



# PRESBYTERIAN TIDBITS

The Newsletter of Ottawa Presbyterian Church

150 N. Oak St., Ottawa, OH 45875-1810 ♦ (419) 523-3694

Reverend Ben Shaw ♦ ottawapresby.org

Andrea Morman, *Secretary* ♦ 9:30 am Sunday School ♦ 10:45 am Worship

## May 2018



Friends in Christ,

It's hard to believe that it's been a month since Easter. As the flowers and the trumpets and the empty tomb fade to the back of our minds we sometimes forget that big things happen in May, as well. On May 10, forty days after Easter, Christians around the world mark the Ascension—the day when Jesus left his disciples and went back to God the Father. Scripture tells us that the disciples sat around not knowing what to do for a week or so...until the Holy Spirit paid them a visit on Pentecost, inspiring them to speak to new people in new languages. If April was about what Christians believe, then May is about what Christians do in the world.

By coincidence, I am leaving you for a few weeks right before the Ascension, and returning to you right before Pentecost. It's a much needed vacation, not a Christological statement, I promise.

We're great about marking Advent and Lent and Holy Week. But then ten days between the Ascension and Pentecost are days we often don't think about at all from a Christian perspective. And maybe we should. Because, like the disciples, we often aren't sure what to do when Jesus isn't telling us directly and when we aren't feeling pushed or guided by the Spirit.

I encourage you to use this month, and especially the ten days in the middle, to think. To brainstorm. To imagine what Jesus wants us to be in our community; to think about who the Holy Spirit is calling us to speak to in new ways.

I didn't time my vacation this way on purpose. Sometimes you find amazing deals on flights to Europe and you take them. But take advantage of this coincidence in timing and do the kind of dreaming that is best done with no guidance—like the disciples did. And on Pentecost...you can fill me in on where you feel led.

Blessings,

Ben

## Stewardship Note

Happy Birthday Church! Pentecost is often seen or referred to as the birth of the Christian Church. The book of Acts tells the story of the outcome of Pentecost's new creation: people witness in word and in deed to the risen Christ. At the outset, the newborn church immediately tumbled out into the streets to witness to God's mighty works in the languages of people all over the world. By the end of the story, a tiny, Spirit-filled community of faith spread across the continents with incredible power to bring new things into being. With the gift of the Spirit, all things are possible.

Therefore, on the Day of Pentecost, we celebrate God's gift of the Holy Spirit which draws us together as one people, to help us know what God is doing in the world, and empower us to proclaim, in word and in deed, God's plan of reconciling all people in the name of Christ.

On birthdays, we often give gifts. On the Church's birthday we have this opportunity also. It is called the Pentecost Offering. A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be used by our congregation to make an impact in the lives of young people within our community. The remaining 60% is used to support ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency through programs for Young Adult Volunteers, Ministries for Youth, and provided help for children at risk.



## Prayer Concerns

Please note: Specific information about those included in our prayers is available during worship, from Rev. Ben, in our office, or from our Session members. However, specific names will not be posted on this web version of the newsletter.

Please pray for those with **health concerns** no matter what their stage of life.

Please pray for those undergoing **Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, and Rehab Therapy.**

Please pray for those **serving in the military**, both at home and overseas, as well as the families who watch and wait for them.

Please pray for **those receiving hospice care** as well as for their families and their caregivers.

Please pray for residents of **nursing homes** and **children's hospitals** and also **those who are returning to their homes** after hospital or nursing home stays.

Please pray for those who are either waiting for or who have received **organ transplants** and the families who face difficult decisions.

Please pray for those **facing decisions** in their personal lives, their professional lives, their family lives, or their spiritual lives.

And finally, please say a prayer of thanksgiving for the blessings of this congregation as well as a prayer for Rev. Ben's wonderful leadership of this group of believers!

## Financial Report

*Monthly financial information is available on the hard copies available in the church office.*

## Messages from your Session

**Your Session members are Lynne Hirzel, Jane Doepker, Becky Riepenhoff, Diane Bishop, Brandon Font and Paul Baransy.**

Persons working with individual committees:

**Christian Education: Jane Doepker**

**Church Operations: Brandon Font**

**Fellowship: Becky Riepenhoff**

**Mission & Outreach: Paul Baransy**

**Music & Worship: Lynne Hirzel**

**Endowment: Becky Riepenhoff**

**Clerk of Session: Diane Bishop**

Session held its April meeting immediately following worship service Sunday, April 15th. Business included reminders of changes in worship hours, building maintenance and opportunities for classes/workshops offered by Maumee Valley Presbytery. Reverend Ben Shaw has detailed information regarding '*Equipping Church Leaders to Preach*'. The training is detailed and thorough. Please contact Reverend Ben if you have questions.

Thank you to the Building committee *aka* Church Operations for replacing many light fixtures, light bulbs to LED to save energy and continued maintenance on the building. Karl Hirzel, Mike Kaufman, Brandon Font and others are keeping our building for worship in excellent condition.

