***CHURCH* CHAT**

(Any or all information is subject to change without notification)

Dear Congregation Members,

Your session elders met this past Wednesday evening on March 26th. Here are some highlights of the meeting:

\*Anne Sweeney passed away on March 5, 2025

\*Session approved the following members of the newly formed 'Long term Viability Task Force  Committee'.  They are as follows:  Sandy Carlson, Jason McDaniel, Rob McFarland, Rick Blank, and Janice Casper

\*PLEASE TAKE NOTE:  Pastor Ericka's google account was compromised last week and the church directory information was sent erroneously to a hacker.

If you received a text or email asking for assistance in purchasing a gift card - please do not open &/or disregard this email or text and report it.  Pastor Ericka would not solicit for money or gift cards in this way.  An all congregation email and text was sent out to warn people about this intrusion, but if you did not see or get the alert -  please know we are aware of it and it was reported.

\*Session approved the following offerings:  One Great Hour of Sharing, Maundy Thursday and Easter.

\*Session approved the book ' Bad Girls of the Bible' for the monthly book group.

\* We will be celebrating Lois Miley's 50th anniversary of her membership to the church on May 25th. details to follow.

\* Dunebrook 'Stewards of Children' training will be held on April 6th after service.

We will meet next on May 21st.  Please keep your session elders and our Pastor in your prayers as we continue to discern and establish policy for our congregation.

Keeping you all in our prayers,

Laura Kittle, Clerk of Session

**CHOIR PRACTICE**

All in the sanctuary on 30th at 11:30 a.m. and on April 13th and 20th at 9:25 a.m.

**EASTER EGG HUNT**

We will be having an Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday after the service. We need lots of individually wrapped candy to fill the eggs. You can bring it any time before April 7th. There will be a box by the garden door entrance to put the candy in. Thank you! Jennifer Casper

**GRIEF GROUP**

“For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance,” (Ecclesiastes 3:1-4)

This spring, Pastor Ericka is hosting a Grief Group, which will meet twice a month on Sundays, after worship. Whether your grief is new or has been for many years, whether you are grieving a loved one or a situation, our God offers compassion through scripture, prayer, and through conversation with others. Copies of the “Grieving Change Loss” Lenten devotional are available in the Narthex for your personal use or for use in a group.  If you would like to join and attend, please speak with Janice Casper, Brock Vinson, or Pastor Ericka.

Coffee Hour Sign-Up

Our 2025 Coffee Hour sign-up chart is posted on the Edith Boyd Lounge

door, ready for you along with your family, friends, or committee to pick a

date to sponsor coffee hour. Remember, it doesn't have to be extravagant.

Coffee, a drink for the kids, and a treat is all that's needed. Most of the year

is covered by the Women's Circles, Deacons, and the Mission Committee but

every other third Sunday and the fifth Sundays need volunteers. It would be

really great if one group would volunteer for all the 5

th

 Sundays, there are 4.

If you are willing to do this, see Jeanette Tyrrell. In the mean time please

consider serving your fellow congregants by signing up for a coffee hour

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**THE CHANCEL FLOWERS**

If you are interested, as of now, we have open dates on June 8, June 15 June 29, July 6,

 July 20, July 27, August 3, August 17, August 24, August 31, October 5, October 19, October 26, November 9 and November 30. If you are interested in any of these dates, please contact the office. The cost is $35.00. Thank you.



