

APRIL 2023

Two Ridges Chronicle

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK
BY REV. DR. BILL N. LAWRENCE

The Lenten season is quickly coming to a close. It has been a blest one for sure. Our worship services each Sunday have been well attended as have the Wednesday Lenten study groups. Holy Week is quickly approaching with Palm Sunday a week away. This week is the most sacred of the Christian year. No matter how many times we have made the journey to Calvary it still is difficult for us to fully grasp the immense love God demonstrated to the world in sacrificing his only Son for the sins of the world. The wondrous love of God for each of us is difficult to comprehend.

The message of Easter is one that the world needs to hear! It is one filled with **HOPE!** The lifeless body of Jesus that had been placed in a borrowed tomb is now alive. That cold, dark tomb could not contain Jesus. The glorious news of Easter is that Christ is alive and moving in the world today. What a hopeful message this is for a world in turmoil.

The daily news does not provide us with much hope. It seems that in the first three months of this year the world has had more than its share of tragedy. The survivors of the deadly earthquakes in Turkey and those thousands of people fleeing from war torn Ukraine need hope. Our own nation has been hit with terrible tornadoes in many states that caused vast destruction and loss of life. California has suffered some of the heaviest snow in years that has isolated hundreds of people and brought death to some. As the snow melts terrible flooding has caused more problems. Certainly a message of hope is needed for those whose lives have been turned upside down. As the late pastor, author, and teacher Don Basham reminds us **our hope lies not in the man we put on the moon, but in the Man we put on the cross.**

The man on the cross rose up victorious and is alive and moving in our world this very day. Despite all the problems this old world provides let us focus our lives on the **hope** the resurrection of our Lord gives us and not allow the distractions of the world to get us off course. As one of the great teachers of the faith once wrote **the resurrection of Jesus stands fast as a fact, unaffected by the waves of skepticism that ceaselessly through the ages beat themselves against it. It holds within it the vastest hope for time and eternity that humanity can ever know.**

The **hope** of Easter assures us of new life. In the days following Easter the earth will spring forth with all kinds of new life. The trees soon will have leaves again, the orchards will break forth with blossoms, and the grass will spring up a brilliant green. As nature comes alive we who believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ break forth in new life. The tomb is empty - this is our **Hope** by which we stand. Alleluia! Christ is Risen as He said.

I hope all of you will make an earnest effort to attend all the services that are planned for this sacred season of the year. Easter provides us with the hope we need for living today and the days beyond the grave. A blessed Easter to each of you!

April Birthdays

3 - Karen Bates
18 - Quinn Emley
24 - Paul Zink
25 - Luke Logsdon
25 - Carol Wisnieski
26 - Frank Wisnieski

April Anniversaries

16 - Loren and Tami Hosterman (1983)
28 - John and Rhonda Clevenger (1990)

Celebrating 40 Years of Marriage

We'd like to wish Loren and Tami Hosterman a Happy 40th Anniversary. Loren and Tami were married in this church on April 16, 1983. Following tradition, both of their daughters were married at Two Ridges Presbyterian as well — Matt and Katie Emley in 2014 and Sean and Erin Moores in 2015.



Presbyterians and Popcorn

Some of the members of our congregation traveled to Robinson, PA to watch the movie "Jesus Revolution" at the Cinemark Theater. It was a wonderful time of fellowship for our church family.



Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 2nd we will mark the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. The service will include the distribution of Palms.



Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 6th we join together to remember the night Jesus shared his final Passover meal with his disciples in the Upper Room. It was during the Passover meal that Jesus instituted what the church has come to know as Holy Communion. We will gather for a covered dish dinner at 5:30pm. We ask that you bring a covered dish and the meat, beverages, and table service will be provided. We encourage each of you to join us on this most sacred night. If you do not drive at night and would like for someone to pick you up, there are several individuals who would be most happy to do so. Kindly let Rev. Lawrence know if you would need transportation that evening. Following supper, we will gather in the sanctuary at 6:30pm for worship including the sacrament of Communion. The choir will be sharing some beautiful music.

Easter "Sonrise" Breakfast

This year we would like to try something new and have a breakfast fellowship before the Easter morning worship service. Invite your family and friends to attend with you. We will have a sign up sheet at the back of the sanctuary. If you could kindly let us know the number of persons planning on attending so we can get an idea of how much food to prepare. Breakfast will be served from 8:00am to 9:00am with "Chef" David Albaugh leading the crew. Hope to see you there!

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 9th is the most joyous day in the church year. Worship with us as we proclaim the good news that Christ is Risen as He said He would. In a world torn by war and violence and so much evil, a message of Hope needs to be proclaimed and heard throughout the world. Easter provides such a message. Invite your neighbors, friends, and family to worship on this most glorious day. The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be dedicated.

HE
has Risen
JUST AS
he said
★ MATTHEW 28:6

First Sundays at Two Ridges

If you have yet to worship with us on the first Sunday of the month you are missing the joy of seeing children in worship. Since First Sunday was introduced in December it has been a hit with the children. They attend the beginning of the worship service and following their time with Rev. Lawrence for Conversation with the Children they are dismissed downstairs for a Bible lesson and craft. The children are really excited and anticipate First Sunday each month.

If you have grandchildren, nieces and nephews and neighbor children kindly invite them to join you at Two Ridges. First Sunday's also include coffee and some type of pastry as you arrive for worship.

Thanks to Rhonda Clevenger, Matt and Katie Emley, Chris Frey, Tami Hosterman and Evelyn Hunter for organizing and leading this time with the children.



