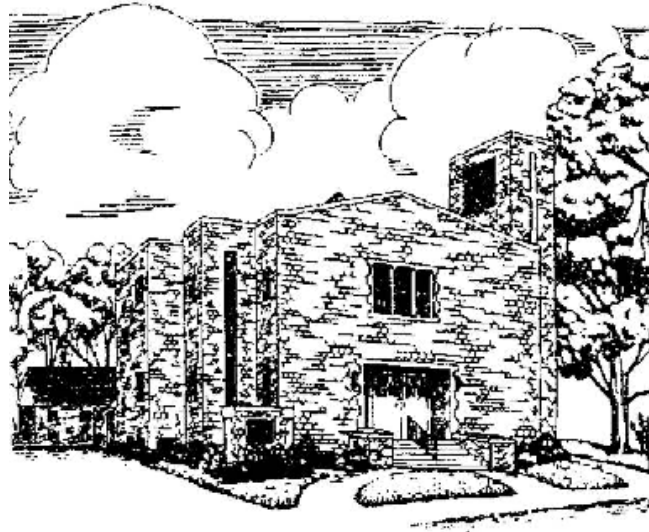


SONSHINE NEWSLETTER

April 2015

A Publication of Rocky Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church



"Sharing, Preparing and Caring in Jesus' Name"

321 Rocky Grove Avenue, Franklin, PA 16323

Church Phone: 814-432-4162

Website: www.rockygrovepres.org

Email Address: [rgapc @ verizon.net](mailto:rgapc@verizon.net)

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Worship – 10:45 a.m.

Reverend Sue Nageotte, Pastor

Rhonda Rust, Secretary

Mike Burkhardt, Organist

Janet Bish, Assistant Organist

Scott Donaldson, Custodian

Church Office Hours:

Wednesday & Thursday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Dear RGAPC family and friends,

Most of you will receive this issue of the Sonshine newsletter either on, or within a few days after, Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday, of course, marks the day that Jesus entered Jerusalem riding upon the colt of a donkey, and was hailed by the multitudes as the Messiah, the “son of David.” Many in the crowd believed that Jesus planned to free Israel from domination by the hated Romans. “Hosanna!” they shouted; “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

Less than a week later, the crowds were no longer singing his praises. Instead, they mercilessly demanded, “Crucify him!” The Bible plainly states that the religious and political leaders conspired to arrest Jesus and have him put to death. No doubt the high priest and other “insiders” felt enormous satisfaction when Jesus was nailed to the cross. Soon, they thought, that troublesome Galilean rabbi would be dead, buried and gone for good!

But at the very moment they *thought* they had triumphed, God was in fact using their actions to work out His sovereign plan of victory over sin and death. Far from being a helpless prisoner, Jesus willingly gave his life to pay the penalty for our sin. The apostle Paul wrote, “The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to those who are being saved, it is the power of God.” (1 Corinthians 1:18).

Essential as Jesus’ atonement was and continues to be, the cross itself is not the foundation of our faith. Jesus Christ Himself – crucified *and risen* – is the foundation of our faith. Jesus told his disciples, “*I AM* the way, the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me.” Before raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus told Lazarus’s sister Martha: “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will not die, but will *live forever*.” Indeed, the whole message of the Bible can be summed up in what Jesus said to Nicodemus: “God so loved the world that He sent His only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him will not perish but will *live forever*.”

Forever! “Forever” is not a rose-colored glasses kind of wishful thinking, and it is assuredly not foolishness. Eternal life -- wonderful, joyful, victorious life -- is God’s plan and purpose for all who trust in who Jesus is and what he has done on our behalf.

This week as we move from Palm Sunday, through Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and on to Resurrection Sunday, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you and fill you with joy, *forever and ever*!

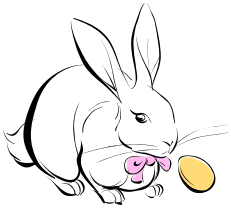
With love in the Lord,

Pastor Sue

RGAPC Financial Information

| | February 2015 | Year to Date |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Income – Envelope Giving | \$ 3,023.00 | \$ 6,850.00 |
| Presby Foundation Interest | | + 416.88 |
| Edward Jones Transfers | + 10,000.00 | + 10,000.00 |
| Other Sources | + 365.07 | + 1,005.25 |
| Expenses | - 7,931.79 | - 16,623.05 |
| Difference | \$ 5,456.28 | \$ 1,649.08 |

*Detailed **March** financial reports should be available
in the narthex beginning the second Sunday of **April**.*



