



MARCH 2026

TWO RIDGES CHRONICLE

The monthly newsletter of The Two Ridges Presbyterian Church



Join us for worship every Sunday starting at 9:30am

Sermon by Rev. Dr. Bill N. Lawrence

Since 1802, we have wholeheartedly welcomed members of the community to join us in song, service, worship and prayer at Two Ridges Presbyterian. No matter who you are, there's a special place for you at our church. Come and be a part of this thriving and hope-filled congregation.

From the Pastor's Desk

by Rev. Dr. Bill N. Lawrence



As the blustery winter weather continues with the arrival of March, we know that Spring is coming. The calendar says Spring begins March 20th! It cannot arrive too soon! I think most of us, even your pastor who enjoys snow, is eagerly counting the days for Spring to make its debut. Have you noticed how green the grass is? Perhaps all the snow that has covered the ground has provided good moisture for the grass to grow. Spring is that time of renewal and new life that we will soon see in all of nature. As Christians, this season is the time that we prepare ourselves for the glory of Easter.

As we make our journey through Lent and worship together on Sunday morning, my sermons are focused on the ministry of Jesus as shared in Mark's Gospel. This Gospel narrative moves quickly and provides only the essential details. Mark stresses the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus so that his Gospel contains numerous miracles. As we consider the arrival of Spring, it comes as a miracle. The dark, drab days of winter disappear, and the earth takes on new life. When you think about it, ever since the world came to birth new life erupts in the Spring.

As Jesus engaged in his ministry, he was conscious of instilling new life in all that he ministered to. Whether it was teaching in the synagogue, or feeding the hungry, or healing the sick, or encouraging the outcast Jesus was the catalyst of new life. We see this throughout the Gospel of Mark the first to be written. The lame were able to walk. The lepers were made clean. The demons were abolished and the multitudes were fed. Things that the populous never dreamed could happen suddenly happened when Jesus arrived. New life sprang up in desolate places.

Easter arrives early this year on April 5th. Our area of the country will be seeing signs of Spring. Eagerly, we will await the blooming of the forsythia, daffodils, and tulips. There is a sense of expectancy in the air. The celebration of Easter brings a sense of expectancy to us also. We know that the terrible events prior to Easter will give way to the resurrection of our Lord. Death could not hold him captive, but he broke forth from the tomb and those glorious words **He Is Risen** are words of hope and promise for all who profess faith in Jesus Christ. New life comes not only to Jesus but also to us both here and in the life to come.

In these weeks of Lent, may we get our lives in order. May we make time to worship each Lord's Day morning. As God's creation comes to life again, may it remind us that death for us is not the end but only the beginning of a new life lived in the presence of our resurrected Lord.

News from the Pews

Stay up to date on the latest happenings at the church

March Birthdays

- 9 – Tammy Albaugh
- 14 – Gabriel Hall (2024)
- 17 – David “Skip” Laughery
- 19 – Dee Smith
- 19 – Bob Thompson
- 19 – Samuel Hall (2022)
- 20 – Peg Buchanan

March Anniversaries

- 16 – Phillip & Kathy Jordan

March Greeters

- 1 - Larry and Susan Hukill
- 8 - Tami Hosterman and Don Benedict
- 15 - David and Brooklyn Albaugh
- 22 - Chris Frey and Shirley Porter

Sympathy

The congregation extends our Christian love and sympathy to Ileen Baldwin in the death of her sister, Grace Huber on January 1st, to Chris and Dee Smith and family in the death of Chris' mother, Ella "Boots" Smith on February 8th, and to our organist, Joe Zamberlan and family in the death of his sister, Jeananne Marie Brandsberg on February 14th. May the comfort and strength of our loving heavenly Father surround these individuals in their time of sorrow.

Thank You

For many years Barbara Hall has decorated the bulletin boards that hang in the entrances to the sanctuary. Since Alan's death it was more difficult for her to do such. We thank her for her faithfulness and creativity these many years. Tami Hosterman happily and graciously accepted this responsibility, and we are most grateful to her and thankful that the bulletin boards will continue to be updated.



Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday is the commemoration of the Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem following His glorious miracle of rising Lazarus from the dead. Have anticipated His arrival and having heard of the miracle, the people went out to meet the Lord and welcome Him with displays of honor and praise by waving and throwing down palm and willow branches.

The palm branch is traditionally a symbol of joy and victory. It is a sign of victory over the flesh and the world of Christianity. In many Christian churches, Palm Sunday includes the assembled worshippers carrying palms, representing the palm branches the crowds scattered in front of Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem. However, since palms do not grow in northern climates and may not be available, pussy willows, being the first flower to blossom in Spring, are often used on Palm Sunday.

Pussy willows seem to express well the liturgical symbolism of Palm Sunday. During the winter, the willow tree seems to be dry and dead. Yet, with the coming of Spring, it bursts forth and gives a sign of life. The willow branches bring to mind the wood of the Tree of the Cross, while the buds, a sign of new life, remind us of our own glorious resurrection. The branches should be carried home as a visible symbol of Christ's presence, a sign of salvation, and a pledge of protection and blessing during the coming year.

"Hosanna! Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord."

New Members

During the worship service on February 15th, Jim and Mary Louise Morgan united with our church family by letter of transfer from the Starkdale Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Jim is retired from Weirton Steel and Eastern Gateway Community College and Mary Louise is a retired teacher from the Indian Creek Local School District after 27 years of service.



Grace in Action



Elders laying hands on newly ordained Elder Tyler Clevenger



Jim and Mary Louise Morgan joining our church family

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women will meet on Thursday, March 12th at 11am for a Quarterly Meeting.

Spring Forward

Daylight Saving Time begins this weekend. Set your clocks ahead one hour and join us on time for worship, Sunday March 8th.



Spring forward in faith!
CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS and
join us on time for worship.

Dates to Remember

March 29th

Palm Sunday

April 2nd

Maundy Thursday

April 5th

Easter Sunday

Contact Information

Phone

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Church Email

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Facebook

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Website

www.tworidgeschurch.org

Online Giving

www.tworidges.breezechms.com

Church Secretary

Katie Emley

Church Custodian

Tami Hostermam

Office Hours

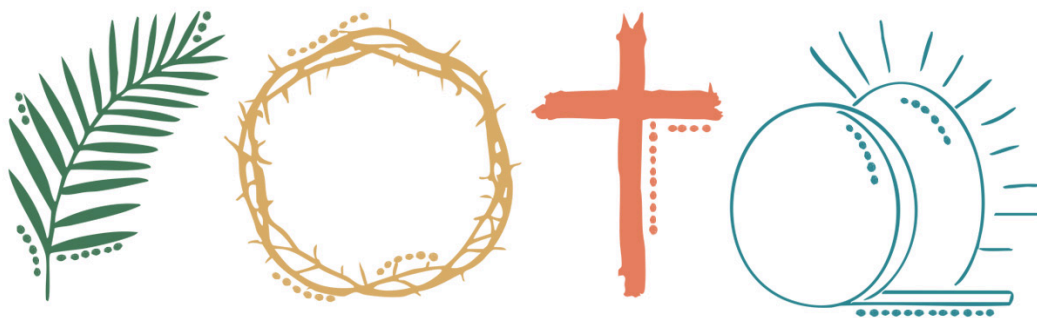
Wednesdays 10am-2pm

Please contact Rev. Lawrence or Katie Emley if you need access to the church.

Two Ridges Presbyterian Church

1085 Canton Road

Wintersville, OH 43953



A lot can happen in
seven days.