Per Ms. Jane Doepker, chairperson of Christian Education committee, Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> is the last day for Sunday School.

Lynne Hirzel, chairperson of Music & Worship committee, reminds all that summer worship service begins Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup> with a continental breakfast at 9:00 A.M. Worship begins at 9:45 A.M. September 9<sup>th</sup> begins our fall schedule.

Reminder: if you have questions, concerns or compliments, please don't hesitate to contact a Session member. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane J. Bishop, Clerk of Session

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## Upcoming Events

**Pamper Yourself Day at OPC.** Sunday, May 6, from 1-3, please join us for an afternoon of relaxation and fellowship as part of a fund raiser for OPC2 Relay for Life team. Donations can be offered as you enjoy our time together that will include:

Hand Massages by Marcia Klima

Finger nail painting (please bring your favorite color with you) by Linda Vorhes

Make up Make overs (please bring your own make up) by Lily Parker

Relaxing music compiled by Ashley Roberts

Crafts to give yourself or as gifts with light refreshments served. A sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board for you to add your name. All donations will support our team effort for the Relay for Life. For further information contact Andee Parker, Sandy Foreman, or Amy Remaklus.

**There will be a church cookout** following services on May 20 in honor of the Remaklus family following their calling and wishing them good luck in their next endeavor as Amy goes to seminary. More information will be coming.

**Summer breakfasts** will begin on Sunday, May 27 and run through the summer. Breakfast will begin at 9 am and worship will be at 9:45 am. Requesting host/hostesses to sign up to provide a simple breakfast (i.e. donuts, bagels, fruit, yogurt). Any questions see Becky. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for those willing to volunteer.

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## Community News

**Putnam County residents and friends** are urged to join with neighbors at the Courthouse in Ottawa on THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER, Thursday, May 3, at 12:00 noon, praying together for our nation and

leaders. If you or someone in your fellowship would like to share a prayer May 3, please contact: Sondra Edwards, 419-659-5555.

**Challenged Champions Equestrian Center** in Ottawa, Ohio, is a non-profit therapeutic riding center for children and adults with special needs. They are in need of volunteers. Volunteers make up such a vital role at Challenged Champions. We couldn't do all of the great work that we do without our volunteers. People **14 and older** can be side walkers for our riders. There is **no horse experience required** as we provide all the training necessary for the side walking position. Generally two side walkers walk with a rider or one



side walker for a more experienced rider. Please let me know if you are interested in this volunteering opportunity. I would love to speak

with you more about this! Thanks, Jordan Hamilton, Challenged Champions Equestrian Center Volunteer Recruiter

**Email:** [jhamilton.ccec@gmail.com](mailto:jhamilton.ccec@gmail.com)

**Phone:** 4193041989

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Start cleaning out your closets, basements, and/or garages! The annual Rummage Sale is Thursday, June 7, (9-6) and Friday, June 8 (9-Noon). Bring items to the church for set-up anytime after worship on Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Pricing/sorting will be done on Tuesday and Wednesday. Household items are particular popular. Large items, such as furniture, are welcomed as well, but donors will be asked to take these items back home if they do not sell. All contributions are appreciated! A \$5 bag sale will be held on Friday. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin sometime in May for volunteer opportunities, such as: put up and take down tables, mark and sort donations, cashier during sale days, help customers find what they want, and finally, transport the leftovers Friday afternoon. Men are needed to help set up tables on Sunday, June 3 after church.

**Next Session Meeting is Sunday,  
May 6 after Worship**

**OTTAWA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**150 N. OAK ST.**  
**OTTAWA, OH 45875-1810**  
**419-523-3694**  
**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



**Presbyterian Tidbits** is published once a month by:

Ottawa Presbyterian Church, part of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Reverend Ben Shaw can be reached via email at [revben@ottawapresby.org](mailto:revben@ottawapresby.org) or phone  
740-972-1606.

Andrea Morman, secretary, is usually here Tuesday & Thursday.

Our website is [ottawapresby.org](http://ottawapresby.org)

**Sunday School – 9:30 am/Worship – 10:45 am**

**Summer Breakfast will start on May 27 – 9 am/Worship – 9:45 am**

The **Prayer Circle** is a group willing to confidentially pray for your joys and concerns.

Please contact [prayercircle@ottawapresby.org](mailto:prayercircle@ottawapresby.org).

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ELDERS IN CHARGE</b>	<b>FLOWERS</b>
May 6	Lynne H.	Gordon
May 13	Brandon F.	Font
May 20	Diane B. Servers: Diane B., Jane D. Communion Prep: Rev. Ben S.	TBD
May 27	Jane D.	Doepker

**Session:**

Class of 2018: **Lynne Hirzel, Becky Riepenhoff**

Class of 2019: **Diane Bishop, Jane Doepker**

Class of 2020: **Paul Baransy, Brandon Font**