

# Grace Notes

March 2019  
"Come Home to Grace"

## "Lent" is not a Dirty Word

For Christians the season of Lent before Easter is a time for fasting and penitential sorrow over sins. For that reason, it is often avoided, overlooked, unobserved. But an early church saint, John Climacus (649 A.D.) spoke of Lenten disciplines as a "joy-creating sorrow" leading to the joy of Easter.

"God," he wrote, "does not insist or desire that we should mourn in agony of heart; rather it is His wish that out of love for Him, we should rejoice with laughter in our soul."

I know that observing Lent, as it traditionally has been observed, is perceived of as an emotional drag to many folks. As a consequence, many are hesitant to observe Lent at all and so are not prepared at all for Easter. Many start observing Lent on Palm Sunday. They want to go right from Luke's account of the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, skip Maundy Thursday and Good Friday (and "all that unpleasantness" as one fellow Christian told me) and go directly to the Good News of the Resurrection on Easter. Basically, it would be going from one party, to another. The problem is, that is not how life really happens. Sad things happen in life. The "tough" stories in Lent show us God understands when we encounter hard times. Life is not one big party. There is, as Ecclesiastes 3 reminds us, "a time to mourn, and a time to dance." We need to know how to do both! It would be spiritually beneficial instead of basically skipping Lent almost entirely, to intentionally observing Lent as it comes starting with Ash Wednesday on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Our service is at 7:00 p.m. in the chapel.

Being a Reformed Protestant congregation, every Sunday is a celebration of the Resurrection, even during Lent. There is no need for sadness on Sunday! Please observe Lent in some meaningful way this year. Take time to be with God. Take time to take part in the Lenten activities we'll have available thanks to WDT (Worship Design Team). Take time to allow Lent to make a difference in your heart: be consistent in worship attendance, be active in reading the Bible, including the upcoming scriptures for the sermon, pray more, and, here's a radical but fun idea: attend Sunday School, even as an adult! If you will do some or all of these things, when Easter arrives after six weeks of Lent you will know you are prepared to fully receive the tremendous Good News of the Resurrection. And that is what I would love for each of you to be able to do on Easter Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. Our services that day are at 7:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Grace and Peace during Lent, - *Pastor Rob*



Ash Wednesday Service  
is March 6  
7:00 p.m.



Don't forget to set  
your clocks ahead  
one hour before you  
go to bed Saturday  
night, March 9!

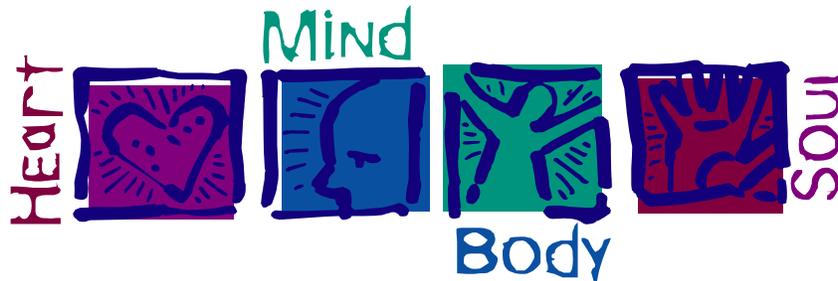
**Please Remember:**

**FAIR SHARE IS DUE NOW! \$15/member**  
**Check to: "Grace Church" Note: Fair Share**



Ron & Shirley Beckham  
March 11, 2000

Jim & Amanda Butler  
March 7, 2009



From the Worship Design Team:

Are you ready to take the *Lenten Challenge*? From March 3 until Easter, you can challenge yourself to get spiritually ready. Grab a different colored card each week from the baskets outside the sanctuary and challenge yourself to complete each activity at least once that week or push yourself to complete it more than once or even everyday! Return the card and grab a new challenge each week. Areas of challenge are **prayer life**, **sacrifice** and **service**. Try to mix up the areas of challenge and feel free to take more than one card. We hope that this activity will both challenge and change the way you prepare for Easter this year. Good luck and God bless!

March GRO Events:



*GRO's Pizza & a Movie!*

You are invited to a movie night on Sunday, March 3 at 5:00 p.m. GRO is providing pizza, a veggie tray, dessert and beverages. If you have a suggestion for a movie, contact Jolane or Diane. Look for a sign up sheet in the dining hall.

