

March/April
May
2017

The Tower

Harmony
Presbyterian
Church



Mark your Calendar

MARCH 2017

- 3-1 Ash Wed Service - 7 p.m.
- 3-5 Communion
- 3-5 Girl Scout Sunday
- Deacon Meeting – 11:30 a.m.
- Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 3-22 Session Meeting – 7 p.m.

APRIL 2017

- 4-2 Communion
- 4-9 Palm Sunday
- Deacon Meeting – 11:30 a.m.
- 4-13 Meal in the Upper Room–
5 pm/ Maundy Thursday–7
pm
- 4-14 Good Friday – 7 p.m.
- 4-16 Easter – 7 a.m. Worship
followed by Continental
breakfast & 10 a.m. Worship
- 4-26 Session Meeting – 7 p.m.

MAY 2017

- 5-7 Communion
- 5- 14 Mother's Day
- 5- 21 Children's Program
- Deacon Meeting – 11:30 a.m.
- 5-24 Session Meeting – 7 p.m.
- 5-29 Memorial Day

Message from the Pastor

Philip Yancey, in his book, *What's So Amazing About Grace?* tells a story about two people riding on a bus and one of them has a copy of Scott Peck's book *The Road Less Traveled*. The conversation goes something like this:

"What are you reading?"

"A book a friend of mine gave me. She said it changed her life."

"Oh, yeah? What's it about?"

"I'm not sure. Some sort of guide for life. I haven't gotten very far yet...Here are the chapter titles: Discipline, Love, Grace..."

"What's grace?"

"I don't know. I haven't gotten that far yet!"

I think that is the case with a lot of us. We understand discipline and to an extent love, but grace is a much tougher issue. Grace is the unmerited favor of God and we haven't gotten that far yet. We don't understand the greatest gift God has given us; grace. We live in a society demanding strict codes of behavior and even more strict consequences for our actions and the gift of grace gets lost in the vast sea of the law. The *"I live the old-fashioned way, I earned it!"* approach doesn't fly for the Christian or the church. We don't earn grace. How can we advocate for a life-style which contradicts the very foundation of our faith? Too often it is because we have not gotten that far yet. We have not taken Jesus' actions and words seriously.

We are living in a very spiritual society. People are aware of, and focused on, spirituality in a way that has not been seen since the Great Awakening over a century ago. People are looking for a way in the desert of this ever-changing world. Anxiety is as high or higher than at any time in history and people are searching for truth. We, the church of Jesus Christ, need to be agents of grace to our hurting neighbors. We should be looking to share grace rather than laws. In a hurting world, grace is the only thing that can come into the picture and make us whole. Grace is the unmerited favor of God. It is not something that is attainable or can be acquired by any means other than thru God's unfathomable love for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is the gift we celebrate in Easter and is why we worship and celebrate all through the year.

Mark Twain said the church is good in the worst sense of the word. Meaning, we are good but not as good or responsive as we can or should be! We, unfortunately, have not gotten that far yet! We are good, but can we be the best for the sake of and because of Jesus and His grace? Just some thoughts... Pastor Scott

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UPDATES

Session Update

Regular March Session Meeting

Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Regular April Session Meeting

Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Regular May Session Meeting

Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Deacon Update

Regular March Meeting

Sunday, March 12, 2017 at 11:30 a.m.

Regular April Meeting

Sunday, April 9, 2017 at 11:30 a.m.

Regular May Meeting

Sunday, May 21, 2017 at 11:30 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE:
*Ash Wednesday Service
Wednesday, March 1 at
7:00 p.m.*

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

MARCH

MARCH 1, 2017 - Ash Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Assisting Elder Natalie Dutt

MARCH 5, 2017 -1st Sunday in Lent/Communion

*Assisting Elder Lori Frankenfield Greeters Indyk Family
Assisting Deacon Sue Gentle
Servers Niki Carr, Becky Brandt, Scott & Sherri Aydelotte*

MARCH 12, 2017 - Girl Scout Sunday/2nd Sunday in Lent

*Assisting Elder Niki Carr Assisting Deacon Emily Swanson
Greeters Lee Smith Family*

MARCH 19, 2017 - 3rd Sunday in Lent

*Assisting Elder Barbara Esposito Asst Deacon Rich Fehr
Greeters Carr Family*

MARCH 26, 2017 - 4th Sunday in Lent

*Assisting Elder Lynn Ehrhardt Assisting Deacon Ray Lalley
Greeters Matlock Family*

APRIL

APRIL 2, 2017 - Communion /5th Sunday in Lent

*Assisting Elder Becky Brandt Assisting Deacon Carol Keiper
Greeters Haschak Family
Servers Lynn Ehrhardt, John Ehasz, Jeri Lynn Flynn, Vicki Stevens*

APRIL 9, 2017 - Palm Sunday

*Assisting Elder Karen Rose Assisting Deacon Jenn Taynor
Greeters Louise Harris, Ben Rose, Ray Bragin, Olivia Swanson*

APRIL 13, 2017 - Maundy Thursday - 7 p.m.

