by:

- ◆ Attending
- ◆ Bringing a friend.
- ◆ Volunteering to teach.
- ◆ Joining the CE committee
- ◆ Helping to set up for, cook, and serve our weekly meal.



Wednesday Supper Reservations

Light Supper is served before The Way classes from 5:00-6:10 for those with **reservations**. Suggested donation: \$3 per person.

Please return reservation slips no later than **Monday**. Slips can be placed in the **basket near the phone in the kitchen** or in the **offering plate**. You may also **call the church office** to make reservations.

Reservations slips can be found in the church office, in the kitchen, or in pews.



PAUL R. DOBSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



High School Church members who are graduating this year and plan to further their education are encouraged to apply. The application can be downloaded on our website and returned to the church office. The winner will be announced On Graduate Recognition Sunday. Any questions, call Janet Dobson.

Are you ready for a new adventure?

Adventures In the Bible



Join us on Sunday mornings from 9:00 – 9:45 as we prepare for worship in a special way. We spend time getting to know each other and developing our knowledge of the Bible through storytelling, activities, crafts, and songs. Teachers tell the story, and children get a chance to retell or reenact it through “Godly Play.” Crafts, activities, and songs reinforce the lesson and give children a chance to express what they have understood. The only thing we are missing is YOU!

Questions? Contact Tabbi Miller-Scandle @
tabbi.miller-scandle@scranton.edu or
Karis Naeher @klnaeh@outlookcom.

Youth Fellowship

All youth grades 4-12 are invited to join us

Sunday, April 2, 12:30-2:30pm

for a **game day**

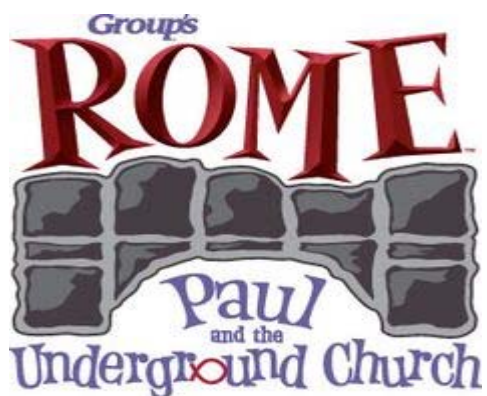
(lunch provided)

and

Friday, April 28, 8:30-10pm

for **games in the dark**

Bring a friend! New faces always welcome.



VBS 2017

will be held

July 10-14, 9AM-12PM

Calling all volunteers! If you'd like to help bring ancient Rome to life by teaching, leading, or preparing, let us know!

Please contact Jana Schillinger or Nancy Dennen, or send an email to fpccs.vbs@gmail.com



The Stephen Ministry program does more than train people to be effective care givers. For several years prior to FPC starting its Stephen Ministry, it had been using one of the other resources this program has for helping people who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Here is a little bit about *Journeying Through Grief*.

Journeying through Grief

A Simple, Powerful Way to Care for People Who Are Grieving

[Journeying through Grief](#) is a set of four short books to send to people at four crucial times during the first year after the loss of a loved one.

Author [Kenneth C. Haugk](#) writes in a warm, caring style, with short, easy-to-read chapters. He walks alongside the reader through the grief journey, sharing helpful insights about grief, biblical truths, and stories that provide comfort and reassurance.

Four Books at Four Crucial Times

[Book 1: A Time to Grieve](#)

... sent 3 weeks after the loss

[Book 2: Experiencing Grief](#)

... sent 3 months after the loss

[Book 3: Finding Hope and Healing](#)

... sent 6 months after the loss

[Book 4: Rebuilding and Remembering](#)

... sent 11 months after the loss

Each book focuses on what the person is likely to be experiencing at that point in grief—offering understanding, empathy, compassion, and hope.





Book Group: We will be meeting on April 27 at 7:00 at Jeanne DeVirgilis' home. Come join us for a discussion of **The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto** by Mitch Albom. Mitch Albom creates his most unforgettable fictional character—Frankie Presto, the greatest guitarist to ever walk the earth—in this magical novel about the bands we join in life and the power of talent to change our lives.

In his most stunning novel yet, the voice of Music narrates the tale of its most beloved disciple, young Frankie Presto, a war orphan raised by a blind music teacher in a small Spanish town. At nine years old, Frankie is sent to America in the bottom of a boat. His only possession is an old guitar and six precious strings.

But Frankie's talent is touched by the gods, and his amazing journey weaves him through the musical landscape of the 20th century, from classical to jazz to rock and roll, with his stunning talent affecting numerous stars along the way, including Hank Williams, Elvis Presley, Carole King, Wynton Marsalis and even KISS.

Frankie becomes a pop star himself. He makes records. He is adored. But his gift is also his burden, as he realizes, through his music, he can actually affect people's futures—with one string turning blue whenever a life is altered.

At the height of his popularity, Frankie Presto vanishes. His legend grows. Only decades later, does he reappear—just before his spectacular death—to change one last life.