The movie will be shown on a brand new TV and blue ray player purchased by GRO! The TV/player will all be available for use by other church organizations and groups.

*Drive Through Dinners are Back!*

The first one of the year, is Tuesday, March 19, 4:00 p.m. Please think about helping or purchasing a delicious rigatoni dinner. Look for a sign up sheet in the dining hall. We will need cake bakers and helpers!

*Fifth Sunday Loose Offering*

March's Fifth Sunday (March 31) loose offering will benefit the Tobin Center Chaplaincy Ministry.

# Puzzle!

Find and circle these words associated with the Lenten journey to the cross.

colt	denial	kiss	repent
confess	donkey	lots	silver
cross	forsaken	palms	sins
crown	Gethsemane	penance	suffer
crucifixion	Golgotha	Pilate	thorns
death	hosanna	prayer	vigil

E N A M E S H T E G R L W Y  
 C L E U X B M T H B U C W B  
 N R I K Y P A T E T I Y X Y  
 A V J G A L B R E Y A R P B  
 N G N L I S N L A I N E D X  
 E W M P R V R D H B N R D F  
 P S O G O L G O T H A B S C  
 D L N R O C O N F E S S I K  
 O T H T C P E K W U O U N D  
 M N S H N P W E D R H F S K  
 U N F O E T K Y C S G F O E  
 H E C R E V L I S W Q E C M  
 H V H N C X S O C C J R L O  
 F Q E S U D S H C A A Y M C  
 C R U C I F I X I O N S R V

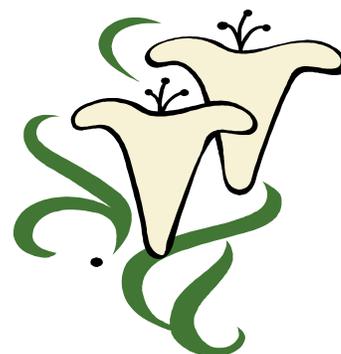


## Which Face do You Wear?

March Youth Club is on  
 Wednesday, March 13  
 4:30—6:00 p.m.

Let's March into the month expressing ourselves with emojis! We will have a fun craft to make, Miss Debbie will have happy songs to sing, Miss Ann will have a joyful game to play, and there'll be a message to put smiles on faces! Parents will receive a bag of Choco-Latte Crunch to put on a happy face!  
 Come munch on smiley face potatoes, chicken fingers, applesauce, carrots, emoji sugar cookies and lemonade. Of course there will be ketchup, honey and ranch dressing for dipping!  
 Tell your friends, and bring them along!  
 See you on Wednesday, March 13 :)

It's time to order  
 your  
 Easter Lily!  
 Deadline will be  
 April 1.  
 Look for order  
 forms in the  
 Sunday bulletins.  
 \$10.00 each.



## Consistory Minutes of February 2019 Meeting

Members Present: Steve Barnett, Matt Bell, Brian Cope, Logan Cope, Chris Eisenbraun, Mark Frost, Bill Greenawalt, Alex Heintzelman, Jerry Hughes, Patty Lanterman, Cindy Perorazio

I. Devotions – Logan

Next Month: Alex

II. Duty Roster: February:

Elevator – Cindy Usher – Brian

March:

Elevator – Alex Usher – Jerry

Communion – Logan, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019

III. Informal Discussion/Goal Setting: Will need salt for the front steps. Avoid salt that eats away at the concrete.

Consideration of forming a “cookie committee” to help with cookie-hour sign ups.

Discussion of need for continuation of Sunday School offering collection, or a better system to collect it. Suggestion for envelopes to be placed in Sunday school class(es), offering collected by the class, and then placed in the offering plate by a member of the Sunday school class. Consensus to go ahead with that plan.

IV. Communications: Thank You Letters from Rob Joy, Janice Heintzelman. Request from NACCC regarding Fair Share for 2019. Thank you from Chamber of Commerce for 2019 Membership. Thank You from Lisbon Counseling Center for 2018 donation. Thank You from Rescue Mission of Mahoning Valley (Donation).

V. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from January reviewed. Motion to accept minutes 1<sup>st</sup>: Jerry, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Logan, motion carries.

VI. Financial Secretary Report (M. Bell):

Financial report from January 2019 – Current Fund Revenue: \$7,563. Received 56% of budgeted (\$13,380).

