

First Presbyterian Church  
116 N. Third St.  
Toronto, OH 43964-1416  
Change Service Requested

US PSTG  
PAID  
Permit # 39  
TORONTO, OH  
43964

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Bethany Beswick 04/02 Grant Scott 04/16

Shirley Clegg 04/02 Carolyn Owen 04/17

Jill Fisher 04/02 Jennifer Gillis 04/21

Joshua Franke 04/09 Bridget Beswick 04/23

Ryan Franke 04/09 Beth Clark 04/24

Julie Rock 04/09 Jo-Dell Yarosz 04/30

Brent Scott 04/11

Joseph Shimmel 04/14

Carolyn Walker 04/14



**Church Staff & Officers:**  
**Rev. Tyler J. Bayless, Pastor**  
rev.tyler.bayless@gmail.com

**Deborah Close, Admin. Assistant**  
Deborah@torontopresby.org

**Virginia Popson, Financial Sec.**  
VPopson@sbcglobal.net

**Ben Beswick, Clerk of Session**

**Thomas L. Wilson, Treasurer**

**Dolores Boggs, Director of Music**

**Jay Obertance, Organist**

**Karen Shell, Rehearsal Organist**

**Lisa Grable, Custodian**

## APRIL HAPPENINGS

### Sunday, April 2nd

- ◆ Deacons Meeting after worship.
- ◆ Sunday School youth outing to Wheeling Nailers game.

### Wednesday, April 5th

- ◆ Chi Rho, 4pm

### Sunday, April 9th

- ◆ Palm Sunday
- ◆ Easter Cantata and Easter Egg Hunt.

### Wednesday, April 12th

- ◆ Last Chi Rho, 4pm

### Thursday, April 13th

- ◆ Service 7pm

### Monday, April 17th

- ◆ Session meeting, 6pm.

### Good Friday, April 14th

- ◆ Service at noon at the First Church of the Nazarene.

### Easter Sunday, April 16th

- ◆ Service at 11am

### Sundays:

\*Sunday School

10:00 am

\*Worship

11:00 am

### Wednesdays:

\*Choir 7 pm

### Office Hours:

\*Tuesday - Friday 9-1

9 am - 1 pm

## FIRST NEWS APRIL 2017

116 N. 3rd. Street, Toronto, OH 43964  
740-537-3721 - [Torontopresby@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Torontopresby@sbcglobal.net)  
Rev. Tyler J. Bayless, Pastor



### **“O Lord Hear My Prayer”**

We started the Lenten Season on Ash Wednesday with services that reminded us of our humanity and mortality before God.

We did this with the imposition of ashes onto our foreheads and in a style of worship that many of you found especially meaningful. The service allowed for times of silence when you could lift up prayer and meditate upon Scripture you had just heard or upon what part of worship had just concluded, such as the imposition of ashes or The Lord's Supper. During these times of prayer and meditation the music was a repetitive chant prayer that I came to be familiar with during my time at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

That style of music and worship is called Taizé and is modeled after a monastic community that resides in the Taizé region of France. They describe themselves as “an ecumenical monastic order with a strong devotion to peace and justice through prayer and meditation.”

This type of worship and a devotion to peace and justice through the acts of prayer and meditation can be even more meaningful as we move towards Holy Week and the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As we come to the end of this season of deliberate introspection I encourage you to meditate and pray daily in this style of Taizé. One of the scripture passages for Easter Sunday is John 20:1-18, I encourage you to read this passage and then enter a time of prayer and in the style of Taizé Community finish that prayer by repeating these phrase numerous times “O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer, come and listen to me.” Sometimes praying and worshipping in a way that we are not quite familiar with can really deepen our relationship with the Triune God in amazing ways. God Bless you in your prayer!

Grace and peace, Pastor Tyler

Visit us on the web: [www.TorontoPresby.org](http://www.TorontoPresby.org)

## One Great Hour of Sharing

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, education, and opportunity. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. Enclosed is an offering envelope that will be collected on Easter, Sunday.

### Reminder

#### **Wheeling**

#### **Nailers Game**

**Sunday, April 2nd,  
for those who  
requested tickets.**

## WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?

The Chancel Choir will present a Lenten cantata, *Who Do You Say That I Am?* Written by Lloyd Larson with recorded orchestration by Brant Adams, two very talented musicians, during worship service on Palm Sunday, April 9th.

*"Who do you say that I am?"* Jesus asked this very question one day. The question resulted in a wide range of answers. For those who had observed His life-changing impact upon their own lives and others, He was the *Messiah, Emmanuel, gifted teacher*. For those who had witnessed Him healing the sick and raising the dead to life, He was the *miracle worker* whose remarkable gifts defied explanation. For the skeptics who doubted Christ's authority, He was a *deceiver*. For many who saw His triumphant entry into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday, Jesus was the *King of Glory, the King above all Kings*. For the faithful few who were present at His crucifixion, He was a *Man of Sorrows, the sacrificial Lamb of God*. For witness of the resurrected Christ, He was the

*triumphant Lord of Life, the son of the Living God*.

This question, *"Who do you say that I am?"*, will be addressed by the chancel Choir and various Biblical characters portrayed by members of our congregation as we hear about Christ's earthly life and the impact upon the lives of those He touched. Truly, this cantata is a wonderful preparation for each of us as we enter into Holy week to observe the death and resurrection of our dear Savior.

We invite and encourage each of you to join us in this celebration to reaffirm our belief in and our devotion to Christ. It is truly a story of grace and sacrificial love. *Truly, this was God's Son!*



## Notes from Session

- A motion was made to accept the resignation of Carol Thompson from President of the Gleaners, thank you Carol!
- Pastor Tyler will be out of town April 19th-26th 2017, Rev. Ashley Steele will fill the pulpit in his absence.
- An additional 20 bibles will be purchased for the youth for Chi Rho. 60 have already been distributed!
- Work continues on searching for a pianist/ organist.
- The AED was delivered, the cost was under budget at \$2,114.00.
- It was approved to accept a \$300.00 anonymous donation to support youth attending Chi-Rho to attend Beaver Creek Church Camp. Connie Crawford and staff will select eligible youth.
- There was a committee meeting Wednesday, March 22nd at 10am to discuss the Wheel Chair ramp project.

### Thank you!

*Your Kindness Means so much!  
Thank you so much for your  
generous donation to the  
Salvation Army. It will be put to  
good use in helping the needy in  
the Toronto area.*

*Sincerely, Gail Walker Treasurer*

## Giving Report for the

### Month of February:

**Budgeted Giving:** \$11,136.00

**Actual Giving:** \$9,271.81

**Difference:** \$1,864.19

### \$5.00 challenge Report:

Thank you to those who have accepted the challenge of the session and have given \$5.00 extra each week. We have raised \$ 1,373.00.

*To the Presbyterian Family,*

*If there are words of thanks  
adequate enough, then I don't  
know them. As you stood with us,  
cried with us and brought  
welcomed smiles to our faces, you  
helped mother pass on. We felt  
your support and we know you  
were losing someone too. We  
thank you for all your love. We  
thank you for surrounding us in  
God's protection. Our family  
simply can not thank you all  
enough for everything. She loved  
you all so much and always said  
how lucky she was to have you.  
Many prayers, much love.*

*Beth Lynn*

*(Kitch Lewis' daughter)*