Assisting Elder Ruth Skirbst Assisting Deacon Sue Gentle

APRIL 14, 2017 - Good Friday - 7 p.m.

Assisting Elder Tom Wismer Assisting Deacon Jan Kuhn

APRIL 16, 2017 - Easter Sunrise - 7 a.m.

Assisting Elder Bert Kuhn

APRIL 16, 2017 - Easter - 10 a.m.

*Assisting Elder Scott Aydelotte Assisting Deacon Suzanne Swanson
Greeters Losco Family*

APRIL 23, 2017 -

*Assisting Elder Kate Harris Assisting Deacon Karen Rose
Greeters Winters Family*

APRIL 30, 2017 -

*Assisting Elder John Ehasz Assisting Deacon Emily Swanson
Greeters Rothrock Family*

WORSHIP SCHEDULE (cont)

MAY

MAY 7, 2017 - Communion

Assisting Elder Nancy Farley
 Greeters Jenn Taynor
 Assisting Deacon Jan Kuhn
 Servers Rich Fehr, Debbie McKenna, Charlie Cummins, Jan Kuhn

MAY 14, 2017 -Mother's Day

Assisting Elder June Heyer
 Assisting Deacon Ray Lalley
 Greeters Dick and Loyce Johnson

MAY 21, 2017 - Children's Program

Assisting Elder Jeff Indyk
 Assisting Deacon Rich Fehr
 Greeters Wismer Family

MAY 28, 2017 - Memorial Day Weekend

Assisting Elder Dave Swanson
 Assisting Deacon Carol Keiper
 Greeters Rich & Betty Salter

Usher Schedule

March 5	Communion Servers will be the Ushers
March 12	Joyce & Charlie Cummins, Cathy & Joe Haschak
March 19	Scott and Sherri Aydelotte, Jeri Lynn Flynn, Ray Lalley
March 26	Becky Brandt, Cindy Winters, Tom & Bonnie Wismer
April 2	Communion Servers will be the Ushers
April 9	Joyce & Charlie Cummins, Tom & Bonnie Wismer
April 16	Rich & Betty Salter, Cindy Winters, Victoria Stevens
April 23	Scott & Sherri Aydelotte, Amber Brady, Becky Brandt
April 30	Niki & Andy Carr, Natalie Dutt, Lynn Ehrhardt
May 7	Communion Servers will be the Ushers
May 14	Charlie & Joyce Cummins, Ruth Skirbst, Suzanne Swanson
May 21	John Ehasz , Rich & JoAnn Fehr, Lori Frankenfield
May 28	Jeri Lynn Flynn, Cathy & Joe Haschak, Carol Keiper

HOME VISITATION

If you would like Pastor Scott or a member of the Board of Deacons to visit you at home, please contact the church office to set up a date. The Deacons are interested in visiting, providing meals, etc. However, they can not "read minds" so please let the church know of any needs.

CHOIR NEWS

If anyone is interested in joining the Children's Choir or the Adult Choir please see Sandy Vliet. We are always glad to have new faces and voices. Choir rehearsal is from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Thursday evenings. Children's Choir meets on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. sharp.

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY SUNDAY

Remember the FOOD FOR THE NEEDY SUNDAY is the first Sunday of every month. As you come to worship, please place your nonperishable food items in the baskets located in the downstairs hallway. Poverty and hunger, like God, do not take a vacation.

