



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

Leslee Kirkconnell, *Lay Pastor*/Andrea Morman, *Secretary*

April 2026

Here we are in April already! We're about to celebrate the holiest day of our liturgical year and it seems the winter chill has finally broken. Warmer days, with bright color popping up as bulbs and other plants bring forth their beauty. All the earth proclaims God's praise!

Something I enjoy is gardening. As one who rents a home, that presents some limits, yet I still am able to grow quite a bit in pots. During the pandemic we had a lot of tomatoes (I think I had 12 plants), peppers, a variety of herbs, spaghetti squash, broccoli, cauliflower and more. Since I like to make my own tomato sauce, having lots of tomatoes was never a problem. Plus I just love to eat homegrown tomatoes all summer long. When the bounty got overwhelming, I spent time roasting tomatoes and then freezing toward future use (mostly sauce). I use fresh herbs for cooking and grow sweet as well as spicy basil for pesto.

Many plants I grow from seed, which takes longer and is less certain, but is more satisfying. I am behind in my planting for this year, but will do so soon. It's fun and satisfying to play in the dirt with the result of delicious and fresh food for many weeks.

God is present in our gardening, and I find my time spent tending the grown plants to be prayerful. God created the earth and all the food bearing plants, so any time any of us spend tending our growing is holy. It's doing what God called us to do - having dominion over the earth and caring for it. In Genesis 2 we read "Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food," and we remember to thank God for the gifts of the earth.

As we begin our growing for this year in raised beds, containers, in fields and more, let us thank God for all God's blessings to us. Let us also grow in love of God and of each other, as Jesus commanded at his last supper.

Here's a prayer, written by the Rev. Carol Holbrook Prickett, a PC(USA) pastor who shares the prayers and liturgy she writes for all to use:

Nurturing God, You are the Planter of Every Good Seed, the Fount of Every Blessing, the Bread of Life, the Good Physician, the Good Shepherd. You work in every part of our lives, encouraging us to grow and flourish so that we may have the strength to work for good in the lives of others. We strive to encounter you this morning, and yet, you are already here: open our hearts to your presence, and teach us gratitude for You and for each other. In the name of Christ, who revealed your saving care to us, Amen.

Leslee Kirkconnell



Prayer Concerns

Please note: Specific information about those included in our prayers is available during worship, 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 **servicing in the military**, both at home and overseas, as well as the families who watch and wait for them.

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

Please pray for our **church leaders**—not just in our congregation, but in our Presbytery, in our Synod, and in the church worldwide.

And finally, please say a prayer of thanksgiving for the **blessings of this congregation**—as we continue to celebrate and lookforward to enjoying 180 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.

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).

Upcoming Events

Wednesday Night Lenten Bible Study: 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall on April 1st.

Holy Week:

4/2/26: Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion at 7pm.

4/2-4/3: Good Friday Prayer Vigil is held from 9pm on Thursday, April 2, through noon on Friday, April 3. There are still some time slots open for the Good Friday Prayer Vigil. We are offering the conventional prayer vigil at the church, but realize that not everyone can come to the church during the night hours for various reasons- small children at home, health reasons, driving at night, etc. so we also offer an at home

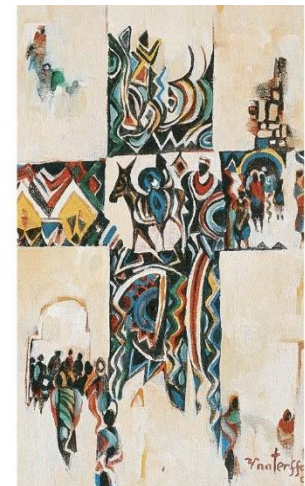
prayer option. You can sign up for an hour time slot for either, or both. We will have prayer books, readings, etc. available at the church, and we have listed some prayer resources that can be used for the home vigil. Please join in the spiritual experience of prayer and contemplating the meaning of Christ's death and resurrection in your life.

Prayer resources:



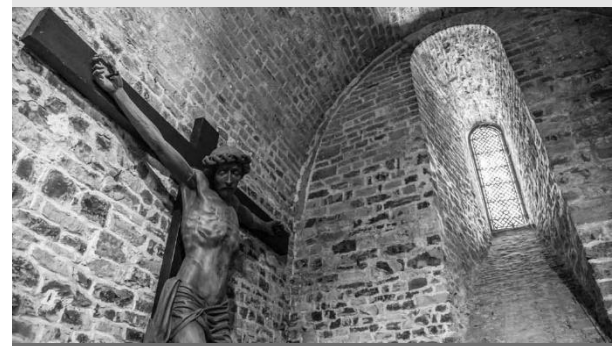
www.reformedworship.org

God who created us,
suffers because of us.
God who died upon the Cross,
suffers for us.
God who dwells inside us,
suffers with us.
And in God's suffering we find hope.
God, our suffering God,
Your story brings us salvation.
Without you the horrors of human suffering
Would be unbearable.
Your story gives life meaning.
Because of your suffering
a new world has broken into ours.
Your pain releases us from prison.
Your agony frees us
to live in love, joy and peace
in your eternal resurrection world.
Christine Sims <http://godspace-mxa.com>



Good Friday Resources – Updated for 2023

godspacelight.com



What does this day mean? Handout for Good Friday at Home
buildfaith.org

RightNow Media
app.rightnowmedia.org



4/5/26: Easter Sunday Service at 10am.



