



PRESBYTERIAN TIDBITS

The Newsletter of Ottawa Presbyterian Church

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

9:00am Sunday School/10am Worship ♦ ottawapresby.org

Rev. Amy Remaklus, *Pastor*; Andrea Morman, *Secretary*

April 2025



Beloved Ottawa Presbyterian Church community,

We are in the middle of Lent and are preparing our hearts for Easter 2025. While we may anxiously await the glorious news of Jesus' resurrection, let us not hurry. May we continue over the next several weeks our focus on prayer, our abstention from those things that detract from our relationship with God, and our sharing of alms with those in need. Let us continue to reflect on our relationship with God and discern what is next in our lives – both as individuals and as a congregation searching yet again for a long-term pastor.

As I said at the beginning of March, while this season of repentance and now transition is understandably difficult, it is important to honor the calling that God places on our lives, for God is always with us, guiding our next steps, and encouraging us to grow in whatever way God sees necessary. Remember how God told Joshua when he took on new leadership of the Israelites, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Speaking for myself alone, I am not afraid during this season of growth and stretching; and I am not discouraged by the sudden uprooting of my home, my husband's growth in his workplace, my children and their educational journey, or my ministerial roles. Rather, I am choosing to focus on God's intentions for this time, and in wonder and awe, I ask God: "God, what are you teaching me now? How am I growing in this? How is my family growing and stretching? Most importantly, how are we honoring and serving you?"

Therefore, I encourage you, friends, during this season of repentance and transition: "Be not afraid; be not discouraged, for God is with you always, wherever you may go." Embrace your life in Christ and this next chapter in this congregation with open hearts and minds and lean into God's calling in YOUR life. Particularly in this season of Lent and as we approach Easter, remember with courage and good cheer that nothing can hold God back; and nothing will hold you back when you place your trust in God.

Let me close with some practical information. Before my departure at the start of May, you have plenty of time to chat with me about your grief as well as questions and concerns. **Please reach out any time!** I know this can be extremely hard for many of us! Also, mark your calendars (May 4) for a congregational meeting and conversation following worship. This will be an important meeting and conversation with many pastoral updates. Please plan to attend!

Godspeed,
Pastor Amy
(419) 890-9145
amyremaklus@yahoo.com

Pause, Meditation, & Prayer is ON for April 7, 14, and 21. The sanctuary will be open to the public from 4-7 p.m. I will be in the office as well. Let's connect!

Bible Study is ON for April 7, 14, and 21 at

6:30 p.m. We have been studying the Book of Confessions. We will meet in Fellowship Hall and on Zoom.

Palm Sunday Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt (April 13)

Maundy Thursday service in Fellowship Hall (April 17) at 7 p.m., followed by prayer vigil in the sanctuary

Good Friday cross walk (April 18) at 4 p.m. Meet at Trinity United Methodist Church to walk with the Ottawa community. I have organized this walk with several local churches.

Easter morning worship – No Sunday school (April 20)



Prayer Concerns

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

Amy, 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 include a prayer of thanks for our congregation and the time that we have had together under the leadership of Rev. Amy Remaklus to serve our congregation on a part-time basis. And likewise, we pray for the Remaklus family in their new endeavors.

And finally, please say a prayer of thanksgiving for the **blessings of this congregation**—as we continue to celebrate and enjoy more than 175 years of congregational life here in Ottawa!

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

Please contact prayercircle@ottawapresby.org or amyremaklus@yahoo.com.

Just a Reminder to our families and friends:

Our church has unlimited access to RightNow Media- the world's largest streaming library of video Bible study resources. This extensive library has more than 20,000 videos taught by leaders like Francis Chan, Jennie Allen, J.D. Greear, Dr. Tony Evans, and many more. These Bible Study videos can be used as part of a group study or for personal devotion, and many series include free discussion guides and handouts. Our church believes that RightNow Media is a tool that can help you live out your faith in every area of your life- at home, at work, and in your community. In addition to many series on books of the Bible, RightNow Media has videos for everyone in your family on a variety of topics like marriage, parenting, personal finances, mental health and more. There's even a library just for kids with over 2000 safe, entertaining videos. RightNow Media has a free app that's available on all major streaming devices so you and your family can access content anywhere, anytime. To get started, simply click the link below, create your free account, and start browsing more than 20,000 inspiring videos. We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing to you and your family! You are also encouraged to pass along RightNow Media to any friends who may be interested. We hope to talk about more features and benefits in church and in future newsletters! To get started: Custom Invite Link: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/ottawapresby> Text Code: Text the keyword OTTAWAPRESBY to 49775 If you have any questions, ask Nancy, Stan or Amy!

