



# The Hive

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## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### HEAR OUR PRAYER, O LORD . . .

for the transforming work of your Spirit within, among and through us, for your comforting presence with: **the families of the boys killed in an automobile accident on March 26<sup>th</sup>.**

for renewed health: **Mary Quinn, Bev Chipman, Nancy Keller, Jim Crawford, and Jerry Irwin.**

for those homebound and in care facilities: **Dorothy Donley, Lucille Estridge and Geneva Slanker.**

for family and friends: **Bob Kiblinger, Maegan and Rhylee Doggett, Rene Aube, Matt Engelhardt, Nancy Spinning and Jane Adams.**

for those in military service: **James Rath and Jesse Daniel.**

## BIRTHDAYS

April 1	Betty Bateman
April 1	Bud Brubaker
April 7	Andrew Picek
April 8	Ron Fowler
April 11	Jo Campbell
April 17	Ron Sterrett
April 19	Beverly Chipman
April 22	Libby McCabe



**Maundy Thursday Pot Luck Supper at 6:00  
and Communion at 7:00 on April 17<sup>th</sup>**

## Pastor's Column:

Dear Friends,

I have a minister-colleague in Maryland who is also a very good amateur photographer. He lives near a preserve that has a small river flowing through it, and he regularly goes out on walks to take pictures. This year in particular, he has been documenting the beauty of winter and emerging spring sights. He has captured some interesting shading of the sunlight filtered through trees, some wildlife taking advantage of the flowing water, and simply the beauty of creation.

I have been thinking about his photographs as I reflect on the month ahead. Spring is starting, finally, to burst out around us, after a long, cold winter, and by the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month, we will be celebrating the resurrection as we gather for Easter worship. There is something inherently beautiful about Easter, just as there is about the natural world around us. The promise of the resurrection is that, in an ultimate way that we perhaps do not fully understand, sin has been defeated, and the life, love, holiness, and abundance of God's desire will be the final word. Life is interesting and beautiful, even when we can find spots of ugliness or know moments of pain, and our hope is that beauty and love will be what we hold onto, no matter what.

I look forward to seeing everyone, always, but especially on Easter. Bring families and friends! Come for a light breakfast beforehand, and then join together in worshipping our God, who desires for us life abundant, and who has made that life a promise and a reality in Christ Jesus.

Blessings, Shelley

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE  
SESSION MEETING ON  
MARCH 19, 2014

-- It was moved, seconded and passed to insert a line item into the budget for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. This line item would be a pass through only; we would send what we receive.

2 -- It was moved by the MOM Committee to hold a luncheon and take a freewill offering for the Beds for Babies program on Sunday,

March 30. Motion passed.

3 -- It was moved, seconded and passed to take up the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on Easter.

4 -- It was moved by the Facilities Committee to set the 2014 Per Capita at \$26.77 per member. That we pay the 2014 Per Capita Apportionment Invoice from Presbytery of \$688.09 immediately, and that we pay an amount of \$1105.50 on June 1. The rest of our general mission pledge will be paid at the end of the year from our General fund, and will be the balance of the General fund less \$500.00. Motion passed.

5 -- It was moved, seconded and passed to elect Elder Ann Peters as Commissioner to the next Presbytery meeting.

Respectively submitted,

Cindi Cook  
Clerk of Session

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FACILITIES COMMITTEE

The March 9<sup>th</sup> Committee report was presented to the Session. (This was detailed in the March HIVE.)

In addition – The tax exempt paperwork has been submitted to DTE Energy, requesting that they discontinue charging sales tax. Application to the State of Ohio for a sales tax refund will be made once we get a final figure. (Approximately \$250-\$300)

Thank you to Ron Sterrett for fixing the memorial room toilet and for taking our fire extinguishers for their annual inspection.

Dayton Art Glass is on track to have our 2<sup>nd</sup> stained glass window installed prior to Easter!



**Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, will be our Spring Clean Up Day, starting at 9:30 a.m. Please plan to come and help clean up our grounds and buildings after this long winter. Coffee and refreshments will be served.**

Jane Fowler,  
Chairperson

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### MISSION, OUTREACH & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Hearts for Haiti received \$ 1,140.00 from Alternative Christmas gifts sponsored by Covenant Presbyterian Church last December.

One Great Hour of Sharing offerings will be received on Easter.

National Day of Prayer - May 1, 7:00 a.m. at Church of the Brethren. All are welcome to attend.

