

CORNERSTONE

Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church

March
2024

And on the Last Day of the Month ...

*From the Desk of
Reverend Joel Weible*



I am almost certain that I'm the only one who will get the "scriptural allusion" in my monthly entry in our Cornerstone newsletter, so allow me to explain:

In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus "foretells" his death and resurrection three times, each time ending his prediction with "and on the third day (he will be raised)." Mark and Luke write similar predictions. On that first Easter Day, Matthew says that "Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to the tomb" on the "first day of the week." So my titular allusion is taking us to the "last day of this month" which, this year is ... (Are you with me now?) ... **Easter Sunday!** The day Jesus foretold. The day the women in Matthew found the tomb empty. The day a new faith was birthed.

The last day of this month is the first Sunday after the first full moon, after the Spring equinox. Easter can fall on any Sunday between March 22 and April 25, so it's pretty early this year.

We have a full month of Wilderness journey ahead of us, including Holy Week and the soberest days of our lives of faith on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. We've been on this journey since February 14th this year and we'll do a lot of gathering in the month ahead. These gatherings don't just happen on Sunday morning! Please take advantage of every opportunity you have to get together with your fellow sojourners.

Our Annual meeting on the last Sunday of February asked the question that guides us through Lent, to Easter, and beyond. And I smile when I think how often those first followers of Jesus may have asked this exact, two-word, question: **What Next?** Even as we know what's next – new life, resurrected life, life beyond the tombs we insist on living in – we are constantly discovering how that Life will be lived, who that Life will include, and why that Life should be as expansive and far-reaching as possible.

We too "are going up to Jerusalem" to have our faith tested this month. We look forward to all that will happen in the weeks ahead. **And on the last day of the month**, we will gather for the best news of all. Join us in all the conversations going on as we move forward to new life. You know the easiest way to get started ...

See you in church,

Pastor Joel



A LENTEN CONVERSATION: On the Brink of Everything
A Thursday Morning Zoom with Pastor Joel: 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Every Thursday morning during Lent this year, join Pastor as we speak once again about *growing old*. This year, our guide will be Parker J. Palmer and his small book On the Brink of Everything: Grace, Gravity and Getting Old. “Every day (we) get closer to the brink of everything,” Palmer writes. That we’ve come this far, Palmer says, “makes (us) one of the lucky ones.” Join us every Thursday during Lent beginning on February 15th as we *Zoom in* from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. to explore aging as “a passage of discovery and engagement”.

WILDERNESS:

Our Lenten Journey 2024

Lent begins and ends in the wilderness. The Spirit guides Jesus into the wilderness where he comes face to face with temptation and struggle. Yet, in his forty days of fasting, resisting, and wandering, Jesus is shaped and formed for ministry.

Similarly, through the wilderness of Lent, we are invited to surrender to the wild leadings of the Spirit. We rarely enter the wilderness willingly, but hopefully through our wandering we remember who we are and whose we are. The wilderness can become sacred even if it remains dangerous. There is no wilderness space too harsh or threatening for God’s love.

This Lent, we welcome you to the journey. As we enter our sanctuary for the worship services of Lent, from Ash Wednesday through six Sundays and Maundy Thursday, we will be stepping into the *Wilderness* to be led by the spirit of God, gentle and restless. Through liturgy, prayers, sermon, scripture, and song we will find ourselves shaped and formed for Easter morning and all that lies beyond.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

March 24th - March 31st

Every year there are special services & traditions that are a part of the end of the Lenten season and celebration of Easter. We *hope* to see you...

Palm Sunday, March 24

Worship Service at 10:30a

Palm branches will be distributed and we will have our annual procession.

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Worship Service at 7:00p

Communion will be served, the lights will fade, and our cross will be shrouded as we proceed through Good Friday and Black Saturday.

Easter Sunday, March 31

Worship Services at 8:30a / 10:30a

On this, our highest Holy Day, we will gather together to flower the cross that has loomed before us throughout Lent and now stands as our primary promise of abundant new life for all. Please be sure to bring flowers with you (and a few extra for others who gather) to flower the cross that has been starkly present in the sanctuary throughout Lent.

Easter Sunrise Service with the South Oldham Interchurch Council

Please join us at 7:00 a.m. as the sun rises on this holiest of mornings for the whole church.

We will gather at the Goldfish Pond in Floydsburg Cemetery (*inside Duncan Memorial Chapel if bad weather*).

*For as Jonas was three days and three
nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son
of man be three days and three nights in
the heart of the earth.* Matthew 12:40

ANNUAL REPORT SCAVENGER HUNT

You could win a \$50 Gift Card to Gustavo's!

