



PRESBYTERIAN TIDBITS

The Newsletter of Ottawa Presbyterian Church

150 N. Oak St., Ottawa, OH 45875-1810 ♦ (419) 523-3694

9:30 Sunday School/10:45 Worship ♦ ottawapresby.org

Pastor Lance Wiesmann, *Interim Pastor* ♦ Andrea Morman, *Secretary*

March 2022



Spring is ALMOST here!! Can you feel the anticipation building?

On top of that, we have just entered the Season of Lent which will take us up to Holy Week and Easter, in 5 weeks' time!

So, as we “put away the Alleluias” for the next 5 weeks, I will encourage you to get ahold of a copy of the Lenten Devotionals we have from the Presbyterian Church (USA). They should be available on the table inside the door downstairs. If you wish to have a copy emailed to you, please let us know that as well, and we'll do our best to honor your request.

I have some REALLY GOOD news!! The Session voted this past Monday to bring back the Palm Sunday Breakfast following a two-year “pandemic hiatus”!! Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the hallway downstairs! I'm looking forward to enjoying this revival with all of you!

As we move through these last few weeks of Winter, and move forward into Spring, let's all work together to celebrate this season of renewal and rebirth. It's my honor and joy to continue this work with all of you.

Remember, if you need to contact me for any reason, my email address is: wiesmannlance@gmail.com or Pastor@ottawapresby.org. My mobile phone number is: 517-270-4837 and (if I don't answer) you can either text or leave a message. I will return the message/call as quickly as I can.

Peace,
Pastor Lance



Prayer Concerns

Please note: Specific information about those included in our prayers is available during worship, from Pastor Lance, in our office, or from our

Session members. However, specific names will not be posted on this web version of the newsletter.

Please pray for those with **health concerns** no matter what their stage of life.

Please pray for those **serving in the military**, both at home and overseas, as well as the families who watch and wait for them.

Please pray for those who are either waiting for or who have received **organ transplants** and the families who face difficult decisions.

Please pray for **those facing decisions** in their personal lives, their professional lives, their family lives, or their spiritual lives.

Please pray for all those touched by the **COVID pandemic**—whether through personal illness or loss or through hardships caused by the disease.

Please pray for **Pastor Lance** and his ministry with our congregation. And finally, please say a prayer of thanksgiving for the **blessings of this congregation**—especially as we celebrate 175 years of congregational life here in Ottawa!

Financial Report

Financial reports for the church are available in the hard copy version of this newsletter. If you would like more information, you may also contact our treasurer (treasurer@ottawapresby.org).



World Day of Prayer will take place at New Creation Church on **March 4 at 10 am** with light refreshments afterwards. All women are

invited to this annual event. This year, the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland call us to worship with the words, “I know the plans I have for you,” inspired by Jeremiah 29:1-. For Jeremiah, God’s plan was clear, and we share this assurance. We are invited to hear about their history and their culture. Women will be sharing their stories of intergenerational wisdom, traditions, and experiences of God’s profound love.

We will join with thousands of women from around the world together and collectively worship on the first Friday in March.

Report from Presbytery

Two items stood out at February’s Presbytery meeting. One is a cause for celebration; the other is a concern.

A celebration! Candidate **Amy Remaklus** passed **ALL FOUR** of her ordination exams and received enthusiastic evaluations from her exam readers. Congratulations, Amy, on passing these exams with flying colors and achieving yet another benchmark in your ministry journey.

A widespread concern. The shortage of ministers impacted a huge portion of the topics covered at the February meeting. The following numbers depict the size of the problem.

- Number of churches listed in this Presbytery – 63
- Number of full-time pastors serving in our presbytery – 21
- Number of churches with no formal leadership at all – 13
- Anticipated retirements in the next 6 months – 6 to 10

Rev. Dr. Matt Meinke stated that while the seminaries are full, graduates are heading to areas other than congregational ministry. Social work related careers are a typical example.

What does this mean for us? One leader explained that all of us need to look at new approaches to congregational leadership. This is a time of a **culture shift** both in our presbytery and through the Presbyterian Church as a whole. And this hits especially close to home for us with all of the transitions we’ve had recently.

The next Presbytery meeting will be held in May.

--Beth Myers, Commissioner

**Next Session meeting will be
March 21, at 7 pm. via Zoom.**



Turn your clocks ahead
on Sunday, March 13

Registration for Summer Camp 2022 is now Open! Register today at Kirkmontcenter.org and make this Summer the best one yet for your young and young at heart loved ones!



2022 Summer Camp Dates

Registration now open!

Check this out!



Quilt Camp 1
June 5 - 10



Beginners Camp
June 12 - 15



PYC Jr/Sr
June 19 - 25



Camp Kirkmont 1
June 26 - July 1



Camp Rejoice
July 10 - 16



Camp Kirkmont 2
July 17 - 22



Quilt Camp 2
July 17 - 22



You and Me
July 23 - 24



Camp Kirkmont 3
July 24 - 29



Camp Kirkmont 4
August 7 - 12



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Presbyterian Tidbits is published once a month by:

Ottawa Presbyterian Church, part of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Andrea Morman, secretary, is usually here Wednesday & Thursday.

Our website is ottawapresby.org

Sunday School – 9:30 am/Worship – 10:45 am

The **Prayer Circle** is a group willing to confidentially pray for your joys and concerns.

Please contact prayercircle@ottawapresby.org.

DATE	ELDERS IN CHARGE	FLOWERS
March 6	Wayne B.	Kaufman
March 13	Carrie J.	Beckman
March 20	Stan B.	TBD
March 27	Nancy K.	Myers

Session:

Class of 2022: **Karl Hirzel, Nancy Kaufman**

Class of 2023: **Wayne Badder, Carrie Johnson**

Class of 2024: **Stan Beckman, Katrina Riepenhoff**