

April 2017



Crestviews

**Newsletter of the
Crestview Community Church, PCUSA
in Callery, PA**

Loving God ♦ Following Jesus ♦ Serving All

Kids' Club Spring Session

Wednesdays, April 19–May 24

Teen Time—4-4:30 p.m.

Kids—4:30-6 p.m.

Join with old friends and bring new friends to explore the stories around Easter. Pitch in with the Deep Blue Crew as we explore, and travel with Jesus from the Palm Sunday parade to the Garden, the Resurrection and Breakfast by the sea.

Paraments

We give thanks for the beautiful set of purple paraments that we sewn by the team for Lent. Again, we thank seamstresses Janice Baker, Justine Davison and Sharon Schwartz and designer ChrisAnn Goossen. They are now working on the final set, green for ordinary time!

Spring Cleaning

Saturday, April 1, 10 a.m.

Join in sprucing up the yard, trimming some trees and shrubs, and just making our property shine as we prepare for Easter. Outside work will be the first Saturday in April. A sign up sheet for interior Spring Cleaning may be found in the Fellowship Hall. Please lend a hand by picking a job and completing it as you are able.

Conference Room Ceiling

A quick update on the repair to the conference room ceiling and the roof above. We've succeeded in stopping the water leak and we are awaiting word from our insurance carrier on what they will do in response to the damage to the ceiling. Once that question is answered we can proceed with repairs. Thank you for your patience.

Final Lenten Service

Wednesday, April 5

Supper, 6:15 p.m. with Worship, 7 p.m.

Plains Church

We will finish our reflections on deep listening at this final joint Lenten service with our Plains Church sisters and brothers.

Holy Week Worship

Mauddy Thursday—April 13, 7 p.m.

In remembrance of the last supper in the upper room, we will observe communion around tables in the Fellowship Hall.

Good Friday Cross Walk—April 14, noon

Meet at Ritzert Hall in Evans City. We'll carry the cross through town and gather at St. Peter's Lutheran church for worship about 12:30 p.m.

Easter Party for Kids

Saturday, April 15, 1-3 p.m.

All children are invited to join us for an Easter Party filled with games, sharing the Easter message, and of course the great Easter Egg hunt. If you'd like to donate candy for the egg hunt, please be in touch with Claudia Brueckman Ripper.

Easter Worship

**Sunday, April 16,
11 a.m.**

We will gather to lift Easter alleluias in worship of the risen Jesus in word and song on this most glorious of days.



In the Mailbox

Callery VFC Fish Fry

Friday, April 14, 11:00 a.m.–?

Fish with all the trimmings

Old Union Soup Supper

Saturday, April 8, 4-7 p.m.

Ham & Bean, Vegetable and Chicken Noodle

Sides and Pies

\$9 adults, \$4 children

Easter OGHS Offering

Our gifts to the *One Great Hour of Sharing* (OGHS) offering helped “loose the bonds of injustice” for Olga Pedraza who received support in accessing a job after a prison sentence and beating drug addiction. Self-Development of People, by investing in those like Olga, help reduce the number of people who end up back in prison.

Our gifts helped alpaca farmers in Peru whose livelihoods were threatened by the poisoning of their water sources. What began as an apparent need for assistance with irrigation grew into a partnership between these farmers and the Presbyterian Hunger Program to support a host of environmental initiatives.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has provided essential support to refugees created by the Syrian civil war, including education for refugee children, emergency supplies for those journeying to new lands, and assistance for US congregations receiving refugees into their communities.

Our gifts to *One Great Hour of Sharing* join with those of congregations all over the country as we seek to answer God’s call and make a difference in people’s lives. Please give generously.

From the Pastor’s Desk

“Do whatever it takes to get the job done. All the while staying true to who you are and your purpose, our purpose.” These words could come from a corporate boardroom, a determined parent, a drill sergeant. But we won’t find them in the Bible, per se.

Across the Biblical story arc there is a sense that God will do whatever it takes to get the job done. God’s love will remain steadfast when Jacob steals a birthright; when Joseph is sold into slavery; when the people complain instead of rejoicing in the gift of manna from heaven; when kings are wise and faithful, when they are foolish and chase after the things of this world. And in God’s time God sends Jesus to all of humankind. The Messiah, the Christ, will do whatever it takes.

Jesus will teach and heal and turn worldly norms of power and collusion on their heads. Jesus will break cultural norms and touch the leper, the cripple, the blind. Jesus will talk to the woman at the well in Samaria and heal the servant of a centurion. He will walk on water and feed five thousand with five loaves and two fish. Jesus will teach about who our neighbor is and about how a father waits eagerly for the prodigal son to return. Jesus will restore life to Lazarus and heal the ear of the soldier. Jesus will model that love wins out—doing whatever it takes.

And finally Jesus will journey to the cross. He will not shy away from these final and most difficult steps on his journey. He will stay true to his purpose—to reconcile all of humankind. In this month we will again encounter this amazing drama. Jesus weeping over Jerusalem, riding in on a donkey, teaching with an even deeper passion as his final week intensifies. He will give his all so that God may work an amazing and wondrous victory over death; so that Easter Alleluias may resound!

