

First Presbyterian Church  
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www.fpcsalem.org and First Presbyterian  
Church of Salem, Ohio on Facebook

# The Presbyterian Messenger



Rev. Meta S. Cramer, Pastor  
9:00 Sunday School; Adult Bible Study  
10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)  
10:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)

Volume LXXXI

March 11, 2014

No. 5

Periodicals Postage Paid at Salem, OH 44460, USPS 442500. Postmaster: Send address changes to *The Presbyterian Messenger*, 436 East Second Street, Salem, OH 44460-2816.

## March 16 — Second Sunday in Lent



*Soup and Bread Luncheon following Worship*

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-5a; Romans 4:1-5, 16-21;  
John 3:1-8, 16-17  
Sermon: “Born to be a Blessing”  
Music: Haviland Choir — *How Great His Love*  
Praise Choir / Praise Chime Choir  
Liturgist: Gloria Shafer

## March 23 — Third Sunday in Lent



Scripture: Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 95:6-11  
John 4:5-26, 39-42  
Sermon: “From Testing to Trust”  
Music: Haviland Choir — *Draw Me Nearer*  
Liturgist: Cara Stephens

Dear Friends,

Last week I was doing some research on the Lenten season, and I came upon a quotation from Sister Joan Chitister from Erie, Pennsylvania. She is a well-known writer on spirituality and the author of a book on the liturgical year. I shared these words from her on Facebook and was astonished at how many people “liked” them:

Lent is the opportunity to change what we ought to change but have not... Lent is about becoming, doing and changing whatever it is that is blocking the fullness of life in us right now... Lent is a summons to live anew... Lent is the time to let life in again, to rebuild the worlds we've allowed to go sterile, to “fast and weep and mourn” for the goods we've foregone. If our own lives are not to die from lack of nourishment, we must sacrifice the pride or the sloth or the listlessness that blocks us from beginning again. Then, as Joel (2:12-18) promises, God will have pity on us and pour into our hearts the life we know down deep that we are lacking.

I'm not sure which lines resonated with a number of people of all ages and backgrounds, but I personally love the words about “letting life in,” “rebuilding worlds,” and “nourishment.” If you are reading this newsletter, I assume that you are striving to live a faithful Christian life. But I – and all of us – know how easy it is to allow “pride or sloth or listlessness” to take root, with the result that we spend our lives in a rut, in a closed world into which nothing new or nourishing can thrive.

I invite you to find a “nourishing” practice this Lent. Try praying at a different time of day. Try praying with your eyes wide open, simply telling God what's on your mind – and listening for an answer. Sit in silence for five minutes, or at least when you're driving. “Give up” something that distracts you from life, whether that means having the TV on 24/7 or being on-line constantly. “Add” something that you find life-giving – writing a thank-you note to one of your elementary school teachers, or considering what good deed you might do on any given day. The options are endless. May this Lent be a time of letting life in.

*Blessings, Meta*

## Prayer Concerns

Salem Regional Medical Center —  
Denise Weingart

Others — Darla Allen (*Kevin Chumney's sister*), Wavelene Arnold, Marianne Barr (*Debbie Blair's mother*), Marilyn Cosier (*Carol Ricciardi's sister*), Archie Crum, Audrey Crawford (*Linda Crawford's sister in law*), Dick Dale, Regan Deloach (*Penny Lippiatt's friend's grand-daughter*), Stella Dominic, Alex Evans (*Lucy Works' friend*), Morgan Fennema and Nicole Fennema (*Paul and Barbara Fennema's granddaughter, daughter-in-law*), Berneda Fitch, Sandi Flake, Melissa Griffith (*Judy Sicilia's friend*), Bill Hannay, Bud Hays (*Sue Merry's father*), Jack and Rita Hovis, Hayden Johnson, Lynn Kostura (*Lauren Arnold's college friend's mother*), Guy Edward Lindsay and Kip Lindsay (*Phil Tetlow's cousins*), Susan McCullough (*Susan Merry's co-worker*), Dolly Millikin, Helen Newman (*Jim Newman's mother*), Bill Phillips (*Joyce Smith's son-in-law*), Shawn Pike, Sam Pridon, Charles and Charity Ricciardi, Marie Robinson (*Kim Double's mother*), Connie Bowman Rowe (*Helen Hayes' friend*), Terry Rufer, Gene Shafer, Dick Shanker, Gabriel Smith, (*Norm and Jeanne Smith's great-grandson and Mickey Buck's great nephew*), Julie Smith (*Joyce Smith's daughter-in-law*), Lana Tonkinson, Makala Walker (*Lucy Works' friend's great granddaughter*), Denise Weingart (*1322 Eastview Dr*)

## Special Care Facilities

Auburn: Helen Hum

Blossom: Georgiana Costa, 204B; Roland and Mary Smith (*Susan Smith's parents*)  
Austintown OH 44515

Courtyard: Phyllis Lamb, 109

Crandall: Betsy Johnson, 251 (*Tom Johnson's wife*); Kathleen Kirby, 9-162 (*Gregg Rhodes' mother*); Jim Mohr, 263

