

The Portage Presbyterian



A Newsletter for The Portage Presbyterian Family

March 2019

TAXI CAB "VOUCHERS"

The PPC Deacons have purchased coupons to help aid our members in coming to church. If you are unable to find a way to church, call a cab! The ride will be covered with coupons that will be kept at church. The coupons can be used for both your arrival to church and your return ride home. Please consider using them whenever transportation to church becomes an issue for you. We want to see you at church! If you have any questions please call the church office 742-6006.



"BIBLE STUDY" IN MARCH

The Adult Bible Class will be meeting @ 8:45 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Sunday mornings in the Bell Tower Room.

In March we will be meeting on March 10 and March 24.

Come and join in conversation. We invite all to come and join us.

The Adult Bible Class is led by the Rev. Dr. Carol Hermann



"PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH TRIENNIUM?"

The Presbyterian Youth Triennium is a Presbyterian Church-wide youth gathering which will happen on July 16-20, 2019 at the Purdue University campus in West Lafayette, IN.

This is an event for high school age youth in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Costs for the PYT is equally divided between the John Knox Presbytery, the home church and the individual. It is estimated that the cost for each would be approximately \$250.00.

There is still time to get registered!

If you are interested, contact Pastor Dave "as soon as possible" for the registration information!

RIVER HAVEN LUNCHEON FUNDRAISER

On Sunday, March 24, we will be hosting a luncheon to benefit River Haven Homeless Shelter. The menu will consist of spaghetti, lettuce salad, French bread and dessert. A drink will also be provided. The cost will be \$5.00 for adults and children above age 8 and \$3.00 for children age 8 and under. This luncheon will also be available to the public so please invite your friends and neighbors. We must have reservations so we know how much food to provide. A reservation sheet is posted on the kiosk in Parry Hall. There will also be a donation basket if someone wants to donate more than the \$5.00. If you are unable to sign up at church, please call the church office to make your reservation by March 17th. Raquel and Pete from River Haven will be present to talk and for questions.



"RIVER HAVEN" - VOLUNTEERS?

The River Haven's Family Shelter and Men's Shelter are both open again!

One of the things that River Haven Shelter is doing is reconnecting with the community in order to recruit volunteers to help in the work and ministry of the shelter.

Being available 24/7 for those in need necessitates a significant number of people to be a part of the work of the shelter.

This is a perfect opportunity for those who seek to help make a difference in the community by offering your time and presence as a shelter volunteer.

To find out what volunteer opportunities are available or for more information, contact the River Haven Shelter @ 742-7687.

Thank you!

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 3, 2019

10:05 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*
"Dixieland" Worship Service
Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Potluck after worship in Fellowship Hall & Bingo!

Wednesday, March 6

"Ash Wednesday"

12:15 p.m. - *Worship in Sanctuary*

6:05 p.m. - *Worship in Sanctuary*

Celebration of the Lord's Supper @ both Services

Sunday, March 10, 2019

The 1st Sunday in Lent

10:05 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

Wednesday, March 13

6:05 p.m. - *"Wed Nite" Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, March 17, 2019

The 2nd Sunday in Lent

10:05 a.m. - *"Informal" Worship in Sanctuary*

Wednesday, March 20

6:05 p.m. - *"Wed Nite" Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, March 24, 2019

The 3rd Sunday in Lent

10:05 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

Wednesday, March 27

6:05 p.m. - *"Wed Nite" Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, March 31, 2019

The 4th Sunday in Lent

10:05 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

THE PORTAGE PRESBYTERIAN

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120 West Pleasant Street, P.O. Box 222

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Phone & Fax Line: - 608-742-6006

Portage Presbyterian Church E-mail Addresses

Pastor - pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com

Church Office - office@portagepresbyterian.com

Portage Presbyterian Church Website Address

www.portagepresbyterianchurch.com

Editor - Kathryn Curtis

Pastor - The Rev. David J. Hankins

IF YOU GO TO PORTAGE "PIZZA RANCH"

...*"bring in your Sunday church bulletin to the Pizza Ranch, Monday-Wednesday, turn it into the register when you purchase your buffet - we'll give \$1.00 to your church."*

This is will be an "ongoing" fund-raising opportunity. So, if you like to go to Pizza Ranch, be sure to take a bulletin along.