Scan the QR code you see below to access the PVPC Annual Report that was presented at our meeting on February 25th . Then submit your answers to the following ten questions below using the Google Form link below! Here are the questions:

1. What was the title of this year's Annual Report?
2. Who was the Chair of the CDC Advisory Board in 2023?
3. How many pages are numbered in the report?
4. How much money is budgeted for our mission to HighPoint Services?
5. Who are the members of our 2024 Nominating Committee?
6. Who is the Clerk of our Session?
7. How many members did we "gain" in 2023?
8. What is the total budget for PVPC in 2024?
9. What Old Testament scripture, chapter and verse, did Pastor Joel us in his opening letter?
10. What was the average enrollment of children in our CDC during 2023?

In the *likely* event that there is more than one correct entry, names will be drawn from a basket and the winner announced during an upcoming worship services! Good luck PVPCers!

Deadline to submit your answers is Palm Sunday, March 24th.

Scan here with your smart device to open the annual report; it can also be found on our website under Media/Annual Report.



Click the link below to enter our contest and submit your answers.

[ENTRY FORM](#)

Our Sanctuary Pray-ground

An update from your Christian Formation Team

In December, Session approved a six month pilot ministry intended to welcome families more fully and engage children in the worship experience of PVPC. Even before January of this year, Ashia Stoess, our Director of Family Ministry and Community Engagement, was communicating with the families that are already attending to let them know the “where, what and why” of this ministry. All of them were excited about the space.

In January of this year, we spent a lot of time communicating with the entire congregation through newsletter articles and most directly during the Sacred Space time for young disciples during our worship hour. As Ashia and the Launch Team spoke to the children who were in worship, they spoke to us all – educating us and “stepping” the space into existence during the month. Through February, the families who attend have been worshipping together in this space and, with Ashia and Jackie Meade’s guidance, have been participating in age appropriate ways, using the “Worship Toolboxes” we have provided.

We have been documenting your responses – critical and supportive – and find the constructive feedback most helpful in discerning if, and how, we can improve and normalize this ministry in the worshipping life of PVPC. So let us know how you feel about what’s going on in our midst by emailing, calling, or best yet...speaking to an Elder or Staff member.

Thank you PVPC for your patience, your guidance, your wisdom and your faith in this challenging endeavor. We’ll continue to “keep you up to date” in the months ahead .

2024 ANNUAL ELDER RETREAT REPORT

On Saturday, February 10th, your Elders gathered together for the Annual Elder Retreat in our own Parish House from 9:00a – 3:00p.

In March of 2023, we received a Mid-Kentucky Presbytery ***Demonstration Project Grant***, awarded for “projects or programs designed to generate long lasting growth in membership and/or participation that may be replicated in other churches with a higher level of confidence of success.” Our project was (and still is!) ***Congregational Vitality through Community Engagement***. To date we have received \$30,000 of the total possible \$50,000. We have used this money to help fund a staff position created even before we received the grant, budgets for that new office and a new Ministry Team, as well as Christian Formation materials and Community Engagement activities. It remains for us to apply for and, if the way be clear, receive the final \$20,000. And the potential use of this money was the focus of our Elder Retreat this year.

Using ***Mission Possible: Design Thinking for Social Change***, a game from Rooted Good designed to help faith-based organizations to align money with mission, your Elders took “seemingly impossible tasks” and created a possible solutions. We learned to think “outside the box” and were equipped to think creatively about the issues we face and to ask what next? Then, using ***What Next?***, a tool from the same group and the PCUS Office of Christian Formation designed to help us re-imagine our ministries and life together, we set out to figure out what we thought could be “next” in our Congregational Vitality initiative and how we might faithfully use the final disbursement of our Grant monies to help fund it!

We are excited to share what we discerned and to see how it aligns with the wider community’s energy and ideas. We will be doing that in April around a dinner table or two! In the meantime, pull an Elder aside and thank them for the extra time and discernment they give to all of us in their service on Session.