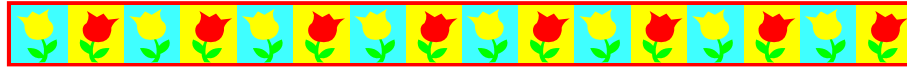
APRIL Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 11 Joanne Brannon | 20 Melanie McGinnis |
| 11 Ed Brannon | 20 Richard Vogan |
| 12 Joan Lepley | 22 Amie Wielandt |
| 12 Paisley Newton (2011) | 28 Ryan Sandok (2007) |
| 15 Alysta Grace Winder (2014) | 29 Phyllis Wetzel |
| 18 Megan Yeager | 30 Ray Aikins |

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

- ◇ Wisdom is knowing the difference between pulling your weight and throwing it around.
- ◇ If God has first place in your life you will not have to worry about who will have the other places.
- ◇ To realize the worth of the anchor we need to feel the storm.
- ◇ God gives us the ingredients for our daily bread, but He expects us to do the baking.

Newsletter articles are due in the church office by the 20th of each month or risk being omitted from the next month's publication.



SERVANTS FOR APRIL

Hospital Visits: Phyllis Vogan & an Elder
Worship Leader: Wayne Edmondson & Jim Sandok
Ushers: Diane Whitman

Greeters: 5 Lois Pierce & Linda Zeller
12 Grace Gibbons & Rhonda Rust
19 Gene & Margie Sheffer
26 Arnie & Janet Bish
Acolyte: 5 Carson Whitling
12 Arika Songer
19 James Hoffman
26 TO BE ANNOUNCED

SUNRISE SERVICE CANCELLED

The Congregational Life and Worship ministry team has opted to not offer an Easter Sunrise Service and breakfast this year. This decision was not made lightly, and it is hoped that these events will return next year. In order for that to happen, volunteers will be needed. Please be thinking about what part you might play in the organization of these two traditions at RGAPC.

Suggested Readings for Holy Week

Monday: Isaiah 42: 1-9 and John 11: 45-57
Tuesday: Psalm 71: 1-14 and John 12: 20-36
Wednesday: Isaiah 50: 4-9a and John 13: 21-32
Thursday: John 13: 1-17, 33-35 and I Corinth 11: 23-26
Friday: John Chapters 18 and 19
Saturday: Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12 and I Corinth 1: 18-31
Sunday: (upon rising) -- John 20: 1-18

FROM THE SESSION

Approved Motions – March 9, 2015, Session Meeting:

- The minutes of the regular Session Meeting of 11 Feb 2015.
 - The Financial Secretary's report for the period ending 28 Feb 2015 and the following Treasurer's reports: the checking account summary, the budget year-to-date figures and the Financial Report for February 2015.
 - Accepted, with deep regret, resignations from membership from Bob and Jill Alden.
 - Received the minutes of the Congregational Life and Worship Ministry Team meeting of 2 Mar 2015, the minutes of the Trustees meeting of 2 Mar 2015, and the 11 Feb 2015 through 9 Mar 2015 Report on Administrative Activity.
 - Elected Joyce Wetjen as our assistant financial secretary for the year 2015.
 - A Congregational Meeting to be held after the worship service on Sunday, 29 Mar 2015. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect the new elders and deacons, to review the 2014 annual financial reports, and to recommend a change for the quorum for congregational meetings.
 - Pastor Sue's mileage expenses for February which totaled \$74.75.
 - The purchase of an NIV Study Bible for approximately \$40.00 for a person who will be graduating from high school this year.
-

MISSIONS CORNER:

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING offering will be taken again this year during Lent (Ash Wednesday, February 18th, through Easter, April 5th). OGHS supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Hunger Program. Envelopes for your donations are in the pews (if not, please ask an usher), or you may use the enclosed envelope and mail your donation directly. Please consider giving to this worthy cause to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

Used cell phones (working or not) are still being collected by Missions & Outreach Ministry Team for donation to **Cell Phones for Soldiers**. Please help with this worthy cause any time you get a new phone. A box for collection is located in the narthex.

EXPLANATION OF GOD

The following was written by an 8-year old Danny Dutton of Chula Vista, CA, for his third grade homework assignment. The assignment was to explain God. I just wonder if any of us could do as well.

“One of God’s main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn’t make grownup, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way He doesn’t have to take up His valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.”

“God’s second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn’t have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because He hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in His ears, unless He has thought of a way to turn it off.”

“God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn’t go wasting His time by going over your Mom and Dad’s head asking for something they said you couldn’t have.”

“Atheists are people who don’t believe in God. I don’t think there are any in Chula Vista. At least there aren’t any who come to our church.”

“Jesus is God’s Son. He used to do all the hard work like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn’t want to learn about God. They finally got tired of Him preaching to them and they crucified Him. But he was good and kind, like His Father and He told His Father that they didn’t know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.”

