



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*

April 2022



Has it really been an entire year since I wrote my first Pastor's Column for this newsletter? In some ways that just doesn't seem possible. As we launch into April, we are in the throes of getting serious about planning for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter.

I'm VERY excited to see what a Palm Sunday Breakfast looks like! I grew up with a tradition of Easter Sunrise Service, Breakfast, and "Regular" Worship (I always thought Easter was the *longest* day of the year)! Spreading all of that out over two weeks will be interesting to experience – and somehow seems like a stroke of utter genius.

We will also be having a Maundy Thursday Service (04/14) that will look like this: we will have a "Simple Supper" of Soup, Salad, Bread & Dessert at 6:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Following supper, we will come up to the Sanctuary for a "Service of Lengthening Shadows" at 7:00 PM. At the end of the Service, we will be "stripping" the Sanctuary, you will be asked to leave in *silence*, and the Prayer Vigil will begin.

On Good Friday (04/15), if you have been studying the book *We Make the Road by Walking* with us this year, Andee and I are inviting you to join us in Fellowship Hall for a brown-bag lunch class at 1:00 PM when we will be studying Chapters 32B & 32C. If you haven't been studying the book, but are curious, we'd love to have you join us also. Good Friday evening, we will have a Service in the Sanctuary at 7:00PM. Following this Service you will once again be asked to leave in *silence*.

Easter Sunday (04/17) we will begin with Sunday School as usual at 9:30 AM followed by a Service of Resurrection at 10:45 AM.

The Sunday after Easter will be Holy Humor Sunday. I will be using a vacation day that Sunday and the kids will be in charge – with the able assistance of Katrina and Carrie!

In the very near future, my Office Schedule will be changing to bring it in alignment with Andrea's. I will keep you all posted as that develops. I am also available for an hour (or 2) after Sunday Worship each week, if you want/need to talk or visit.

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 Reports

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).

HOLY COW ASSESSMENT RESULTS

(Due to March newsletter sent out a little earlier last month, this article didn't get published in it) Recently members of our church congregation were asked to complete The Holy Cow Assessment questionnaire. Thank you so much to all that took the time to do this. The results have been tabulated and will be incorporated into the final report that will be communicated to the congregation in the coming weeks.

The session has had an opportunity to review the initial findings. What has been learned so far? A big percentage of our congregation are not sure whether they like how things are currently going at church. Many are looking for more vitality and energy among church leaders and members. Some are looking for church activities beyond worship for fellowship and perhaps to aid them in life.

And very important, a large number believe church leaders are not communicating well with the members. Quite interesting, and a big plus for Ottawa Presbyterian Church, is the amazing blend of perspectives in views, theology, and adaptability we all hold. We are a family, each different, that worships together.

All views are being taken seriously. They will be evaluated and incorporated in future decisions to keep our church an integral and vital part of your journey with Christ, serving Him, and the world. Please keep your church and its leaders in your prayers. See you Sunday.



Holy Week Happenings

Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 10, after the breakfast. If you wish to donate miniature candies for the eggs, please have the candy to the church by Sunday, April 3rd. A tub for the candy is in Fellowship Hall.

Palm Sunday Breakfast will be held on Sunday, April 10, at 9:30 am. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for any that wish to help in anyway. No Sunday School that day.



Maundy Thursday, April 14, a Simple Supper will be held at 6 pm in Fellowship Hall. Food (Soup, salads, breads, dessert) provided by Worship Committee and Pastor Lance. At 7 pm there will be a service held.

Prayer Vigil will begin after the Maundy Thursday service. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for times you wish to pray, either at home or at church. Please check whether you are choosing to pray at church or at home.



Good Friday Service will be held on April 15 at 7 pm.

Anyone wishing to decorate the sanctuary with flowers for Easter Sunday, April 17, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. **Please specify if a name is in honor of or in memory of someone.** Please have flowers to the church by Saturday, April 16th.