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

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

Any youth from OPC that would like to attend Kirkmont 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 26. Applications can be scanned and emailed to Lynne Hirzel at hirzel506@gmail.com or given to her at church. **There will be an endowment meeting on Sunday, April 26, following church, to discuss camp scholarships**



Ottawa Boy Scout Troop 224 is holding a chicken bbq on Sunday, April 12, from 11am-1pm. Carryout only at the Boy Scout House. Cost \$13. ½ chicken, sides & cookie.

PC Medication/Recycling Collection Event:



Saturday, April 18, from 9am-12pm.
Location, PC Educational Service Center.
Get rid of unused/unwanted medications and recycle household items. See items that will be accepted on flyer on the bulletin board.

Putnam County Master Gardener Volunteers (MGV) invite you to attend our "Spring into Gardening"



garden fair on April 25, 2026 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Location: Putnam County Educational Service Center 124 Putnam Pkwy, Ottawa, Ohio \$40.00 per person (includes Breakfast and lunch) Sessions include: 'Conservation in the Garden,' 'Gardening for Blooms and Beneficials,' 'Mushrooms of Ohio' and 'Water Conservation.' Register by April 17, 2026 at the Putnam County Extension Office or online at: go.osu.edu/springintogardening



Senior Citizens' Day Celebration

In honor of Older Americans Month, the Putnam County Council on Aging invites all adults age 60 and better to attend the Senior Citizens' Day Celebration on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, from 12:00–2:00 p.m. at the Columbus Grove Legion.

The celebration will include a sit-down lunch catered by Ted's Market and entertainment by Antique Mayhem.

Tickets are \$12.00 per person. Please RSVP by April 29 by calling 419-523-4121 or by visiting the Council on Aging office, 1425 E. 4th St., Ottawa to reserve your seat.

Save the Date!

We are 180 years strong this year! On Sunday August 9 we will have a special

Homecoming Celebration. Details are in the beginning stages, but SAVE THE DATE NOW! If you know of former members who might want to join us, PLEASE reach out and let them know. If you want to be part of the planning fun, see Chas Myers, who is chairing the planning team.

The Food Pantry is in desperate need of toilet paper and bath soap. Please consider donating if you are able! Thanks!!!!

One Great Hour of Sharing offering will still be accepted for the next couple weeks.

rightnow MEDIA

Free Access to 25,000+ Bible Study Videos

Every person at our church has free access to biblical video series for adults, youth, and kids. Start streaming today on your favorite device.

Get Free Access:

Scan the QR code to create your free account and start browsing.

android chromecast iPhone & iPad Roku Apple TV fireTV

WOMEN'S HEALTH RESOURCE
HELP • HOPE • HEALING

40th Annual Benefit Dinner & Silent Auction

HELD AT ARCHBOLD EVANGELICAL CHURCH
705 LAFAYETTE STREET, ARCHBOLD, OHIO

APRIL 14 | 5:30PM | ARCHBOLD OHIO

[Register Here](#)

Contact Us: 419-636-5692 | Website: www.cpcnwo.org | Email: cpc@cpcnwo.org

WAUSEON | BRYAN | DEFIANCE | NAPOLEON
1499 GLENWOOD AVE. | 1410 W HIGH ST. | 1997 N CLINTON ST. | 1801 OAKWOOD AVE.

Putnam County Council on Aging April Activities

Date	Event	Time	Location
4-1-2026	Bingocize	10:00am	Putnam County Council on Aging, Ottawa
4-2-2026	Bingo	1:00pm	Fort Haven Apartments, Fort Jennings
4-6-2026	Exploring AI Together	1:30pm	Putnam Co. District Library, Ottawa
4-7-2026	Medicare and Medicaid Updates	1:00pm	Fogle Center, Leipsic
4-14-2026	Graze and Gather	1:00pm	United Methodist Church, Continental (Northside)
4-16-2026	Planters and Friends	10:00am	Northside Lions Den Shelterhouse, Kalida
4-22-2026	Strong Bones Today	1:30pm	Community Center, Vaughnsville
4-28-2026	Euchre	10:00am	Northside Lions Den Shelterhouse, Kalida
4-30-2026	Spring Fling Party	10:00am	Arthur-Lugbihl Community Center, Pandora

For more information or to attend please call the Council on Aging at 419-523-4121 or 1-877-796-1760

He is not here....he is risen!

Alleluia!

OTTAWA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
150 N. OAK ST.
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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
Leslee Kirkconnell is happy to be here as your Lay Pastor. To contact her with pastoral concerns, desire for a visit, prayer, feel free to email pastor@ottawapresby.org or call/text 352-339-1950 (please leave a message). She is also generally in the office on Monday and Wednesday.

DATE	ELDERS IN CHARGE	FLOWERS
April 2 (MT)	Victoria O. (Communion)	
April 5	Brandon	Easter
April 12	Mike K. (Communion)	Easter Memories
April 19	Lynne H.	Myers
April 26	Robyn B.	TBD

2026 Committees Chairs and officers:

Treasurer - Beth Myers
Financial Secretary - Lynne Hirzel
Worship and Music – Lynne Hirzel
Fellowship/OPW Rep. – Marge Roberts
Mission and Outreach – Brandon Font/Mike Kaufman
Stewardship & Communication – Robyn Badder
Presbytery Rep – Beth Myers
Christian Education & Youth – Victoria Otto
Clerk of Session/Contact - Karl Hirzel
Church Operations/Personnel – Mike Kaufman
Nominating Committee Chair – Kate Gerding (As outgoing Elder for 2025)
Synod Representative for Presbytery – Gillian Holzhauser-Graber

Session:

Class of 2026: **Lynne Hirzel, Mike Kaufman**
Class of 2027: **Brandon Font, Victoria Otto**
Class of 2028: **Robyn Badder, Marge Roberts**