With its *Forest Gump*-like romp through the music world, *The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto* is a classic in the making. A lifelong musician himself, Mitch Albom delivers a remarkable novel, infused with the message that "everyone joins a band in this life" and those connections change us all.



Please join us for the annual SWB Rail Riders baseball game for
Faith and Family Night
Saturday April 29th at 4:05 PM.

There is a signup sheet in the narthex and the deadline to sign up is April 14th. The cost of the ticket is \$10 each, which includes a limited edition faith night hat.

Contact Anne Deremer at 570-335-0650 for any questions.



Joys and Sorrows



Sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

- Nancy Post and her family on the loss of her father, William Byer, on February 26.
- Sue Zenke and family on the passing of Sue's best friend, Kathy Potts, on March 2.
- Lonnie Lipscomb and her family on the passing of her husband, Bob, on March 9.
- Linda Schuller and family at the death of Linda's son, Martin Schuller, on March 22.
- Carol Shamonsky and family on the loss of her husband, Bill, on March 24.



Wedding Anniversary: April 25
Ed and Diane Cole



April 1	Anne Rich
April 7	Riccardo Girello (90 Years Young!) Don Keen
April 11	John Rich
April 12	Jennifer Sekol
April 14	Steuart Bailey
April 19	Mark Kusma
April 23	Nancy London
April 30	Joe Fulton

Lectionary Readings

April 2 - 5th Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

April 9 - Passion/Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11

April 16—Easter

Jeremiah 31:1-6; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 28:1-10

April 23—2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

April 30—3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

Communion Servers, April 2

- Heather Acker, captain
- Adrienne Horger
- Gwynne Gilbert
- Warren Acker
- Barbara Brown

Ushers

Each Sunday at 10 AM
Gayle Hamilton and Sara Ann Hosier

Easter, 8:30 AM - Meg Hatch

Welcomers

April 2—Janet Stansbury
April 23—Jeanne Comly

Other weeks TBD.

The Church Office is closed on Monday, April 17.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

300 School Street

Clarks Summit, PA 18411-1536

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
Permit No. 30
PAID
Clarks Summit PA

DATED MATERIAL**Return Service Requested**

The first Highway Clean-up will be April 8th. We will meet at the parking lot of the Clarks Summit Methodist Church at 9 AM. All individuals 16 and older are invited to participate.

Remember that April is Food Pantry Month!

We collect for the AEM food pantry twice a year. ALL donations of non-perishable items will be gratefully accepted, but the pantry especially needs:

- Canned fruit (they have plenty of green vegetables)
- Soup
- Pasta Sauce
- Canned meat (including chili, raviolis, SpaghettiO's)
- Tuna
- Powdered Milk

Please bring items to the narthex any time during the month of April. The need is great as more people make use of the pantry yet donations are down. Thank you for your continuing generosity.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
First Presbyterian Church April 2017						1 7am-AA
2 7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 11:15-Confirmation 12:30-Youth Group 3pm-OA	3 7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers 7pm-Mission & Justice	4 7am-AA 12pm-State Hospital Luncheon 4pm-Art Class 6pm-OA 7pm-Big Book	5 7am-AA 11am-Prayer/Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Chapel Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8:00-Alanon/AA 8:30-Bell Choir	6 7am-AA 8:30am-Men's Breakfast 4:30pm-Staff 7pm-Building & Grounds 7pm-Christian Ed.	7 7am-AA	8 7am-AA 9am-Adopt-a-Highway Clean up
9 7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 11am Cong. Mtg- Election of officers 11:15-Holy Week Program for all 3pm-OA <i>Passion / Palm Sunday</i>	10 7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers 7pm-Worship, Music, Arts	11 7am-AA 10am-MBK Quilts 4pm-Art Class 7pm-Big Book 7pm-OA	12 7am-AA 11am-Prayer/Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Chapel Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8:00-Alanon/AA 8:30-Bell Choir	13 7am-AA 7:30pm-Maundy Thursday Service	14 7am-AA Presbyter Deadline 12noon-Good Friday Service <i>Good Friday</i>	15 7am-AA
16 7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 3pm-OA <i>Easter</i>	17 7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers Church Office is closed.	18 7am-AA 10am-PW Dorcas Circle 1:30-Priscilla Circle 4pm-Art Class 6pm-OA 7pm-Big Book 7pm-Eunice Circle	19 7am-AA 11am-Prayer/Share 1pm-LP COM 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Chapel Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8:00-Alanon/AA 8:30-Bell Choir	20 7am-AA 8:30-Men's Breakfast	21 7am-AA	22 7am-AA
23 7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 11:15-Confirmation 3pm-OA 4pm-FPCCS Arts: "The Unheard Brubeck"	24 7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers	25 7am-AA 10am-MBK Quilts 4pm-Art Class 7pm-Deacons 7pm-Big Book 7pm-OA	26 7am-AA 9am-Prayer/Share 11am-Prayer/Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Chapel Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8:00-Alanon/AA 8:30-Bell Choir	27 7am-AA 7pm-FPC Book Group	28 7am-AA 8:30pm-Youth Fellowship	29 7am-AA 4pm-SWB Railriders Game
30 7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 11:15-Confirmation 3pm-OA						