

APRIL 2020

FROM THE PASTOR

"The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. Words of encouragement."

-Isaiah 11:2

So much is happening in the world, and at a pace where it is hard to keep up. **May you find the comfort and peace from God in your hearts today and in the days going forward. Let God's spirit of wisdom and understanding play a part in your life right now, by praying and listening to what God may be telling us. Where is God at work in your life today?**

As most, if not all of you know, we have been having virtual worship services for the past few weeks. While the services have not been perfected yet, they have allowed us to come together at a time and place, to worship our God and to be together as one, even though we are physically apart. I want to thank everyone who has joined us on Sunday mornings. We will continue to worship this way for the weeks ahead, until the governor uplifts the "stay at home" policy that he has set in place. While in worship, please say hi in the comment section so everyone will know that you have joined. There is a slight lag time for the posting to show up, so be patient if you don't see it right away. If you have prayer concerns, please send them to me and I will include them in the prayers of the people. You can also type them in the comments at that time in the service if you prefer that.

I've been pleased with the number of people who have tuned in, not just on Sunday morning, but throughout the week to the worship service. Last week we reached 148 people who opened our "live" link while in service, or shortly after. The virtual service has allowed for many who cannot come to the church on Sunday mornings to join us in worship. We've had great feedback from that aspect.



Inside this issue...

<i>From the Pastor</i>	1, 6
<i>Presbyterian Women</i>	2, 3
<i>Church Family Life</i>	4
<i>Crazy Sock Sunday</i>	4
<i>Lenten Offerings</i>	8
<i>Property Updates</i>	5
<i>Calendar</i>	7

(Continued on page 6)

Presbyterian Women

2020 Session MEMBERS

Pastor:

Christopher Mergener

Clerk of Session:

Cari Taylor

Cindy Best

Paul Salisbury

Sandi Marcano

Dale Groover

Scott Blondell

Cheryl Lotz

Karen Cameron

2020 Deacons

Gil Burgess

Holly Burgess

Steve Mitchell

Sue Rowe

Deb McCrossen

Natalie Lemmon

Ellie Foote

Carol Thurston

Judy Leone

We pray all of you are staying safe. Even though our activities are postponed for now, we can still reach out and stay connected to our church family. Make time to stay in touch—you never know just how much your friendly “Hello, how are you doing?” will brighten someone’s day.

Presbyterian Women are stepping up and volunteering in the **Covid-19 Response**—these are some we’ve heard about . . . Park Church members & friends are helping to keep the **Food Closet** open—Natalie L, Ellie F, Henry & Chris S, Linda W. Also, we’ve heard that Sue & Roxanne Rowe, Sue Tierson, and Christine Stephens are **sewing cloth masks** to donate to hospitals, nursing homes, and to family & friends in harm’s way. Elastic is in short supply; if you have good stretchy elastic in widths up to 1” and in at least one-yard lengths, please call the church office (315-331-2255) and we will arrange a pick-up. If you want to join the local mask effort, visit <https://www.roccovid19masks.org/> for written instructions and a YouTube video showing how to make the mask. This particular design, (see picture) was specified by nurses from Strong Memorial, and features an inside pocket to insert paper cloth removed from a furnace filter, such as the **3M Filtrete 1900 MERV 13**. **Sew Creative**, a quilt shop in Fairport, is organizing mask collections to support Strong Memorial and Rochester Regional Health. (Our local hospital is part of RRH.) **Please visit the website (above) for more information.**

We were just days away from our **2020 Annual Rummage Sale** when we temporarily closed the church building. Once we have the “all clear” we will proceed with the sale. Thank you to all the volunteers, and especially our Rummage Sale Team Leader, Natalie, for all the many hours already worked to get the donations ready for sale.

Our monthly **Women’s Luncheons** will continue once we can safely gather again. Our last luncheon before “shelter-in-place” started was March 9. We greatly enjoyed a presentation from our Cindy Best and Linda DePuy from *Guiding Eyes for the Blind*. They brought the extremely well-behaved “puppy in training” (named Odin) with them, and we observed how attentive Odin was to his human. Cindy is a volunteer for the non-profit and many of us have met the dogs she has helped raise. We learned much more about what life is like for these special dogs & their “raisers”, including a glimpse of the extensive training they receive.

A Women’s Spring Tea with Cakes & Crafts will most likely be a fall event at this point. Sue Rowe is our Team Leader for this event. We have some fun ideas for crafts and treats in store! Something to look forward to!

PW Bible Study on YouTube! The weekly PW Bible Study, led by Christine Stephens, is on hiatus, but there is an alternative. On your phone, computer, or smart TV, go to the **Presbyterian Women’s channel on YouTube** (or Google

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from Presbyterian Women page 2)

"Love Carved in Stone PW video") for videos of Lessons 6, 7, 8, and 9. (Tip: If you set up a free YouTube account and subscribe to the PW channel, it will make finding the videos easier. After subscribing, click on "subscriptions" along the left side of the screen and PW videos will pop up.)