March Session Report

- A LIFEPAK CR2 Defibrillator has been ordered from the Wintersville Fire Department for the church at a cost of \$ 2,799.61 from Memorial Funds. Includes delivery and training.
- Signage has been erected showing the 911 address of the church for possible calls of emergency.
- Funds from the Allen Estate have been placed in the church's Morgan Stanley investment account.
- An audit is underway of the church financial accounts as per Presbytery requirements
- The portable microphones will be used when members of the congregation are speaking.
- Church Rummage Sale is May 5-6, 2023 - set up is May 3-4.
- Renovation of the Church Library is being reviewed.
- Maundy Thursday dinner and worship are being moved to 5:30 and 6:30pm.
- Next Session meeting was moved to March 28th.



Rummage Sale

This is the time for spring cleaning and getting rid of things we no longer use. As you engage in this yearly purging of your homes remember the rummage sale. The sale will take place on Friday, May 5th and Saturday, May 6th. Set up for the sale will be on Wednesday evening, May 3rd and Thursday, morning, May 4th. Everyone is invited to come and provide a helping hand.

Items that sell include: children's clothing and toys, games, good household items, nick knacks, good clean clothing. The annual sale supports local mission causes.

One Great Hour of Sharing

This special offering that we have been receiving during Lent will be dedicated on Easter. If you have not given to this offering that supports all types of needs in our country and around the world make an earnest effort to do so. As we all know, we live in a very needy world. We have been blessed living in the nation that we do even with the terrible storms that have struck our nation in the past months they are minor compared to the devastation in other parts of the world in nations that have a long history of poverty.

As of this writing we have received \$830. Let us see if we can receive \$1600 by Easter Sunday. **If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.**

Fort Steuben Quilt Show

The Spring Quilt Show at Fort Steuben will open on April 10 and run until April 22. Over two dozen beautifully crafted quilts and coverlets locally produced demonstrate a colorful and creative design and fabric—each one a unique work. Visitors will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite at \$1/vote.

Church Updates

A big "thank you" is extended to John Kardos for making a new flag stand for the American Flag in the sanctuary.

We also welcomed a new choir member. What a joy it is to have Preston Marker singing in the choir.



Presbyterian Women News

- Bible Study on Tuesday, April 11th at 10:30a.m.
- UOVP Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering Saturday April 22th at Bellaire Rock Hill Church at 9am.
- We are again going to have a bake sale in the shelter during the Rummage sale. We invite anyone from the congregation who is willing to help us by making baked goods for the sale. If cookies or candy, please package them in 1/2 dozen or dozen sizes. Your support and help are greatly appreciated.
- There are still Rada knives for sale in the office.

Annual Birthday Offering

Our annual Birthday Offering will be Sunday, May 7th. There will be cake, punch, and coffee following the service. The Birthday Offering of Presbytery Women celebrates our history of generous giving.

Ridgewood News

An Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Thursday, April 6th at 1pm at Ridgewood. All children and grandchildren of the church are invited. Just drive into Ridgewood and meet at the office (the only one story building in the complex). The Easter Bunny will visit also.

Coffee, Tea, and Us will meet on Thursday, April 20th at 10:30am in the office at Ridgewood. This is just a time of getting to know each other.

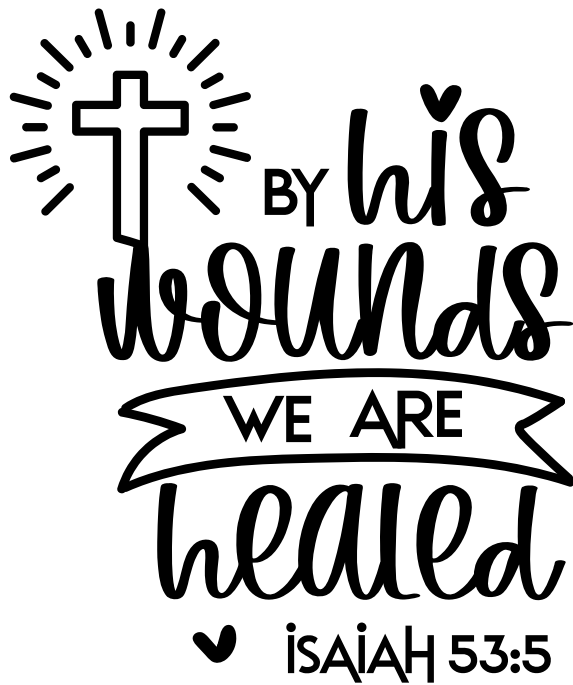
The Ridgewood Community Caring Team will meet on May 16th at 10:30am to plan future activities.

Malawi Relief Fund

The UOVP Malawi Task Force is collecting money for Malawi, Domasi Presbytery. Cyclone Freddie has devastated many areas there. Rev. Dave Roberts and Elder Karen Byrne have been in touch with people over there. Rev. Dave has posted videos sent to him of the destruction. You can donate by simply putting your donation in an envelope designated Malawi Relief in the offering plate. Make checks out to Two Ridges with Malawi in the memo line. All funds will be sent to the UOVP and then on to established contacts in Malawi. All donations needed by Sunday April 16th.

Our Mission Statement

Two Ridges Presbyterian Church is a growing congregation loving one another and witnessing to the world through mission in Jesus' name. We will share the good news and compassion of Jesus Christ by reaching out to youth and community.



Our Contact Information

Phone -

(740) 264-3443

Email -

1085tworidges@gmail.com

Facebook -

www.facebook.com/tworidges

Website -

www.tworidgeschurch.org

Online Donation -

www.tworidges.breezechms.com

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Bill N. Lawrence

Email - atwood9145@aol.com

Secretary - Katie Emley

Sunday Service - 9:30am - 10:30am





Two Ridges Presbyterian Church

1085 Canton Road

Wintersville, Ohio 43953