March

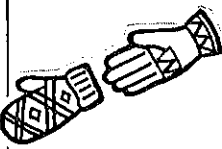
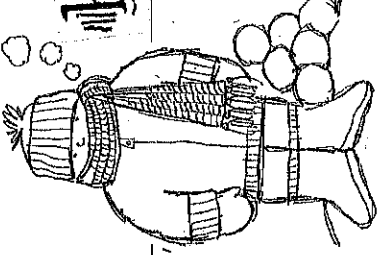


2019

Church Office Hours

Monday – 10:00am – 12:00pm
 Tuesday – Office Closed
 Wednesday – 8:00am – 1:00pm
 Thursday – Office Closed
 Friday – 8:00am – 1:00pm



SUNDAY **MONDAY** **TUESDAY** **WEDNESDAY** **THURSDAY** **FRIDAY** **SATURDAY**

3 Transfiguration of the Lord Sunday 10:05am "Dixieland" Worship, Lord's, SA Fat Sunday – Potluck, FH Discipleship Mtg, FH	4 	5 9:00am Bell Choir, PH	6 Ash Wednesday 12:30pm Ash Wednesday Service, w/ Lord's Supper, SA 6:05pm Ash Wednesday Service w/ Lord's Supper, SA	8  April Newsletter Articles Due in Office	9 9:00am JKP Leadership Training, Christ Presbyterian Church, Madison	2 9:00am Presbyterian Women Meeting at Dino's
10 1 st Sunday in Lent 8:45am Bible Study, BTR 10:05am Traditional Worship SA Fellowship 6:00pm ACA, WC	11	12 10:00am Region 5 Prayer Group, PH	13 5:00pm Meal, FH 5:30pm PEACE, BTR 6:05pm Worship, SA 6:30pm Chancel Choir, FH	14 6:00pm Session Meeting, WC	15 	16
17 2 nd Sunday in Lent 10:05am Informal - Worship, SA 11:05am Deacons, WC 4:00pm New Directions 4-H Meeting, FH	18 10:00am Worship Service at Tivoli Home Communion	19 9:00am Bell Choir, PH 11:00am "Late For Breakfast" at Dino's	20 5:00pm Meal, FH 5:30pm PEACE, BTR 6:05pm Worship, SA 6:30pm Chancel Choir, FH	21  Home Communion	22	23
24 3 rd Sunday in Lent 10:05am Traditional Worship, SA River Haven Fundraiser Luncheon, FH	25 5:00-6:00pm Sharing Supper at Bartels Middle School	26 9:00am Bell Choir, PH	27 5:00pm Meal, FH 5:30pm PEACE, BTR 6:05pm Worship, SA 6:30pm Chancel Choir, FH	28	29	30
31 4 th Sunday in Lent 10:05am Traditional Worship, SA					FOOD PANTRY Remember the food pantry. Our basket is always out in Parry Hall.	

PPC'S WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS!



The Women's Association served lasagna, tossed salad, french bread and dessert at the Community Meal at the Episcopal Church and at the Presbytery Meeting which were both held on February 16th.

Thanks to all who helped in any way to make these two meals a success.

Please come and join us for breakfast at our next meeting at Dino's Restaurant on March 2nd at 9:00 a.m.

We will be placing a Scrip order by March 11th. Please have your orders to Elaine or Donna before then. Order forms are on the table in Parry Hall.

"SHARING SUPPER" - MARCH 25, 2019

The "Sharing Supper" will be shared on Monday, March 25!!!

Serving begins at 5:00 p.m. **at the Bartels Middle School cafeteria.**

The "Sharing Supper" is served from 5:00-6:00 p.m. PLEASE NOTE - there has been a change in the ending time for the "Supper."

"Sharing Supper" is a meal, sponsored by community groups and organizations. It is intended to bring people in the community together, around tables, where we get to know one another and have an opportunity to learn more about what is happening in the community around us.