**Next Session meeting will be
April 25, at 7 pm. via Zoom.**

Notes from Session

We are just finalizing the renewal of service with CRE Lance Wiesmann. Lance serves under a contract arrangement, and thus we have defined expectations and goals for the coming year within this contract. It has been sent over to the Commission on Leadership at Presbytery (formerly known as the Committee on Ministry) for approval, and Session will then finalize and move forward.

Session is going to be meeting next week for a special discussion to start to understand the findings within the Holy Cow assessment that many of you participated in. We were concerned with some of the outcomes and opinions, and our goal is to define the various areas that we need to address, and discern the best mechanism to do so to involve the active congregation and reach out to those that do not feel fully engaged. Please know that this is going to be a major component of our Session for the next several months, and will be coming to you in the near future with opportunities to discuss where we can make a difference.

Lastly, I failed to post in the newsletter or bulletin who the various committee leads are for the various ministries of our church. Please give your support and thanks to the following people for their service.

Worship and Music - Nancy Kaufman
mnkaufman@woh.rr.com

Christian Education - Katrina Riepenhoff
katrinariepenhoff@yahoo.com

Fellowship/OPW - Carrie Johnson
Carriej225@gmail.com

Building and Admin - Karl Hirzel
kehrzel@gmail.com

Stewardship - Wayne Badder
Waynerbadder@gmail.com

Mission/Evangelism - Stan Beckman
sbeckman@woh.rr.com

Clerk of Session - Karl Hirzel
kehrzel@gmail.com

If you have any questions or would like to participate in any of these areas of the church, please feel free to contact these people for further information.

Peace,
Karl Hirzel, Clerk of Session

Community Events

BBQ Chicken Dinner (Cooked by Lock 16)

Sunday, April 10, from 11 am – 1 pm. Carry out only. Drive thru pickup at Boy Scout house in Ottawa. Cost \$10. Meal includes ½ chicken, sides, roll. For tickets, ask any area boy scout. Proceeds benefit the Boy Scout Troop 224.



“Spring into Gardening” with the Garden Fair and Gardener’s Market hosted by Putnam County Master Gardeners, Saturday, April 30, 2022.

The **Garden Fair** is an educational event from 8:45 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Highlights include: Keynote Session, two gardening sessions, hands on sessions, DOOR PRIZES and more. A \$25.00 fee and pre-registration is required by April 25, 2022. Optional Papercrete and Succulent Wreath sessions are an additional \$10.00. Registration form available at www.putnam.osu.edu or the OSU Extension Office – Putnam County 1206 East Second Street, Ottawa, OH. The **Garden Market** is free and open to the public April 30, 2022 from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Both events will be held at the Putnam County Educational Service Center 124 Putnam Parkway, Ottawa, OH.

Lost & Found

A pair of non-prescription glasses showed up in the church after Christmas Eve and have not left. If you know of anyone missing a brownish/rust colored with black colorings on it, contact the office at 419-523-3694 or secretary@ottawapresby.org.



“Singing Your Faith”

a journey of the Lenten Season through music

**Thursday, April 7, 2022
7:00 PM
In the church sanctuary**

*Sponsored by the United Methodist Women
Trinity United Methodist Church
137 North Pratt Street
Ottawa, Ohio*

As we walk with Jesus through Lent, we cannot overlook the power of music and community in helping us make that journey together. We invite you then, to share in an evening of congregational singing, scripture readings, and meditation. Together we will contemplate the lyrics and meaning of some of our most favorite Lenten hymns. A time of fellowship will follow the evening's program.

In order to prepare for this time, we ask that you indicate your intentions by calling 419-890-7073 and leaving a voicemail message with the number of persons planning to attend. Thank-you!

OTTAWA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**150 N. OAK ST.
OTTAWA, OH 45875-1810
419-523-3694**



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
April 3	Nancy K.	Myers
April 10	Wayne B.	Palms
April 17	Carrie J.	Easter
April 24	Katrina	Easter Memories

Session:

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

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

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