There are no parallels, we certainly try with anything that signals new life—lambs, chicks, flowers, bunnies. These all have their place. But, to more fully grasp our purpose of celebrating the risen Christ we have to experience the journey. I invite you to walk with Jesus, as you are able, through the depth of his sorrow and crucifixion. We must stay true to his sacrifice, his pain, his script, not ours. Then, early in the morning, we can rejoice that the women discovered an empty tomb and that what he had told them would be, actually happened. He is risen!

I invite you to do whatever it takes to engage in the fullness of the Passion and Easter drama through daily devotions, prayer, readings, watching a show, gathering in worship. May we stay strong, stay true, be in deep relationship with our Lord and Savior in these days, living in the promise that love wins out!

Faithfully yours,



Pastor Bob

February Financial Report

	Income		Expenses	
	Month	YTD	Month	YTD
General Fund:	\$7,642.38	\$13,498.08	\$4,989.53	\$10,589.59
Sec. Acct.:	873.00	1,120.00	57.97	57.97
Totals	\$8,515.38	\$14,618.08	\$5,047.50	\$10,647.56

From Kay Day

Dear Friends and Family,

Lenten greetings from Rwanda. This is a season of reflections on our relationship with Christ and a time to draw closer to Christ as we anticipate Holy Week and the power of the crucifixion and resurrection of our savior.

Lent is not widely practiced in Rwanda, even though a majority of the people are Roman Catholics. The events of daily life seem to take precedence over religious observances. And yet, daily life is wrapped in the religious observances of marriages, baptisms, and funerals. A wise person once told me that if you are involved in these, you are part of the community, whether it is your country of birth or not. I have been immersed in them recently, for which I am grateful. The latest was the wedding of one of my former students. Aaron, a student pastor in a remote area. He asked me to preach for his wedding. I was thrilled to accept.

Weddings here are done in three stages. The first is the civil marriage, done in the local government office, usually performed days or weeks before the church wedding. Then, on the day of the church service, the celebration begins with a dowry ceremony at a location near the bride's home. That was held early in the morning. Then comes the church wedding. It is much the same as one in the States, but with a few variations. First, the clergy escort the couple down the aisle. Then the couple sits in front of the congregation, in special seats. With five clergy participating, all of us raise hands for blessings. This couple was fully blessed. Photos are welcomed throughout the service by anyone who wishes to take them, so at times of particular interest, like the vows, the blessing and the lifting of the bride's veil, members of the congregation flock around the couple. The bride and groom and their attendants sign the marriage license in front of the congregation, while choirs sing. It makes for a "festive" atmosphere. After the service the couple walked, with many escorts, to their reception, for a time of toasting (with soda), of speeches, of gift giving and the cutting of the cake, complete with sparklers to mark the occasion.

For me to stay immersed in the community of faith in Rwanda, I need your support. With the changing landscape of the church, mission co-workers need to raise their financial support. Many of you are supporting me and for that I am deeply thankful. But the truth is that I am not fully supported and I need your help to share the need and to pass the word of the need. I can't be here without you. May God bless you in the season of spiritual reflection.

In Christ's love,
Kay

April Celebrations**Birthdays**

- 1 Jayne Hasenflu
- 2 Bob Roccia
- 3 Kaydence Rader
- 6 Donna Cahall
- 13 Matt Hartung
- 24 Melanie Hoerner
- 25 Sandy Marburger
Ned Marburger
- 30 Will Davison

April Anniversaries

- 12 Bob & Barb Feldbauer

Congratulations

To Reita Lark on the arrival of her first great grand daughter Lily Annalise who was born on December 26 to Josh and Lauren Lark.

**To the Church
Triumphant**

March 1, 2017
Merrie Grace Iman

Thank You

We are grateful for the new coffee maker given in memory of Merrie Grace Iman by Bob and Betty Roccia.

Summer VBS

June 21–July 26, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars now for six Wednesday evenings of VBS! If you can lend a hand with preparation or leadership, please talk to Claudia Brueckman Ripper.

Crestviews

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PCUSA**

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Crestview Community Church

Crestviews is published monthly except January and July. Please have submissions to the church office by the 20th of the prior month. If you wish to receive our newsletter, send us a note with your email or physical address.

☯ ☯ ☯ **APRIL CALENDAR** ☯ ☯ ☯

We worship each Sunday at 11 a.m.

Saturday, April 1

Spring Yard Cleaning,
10 a.m.

Wednesday, April 5

Lenten Supper 6:15 p.m. at
Plains
Lenten Worship, 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 6

Choir Practice, 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday, April 12

Spiritual Formation
Committee, 3 p.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 13

Communion, 7 p.m.

Good Friday, April 14

Crosswalk, Noon, Evans City

Saturday, April 15

Children's Easter Party,
1-3 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 16

Easter Alleluias 11 a.m.

Wednesday, April 19

Teen Time, 4 p.m.
Kids' Club, 4:30 p.m.
Adult Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 20

Choir Practice, 7:15 p.m.

Monday, April 24

Session, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, April 26

Teen Time, 4 p.m.
Kids' Club, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 27

Choir Practice, 7:15 p.m.

Sunday, April 30

Fun & Fellowship/Mission
Committee, noon

Looking Ahead

Sunday, May 7

Community Music Festival,
7 p.m., Westminster UPC