A unique part of this experience is the "Kid's Corner" designed especially for the younger folks. Here young people will have a chance to hear stories and do craft projects related to what is happening around us.

All are welcome! Bring your friends and neighbors.

Come and share in this unique and wonderful experience - on March 28 @ 5:00 p.m.



CARD PARTY

On January 25 we hosted a card party to benefit River Haven. We had 24 people playing cards and served creamed turkey along with chips, bars and drinks. Thanks to the members of the Events Committee for providing the food and drinks. We also collected 27 ½ # of food plus \$30.00 for the food pantry. This has been a wonderful mission our church is providing and the people that come to play cards always remind us of that. If you have never attended one of our card parties, come and join us and see what they are talking about it. It is a lot of fun! We made \$196.00 towards our Yakutat pledge. **Our next card party will be April 5th**

Pastor's Articles

Sometimes, especially during this winter season, it is easy to get snowed under by the dark, dreary days. Then God provides a sign in a place and time that we might not always expect. Sunday, February 24 was, for me, just such an example.

My first inclination, on whether to cancel worship services and stay home where it was warm or venture out into the cold, icy environment, was to choose the former. And perhaps that might have been the preferable and more sensible choice.

Yet, there was something that kept pushing to "just keep going." So we did.

Much to my amazement folks started showing up. Literally from near and from countryside people made the journey to come for worship.

We decided to do a "free-form" worship experience. Translated - we used no bulletins, invited more congregational participation, asked for hymn suggestions, shared most of our time in prayers of celebration and those of intercession and basically went as the Spirit led us. If the wind gusting outside was any indication, the Spirit was on the move here at PPC.

We often refer to the Portage Presbyterian Church being "a place for everybody." On this Sunday it truly was.

Over and over again people mentioned how they "just needed to be here." There were a variety of reasons why we were here - yet a common need to be in worship - and to be together as community. And we were "here!"

The sense of fellowship and community which is often associated with PPC was so evident during the time of worship as we sang and prayed together ... and during the conversations, laughter and hugs that occurred afterwards.

Undoubtedly there are times when we wonder if we make a difference, if what the church offers is really that important or if there is a reason for PPC to exist.

Well, on what might well be the worst day of this winter it seems that God provided an answer!

We, the Church, were just where we needed to be, when we needed to be.

2019 Per Capita Information

Our 2019 "Per Capita" amount is **\$32.60 for each active member.**

Please take a moment to drop off your Per Capita (*for each member*) on Sunday morning, in the mail or by stopping by the church office.

If you have a number of members in your household, you do not have to pay for everyone at one time. Pay as you can.

Also, we appreciate those who choose to make a donation on behalf of someone or as a gift to PPC which helps us cover our church's total.

If you have questions, please contact the Church Office.

Thank you!

"CLERK'S CORNER"

Our monthly Session meetings open with prayer, song, and devotions. Elders and Pastor Dave take turns presenting devotions that can include reading verses from the Bible, reading a poem or part of a magazine article or reviewing a book, whatever is particularly meaningful to the presenter.

We met on Valentine's Day in February and devotions focused on loneliness and feelings of disconnection opposite of how one "should" feel on Valentine's Day. However more and more people, mostly young people studies show, are feeling lonely and disconnected these days.

One of our goals as a Session is to create a welcoming atmosphere at PPC - a place where people of all ages can come to feel connection and fellowship - a place where we get to know one another better and hopefully feel less lonely.

One of the ideas the Session has been discussing is a regularly scheduled (monthly, bimonthly or however often) get-together for games, hobbies, food and conversation to build stronger connections. We can make it whatever we want, whenever we want - the possibilities are endless. If you have a suggestion please feel free to share; the Session would like to know what you're thinking.



Life Is a Gift

PPC "T-SHIRTS" STILL AVAILALBE

If you wanted to order the wonderful PPC "T-Shirt" but did not - we have a few extra shirts available for sale.

Each of the shirts cost \$10.00.

