



What's Up Wickliffe!

FEBRUARY 2024

LENT- SPRING CLEANING FOR THE SOUL

As we anticipate a time of reflection during the Lenten season, we prepare our hearts for a time of reflection, repentance and a so-called "Spring Cleaning for the Soul." We will enjoy Shrove Tuesday together as a way of indulgence and reminder of the many blessings we enjoy in abundance, and then we will move into Ash Wednesday. And on the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday, hundreds of millions of Christians receive ashes on their foreheads in churches all over the world.

Why ashes? Since Old Testament times, ashes have been used as a symbol of mortality. When ashes are placed on our foreheads we hear the words: "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return." It's a reminder that the world, that often seems so important to us at this moment is passing and we need to give more thought to what comes at the end of our earthly life, which is: eternal life.

Ashes are also a sign of our need for repentance and a heartfelt acknowledgment that we are sinners and fall short of the glory of God. To many in the modern world, the very concept of sin seems old-fashioned. Yet, sin is part of our human nature, brokenness is our human condition and we NEED Jesus. We need to repent and trust the Triune God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) will show up for us again and again.

If you intentionally hurt a good friend, whether you are religious or not, something deep inside of you tells you that you need to say you're sorry. What's more, whether you say it out loud to your friend, or just think it to yourself, you'll resolve not to hurt them again. But chances are good that someday you will. And that is similar to the all-too-human cycle of sin and sorrow and sinning again.

As the Church points out, we are all sinners and we all need repentance. We all need to confess our sin and sinfulness and ask for God's

forgiveness. And as people of the resurrection, we trust and lean into God's gift of abundant grace. Lent gives us an intentional time of the year to do just that (although our prayer is that we practice confession/repentance year-round).

The word "Lent" comes from an old English word for springtime. Think of it as a form of spring cleaning for the soul. In the early years of the Church it was confined to a few days before Easter. But by the fourth century it was extended to forty days before Easter, a period associated with the forty days and nights that Jesus spent in the desert, tempted in the wilderness, just after his baptism (Matthew 4:1-11). "Forty days before Easter" may be somewhat misleading. The Church doesn't count Sundays among the forty days, so the period of Lent, lasting from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday, actually covers 46 days. Whether 40 days or 46 days, in the great scope of things Lent is a momentary pause to rethink the fundamental purpose of our lives. But it can also be the occasion of a momentous transformation; a first step on the path, at the crossroads, of becoming the people God has called us to be. I'll see you at the crossroads of this journey.

Pastor Greer, Amazing Grace Lutheran Church

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FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

- February 4** 5th Sunday After Epiphany
♦ Annual Congregational Meeting
Potluck Luncheon
- February 11** Transfiguration of the Lord
♦ Support Meeting
- February 18** 1st Sunday in Lent
FPC Hubbard Joint Service &
Potluck Breakfast
Communion
- February 25** 2nd Sunday in Lent



Happy Birthday!

- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| February 1 | Nancy Truslow |
| February 19 | Janelle Truslow |
| February 21 | Cathy Garstka |
| February 23 | Ron Salo |
| February 24 | Debbie Marshall |
| February 26 | Gracie May Magan |

Church Office Hours:

Monday - 9:00am - 12:00pm

Tuesday - Closed

Wednesday - Closed

Thursday - 9:00am - 12:00pm

Friday - Closed

(Hours may vary. Please contact the office for an appointment if you need in the church)

Church Website: www.wickliffepc.com

Secretary's Email: wickliffepc@gmail.com

Wickliffe Presbyterian Church

45 Idlewood Rd.

Austintown, OH 44515

P: 330-792-6441 F: 330-792-1006

TLCC Daycare and Preschool

Director, Norma Johnson

330-792-9048



2024 Per Capita remains \$32.50. Per Capita information flyers are available at the church.



Growth Committee has some fun up its sleeve for the new year. Keep your eyes open for further announcements!
~ Donna Cooper

IN STEP WITH SESSION



As we met for the first time in 2024, all Elders new, current and out going were in attendance. We decided on who would be filling the positions for the Teams needing chairs. Tracy Martin to serve on Nominating and Grace Brown on CE. Thank you to Jamie and Janelle for serving as Elders for the last 6/7 years. You will be missed. Welcome Grace Brown and Tracy Martin as soon to be newly ordained officers along with myself as installed. Your willingness to serve is greatly appreciated. Our Congregational meeting will be held on Feb 4th with our Presbyter, Barry Chance, presiding. We will begin our Congregational meeting at 10 A.M. The purpose of this change is to be able to ordain/install the new officers during our Worship service. We will conclude the morning with a Potluck luncheon. A sign-up sheet can be found in the Narthex. Also, thank you to all who submitted their reports to Audrey.