Annual May Lunch will be May 7, 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall. Please contact Mary Jane Sterrett @717-4797 if you are available to help in any way with the salad buffet.

Mary Jane Sterrett,  
Chairperson

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### CHRISTIAN NURTURE COMMITTEE

Thank you to those who greeted and ushered during the month of February. They were: John Huston and Ron Sterrett, Jim and June Crawford, along with Don and Karen Brubaker. Marilyn Perkins and Barb Meyerhoeffer were scheduled but the Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> service was cancelled due to the weather as was the March 2<sup>nd</sup> service when Gilbert and Mildred Doggett were to greet and usher.

In March those who served as greeters/ushers were the following: Ron and Jane Fowler, Imy McFarland, Barb Meyerhoeffer, Ron and Mary Jane Sterrett, and Don and Karen Brubaker. A thank you goes to Janice Cook for contacting these individuals for both months. We all appreciate everyone's willingness to be available for this task as it aids us all in our worship services.

Communion was served to 21 on the first Sunday of Lent, March 9<sup>th</sup>. We thank the servers who were Gilbert Doggett, Imy McFarland and Sue Nichols. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be shared following

the Maundy Thursday 6 PM potluck meal on April 17<sup>th</sup>. That part of the service will begin about 7 PM if you are unable to come for the meal. All members are encouraged to participate in this special service during Holy Week.

Lenten lunches are at noon each Wednesday with the Bible study led by Shelley; the Under 56 group meets at 6 PM each Friday for their meal and study. Everyone interested is encouraged to attend one or the other time. Each study is independent and not a series.

The CNC met on March 16<sup>th</sup> with Lenten events again the focus. Easter Lilies will be ordered as usual for the sanctuary. Order forms are currently in the bulletins and HIVE. Deadline is Sunday, April 6 and the cost is \$9.00 per lily. You are welcome to take your lily home after Easter.

Easter Breakfast will be a lighter foods assortment than in past years. It will be served from 9:15-10:15 AM. Come, share food and fellowship together before the worship service. There is no fellowship hour afterward for this Sunday.

The old blue hymnals will be removed by Easter. If you want to have one, feel free to take it. The Presbytery office will be contacted to ask if another church wishes to have the remainder.

Thank you to the Presbyterian Women for providing for the fellowship time in April.

Christian Nurture Committee will host the coffee hour in May for the first 3 Sundays.

The next Christian Nurture Committee meeting will be May 18<sup>th</sup> after worship and coffee.

Ann Peters  
Chairperson

## Presbyterian Women

### **Circle Meetings:**

Martha Circle meets on Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 AM at the home of Stella Grasmick.

Ruth Circle meets on Wednesday., April 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM at the home of June Crawford.

The PW Coordinating Team will meet on Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM in the Memorial Room.



The annual May Lunch will be on Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon. The guest speaker will be presenting a program about the annual White House Christmas ornaments.

The buffet lunch menu will be as follows: hot chicken salad, broccoli salad, cranberry salad with layer cake as dessert. Layer cakes are still needed. Help is needed for serving beverages, etc., during the meal and for clean-up afterward. Please contact Mary Jane Sterrett if you can assist with any of these needs. Her phones: 937-717-4797 (home); 937-546-8245 (cell).

Tickets will be available in April from Barb Meyerhoeffler, Mary Jane Sterrett and Ann Peters, and from the church office. The cost is again \$8.00 for the buffet lunch.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ann Peters

## **HIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Funding the Presbyterian Church (USA) and our Presbytery**

If you've been Presbyterian very long, you've heard of the *per capita* that we send to our denominational bodies each year. It is based on the number of people in the congregation from the previous year, and goes to support the work and mission of our denomination at all levels above the local church: Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly. What our church has been doing for many years is sending the *per capita* that went to all three levels of our denomination sometime in the spring or summer, and then a "general mission" giving toward the end of each year to go toward the presbytery's mission and benevolences. This year, our presbytery, the Presbytery of the Miami Valley, has decided to approach things a bit differently. They still want each church to send in the *per capita* amount that will go to the Synod of the Covenant (Ohio and Michigan) and to the General Assembly. That money goes to support programs, mission outreach here in the U.S. and around the world, and it helps pay for the staff to run these programs. But instead of sending the presbytery a *per capita* amount, the presbytery has asked each church to consider the work of the presbytery – mission programs, benevolent giving, and staff support, and then send money to help fund all of that. After considering all the material sent by the Presbytery, the Facilities Committee recommended to the session that we send the Synod & GA *per capita*, amounting to \$688, this month. In the summer, we will send \$1105 to the presbytery as funding toward the work of the presbytery, and then follow that up in Nov/Dec with the money from the General Mission fund, that will go toward presbytery mission and