At the time of this printing we have the following in stock:

se"

me

ly

his

5 - small

3 - medium

5 - large

2 - extra large

If you would like to purchase a shirt, call the church office or talk to Kathy Hankins on Sunday mornings.

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ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

With the start of Lent began our One Great Hour of Sharing drive. This year's offering theme is "You Shall Be Called Repairers of the Breach"

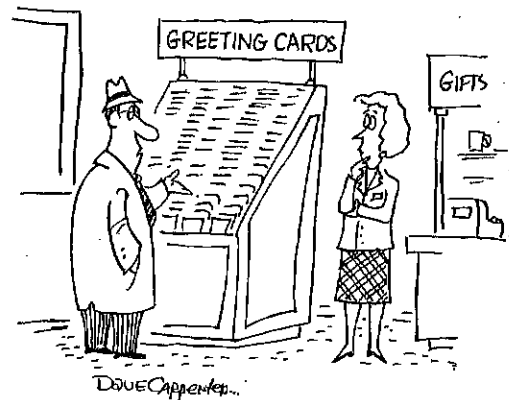
Lent is traditionally a season of fasting and prayer. During this time, Christians pay close attention to spiritual disciplines that deepen our understanding of what God is doing in our lives and in the world. As a church we spend time together hearing about and praying for the ministries of compassion and justice done through our support of One Great Hour of Sharing.

Jesus' ministry was among those who were most vulnerable. He preached good news to the poor and release to the captives. One Great Hour of Sharing helps us share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry and support for the poor and oppressed.

Every gift made to this offering will meet the needs of people, and you will hear about just a few of these individuals over the coming weeks—in bulletin inserts and minutes for mission. These stories will help us to see the face of those whose lives have been changed by our gifts, but they are only a few of the thousands and thousands of people served in this important ministry.

Through your gifts and the gifts of other congregations, the One Great Hour of Sharing offering will continue to be a reminder that through the simple act of sharing, we are blessed and experience God's abundance in surprising ways. Your OGHS gifts will be received on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

On the table in Parry Hall there are Fish boxes for you to collect your loose change in if you desire. You may also use the envelope enclosed in next months newsletter or the one in your box of church envelopes. Last year we put out a challenge and collected \$592.99. Can we top that this year!!



"Do you have one that says, 'Sorry my cell phone rang during your sermon'?"

TRY "SCRIP" - YOU'LL LOVE IT!

Scrip Fundraising is here @ PPC!

And it is EASY!!!

Scrip fundraising is a no selling program that enable members and friends of the Portage Presbyterian Church to participate in.

Scrip gift cards are the same gift cards you can purchase from the retailer. With over 300 of the Country's biggest brands, including grocery, department stores, gas stations, restaurants and home improvement and by planning ahead on everyday purchases the Women's Association will profit!

Examples of gift cards in our area are: *Festival Foods, Piggy Wiggly, Walmart, Walgreens, Subway, Cracker Barrel, BP Gas Stations, Kwik Trip, Mobil, Applebee's, Bath & Body Works, Amazon.....and so many more.*

Questions???? Contact Elaine Crammond at 742-3899 or 608 215-8899.

This is an ongoing fundraising program that will be available year round.

Consider our new approach and help us reach our mission goals!

An "order sheet" is included with the newsletter and also are available in Parry Hall!

THANK YOU'S - WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

"Seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened, ask and it shall be given..."

Dear Portage Presbyterian Church family,

Thank you so much for your donation of \$100.00 to our ministry. Your generosity helps touch the lives of many women and families during pregnancy and beyond! As we begin a new year, please pray with us to reach out and touch lives with His love.

*Wishing you God's grace -
The Pregnancy Resource
Board of Directors*

Thanks

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for helping Mary House! We're very grateful for your kind generosity.

Cassandra - Mary House

Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity. It is because of your support that we are able to continue our mission of helping those who need it the most in our community. It is truly appreciated!

River Haven Homeless Shelter

Thanks

PASTORAL CARE HOSPITAL POLICY

Divine Savior Healthcare in Portage, as a respect to patient's privacy, does not make patient information available at the front desk. However, there are two ways that pastors and churches will have information on those in the hospital:

1) If patients and/or families request a member of the Spiritual Care staff to contact the church office or the pastor

2) If the patient or family contacts the church office or pastor directly.