January is traditionally under budget for income, but the snowstorm cancellation also affected funds this year.

Current Fund Expense: \$13,019. Spent 97% of budgeted (\$13,355). Motion to accept the report. 1<sup>st</sup>: Patty, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jerry, motion carries.

VII. Financial Committee Report (M. Bell):

Currently without a chair. Matt volunteers to be the interim chair until a meeting can be held by the finance committee to elect a chair. Appointed by consistory president.

VIII. Pastors Report (R. Joy):

Funeral for Ed Todd on January 25<sup>th</sup>. GRO bought a new HDTV and Blu-ray Player for Church movie nights – First to be held 2/24/19 at 5PM. Annual Congregational Meeting is 2/24/19 and we will have a Pot Luck following the meeting. January attendance down 3.25 congregants compared to last year.

IX. Unfinished Business:

Have not resolved disagreement with Coon Construction on tuck pointing project. Half of the original balance has been paid. A meeting will be held with Coon to determine final payment. This has been communicated. No organ updates have been completed yet. Heaters/fans are ready to be installed.

X. New Business: None.

XI. Committee Reports:

-Youth Committee – Main Street Theatre – Newsies. Youth invited to attend Sunday Feb 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

-Worship Design – Music and ideas discussed for Lenten season. Prayer, Sacrifice, Almsgiving as themes.

-Music – Met at worship design meeting. Everything under control.

-GRO – Movie and Pizza Night Feb 24<sup>th</sup>, 5PM.

-Endowment – Endowment interest \$51,735.86. Memorial available ending balance excluding Mundy and Ogle funds - \$17,935.56

-Property – To meet with Coon Restoration on Feb 6th regarding tuck pointing. Landis Flooring to start on renovations soon. Materials received.

XII. Adjournment & The Lord’s Prayer

Next Meeting March 4th, 2019 at 7PM.



- 3/1 Lois Jones
- 3/2 Jodi Scott  
Logan Cope
- 3/5 Cindy Duffy
- 3/9 Betty Burkey
- 3/11 Jim Gongaware
- 3/12 Donna Snoke  
Marsha Wolf
- 3/14 Kenny Wilson
- 3/16 Carol Czarneski
- 3/17 Mary Liggitt  
Virginia Reeser
- 3/18 Brian Cope  
Melodie Cyrus
- 3/21 Richard Cope  
Anna Joy
- 3/25 Jerry Hughes
- 3/26 Tom Mercer  
Phil Swope
- 3/27 Debbie McMaster
- 3/30 Steve Barnett

★ Thank You! ★  
★ THANK YOU! ★

Thank You!

Thank you to all of our Grace Church family for the many expressions of sympathy at the passing of our mother, Connie Bricker. We were so richly blessed to have her with us for 102 years and enjoyed having mom as the head of five generations for more than ten years. We especially appreciate all of those that came to St. Jacob's Church for her memorial service. May God richly bless each of you.

—Karl & Judy Bott

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$300.00 to the 2018-19 United Way campaign. Every dollar you contributed will be used locally. Your passion helps us win our fight for long term solutions. We are grateful to you for making a real difference in people's lives.

—Yours sincerely, George W.S. Hays, Executive Director

### *Those Ministering This Month:*

**Greeters:**

- 3/3: Jack & Evelyn Johnston  
3/10: Joe & Ruth Zarnosky  
3/17: Rich & Jo Berryman  
3/24:  
3/31:

**Liturgists:**

- 3/3: Jack Johnston  
3/10: Becky Stearns  
3/17: Alison Hoskinson  
3/24: Amanda Frost  
3/31: Laurie Heintzelman

**Usher:** Jerry Hughes

**Elevator Attendant:** Alex Heintzelman

**Candles:** Pat Lanterman

Grace Notes

Grace Church of Columbiana  
140 S. Main Street  
Columbiana, OH 44408  
330-482-4532

---

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert Joy  
Secretary: Marcy LaVogue  
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday—Thursday  
E-mail: [gracechurchofcolumbiana@comcast.net](mailto:gracechurchofcolumbiana@comcast.net)  
Web: [www.gracechurchcolumbiana.com](http://www.gracechurchcolumbiana.com)

Office: 330-482-4532  
Pastor's Home Phone: 330-892-0512  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.