Members:

Lynne Anderson	Mary Boone
Ann Finney	Dan Fisher
Lee Goss	Ralph & Judy Hall
Claudette Schlader	Gary Torrens
Mary Ann Warren	Wilma Wayne
Alan White	Don Whitehouse

Family and Friends:

Kathy Barton (Lucy & Mike Yelton)	Larry & Mary (Arlene and Gary Torrens)
Family of Merry Melanie Collins (Janey Truman)	Leonard Smallwood (Janey Truman)
Jeromy Taylor (Janey Truman)	Jon Swinney (Karen Swinney)
Brad Bruns (Karen Wood)	Sutton Vance (Karen Wood)
Arnie Fields (Connie & Larry Vice)	Gene Mueller (D.D. Hendrickson)
Jim Settle (Settle Family)	Betsy Hawkins (Shirley Hawkes)
A Very Loved Family Member (Shirley Hawkes)	Mary Nell & Bill Brumfield (Connie Vice)
Tiffeny Armour (Tom & Mary Sue Armour)	Nancy Golan (Rich Wayne)
Bryan Moore (Regan Moore & Margaret Hill)	Mallory Davis (Don Whitehouse)
David/Shannon DeBeer (Clare/Rick Fletcher)	Amanda Bobzein (Julia Hood)
Julie Hardin (Debbie Thompson)	Millie Emig (Paul Culbertson)
Janet Ciresi (Linda Heleringer)	Karen Galligan (Jim Trimpe)
Allen Corbin (Jim Trimpe)	Amy Hill Gibson (Julia Hood)
Mardie/Stam Penn (Karen Wood)	Frank Hainer (Don Whitehouse)
Beverly McMakin (Jan Beaverson)	Grace Ellis (D.D. Hendrickson)
Todd Vance (Karen Wood)	David Goodman (D.D. Hendrickson)
Sue Keller (D.D. Hendrickson)	Robbie Mueller (D.D. Hendrickson)
Flo Campbell (Clare Grant)	Mark Shircliff (Virginia Baumann)
Rev. James Byford (Rebecca Byford)	Alice Walser Booker (Joan Walser-White)
Michelle Hendrickson (D.D. Hendrickson)	

Please reach out to add or remove names from the Prayer List

MARCH

Wedding Anniversaries

March 17 Rod and Carol Culver

March 17 Larry and Sandy McCarson

Ushers

March 3 Linda Heleringer

March 10 TBD

March 17 LaMont Coverstone & Thom Guilford

March 24 Tom & Mary Sue Armour, Gary Torrens

March 31 The Volks

March Birthdays

02 Gary Torrens

07 Billy Meade

08 Vivien Reinhardt

09 Thom Guilford

10 Sue Hohman

10 Jay Willetts

12 Carol Warren

15 Regan Moore

19 Peggy Wood

20 Regina Bates

24 Julia Age

25 Gabe Weible

28 Hailey Age

28 Jordan Bates

29 Johan Hall-Faul

30 Alex Pappas

31 Bill Chaudoin

31 Julia Hood

CHAPEL SERVICES WITH OUR CDC

All are welcome!!

Drop in for the prayers, music, meditations, and love that are a part of the regular school-life of our boys and girls. *We'd love to see you there!*

Chapel for March, 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, March 12th

Tuesday, March 26th

MARCH 2024 @ PVPC

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Key: PVPC Events CDC Events Building Use					1	2 B'ball 10a-12p K.Breeding, 2p
3 CF Hour, 9a Fellowship, 10a Worship, 10:30a Pack-a-Sack for HP	4 Scouts	5 Fld. Hockey 7:30-8:30p	6 Choir, 7p B'ball 6-9p	7 Lenten Conv. 8a (Zoom) Fld. Hockey 7:30-8:30p	8	9 B'ball 9a-12p
10 CF Hour, 9a Fellowship, 10a Worship, 10:30a MSR Meeting	11 Session, 6p Scouts	12 Chapel, 10a	13 B'ball 6-9p	14 Lenten Conv. 8a (Zoom)	15	16 B'ball 10a-12p S. Byars, 1-5p
17 CF Hour, 9a Fellowship, 10a Worship, 10:30a CL Meeting	18 Scouts	19	20 Choir, 7p B'ball 6-9p	21 Lenten Conv. 8a (Zoom)	22	23 B'ball 10a-12p
24 PALM SUNDAY CF Hour, 9a Fellowship, 10a Worship, 10:30a CL Meeting	25 Scouts	26 Chapel, 10a	27 Choir, 7p B'ball 6-9p	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY Lenten Conv. 8a (Zoom) Maundy Thursday, 7p Service	29 GOOD FRIDAY Office & CDC Closed	30 B'ball 10a-12p
31 EASTER Worship Services: 8:30a & 10:30a						

Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church

119 Central Avenue

P.O. Box 365

Pewee Valley, KY 40056



PeweeValleyPresbyterian.org

Address Service Requested

Big News from the Little Valley!



**CHURCH OFFICE
HOURS:**

Monday - Friday

8:30a –2:00p

(502) 241-4326

office@pvpres.org