Essex III: Ibbby Dales, 211

Grace Woods: Jo Hawkins, 234

Lake Huron Woods: Joyce Smith;  
5221 Lakeshore Rd, Fort Gratiot MI 48059  
Shepherd of the Valley: Jo Hendricks, 218;  
4100 N River Rd NE, Warren OH 44484

Sterling House: Dorothy Gibson, 303

Weatherwood Manor: Dolores Kynett,  
201; 896 Weatherwood Lane, Greensburg  
PA 15601

Envelope Income received March 2, 2014	\$ 3,090.00
General Fund Balance, January 31, 2014	\$10,994.63
“Pick a Brick” for new Church Sign (\$100/Brick)	\$24,600.00
Per Capita (\$32/2014 Goal: \$11,104)	\$ 2,401.00

## Military

FENNEMA, JOHN T. SGT  
[fennema33@yahoo.com](mailto:fennema33@yahoo.com)  
Paul and Barb Fennema's son

HARP, ALEX LCPL  
[alex.j.harp@gmail.com](mailto:alex.j.harp@gmail.com)  
John and Joetta Tonti's grandson

† † † † †

The Sympathy and Surrounding Love of Our Congregation are extended to Nick and Debbie Mager and the family on the death of Nick's mother, Mary.

† † † † †

## Lenten “Soup and a Show”

Tuesdays,  
March 18, 25, and April 8

We will share a simple meal at 6:00 p.m., then view a film that has something to say about God's redemption of our lives. *Please let me know if you are interested in helping to prepare soup or a comparably simple supper. ~ Meta*

Please join us in honoring Jim Mohr's 85th Birthday! An Open House will be held on Sunday, March 16 from 3-5 p.m. at Copeland Oaks Bennett Auditorium, 800 South 15th Street, Sebring (Enter the building through the front doors, under overhang, go straight ahead and someone will greet you). Please No Gifts, just drop in and say hello.



Easter Sunday Plants:  
Daffodils, Hyacinths,  
Lilies, Tulips — \$8 each

Order through Church Office.  
Deadline — Friday, March 21

## Thank You

Thanks to our new deacon, Barbara Yonker, for delivering flowers last week. It sure makes you think spring is coming when you have some color in the house.

*Ken and Goldie Burrier*

It was a long time coming, but I finally had my spine surgery. I am getting along fine. I wish to thank everyone for the calls, cards, and to Meta for her many visits, and especially to Ellen Maticik and Sue Kyser for the beautiful flowers, and to Rich Eichler for the pretty red Poinsettia at Christmas. The Lord has been with me through this trying time. It will be a long recovery, but I will be OK.

*Dick Shanker*

Thanks so much for all your prayers, cards and phone calls during my recent illness. I appreciated Meta's presence while in the hospital and the flowers delivered by Rich Eichler from the Deacons. Life is good and God is Great!

*Archie Crum*

A special note of thanks to Carol Ricciardi and Susan Smith for helping Pres-Bees kids make Valentine crafts recently at Pres-Bees. They looked great!

*Jayne Bricker*



## Faith Endures



*"Hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts." (Romans 5:5)*

The First Presbyterian Church of Salem has a history of generously contributing to the **One Great Hour of Sharing**. Please continue to support this effective and compassionate means of responding to human need both locally and globally. This offering sustains a number of important ongoing projects. Also, because of our gifts, we can be sure that whenever and wherever disaster strikes there will be resources available to respond with the love and mercy of Jesus Christ. **An envelope is included with this newsletter.** Envelopes are also located in the Sanctuary Pew Racks.

## Community Lenten Services

First Presbyterian Church and Emmanuel Lutheran Church will participate in 12:30 p.m. Lenten services at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church on State Street. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be shared at each service.

### Wednesday, March 12

*"Change of Season"*

Rev. Alan Smearsoll preaching

### Wednesday, March 19

*"Change of Habit"*

Pastor Connie Sassanella preaching

### Wednesday, March 26

*"Change of Circumstance"*

Rev. Meta Cramer preaching

### Wednesday, April 2

*"Change of Heart"*

Pastor Alan Smearsoll preaching

### Wednesday, April 9

*"Change of Plans"*

Pastor Connie Sassanella preaching

## Please Keep Us Informed

Due to strengthened privacy laws and hospital attempts to comply with these laws, it is difficult to gain access to information regarding hospital patients. Therefore, if you or a loved one are hospitalized and would like to receive a pastoral visit, please contact the Church Office with such information. This will enable us to be more effective in our ministry to you. Thank you for your cooperation.



# Youth News

## Sunday School:

April 6 Together Time in Fellowship Hall  
April 13 Easter Egg Hunt

## Pres-Bees Youth Club:

Children Pre-Kindergarten thru Grade 5 / Weds., 5-6:45 p.m.

