



The Lamplighter



April 2019

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Pastor's Note

Luke 24 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they went in, they did not find the body.[a] 4 While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. 5 The women[b] were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men[c] said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.[d] 6 Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7 that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." 8 Then they remembered his words, 9 and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. 10 Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. 11 But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. 12 But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.[e]

We are people of the resurrection. I don't know about you, but there are days that I need to be reminded of that truth. Days when I feel just like the disciples, terrified about what is before me, unable to see the way out or through, let alone new possibilities in the midst of old realities. And yet, that so often times is how God works; in surprising and unexpected ways to pull us out of the familiar, into a new way of seeing and experience the world.

I just talked with an old friend about this very thing. We talked at length about the difficulty of seeing something new in the midst of the death of something long known and beloved. Yet, having just gone through a huge transition in her life, one that involved deep grieving, not unlike the women who went to the tomb, she has been amazed at how God has worked in and through the chaos to make things new. And things are different, that is sure - but it has lead to rich blessings and new life - and it is good.

The disciples that arrived at the tomb on that first day of the week had a firm vision in their mind of what they were going to encounter. It would take a gentle reminder from the angels for them to remember who Jesus was and what he had told them. That reminder opened their minds to see newest in the midst of death - newest that would ultimately lead to a deeper journey of faith and a life which embodied their new identity and calling.

Maybe that is what we need too; to be reminded of who and what Jesus is and how his life, sacrifice and teaching form and shape our lives. Maybe that reminder is what we need before we can begin the hard work of thinking about how we should be living as disciples of the risen Lord, and how it is that we come together to do the work of Christ's church.

I will be doing just that as we walk towards the empty tomb, thinking deeply about how my faith invites me to see new possibilities in the midst of what I have always know. My prayer is that you will join with me in this practice of Examen and open yourselves us to new possibilities.

With hopeful anticipation,
Pastor Cath

HOLY WEEK EVENTS

Thursday, April 18, 2019

Maundy Thursday Dinner and Worship

Please plan on joining us for dinner in the Outreach Center from **5:00- 5:45**, where a simple meal of soup, sandwich and dessert will be provided. Worship will begin at **6:00 p.m.**

Good Friday Service Friday April 19, 2019

We will again hold a joint **Good Friday Service** with First and Second Reformed Churches. The location of the service will be announced later in the month. There will be a time of fellowship before the service from 6:30 to 7:00. The Worship service will begin at 7:00 p.m. This was a well attended and meaningful service last year, and you are encouraged to attend.



FINANCIAL UPDATE



Your Finance Committee provides the following update on our finances.

Our 2018 Expense Budget was \$173,063. The 2019 Expense Budget that we prepared, presented to Session, and was approved by Session on Dec. 18, 2018, was \$176,174 which was an increase of \$3,111 over the 2018 Expense Budget.

After many hours put forth on reviewing our 2019 Expense Budget and our estimated income for 2019, we knew that our expenses had to be reduced. In early March, we prepared a REVISED 2019 Expense Budget and presented it to Session. This revised budget reduced our 2019 expenses by \$10,386 and put our 2019 Expense Budget at \$165,788. The Session approved this revised budget on March 5, 2019, at a Special Session Meeting called for the purpose of reviewing and approving our revised Expense Budget. It should be noted that this reduction in the 2019 budget put the new budget at \$7,275 below our 2018 budget.

We thank all who stepped forward, when presented with the financial concerns for 2019, and helped us to relieve some of our income decline. We are grateful to all who prayerfully considered their giving to our church and provided some additional income for us.

Your Finance Committee felt that additional trimming should be done, and could be done in certain areas. A few budget line items were referred back to committees responsible for those line items so that recommendations could be presented to the Finance Committee. Based on those recommendations, your Finance Committee prepared a second REVISED Expense Budget for 2019 and presented it to the Session at the Regular Session Meeting on March 19, 2019. This second revised budget reduced our 2019 expenses by an additional \$4,051, and put our 2019 Expense Budget at \$161,737. The Session approved this second revision to our budget. It should also be noted that this second reduction in the 2019 budget put the new budget at \$11,326 below our 2018 budget.