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).



A signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board for anyone willing to volunteer to be a liturgist in April.

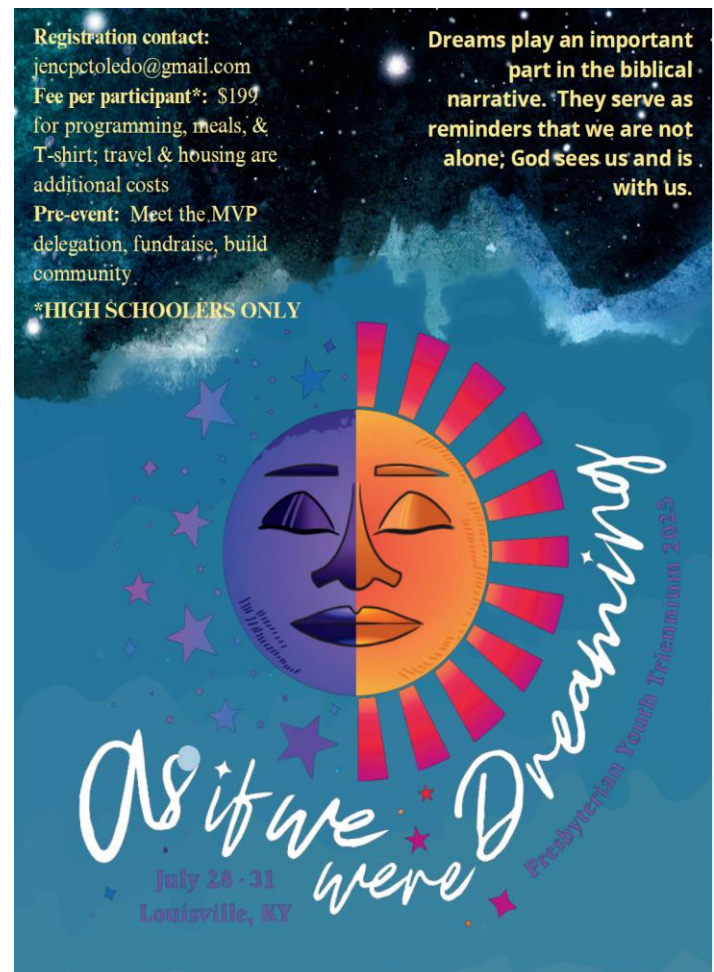
Signup sheets are on the bulletin board in the hallway for those wanting to volunteer to help with Palm Sunday breakfast (4/13) or decorating the sanctuary with spring flowers for Easter Sunday (4/20).

April 6 the youth will have a meeting to start planning the rummage sale.

The Worship and Music committee will meet on Sunday, April 13 after church to discuss pulpit supply and services after Pastor Amy's departure.

The Endowment Committee will meet on Sunday, April 27 after church to discuss camp scholarship applications and approvals.

There will be no Sunday school on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday.



Summer Camp Info



It's not too early to start planning for Kirkmont! Information on summer camps can be found on the [kirkmontcenter.org](https://www.kirkmontcenter.org) website or by clicking on this link:

<https://www.kirkmontcenter.org/summer-camps/>

Also, this is the year for the Presbyterian USA Triennium for youth entering high school next fall through youth completing their senior year of high school. This is an amazing experience and one that is sure to make an impact on all attendees. More information can be found at:

<https://presbyterianyouthtriennium.org/>.

Any youth from OPC that would like to attend either or both of these opportunities can apply for a scholarship through our Sewell Scholarship Fund. Scholarship forms can be found under the tab "Presby Papers" on the ottawapresby.org website, or by clicking on this link:

<https://ottawapresby.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Sewell-Scholarship-OPC-Scholarship.pdf>

Scholarship applications are due on April 27. Applications can be scanned and emailed to Lynne Hirzel at hirzel506@gmail.com, or given to her at church.