The upcoming 2020-2021 Bible Study has been announced and is entitled, ***Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament***. The annual PW Bible Study may be purchased separately, or it comes free with an annual subscription to the PW magazine, *Horizons*, for \$19.95. The Bible Study is being mailed separately this year and expects to be sent in April/May. Go to: presbyterianwomen.org to subscribe to the magazine online, or call *Horizons* at 866-802-3635. (If you call, request the special \$19.95 online rate.)

Our collection of **CWS Health Kits** is postponed until further notice. We have received word from Church World Service that they have temporarily suspended collections of all kits through May 31. As expected, their kit inventories are critically low. They are requesting monetary donations via their website: <https://cwskits.org/donate/>. \$15 donation will cover a School or Hygiene kit; \$75 will sponsor an Emergency Cleanup Bucket. (You may also call/mail a donation: **800-297-1516**; check payable to: **Church World Service**. Mail to: **PO Box 968, Elkhart, IN 46515**.)

Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering is one of Presbyterian Women's two offerings. Received in the spring each year, it gives women a tangible way to celebrate the blessings in their lives. The Birthday Offering funds up to five projects each year, in amounts of \$75,000 to \$150,000 each. The recipients are selected before the offering is received, so grant amounts depend on the gifts received. **To donate to the Birthday Offering**, make checks payable to "**PW at Park Church**" and mail to church, **Attn: Ellie Foote, PW Treasurer**. (Because this is a unique-to-PW offering, we receive the collection locally, and then send it on to Geneva Presbytery PW, which will in turn combine the offering with the other churches in our Presbytery, before submitting on behalf of our Presbytery.)

Thank you for your support of Presbyterian Women and our purpose to nurture our faith, support the mission of the church worldwide, work for justice and peace, and build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the PC(USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

Stay safe, everyone!

Deb Compher & Mary Cree
Your PW Co-Moderators

CWS Kits

Kit collections are postponed **through May** so we can keep our community safe!

You can still donate through cwskits.org/donate if you want to help restock emergency supplies.



cwskits.org/covid19-update



Website Changes

The website is and will be going through some changes in the near future. Current and ongoing church events will scroll on the main website page. To prevent events from "slipping through the cracks" we will soon be implementing an event promotion form. Keep an eye on the website for the roll-out of that form. Until that time if you want your event listed on the church calendar, in the bulletin, on the website, or in social media please e-mail J. at: park-church110@gmail.com.

April Birthdays

- 4
Gwen Mix
- 6
Barb Brunner
- 7
Kendyll Ehle
- 10
Briana Burgess
- 11
Debbie Compher
- 13
Forrest Blondell
- 16
Kay Groover
- 17
Grace Blondell
- 18
Bill Shay
- 25
Dorothy Ehrhardt
Cari Taylor
- 28
Dan Brennessel
Bella Humphrey
- 29
Cathy Brennessel



CHURCH Family Life News

I'm not sure that March is coming "in like a lion and going out like a lamb" in 2020. Unfortunately, the opposite seems truer this year. It was just March 6th that Park Church friends, along with many others, sat peacefully in the Newark High School auditorium to enjoy the musical, "Big Fish", and what a wonderful performance it was! Gabby and Luke Taylor did an outstanding job playing mother and son, while AJ Briggs was accompanying them in the orchestra, with some wonderful tunes. On Sunday, March 8th, we had a great turnout of 50 or more Girl and Boy Scouts, along with their leaders and families, who joined us for a continental breakfast. Then the scouts participated in the worship service, followed by many of us staying afterwards to socialize and enjoy food again. Then the Coronavirus "roared" through the nation and by the following Sunday, we were unable to meet, practicing social-distancing, in order to stay healthy.

For this month, our team had planned to host a Palm Cross/Potluck Event on Friday, April 3 and also meet at the middle school to view "Elf, the Musical Jr." on Friday, April 24th. Unfortunately, we will have to wait and see whether either of these events will be able to take place. In the meantime, I hope that we can remain connected with the online Sunday services that Pastor Christopher is offering through Facebook Live, and also by checking in and chatting with each other from time to time, by phone, email, or Facebook. May you all remain in good health and be able to pass the time doing things that you enjoy.

God bless.
Cheryl Lotz
Church Family Life Team Leader

CRAZY SOCK SUNDAY



While the church may be closed with the COVID-19 pandemic affecting everything we still plan to hold our "Crazy Sock Sunday" once service is being held in the Sanctuary again. So be sure to keep those crazy socks ready. You can still drop off any socks for the Pre-school in the mailbox and J. will make sure they get taken care of.