These expense reductions have not been easy decisions to make, but are necessary. Your Finance Committee and the entire Session are doing their best to be good stewards of the resources we are given and relying on God to give us direction. Much prayerful consideration has gone in to making these reductions. When looking at our estimated income for 2019 and our budgeted expenses for 2019, we are by no means "out of the woods", but we are in much better shape after making additional reductions in expenses than we were 2 months ago.

As of March 21st, our year-to-date income is \$38,450 with year-to-date expenses totaling \$37,364. As of March 21st, our income for the month of March is \$11,475 with expenses for March totaling \$7,343. When looking at our \$161,737 Expense Budget for the year, we need income of \$13,478 per month to cover the expenses.

Your Finance Committee and entire Session will continue to be prudent with the resources we are given and our expenses. We will continue to keep you updated on our finances and ask that your prayers include our work concerning the finances of our church. If you have questions, please feel free to contact any of the Session members.

Dale Thayer
Chairman, Finance Committee



APRIL VOLUNTEERS

Ushers: Paul and Donna Parker

April 7 Judy and Fritz Jordan
 April 14 Harold Bonneur
 April 21 Ron and Connie Koehn
 April 28 Mike Hand

THE JAN STUART MEMORIAL FOOD PANTRY

April suggested donations:

Toilet Paper
Detergent



The Pastor's Side Table

A sneak peek at what the pastor is reading/read in the past month

Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country On Earth by Sarah Smarch.

Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart: How to Relate to Those Who are Suffering by Kenneth C. Haugk.

Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory by Tod Bolsinger.

The Nightingale: A Novel by Kristin Hannah.

Piloting Church: Helping Your Congregation Take Flight by Cameron Trimble.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

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Our Men's Fellowship Group continues to meet on the second Saturday of each month at 8 a.m. This month it will be April 13th, all men are welcome and encouraged to attend.



LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch meet on second Thursdays . We will be at Jenny's in Clinton on April 11th at 11:30 am. There will be a sign up sheet posted in the hallway. Come and bring a neighbor, friend, or anyone who needs a day out.

SAVE THE DATE:

Be included in our new family directory. Our Church photography dates are Monday April 29 2pm-9pm and Tuesday April 30 2pm-9pm

How do you schedule an appointment?

1. Visit our church Facebook page or website www.fultonpreschurch.org or
2. Sign-up at church each Sunday after service beginning 3/17 or
3. Call the Lifetouch scheduling office directly-866-756-0281 or
4. Lifetouch scheduling – <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/yxzx66js/>

We want all of you to be in this new directory to make this a successful way to keep in touch with your church family. Each family receives an 8x10 family portrait and a directory free.

The sooner you sign up you get the appointment you want and it makes everything run so much smoother.

SIGN UP TODAY!!

NEWS FROM THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE

We are finishing up our Spring flower sale. We plan to use the proceeds from the flower sale for Fulton Summer Nights. We are also planning a bake sale for April 14th, Palm Sunday. The 1st \$300.00 will go to the Fulton/Thomson Food Pantry and the remaining will go to the general fund.

The Committee along with 559 group are planning to take May baskets to Harbor Crest Home.

We once again would like to say Thank you for supporting the mission of the Outreach committee. We are so Blessed.

CHANCEL AND BELL CHOIRS

The Chancel and Bell choirs continue to practice. The Bell Choir practice begins at 6 p.m. and the Chancel Choir follows at 7 p.m. If you only want to join for special occasions you will be welcomed as well. New members are always welcome!

