

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 4/2	Carolyn Owen 4/17
Shirley Clegg 4/2	Sandra Rollo 4/20
Joshua Franke 4/9	Jennifer Gillis 4/21
Ryan Franke 4/9	Bridget Beswick 4/23
Julie Rock 4/9	Beth Clark 4/24
Brent Scott 4/11	Jo -Dell Yarosz 4/30
Joe Shimmel 4/14	
Carolyn Walker 4/14	
Grant Scott 4/16	



**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**

**Karen Shell, Rehearsal Organist**

**Lisa Grable, Custodian**

### Prayer Chain

If you would like to be added to the prayer chain please contact the office.

## April Happenings:

### Sunday, April 1st

- Happy Easter
- Communion

### Sunday, April 8th

- 2018-2019 Church Directories Available

### Thursday, April 12th

- Yarn ministry, 10am

### Monday, April 16th

- Session meeting, 6pm

### Thursday, April 26th

- Yarn ministry, 10am

### Tuesdays

Bible study, 7pm

### Sunday Worship

11am

### Sunday School

10am

### Choir Rehearsal

Wednesdays, 7pm

### Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday 9 - 1pm

# FIRST NEWS APRIL 2018

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

## “Chaos and Grace”

As I sit here writing, the Lenten season is drawing to a close, the somber and painful Holy Week lies ahead, and the glorious celebration of Easter morning is anxiously anticipated. Through all of this, these events of the passion of Christ, the happenings in the world, the church and my own life, the only thing that comes to mind is that through the chaos of life there is always hope in the grace that God offers.

I have found a certain metaphor with what this means though what is happening in the office wing of the church. Over the past month or so, we have been making preparations for the office wing to get an updating of sorts. New paint in the hallways, offices and bathrooms, along with new carpet and furniture in the offices. But currently, we are right in the middle of this project which means the offices are in chaos. Desks are moved away from walls, ladders and drop clothes need to be navigated around. Things not able to be found, extra time doing tasks that were second nature. The conference room has transformed into a storage locker of furniture, books and cabinets. We know this is only temporary and that the results will make the church a more welcoming and hospitable space, but in the meantime, it causes stress and requires a little extra patience.

This is what life feels like sometimes. We have times of chaos, whether it is due to sickness, financial burdens, work obligations, or just an overbooked calendar, chaos just happens in life sometimes. Usually there is not much that we feel like we can do about it in that moment. Sure, we could have tried to prepare a little better beforehand but that doesn't matter in that moment. But the thing that never changes through all of the chaos is the grace that God offers to us. Through Holy Week we see Jesus' triumphant entry, guilty verdict, brutal abuse and death, the disciples sorrow and pain, but ultimately, we are brought to the glory of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior and are reminded of the grace that it offers.

Through all of this chaos, the grace of God shines through and even though at times it may seem dim and harder to find, it was never gone. Through the times of chaos in our own lives we need to remember that the grace of God is always there for us. Offering us assurance and forgiveness, peace and love. As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord let us never forget the grace that is offered.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Tyler

GIVE ONLINE: [WWW.TORONTOPRESBY.ORG](http://WWW.TORONTOPRESBY.ORG)



**“Italian Fest”  
Spaghetti  
Dinner  
To Benefit  
Karen  
McAdoo  
Sunday, April  
8th, 2018**

at Karaffa  
Elementary School  
Noon - 3pm  
Eat in or take out  
Spaghetti Dinner  
\$10.00 (Includes  
salad, bread and  
drink.)

\*For more  
information contact  
Jennifer Matyas at  
740-632-4080

Also on the menu:  
meatball  
sandwiches,  
wedding soup,  
salad & deserts.  
Please come and  
show your support  
for Karen.



**Charity Baby Shower**

The Yarn Ministry will host a Charity Baby Shower on **Sunday, April 29th**. The shower will be held in the church dining hall. We will have a list soon of the items that would be appreciated. The gifts do not need wrapped. More information to follow. The Yarn Ministry will be grateful for you to share this event with us. Please bring a friend! This is a great opportunity to assist those in need.

**“Thank You” to the Chancel Choir**

For presenting it's annual Lenten/Easter Cantata on Palm Sunday. It set the tone for Holy week leading us up to the resurrection of our dear Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Thank you to all who participated in this beautiful and Spirit-filled day!



**“Game On!**

**Gearing Up For Life's  
Big Game”**

It's almost time for Vacation Bible School! It will have a sports theme this year & will be **June 11th -15th**. There will be fun, fellowship, crafts, games and learning about God & the Bible. Each day we will meet from 9am-noon. Hope to see everyone there!

(If you would like to help please contact Jennifer Matyas or Connie Crawford)



**Graduation Recognition**

**Sunday**

On **Sunday, June 3rd**, we will recognize the accomplishments of those graduating from high school and pray a blessing over them for their future endeavors. Following Worship there will be a time of fellowship and celebration in their honor. Please join us for this celebration.

**Flower Chart**

If you would like to remember or honor someone with fresh flowers in the Sanctuary, please call the office. 537-3721

**Notes from Session:**

- Approved vacation for Pastor Tyler in May.
- Pastor Tyler encouraged committees to set up regular meetings.
- Heard correspondence from the clerk.
- Approved new members for McClelland fund they are Joann Barnes & Bob Bertram.
- Heard Christian education reports from the Confirmation class, Chi Rho, Vacation Bible School & the Bible study class.
- Heard report from Worship & Music of Holy Week Services and the schedule for the monthly fellowships.
- Approved giving away surplus office furniture on a first come first serve basis. More details will be forthcoming.
- Approved to enter in negotiations regarding gas & oil rights on property the church has an interest in.
- Approved use of the building for 3 church members, along with Toronto Pony baseball and Toronto Coalition for Revitalization.
- Opened up time of prayer for persons of concern.
- The next meeting will be 4/16/18 at 6pm.

**\$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 \$961.00 so far in 2018. Thank you!



**Volunteers  
Needed**

We are looking for volunteers to cut grass during the summer months. Please let us know if you are interested.

**Expense report for the  
Month of February:**

**Expenses: \$11,842.49  
Income: \$10,112.36  
Difference \$-1,730.13**

**Note of Thanks**

Dear Friends,

*Your church  
has joined thousands  
of others in Christ's  
mission in the world  
through the four  
church wide special  
offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing,  
Pentecost, Peace & Global Witness,  
and Christmas Joy. Because of this  
ministry, the Church responded to  
those people devastated by  
hurricanes, fires, and floods all over  
the US and around the world, youth  
and young adults received  
opportunities to grow in faith and  
service, radical ethnic students  
received a quality education that  
might otherwise have been  
impossible, and life-changing gifts  
were received by church workers and  
their families experiencing financial  
hardship.*

Thank You!

*In 2018, we intend to continue  
celebrating every gift and every act  
of giving as motivated and  
accomplished through God.*

Faithfully Yours,

Bryce Wiebe

(Director, Special Offerings)

