



HEARTBEATS

A monthly publication of First Presbyterian Church

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*2nd term of service



Journeying To The Cross

By Rev. Bill Pollack

He called the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become My followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for My sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it."

Mark 8:34 – 35

Who wants to be a follower of Jesus? Show your hand. I see all those hands and including mine in the mix. How wonderful it is to be a part of the work and ministry of Jesus. Come to think of it; who would not want to be one of His followers? And yet, there are many who choose not to be and continue walking their own paths.

Lent is a most powerful moment in the Christian calendar. Forty days are marked with the potential of great joy and wonder. In spite of the fact that Lent concludes with a death and burial; it still holds promise for life changing days. I am glad we get to experience Lent together. It is my prayer that these days of consideration, repentance and renewal will provide each of us a new understanding of His love for us and the world around us.

So, let us consider Jesus' words as we embark on this Lenten journey.

To be a Christ follower we are called to take up our cross and deny ourselves. Hmmm. This doesn't sound like it would be much fun. Yet, Jesus tells us that if we will follow His invitation at the end of our journey we will find life. That seems to me to be a great reward for whatever we might face in this life experience.

What will we face together? For sure, we may find reasons for excitement and growth. We may also discover that there is still room for growth in our spiritual development. Regardless, at Jesus' call, we need not worry or be concerned. He wants our best even as He offers His best for us.

I am excited to be on this journey with you. Let us resolve to follow faithfully; even if a cross awaits. Remember, He is walking with us every step of the way. †

Pastor Led Lenten Bible Study "I AM"

Sundays at 5:30 p.m.

March 6 – I AM the Bread of Life

March 13 – I AM the Good Shepherd

March 20 – I AM the Way, the Truth, the Life

March 27 – I AM the Resurrection and the Life

With Sympathy

We offer our Christian love and sympathy to the family of William "Bill" Jackson. He passed away on February 9, 2022. He is the husband of Liza Jackson. Please keep Liza and the family in your thoughts and prayers.

Memorial Gifts Given

Memorial gifts were given in memory of:

- † Rev. James Rucker by Judy Fannin; Kathy Hermansdorfer
- † William "Bill" Jackson by Judy Fannin; Max & Lois Jackson



→ **Sunday School**, 9:30 a.m.

→ **Men's Bible Study**,

Wednesdays, 7 a.m., Bob Evans

→ **Winchester Bells**, Wednesdays,
5:45 p.m.

→ **Adult Chancel Choir**, Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m.

→ **Ash Wednesday Service**, March 2, 7 p.m.

→ **Ladies Clothing Swap**, Saturday, March 5, 2 p.m.

→ **Lenten Bible Study Begins**, March 6, 5:30 p.m.

→ **Men's Lunch Bunch**, Thursday, March 10, 11:30 p.m.

→ **Committee Meetings**, Monday, March 14, 5:30 p.m.

→ **Finance Committee**, Tuesday, March 15, 5:30 p.m.

→ **Visioning Day**, Sunday, March 20 following Worship

→ **Sew Blessed**, Monday, March 21, 6 – 8 p.m.

→ **Session Meeting**, Tuesday, March 22, 5:30 p.m.

→ **Men's Lunch Bunch**, Thursday, March 24, 11:30 a.m.



Ash Wednesday

Mark your calendar and plan to join us here at FPC, **Wednesday, March 2, 7 p.m.**, for a Service of the Imposition of Ashes. This service begins the Lenten experience for

Christians around the world and turns our focus towards a journey to the cross. We will be joined by others in our community. Please be in prayer for this moving experience which draws us closer to the Lord.

March Birthdays

Kathy Hermansdorfer: 3/6

Joe Frye: 3/9

Jim Wiseman: 3/13

Steve Jackson: 3/15

Tony Sublett: 3/17

Kim Whitman: 3/21

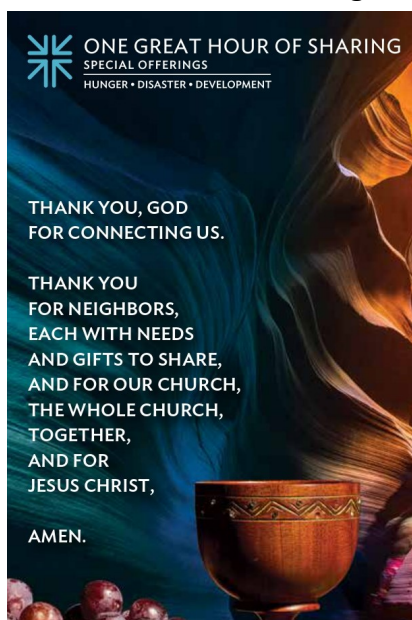
Adrianna Riggs: 3/25

Will Frye: 3/29

Liza Jackson: 3/29

JT Norris: 3/29

One Great Hour of Sharing



March 2-April 17, 2022

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing 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.

This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

WAYS TO GIVE —

- ✚ Through your congregation
- ✚ Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/give-oghs
- ✚ Text OGHS to 91999 to give

—or—

You can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by One Great Hour of Sharing Offering by making an online gift at any time throughout the year. Checks may be sent Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); P.O. Box 643700; Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.



Make this easy snack for your family or your friends at Sunday school. As you eat it, celebrate the miracles God brings in the spring.

What you need:

- 2 cups milk
- 1 (4-serving size) box of chocolate instant pudding
- 1 (8 oz.) tub of frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1 (16 oz.) package Oreo cookies, crushed
- 8 (9 oz.) plastic cups
- gummy worms and frogs
- plastic flowers (optional)

What you do:

1. Mix milk and pudding in a large bowl. Beat with a whisk until well blended. Let stand 5 minutes.
2. Add whipped topping and half of the crushed Oreos.
3. Place 1 tablespoon crushed Oreos in each cup. Fill cups 3/4 full with pudding.
4. Top with remaining crushed Oreos.
5. Chill at least 1 hour or until ready to serve.
6. Decorate with gummy worms and/or frogs.
7. Place the stem end of the plastic flower into the center of the pudding dessert.



Spring Forward!

Don't forget to "spring forward" on **Sunday, March 13.**

"Behold ... the spring is come; the earth has gladly received the embraces of the sun, and we shall soon see the results of their love!" —Sitting Bull