GREETERS

We need your help by signing up to be a greeter on Sunday mornings. Please sign up on the sign up sheet which is found on the table in the Narthex. Thank You

NEWS FROM CHRISTIAN ED COMMITTEE

For the month of March, we had fewer 559 gatherings. March 6th we had no regular 559 because it was Ash Wednesday. The youth were encouraged to attend the service, and all were accounted for in regular attendance. During the event, the younger children received a craft, which consisted of 40 paper chains that they printed a name on, the purpose being, to pray for one person or family per day during the season of Lent. The middle school and high school, who also had the opportunity to make a prayer chain, participated in the service by reading scripture.

There was no 559 on the 27th due to Spring Break.

The remaining two weeks of 559, the younger group spent time looking back on the Ash Wednesday service and working on a Resurrection Story Wheel. The Senior group began watching a Netflix movie on the gospel of Luke. This movie presents, word-for-word, the bible text of the entire book of Luke, which is narrated and re-enacted, as the producers recreate, as authentically as possible, the background where it took place. This movie is part of the Lumo project, that created movies for each of the gospels, and is another way to encounter the message of the gospel!

FROM CALLING MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

One of the ways the session voted on to save money on our budget this year was to have the kitchen supplies donated.

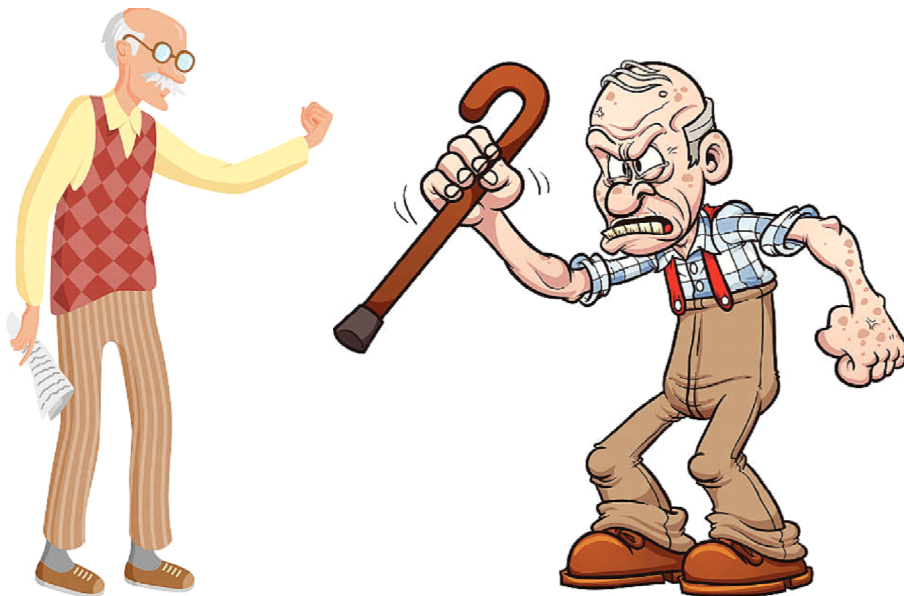
Our committee will be keeping an eye on the inventory in the kitchen and when needed we will put a plea out for donations for such things as coffee, lemonade, plates, napkins, plastic ware, cups.

This is a small way that we can help financially with our church.

Thank you in advance for helping out. It is very much appreciated!

Circa 21 Playhouse

“Grumpy Old Men”



The Fellowship Committee is sponsoring an outing to Circa 21 Playhouse.

The presentation for this event is **“Grumpy Old Men”** (PG 13)

When: Sunday, April 14

Time: Doors open at 3:45pm

Meal 4:00-5:00pm

Curtain time is 5:45pm

Price: Tickets include show and dinner are \$49.75 each.

Please sign up by March 31, 2019

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT**

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger program, and Self-development of people — all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Received during the season of lent (March 6 – April 21), each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference in the world.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA)

- Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters, and support for refugees.
- Receives 32% of funds raised.

PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM (PHP)

- Takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed.
- Receives 36% of funds raised.

SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE (SDOP)

- Invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues.
- Receives 32% of funds raised; presbyterianmission.org/oghs

OUR OFFERINGS AT WORK.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA)

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is the emergency and refugee program of the Presbyterian church (U.S.A.). It enables our congregations and mission partners to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crisis and catastrophic event. Find an interactive world map with OGHS recipients at www.pcusa.org/oghsmap.

International aid:

In the first half of 2017, 20 countries received aid and support after catastrophic events, including the Super Typhoon Mangkhut in the Philippines, China and surrounding areas; emergency response following earthquakes and a tsunami in Indonesia; flooding in India; volcanic eruption in Guatemala, violence and famine in South Sudan; and ongoing assistance for refugees and internally displaced persons related to Syria.

National Aid:

28 states received help following natural and human-caused disasters, including flooding in Montana, Ohio, Maryland, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Hawaii and more; tornadoes in Alabama, Virginia and Iowa; wildfires in California, and Colorado; ongoing response to Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria as well as Superstorm Sandy and Hurricane Matthew; and various public violence incidents.

Fall 2017 Hurricanes:

PDA has established a three-year \$10.4 million budget for Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria. As of August 1, 2018, over \$2,500,000 in grants have been disbursed; 2,743 PDA volunteers served disaster impacted communities in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico through PDA — supported host sites; 50 deployments of 132 National response Team members totaling more than 1,000 days in the field.

Syria:

With the support of PDA, the National evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon has opened five schools in Syrian refugee camps, which are hosting over 300 students. Homes in Homs are being rebuilt so that displaced families who fled their embattled city can return to begin the hard work of rebuilding their shattered city and broken neighborhoods.

South Sudan:

PDA is working with Presbyterian relief and development agency, the humanitarian arm of the Presbyterian church of South Sudan, to provide large-scale emergency relief projects for South Sudanese displaced persons and refugees, as well as supporting livelihood and food security, peace building, and education for civil society.

April 1, 2019	6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts - Papers 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - Meet	April 16, 2018	1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Pastor at Steam Anchor 7:00 p.m. Quilters Meets
April 2, 2019	All Day - Consolidated Election in Outreach Center 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Pastor at Steam Anchor	April 17, 2019	559@ FPC 5:30-6:00 p.m. Ukulele Practice 6:00 p.m. Dinner is Served 6:20 p.m. Learning and Exploration 7:00-7:05 Closing and Sending
April 3, 2019	559@ FPC 5:30-6:00 p.m. Ukulele Practice 6:00 p.m. Dinner is Served 6:20 p.m. Learning and Exploration 7:00-7:05 Closing and Sending	April 18, 2019	5:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship
April 4, 2019	Pastor's day off 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice	April 19, 2019	Pastor's Day Off 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service
April 5, 2019	Pastor's day off	April 20, 2019	Pastor's day off
April 6, 2019	11:00 Verna Peck's Graveside Service	April 21, 2019	Easter Sunday 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Fellowship
April 7, 2019	9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Fellowship	April 22, 2019	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - Meet
April 8, 2019	10:00 a.m. Finance Committee meets 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - Meet	April 23, 2019	Pastor to Presbytery for day. 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Pastor WILL NOT BE at Steam Anchor
April 9, 2019	Pastor at Presbytery for the day. 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Pastor will NOT be at Steam Anchor 7:00 p.m. Session Meets	April 24, 2019	559@ FPC 5:30-6:00 p.m. Ukulele Practice 6:00 p.m. Dinner is Served 6:20 p.m. Learning and Exploration 7:00-7:05 Closing and Sending
April 10, 2019	8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pre-school screening 559@ FPC 5:30-6:00 p.m. Ukulele Practice 6:00 p.m. Dinner is Served 6:20 p.m. Learning and Exploration 7:00-7:05 Closing and Sending	April 25, 2019	6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice
April 11, 2019	11:30 Lunch Bunch to meet at Jenny's 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice	April 26, 2019	Pastor's day Off
April 12, 2019	Pastor's day off	April 27, 2019	Pastor's day off
April 13, 2019	Pastor's day off 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship to meet	April 28, 2019	9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Fellowship
April 14, 2019	Palm Sunday 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Fellowship Outreach Committee Bake Sale	April 29, 2019	2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Lifetouch photography 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - Meet
April 15, 2019	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts - Meet	April 30, 2019	1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Pastor WILL BE at Steam Anchor 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Lifetouch photography

BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



April 2 Mark Schrader

April 6 Alexis Bueno
Fritz Jordan

April 8 Karen Fanderclai

April 11 Jaden Rathburn

April 12 Roy Nelson

April 15 Kane Temple

April 23 Donna Parker

April 24 Mary Jo Nelson

April 28 April Blount

OFFICE SCHEDULE:

Pastor - 9 a.m. to Noon - Monday - Thursday
Secretary - 8 a.m. to noon - Monday - Friday

LUNCH BUNCH



The Lunch Bunch will meet at Jenny's at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday April 11th.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP TO MEET

The Men's Fellowship will meet at 8:00 a.m. Saturday April 9th. For more information contact Bill Wilkin.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you or someone you know is in need of prayers, please contact us at the office. We are available by e-mail, telephone, or regular mail. We will pass your request along to everyone, there are never too many prayers. Thank You Paul and Pastor Cath

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know that when you pay your bills by "Bill Pay" online you can include the church or even make it an automatic payment. Please see Paul Delzell for more information.

SEMI-ANNUAL DONATION STATEMENT AVAILABLE BY E-MAIL

With a new update to our computer program, your donation statement is now available through e-mail. If you are willing to receive your statement in this manner, please contact me. I have started this new method with several signing up. Thank You Paul Delzell

DID YOU KNOW?

If you put loose trash in any of the containers outside the kitchen door, someone will have to fish it back out and put it in a trash bag. Our trash is carried to the curb in bags by someone to be picked up by the trash collectors. So PLEASE DO NOT put loose trash in either of the trash containers put it in a garbage sack. Thank You Paul Delzell

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Are you in need of offering envelopes? I have begun a new policy of printing them when you need them as many have said they have some left from previous years. So, if you are in need please call the office or drop a note in my box at church to let me know how many you would like and I will print them. Thank You Paul Delzell

ESTIMATE OF GIVING

Have you considered how you can help our Finance Committee plan for our church financially for 2019. Your Estimate of Giving helps us do just that. So please if you have not done so yet please consider filling it out today. For the blank form contact the Office. Thank You!



ANNIVERSARIES

April 3 Jeff and Jackie Pessman

April 15 Randy and Pam May

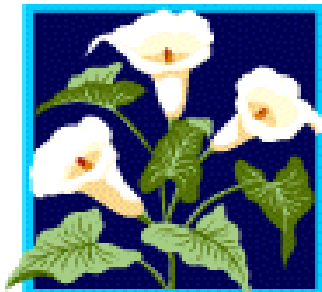
April 27 Ryan and Lora Thayer

*If your birthday or anniversary was missed please contact the office.
d please contact the office.*

HAPPY EASTER

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
 FULTON
 311 NORTH NINTH STREET
 FULTON, IL 61252-1897
 PHONE: 815-589-3580
 FAX: 815-589-4712
 EMAIL: fultonpres@mchsi.com**

EASTER LILY ORDER



If you would like to order a Lily for the church for Easter please fill out the information below. A check (made out to the Presbyterian Church of Fulton) or cash in the amount of \$13.00 for each lily is be enclosed with the order form and turned in to the church office no later than 8:00 a.m.

April 8, 2018, Thank You.

Given in memory of: _____

Given in honor of: _____

Given in celebration of: _____

___ I will take the Easter Lily after the Easter Service. #Lilies ordered _____

___ Please use the lily in the ministry of the church. Amount enclosed _____

Name: _____