 **Kirkmont Center**
2025 Summer Camps

Quilt & Crafts Camp I June 1-6 Ages 18+	PYC Jr. Camp June 15-21 Completed Grades 3-6	You & Me Camp July 12-13 Ages 3-17 with an Adult
Beginners Camp June 8-11 Completed Grades K-3	Camp Rejoice July 6-12 Completed Grades 3-12	Quilt & Crafts Camp II July 13-18 Ages 18+
PYC Sr. Camp June 15-21 Completed Grades 7-12		Alumni Camp September 5-7 Ages 18+

Kirkmont Center
6946 Co. Rd. 10
Zanesfield, OH 43360
info@KirkmontCenter.org
(937) 593-2141

Registration & Details:
Registration is now open at KirkmontCenter.org! Please contact us with any questions or concerns.



Putnam County Council on Aging April Activities

We invite any Putnam County resident
age 60 and better, to join the fun!

April 1st- 10:00 a.m. Truth or Dare

Ottoville Parish Hall 189 Church Street, Ottoville
Please RSVP by March 21st

April 3rd- 10:00 a.m. Bingo Sponsored by Bridge Home Care and Hospice

Fort Haven Apartments 145 Fourth Street, Fort Jennings
Please RSVP by March 24th

April 7th- 1:30 p.m. QR Codes and You With Addie Kaple-Sguerra

Ottawa District Library 136 Putnam Parkway, Ottawa
Please RSVP by March 31st

April 10th- 10:00 a.m. The Price is Wrong

United Methodist Church 300 North Main Street, Continental
Please RSVP by April 1st

April 14th- 10:00 a.m. Art Socialization Group with Area Agency on Aging 3

United Methodist Church 300 North Main Street, Continental
Please RSVP by April 7th

April 15th- 10:00 a.m. Single and Ready to Mingle

Church of the Good Sheperd 224 South Elm, Columbus Grove
Please RSVP by April 4th

April 22nd- 10:00 a.m. Pinwheel Surprise

Norhtside Lions Den Shelter House 429 Northland Drive, Kalida
Please RSVP by April 11th

To register please call the Council on Aging
at 419-523-4121 or 1-877-796-1760



In 2025 the Spiritual Formation Team offers
Four Opportunities for Rest, Reflection, and Restoration
See MVP website to register: maummeevp.org
Scholarships available: email matt@maummeevp.org

One day retreats in Spring and Fall:

Saturday, April 5, 2025 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, 1250 Tiffin Street, Fremont Ohio

The cost of the retreat is \$15.00 which covers lunch.

Rev. Bob Butcher will provide a brief time of centering
and then you are welcome to walk in creation.

Saturday, September 20, 2025 10:00 a.m. to noon, followed by lunch

Toledo Museum of Art

Dr. Marie Loudon-Hanes will lead us in viewing selected art pieces.

Cost: Admission to the museum is free,

There is a \$10.00 charge for parking per vehicle

Lunch at the TMA café, cost varies by your order

42 Hour Retreats in Spring and Fall

April 27-29, 2025

Sunday 7:00 p.m. through Tuesday 1:00 p.m.

Lial Renewal Center, 5908 Davis Road Whitehouse, Ohio

Rev. Rebecca Bosarge, speaker: A Sacred Spring, "Come Away with Me"

October 12-14, 2025

Sunday 7:00 p.m. through Tuesday 1:00 p.m.

Lial Renewal Center, 5908 Davis Road Whitehouse, Ohio

Pastor Tom Polker, leader

A Silent Retreat.

Tom Polker will provide centering input,
for an otherwise silent experience.

The following details apply to both of the 42 hour retreats:

Cost: basic retreat \$25.00 for all sessions and all meals

Lodging:

\$35.00 per night for private room with shared bathroom

\$40.00 per night for private room and private bathroom

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).

Our website is ottawapresby.org

DATE	ELDERS IN CHARGE	FLOWERS
April 6	Mike K.	Myers
April 13	Lynne H. (Communion)	Palms
April 20	Kate G .	Easter
April 27	Becky R.	Easter Memories

2025 Committees Chairs and officers:

Treasurer - Beth Myers
Financial Secretary - Lynne Hirzel
Worship and Music – Lynne Hirzel
Fellowship/OPW Rep. – Becky Riepenhoff
Mission and Outreach – Brandon Font
Stewardship & Communication – Kate Gerding
Presbytery Rep - Chas Myers
Christian Education & Youth – Victoria Otto
Clerk of Session - Karl Hirzel
Church Operations/Personnel – Mike Kaufman
Nominating Committee Chair – Kate Gerding (As outgoing Elder for 2025)

Session:

Class of 2025: **Katelyn Gerding, Becky Riepenhoff**
Class of 2026: **Lynne Hirzel, Mike Kaufman**
Class of 2027: **Brandon Font, Victoria Otto**