* March 30 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
* March 30 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service 4th Sunday in Lent
* March 30 Sunday 11:30 a.m. choir rehearsal in the sanctuary
* March 30 Sunday after worship Duneland Foundation-Diverse Representations of Holy week in the Edith Boyd Lounge
* March 31 Monday **PASTOR OFF**
* April 1 Tuesday 2 p.m. Personnel meeting
* April 1 Tuesday 6 p.m. Finance meeting
* April 2 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
* April 2 Wednesday 4:30 p.m. B&G meeting
* April 2 Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Faith Formation meeting
* April 3 Thursday 12:00 p.m. PEO Chapter BA meeting
* April 3 Thursday 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts meeting
* April 4 Friday Office Closed **Pastor in by appointment**
* April 5 Saturday 9:30 a.m. Book study
* April 5 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
* April 6 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
* April 6 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service Communion Sunday (5th Sunday in Lent)
* April 6 Sunday 11:30 a.m. choir practice in the sanctuary
* April 6 Sunday after worship Dunebrook 'Stewards of Children' training
* April 7 Monday **PASTOR OFF**
* April 9 Wednesday 10 a.m. Outreach meeting
* April 9 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
* April 9 Wednesday 12 p.m. Wednesday Circle meeting
* April 10 Thursday 4:30 Mission meeting (Please see Jose Soto to confirm)
* April 11 Friday Office Closed **Pastor in by appointment**
* April 12 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
* April 12 Saturday Green Clean Day (if rain will be on April 19th)
* April 13 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
* April 13 Sunday 9.25 a.m. choir rehearsal in the sanctuary
* April 13 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service Palm Sunday. Holy Week Begins
* April 13 Sunday Teens and Tweens meet after worship
* April 14 Monday **PASTOR OFF**

**DIVERSE REPRESENTATIONS OF HOLY WEEK**

On March 30, join The Rev Doreen Sterba Dezur in the Edith Boyd Lounge after worship for an enlightening presentation of diverse artistic presentations of Holy Week.





For over 70 years, Presbyterians have joined together through OGHS, responding to Christ’s call to serve “the least of these.” This offering supports the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development of People ministry—bringing hope and tangible assistance to communities in need.

Through your generous gifts, we help rebuild lives after natural disasters, combat hunger and poverty, and empower communities to create lasting change. When we give, we proclaim that “God’s love is overflowing”—reaching those in need and transforming lives.

**Ways to Give:**

* During Worship: Use the OGHS blue-colored envelope.
* Online: Give securely at [pcusa.org/oghs](http://pcusa.org/oghs).
* By Mail: Send a check to the church with “OGHS” in the memo line.
* Text-to-Give: Text OGHS to 91999 to make a donation.

**A Special Invitation for Kids!**

Children are also invited to participate in this offering through the “Gracie” fish banks! These colorful fish-shaped banks help teach children about giving and compassion. Kids can collect coins throughout Lent and bring their filled fish banks on as an offering of love and generosity.

Join us in making a difference! When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

*“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” – 2 Corinthians 9:8*

**SOUP KITCHEN ITEM OF THE MONTH**

Our item for March to keep up with our Soup Kitchen inventory—is—***dish soap***. Thank you all for donating canned fruit throughout February. Please drop off your in-kind donations at the table near the coat racks in the Narthex. Monetary donations are welcome by designating them to the Soup Kitchen Fund.

*“My dear friends, since we have these promises, let’s cleanse ourselves from anything that contaminates our body or spirit so that we make our holiness complete in the fear of God.” —2 Corinthians 7:1 (CEB)*



**ELEVATOR FUND CAMPAIGN**

As of March 17th, the numbers are:

* We anticipate the final cost of the project is going to come in around $142,000 (about 8K under the original budget).
* We have raised $133,239 (includes a $50K grant).

In order to avoid dipping into our savings, we are still looking to raise an additional $8,771.

Please continue to donate to the elevator fund, and/or buy a brick or two for our heritage garden. Bricks are $100.00 each and can be purchased via this link. You can also pick up a paper form at the display by the garden door or contact Diane for one. Thank you for your generosity!

[**https://form.jotform.com/241926284623157**](https://form.jotform.com/241926284623157)



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For prayer requests

Contact Brian Spiece at

jspiece@hotmail.com

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YouTube – First Presbyterian Church Michigan City

Facebook – First Presbyterian Church Michigan City

WiFi password: 1holyGod!

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