benevolences. In the past few years, that end-of-the-year amount has ranged from \$1262 to \$2400, depending on how much money has been given throughout the year to the "General Mission" fund, a line on your giving envelopes! If we add up the amount we are pledging to give mid-year to the presbytery with the Synod & GA *per capita*, that comes to \$26.77 per person. We hope the benevolence giving at the end of the year can be at least \$1500. Please talk to anyone on the Facilities Committee or Shelley if you have questions.

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### **Understanding Our Giving Envelopes**

There are three standing funds listed on our giving envelopes. "Local Mission" is the money that stays right here in New Carlisle in our church account, to pay for utilities, staff salaries and benefits, Sunday School supplies, insurance, our basic commitment to Bethel Churches United, and various supplies. "General Mission" is the money that we send to the Presbytery of the Miami Valley for its mission and benevolent work. For example, Ann Peters is on the Network Support Committee, and that committee funds a variety of networks in the presbytery that do all kinds of ministry, from Campus Ministry at local colleges to Christian Educators support to Older Adult Ministry to a new group working in Rwanda to youth ministry (there are 10 networks, and you can read about them on the presbytery's website: [www.miamipresbytery.org](http://www.miamipresbytery.org)). The third fund on our envelop is the Building Fund, and money given there goes toward the ongoing large maintenance needs of our two buildings. While Local Mission is where the bulk of our giving needs to go to pay for the ongoing life of this congregation, support to both of the other funds is needed and appreciated!

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**Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**

At its stated meeting in March, the session voted to make PDA, the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program, a line item in our budget. It came to our attention that there are members of this congregation that already sent money directly to the denominational headquarters office in Louisville earmarked for PDA. PDA sends people and financial assistance directly to disasters. For example, they are often some of the first-responders on the ground after horrible storms or earthquakes, bringing hygiene kits, food, water, and shelter. PDA was present after hurricane Katrina in New Orleans and the other southern states, and operated rebuilding/restoration projects for several years, the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami that devastated so many places, the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, and most recently, the run of tornadoes last spring that damaged so many places in the U.S. So why put a line item in our budget, and not simply allow those who wish to contribute to send their checks directly to Louisville? If a disaster happens and you'd like to respond financially, you can write a check to Honey Creek, earmark it for PDA, and then our treasurer will forward one check to PDA. Our church then gets "credit" as being a congregation that supports this kind of disaster aid, and the connection between our local congregation and the denomination becomes stronger.



**Easter Egg Hunt**

We will hold an Easter Egg Hunt again this year on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 in the courtyard between the two buildings. This hunt is for all our children, friends they would like to invite, and any other children you know who you would like to invite to participate.

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**Easter Breakfast**

We will have a more simplified Easter Breakfast this year! Since we do not have a coffee hour after worship on Easter, please plan to come at 9:15 to enjoy breads, pastries, fruit, juice, and coffee in the Memorial Room before our Easter service. The 56 & Under Group will provide this breakfast, and everyone is invited. Who knows, maybe some colorful Easter eggs will show up as well, for a little added protein!

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## One Great Hour of Sharing

Since 1949 Presbyterians have joined with other Christians around the world to receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. Money received in 2013 went toward disaster relief and programs that supported community sustainability and agricultural enhancement. We will receive the OGHS offering on Easter.

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## Haiti Mission Trip

This year's trip to Haiti is June 23-29, with the primary purpose to be to help with the annual beach trip for the residents of Wings of Hope. We will also learn a bit more about the spirituality of Mother Teresa, and do some volunteer work at the Sisters of Charity sites in Haiti. At the time of writing this, there are still several slots available, so if you or someone you know would like to go, have them talk to Shelley soon. We will be purchasing the airline tickets in mid-April.

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of Every Month  
8:00 a.m. at Studebaker's**

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## Pastoral Care Emergency

In case of pastoral care emergency, please contact Rev. Shelley Wiley at her cellular phone (937-654-0078). Shelley will be here at the church Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

## HIVE INPUT

Please submit inputs and suggested articles for the HIVE to [honeycreekpres@sbcglobal.net](mailto:honeycreekpres@sbcglobal.net). The deadline for the May HIVE is April 25<sup>th</sup>.