Thanks,
Mission Team

PROPERTY UPDATES

- The truss project is moving forward as scheduled. The contractors have jacked up the broken truss and will be installing the steel support beams during the week of 3/30/20. THANK YOU FJM CONSTRUCTION.
- Work is progressing on ceilings, flooring (color, materials, etc.), lighting decision-making and contractor selection. THANK YOU RICK BALD.
- Decisions will be made this week on the scope of the kitchenette make-over. Cabinet painting, countertop replacement, new sink.
- ET has begun raking the grounds. THANK YOU ET.
- Smith Metal Works has repaired the snowblower. It should see us through several more seasons. THANK YOU WAYNE, AND TO PAUL SALISBURY FOR CO-ORDINATING.
- Scott is making daily rounds through the church to check boilers, plumbing, refrigerator/freezers, security.
- We will come up with a plan to disinfect and sanitize the church before reopening, once the all-clear has been given by our Governor and the Session has determined it is safe to reopen.

Scott Blondell
Property Team Leader



These images show the truss repair. The steel you see in the top picture is replacing the broken piece of truss that you see in the bottom picture. The Middle picture show where the broken piece of truss used to rest.

Bulletin Board

In an effort to keep the bulletin boards current we will be leaving items posted (with Office permission) for a period of three months. Please keep an eye out for new postings for upcoming and ongoing events.



Got an article idea for the Parkview? Submissions are welcome. Please send your articles/ideas to: park-church110@gmail.com. Please make sure all submissions are sent prior to the last Monday of the month, although earlier is always better.

Mailing List

Keep an eye out for weekly e-mails from the church office. Not on the e-mail list? Send an e-mail to park-church110@gmail.com and ask J. to add you to the mailing list.

How to CONTACT Pastor CHRISTOPHER

pastornppc@gmail.com
EMAIL ADDRESS

315-664-2573
CELL PHONE NUMBER

Facebook Messenger
(PLEASE ADD HIM!)

Directory Listings

We will be implementing an on-line directory in the near future where you can log in and update your information. This information will be accessible only to members and the printed directory will be generated from it. If you are unsure that your e-mail is current please let J. know so he can update it.

(Continued from page 1, From the Pastor)

But with that being said, there are some of us who cannot join and participate in the service due to lack of internet. Please consider reaching out to these folks via phone to let them know they are missed and that we are still thinking about them. Maybe share with them what the sermon was about or share a prayer with them. Our goal is to include everyone as part of the worship experience, not just those who are able to tune in via our Facebook feeds.

Please, continue to stay at home, only going out for the necessities right now. I cannot stress this enough, **PLEASE STAY HOME!** As a county and village, we haven't even peaked yet, so it is vital that we all stay at home, to avoid the spread of the virus as much as possible. Going to the grocery store is considered a necessity, we need food, but make as few trips as possible, get in and out of the store. While picking up "to go" food or taking a drive may not be considered a necessity, it does the soul good to get out of the house and get a breath of fresh air, *while avoiding contact with others*. **Gathering for coffee, gathering to work on painting projects, to have a committee meeting in person, etc. are not necessities and are considered dangerous to the spreading of the virus. Please refrain from doing these tasks for the time being.** While you may be feeling fine, you may be contaminating others. Please choose to be responsible in your decisions, especially as it relates to others who may be more vulnerable and at risk. If you can't think of yourself first, at least think others. This is serious and should be taken seriously.

If your feeling depressed, lonely, stir crazy, or at a loss, feel free to contact me via social media, email, or by phone. Park Church intends to have video "zoom" calls to connect people who are missing the social aspect of life. We are still working out the details of that. Please contact the office if you want to be part of this new and exciting format of getting together. It's not the same as meeting with others, but it does bring the social aspect back into play.

On a non-COVID-19 note, progress is going well on the building repairs. The truss has been jacked up and now we wait for the steel beams to be put into place soon. Once the beams are in place, the next task will be to put ceilings and flooring back together. The project is moving along nicely. Please watch for future updates in the weekly emails.

Peace and blessings-

Rev. Christopher

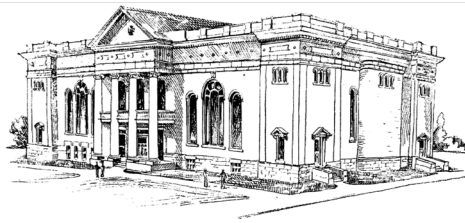
APRIL 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4 Gwen Mix
5 • Palm Sunday	6 Barb Brunner	7 Kendall Ehle	8	9	10 Brianna Burgess	11 Deb Compher
12 • Easter Sunday	13 Forrest Blondell	14	15	16 Kay Groover	17 Grace Blondell	18 Bill Shay
19 • PARKVIEW SUB-MISSIONS DUE	20	21	22	23	24	25 Dorothy Earhardt Cari Taylor
26	27	28 Dan Brennessel Bella Humphrey	29 Cathy Brennessel	30		

Park Presbyterian Church
110 Maple Court
Newark, NY 14513

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NEWARK NY—PERMIT #18

APRIL 2020



***“We will make Christ visible
by believing, living and
sharing the word of God.”***