“His Dad (God) appreciated everything that He had done and all His hard work on earth so He told Him He didn’t have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So He did. And now He helps His Dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones He can take care of Himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important.”

UPCOMING EVENTS AT RGAPC

Wednesday, April 1st – Men and women with ***YOUTHFUL SPIRITS*** gather for food and fellowship at noon the first Wednesday of each month. Join in the fun at **Suzanne’s Restaurant**, 1134 Liberty Street (next to the Galena Building). Make your reservation with Doris Feather or leave a message at 437-5236 by 3/30/15. All are welcome!! This is a new business in town so let’s give it our full support. Next month’s gathering will be on May 6th hosted by Grace Gibbons. Watch Sunday bulletins for additional information.

Saturday, April 11th - ***Women’s Prayer Breakfast***

Join the women of RGAPC for breakfast the second Saturday of the month at King’s Family Restaurant on Allegheny Blvd. at 8:30 a.m. Devotions, prayer and fellowship abound.

Children’s Sunday School

Beginning on April 12th Sunday School will once again be offered for children in elementary school. The class will be taught **in the Youth Room** from 9:30 to 10:25 a.m. by Diane Whitman. Lessons and activities will initially be structured for 4th to 6th grades but other ages are welcome. Questions? Willing to help? Contact Diane at 673-5447, or Wayne Edmondson at 758-1787.

Easter Word Search

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

ANGELS
APOSTLES
BETRAYAL
BLOOD
CALVARY
CROSS
CROWN OF THORNS
CRUCIFIXION
DARKNESS
DEATH
EARTHQUAKE
EASTER
GOLGOTHA
HIGH PRIEST
JESUS CHRIST
JOSEPH
JUDAS ISCARIOT
KING
LAMB

MARY
NAILS
PASSOVER
PIECES OF SILVER
PIERCED
PILATE
RESURRECTION
ROBE
ROMANS
SACRIFICE
SIMON OF CYRENE
SOLDIERS
SON OF GOD
SPEAR
STONE
TEMPLE
THIEVES
THREE DAYS
TOMB

If you would like to provide flowers for Sunday morning worship, please sign-up on the “*flower chart*” in the narthex or contact the church office – 432-4162. This is a temporary arrangement and flowers must be ordered by the giver.



“You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time. You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there’s anybody you want to make happy, it’s God. Don’t skip church or do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. Besides, the sun doesn’t come out at the beach until noon anyway.”

“If you don’t believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can’t go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He’s around you when you’re scared in the dark or when you can’t swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.”

“But ... you shouldn’t just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and He can take me back anytime He pleases. And... that’s why I believe in God.”

(submitted by Jim Speth who found it in Bernie’s things)



THANK YOU

Pastor Sue, Deacons, Shepherds & numerous members, Just a short note that can’t come close to expressing my “Thanks” for all your thoughts and prayers and visits. You don’t know how these really brighten the monotony of a bed-ridden individual like myself. Again, thanks

Joanne Brannon

Thank you to my church family for their prayers and cards. My surgery went well and recovery is going well too.

Denny McGinnis

I want to thank the Deacons once again for another wonderful card for St. Patrick’s Day.

Carol Rough

Children's Church during the Sunday morning worship service is no longer being provided due to lack of volunteers. If you would be willing to provide this service, please see Wayne Edmondson, Elder on the Christian Education Ministry Team.



APRIL 2015



| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|--|---|-----------|--|
| | | | 1 Noon <i>Youthful Spirits</i> @ Suzanne's 6:30 Bible Study | 2 Maundy Thursday 7:00 service at Franklin First Presbyterian Church | 3 | 4 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous |
| 5 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship | 6 6:00 CLAW 7:00 Trustees | 7 6:30 Sweet Adelines practice | 8 10:00 Quilting @ 1 st Presbyterian 6:30 Bible Study | 9 | 10 | 11 8:30 Women's breakfast @ King's 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous 2:30 – 5:00 Officer Training |
| 12 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship 5:30 Boy Scouts | 13 6:15 Session | 14 6:30 Sweet Adelines practice | 15 6:30 Bible Study | 16 | 17 | 18 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous |
| 19 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship 5:30 Boy Scouts “Court of Honor” | 20 <i>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i> | 21 6:30 Sweet Adelines practice | 22 <i>Administrative Professionals Day</i> 6:30 Bible Study | 23 | 24 | 25 9:30 Overeaters Anonymous |
| 26 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship 5:30 Boy Scouts | 27 6:00 Christian Education 6:30 Missions & Outreach | 28 6:30 Sweet Adelines practice | 29 6:30 Bible Study | 30 | | |