## Desserts needed — please call Jayne Bricker.

March 12 Regular Gathering  
March 16 Praise Choir sings during Worship  
Praise Chime Choir plays during Worship  
March 19 Regular Gathering  
March 26 Regular Gathering  
March 30 Cherub Choir sings during Worship  
April 2 Regular Gathering  
April 9 Regular Gathering (*last*)  
April 13 Youth Sunday  
April 27 Pool Party at Salem Community Center

Mission Project — we are collecting paper products (napkins, paper plates, plastic silverware, paper towels, paper cups for hot and cold beverages), dish soap, toilet paper, and SOS pads for St. Vincent DePaul. You can place them in the box on the stage in Fellowship Hall.

## LOGOS:

Youth in Grades 6-12 / Sundays, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

March 16 Regular LOGOS  
March 23 Regular LOGOS  
March 24 Serving The Banquet of Salem at 4:30 p.m.  
(We will present the Souper Bowl of Caring money this night — \$301.76)  
March 30 Photo Night — Scavenger Hunt  
April 6 LOGOS Bell Choir plays during Worship  
April 13 Youth Sunday  
April 25 Set Up for Rummage Sale  
April 26 Rummage Sale, 9-3  
April 27 Pool Party at Salem Community Center

## Vacation Bible School:

Age 4 through Grade 5

VBS will be held June 16-20 with the program held during morning Worship on Sunday, June 22. Volunteers are needed. If you would like to help, please call Jayne Bricker.

# March

## Happy Birthday!

Shirley Devan (14), Ellen Tetlow (16), Joe Marra (21),  
Sam Pridon (21), Suzanne Cain (24),  
Dick Shanker (24), Dick Dougherty (26)

- 12 / Weds 9:15 February Circle (Salem Hills)  
9:30 March Circle (110)  
12:30 Lenten Service at Holy Trinity Lutheran  
5:00 Pres-Bees Youth Club Church  
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)  
7:00 Men's Bible Study (110)
- 13 / Thurs 8:30-10:30 Church Office Closed
- 16 / Sun 9:00 Sunday School; Adult Bible Study (110)  
9:00 Confirmation Class (107)  
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)  
10:30 Worship (S)  
Soup and Bread Lunch (FH) *after Worship*  
Finance Committee (110) *after Lunch*  
4:30 LOGOS (FH)  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (B)
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- 17 / Mon 6:30 Boy Scout Troop 3 (B)
- 18 / Tues 6:00 Lenten "Soup and a Show" (107)
- 19 / Weds 12:30 Lenten Service at Holy Trinity Lutheran  
5:00 Pres-Bees Youth Club Church  
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)  
7:00 Men's Bible Study (110)
- 20 / Thurs **7:00 Session (107)**
- 21 / Fri 9:00-4:00 Quilt Group (107/109)
- 23 / Sun 9:00 Sunday School; Adult Bible Study (110)  
9:00 Confirmation Class (107)  
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)  
10:30 Worship (S)  
4:30 LOGOS (FH)  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (B)
- 24 / Mon 4:30 LOGOS serving Banquet of Salem at  
Salem Memorial Building  
6:30 Boy Scout Troop 3 (B)

- 25 / Tues 6:00 Lenten "Soup and a Show" (107)
- 26 / Weds 12:30 Lenten Service at Holy Trinity Lutheran  
5:00 Pres-Bees Youth Club Church  
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)  
7:00 Men's Bible Study (110)
- 30 / Sun 9:00 Sunday School; Adult Bible Study (110)  
9:00 Confirmation Class (107)  
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)  
10:30 Worship (S)  
4:30 LOGOS Phone Night (FH)  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (B)

# April

## Happy Birthday!

Roberta Bell (12), Jeanne Smith (16),  
Beverly Mosher (18), Georgiana Costa (20),  
Lois Herron (21)

- 1 / Tues 10:00-9:00 United Quilt Guild (FH)  
**7:00 Board of Deacons (107)**
- 2 / Weds 12:00 Daytimers (FH) - "Used to Be"  
*Presented by Judy White of Historical Society*  
12:30 Lenten Service at Holy Trinity Lutheran  
5:00 Pres-Bees Youth Club Church  
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)  
7:00 Men's Bible Study (110)
- 3 / Thurs 7:00 Salem Bird Study Club (110)  
**7:00 Committee Night: CE (106),  
Mission (FH), Property (107),  
Worship (109)**
- 4 / Fri 9:00-4:00 Quilt Group (107/109)
- 5 / Sat 9:30-4:00 United Quilt Guild (FH)  
"Stack and Whack" Project
- 6 / Sun 9:00 Sunday School Together Time (FH)  
9:00 Adult Bible Study (110)  
9:00 Confirmation Class (107)  
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)  
10:30 Worship (S)  
4:30 LOGOS (FH)  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (B)

## Salem Community Pantry

Mon., Fri., 9-11:30 a.m. / Tues., 5-7:30 p.m.

**Items needed — canned soup, small jars of  
peanut butter, and personal hygiene items.  
Place items on cart at north entrance.**

## Worship Schedule on TV

Sunday — 1 & 9 am / Monday — 1am  
Tuesday — 3 am, 12 & 4 pm / Wednesday — 1 am, 4 & 9 pm  
Friday — 1 am / Saturday — 3 am, 12 & 4 pm  
*Cable TV Channel 9 / Schedule Subject to Change*