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Dave.

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Thanks

Dear Friends,

Special Olympics Wisconsin athletes are learning the value of teamwork, witnessing the benefits of physical fitness, and experiencing the joy of friendship, thanks to your donation to Special Olympics Wisconsin (SOWI) Agency 6-06 Silver Lake Special Olympics.

Your gift gives individuals with intellectual disabilities the tools they need to increase their self-confidence, improve their health and work in solidarity with others. By supporting SOWI, you are not only giving the gift of sport, you are making an athlete's dream of becoming a confident and independent individual a reality on the job, in the classroom and within the community.

Thanks you for your support!

Yours Sincerely,

*Special Olympics Wisconsin -
Agency 6-06*

Silver Lake Special Olympics

Thanks

Thanks

TREATS FOLLOWING WORSHIP

The Mission Stewardship Committee will be hosting a bake sale following worship on March 10, April 14, and May 12. If you are interested in donating something for the bake sale, please bring it packaged ready to sell. All proceeds will go towards our Stewardship drive. The bake sale Sundays will precede our Produce Days that will begin in June. This year some of the items will have prices on them and other will be "free will offering".



Decode The days

At this time of year, God's creation "springs" to life.

Directions: After reading Genesis 1:1-2:3, write the correct Creation day number under each picture. Then add up each day's total and write it on the correct blank below.

Day 1 (light) _____ Day 2 (waters) _____ Day 3 (land and plants) _____ Day 4 (heavenly bodies) _____

Day 5 (birds and water animals) _____ Day 6 (land animals and people) _____ Day 7 (God rested) _____

Answers: Day 1 = 3, Day 2 = 3, Day 3 = 10, Day 4 = 6, Day 5 = 10, Day 6 = 15, Day 7 = 2

[KID0319B]

Note: A completed puzzle is in a file called KID0319B_A on this month's CD and on the website, www.NewsletterNewsletter.com.

MINISTRY AND WORSHIP @ TIVOLI

PPC is blessed to provide a monthly worship service at Tivoli.

We have found that our worship service is one of the better attended worship times – and that is great news!

We are looking for additional people to come and help get people to and from the chapel.

You will have the opportunity to share in a special worship experience as well as being able to interact with some very nice people. Chaplain Monica remarks how much the residents enjoy having people come and share worship with them.

If you could help with this ministry once in a while, contact Pastor Dave.

NOTE! We share worship on the Monday March 18th ... @10:00 a.m.

“GLUTEN-FREE” BREAD- COMMUNION

In an effort to make sure that all have access to the Lord’s Table, the Board of Deacons decided that all of our communion breads served will be “gluten-free.”

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PPC COMMUNION SCHEDULE

You are encouraged to take time before each Communion to reflect on the meaning of the Lord's Supper for you, for PPC and for the world.

The "Directory for Worship" notes that *"in preparing to receive Christ in this Sacrament, the believer is to confess sin and brokenness, to seek reconciliation with God and neighbor, and to trust in Jesus Christ for cleansing and renewal."*

As Presbyterians, we believe that coming to the Lord's Table is not a right, but a privilege given to those who come in faith, repentance and love the gifts of God for the people of God.

Sunday, March 3, 2019

@ 10:05 a.m.

"Transfiguration Sunday"
Dixieland Worship Service

Wednesday, March 6, 2019

"Ash Wednesday"

@ 12:15 p.m. (noon-time)

@ 6:05 p.m. (Wed Nite Worship)
Both Services are in the Sanctuary

Wednesday Worship Service
6:05 p.m. Informal, Interactive Worship

Sunday Worship Service
10:05 a.m. Traditional Worship
Third Sunday of Each Month is Informal Service
Child Care Available
Church Is Handicapped Accessible
Everyone Invited!

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Portage Presbyterian Church
120 W Pleasant Street
PO Box 222
Portage WI 53901

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Portage WI 53901
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