REMEMBER THESE FOLKS IN PRAYER

Randa Barabas, James Barr, Joan Barry, Christine Basai, Kate Beers, Shirley Beers, Beth Bell, Grayson Bohr, Mary Bruinooge, Dick Collins, Mary Collins, Sheila Costanza, Kim Crane, Glenn David, Debbie DeCresi Johnson, Flo Disarsky, Jean Dutt, Kelly Fox, Denise Frankenfield, Dick Frankenfield, Josephine A. Frankenfield, Paula Freese, Gail Gangaware, Bob Geis, Sr., Charletta (Red) Geis, Frank Gentle, Melissa Gentle, Anne Ginley-Yerkes, Judy Grace, Hilton Family, Betty Holod, Donna Hoff Pensack, Linda Hoffman, Jessica Hutton, Lynn Keyser, Bob King, Rex LaBarrre, Ray Lalley, Sam Marino, Veronica Matus, Alice McElhinney, Bill McEwen, George Morgan, Jace Nikoden, Rhonda Olswski, Irma Cook Peterson, Tom Pointer, Janice Prostack, Ed Pulsicki, David Rehrig and his family, Joan Richards, Betty Salter, Rich Salter, Marjorie Solt, Russell Scott, Amy Shandor, Sgt Ryan Skibenes, Henry Skirbst, Ron Smith, Earl Steele, Sr., Vicki Stevens, Jacob Taynor, baby Trent, Bob Vannatta, Dave Ward, Diane Wilkinson, Danny Wismer, Debbie Wittschiebe

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

If anyone is interested in attending summer camp, please contact the office for information about camps and possible scholarships.

CALLING ALL 2017 GRADUATES

If you or a member of your family will be graduating soon from junior high, high school, or college, or will have earned an advanced degree, please notify the church office at 908-859-0355 by **May 14, 2017**, so we can include them in the bulletin for Graduate Recognition Sunday on June 4, 2017.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



If you would like to add a birthday or anniversary please contact the church office at 908-859-0355 or send e-mail to tomcat507@verizon.net. Please note that the birthday and anniversary lists will be no longer appear in the Tower but will be available on our website tpcnh.org.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational and Corporation Meeting was held on Sunday, February 12. Reports from the various committees and program areas of the church were received. During the meeting the following were elected to serve the congregation during 2017:

- Church Financial Secretary/Church Treasurer: Sandi Skibenes
- Personnel and Nominating Committee: Niki Carr, chair, Becky Brandt, Lori Frankenfield, Natalie Dutt, David Ehasz, Janine Austin
- Auditing Committee: Lynn Ehrhardt, chair, David Swanson, Ray Lalley

We commend all those who submitted reports and we thank all our committee chairs, program heads, and officers for the time they so willingly devote to Harmony Presbyterian Church.

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Do you want to remember a loved one? Or would you like to honor a special person or day, such as a birth, anniversary, marriage or birthday. Chancel flowers are only \$30 for two vases. You can take the flowers with you after the service or the Board of Deacons will see that they are distributed to a church member who is ill or shut-in. A sign-up chart is located on the door to Fellowship Hall. Please place your donation in the offering plate and make the envelope "flower fund." If you have any questions or if you can't come in to sign the chart please call the church office.

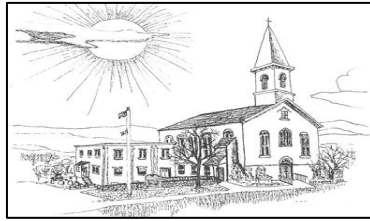
HOLY WEEK IN HARMONY

- PALM SUNDAY, April 9** Procession during 10:00 a.m. Worship
- MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 13** 5:00 p.m. "Meal in the Upper Room"
7:00 p.m. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated
- GOOD FRIDAY, April 14** 7:00 p.m. A worship of devotion and reflection
- EASTER, April 16** Will celebrate with Holy Communion the Resurrection of our Lord. 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Worship, *followed by a fellowship Continental Breakfast*. Worship Celebration at 10:00 a.m. One Great Hour of Sharing Offering during 10:00 a.m. Worship

COME AND CELEBRATE CHRIST'S LIFE!

A NOTE ABOUT OUR PRAYER CHAIN

This was started, as best as I can remember about 10 years ago. With three folks who had lists of others with their phone numbers they were called with names of recipients and then would call the first person on their list who in turn would call the next person. If that person did not answer they went on to the next name. Keep in mind that "e-mails: were not in use to most of us then. Now we have those "wonderful" ways to communicate. However, we still have some who do not have internet access. So, let's try to find a couple of folks who would be willing to make a few phone calls. Please give the office or me a call if you are willing to step up to help in this important part of our Church family. Church # is 859-0355 or call Ruth Skirbst at 689-4186. Thanks as God continues to bless this "flock in Harmony".



In an attempt to save postage costs, the newsletter will be on the church website. If you would be interested in not receiving a copy in the mail - please notify the church office. Thank you.

HARMONY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2727 Belvidere Road
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