On Feb 18th, we will host a joint Worship service with Hubbard Presbyterian in attendance. Bryce Wiebe will serve at the pulpit. Both Churches will take part in the service and Communion will be served. More details to follow.

A discussion of training for Elders/Deacons was brought to the table. Rev Annie Parker of Heritage had invited us to join them for training. Unfortunately, it fell on same day as our Congregational meeting/Potluck luncheon. The Elders, with Rev Parker's understanding, felt a different day should be scheduled. Annie is more than willing to come to Wickliffe to lead this training session. She is going out of her way to instruct us so please, Elders and Deacons, make an effort to attend. I will speak to Annie and try and set a date that will work for both Annie and the officers.

Communion dates have been set for Feb 18th, Mar 24th, May 26th, Aug 4th, Oct 6th and Dec 24th.

Jeff B. spoke on issues within our Church. One main issue is the Boiler. No one should be tampering with it which causes lack of heat in the older part of our building. Norma is aware of issue and will try and address. Norma is also looking into finding a grant to repair the parking lot. Thank you, Norma. Joe DiNobile has offered to build a new Advent centerpiece to be set on the Communion Table. The old stand is beyond repair.

*As we discussed Worship, suggestions were made to start lighting the candles, having ushers to collect the offerings and singing of the Doxology and Gloria Patri. This will start in February. We also mentioned that we need members to sign up to be lay leaders. Please see the sign-up sheet hanging on large bulletin board in Narthex. Thank you all for your understanding as we move forward in 2024.
Blessings, Nancy O'Hara, Clerk of Session*



MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

Our sympathy and prayers for comfort are extended to the family and friends of **Pauline Oliphant**, who passed away Thursday, January 4, 2024.

Pauline had been a member of Wickliffe Church since 2007. She had resided at Violet Springs Health Campus in Pickerington, Ohio. Her daughter Jenny Sarisky had also been a member. If you wish to send your condolences, Jenny's address is 3415 Newton Falls Rd., Diamond, Ohio 44412. May Pauline rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon her.



MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

Our sympathy and prayers for comfort are extended to the family and friends of **Margaret Ann Davies**, who passed away Wednesday,

January 10, 2024. Margaret had been received as a member of Wickliffe Church in 1958. Her husband of 70 years, James Davies, died last June, 2023. Margaret's funeral service was held Saturday, January 20 at Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Youngstown. May Margaret rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon her.



The date of the Annual Congregational Meeting and Potluck Luncheon was changed to Sunday, February 4, 2024 with Reverend Barry Chance.

~Nancy O'Hara



WHITE CHOCOLATE TRAIL MIX

- 6 Cups Crispix Cereal
- 6 Cups Cheerios
- 1—14 oz. Pretzels, Sticks or Mini Pretzels
- 1 Can Cocktail Peanuts, No Skins
- 1 Lg. Bag Holiday M&M's
- 2 lbs. White Chocolate Dipping Chocolate



Mix cereals, pretzels, nuts and M&M's in a large mixing bowl. Melt chocolate in a double boiler or in the microwave. Drizzle over mixture and stir well. Spread thinly on waxed paper. It will take about two 9x13" sheets. Let it cool and break up. Stores well in Tupperware or in holiday plastic bags. Perfect for gift giving! Enjoy!

Submitted by Debby Fabian

Want to submit a recipe for a future newsletter? We welcome your great ideas! Just send an e-mail to wickliffepc@gmail.com or drop it off on Sunday.

**GOODTIMERS will meet Wednesday,
February 7th at 11:30 AM at
Denny's on Mahoning Ave.
~Grace Brown**

**DISCOVERY GROUP will meet
February 27th at 12:30 PM at the church.
~ Grace Brown**



Please update your directory with the following telephone number change:

**PATRICIA CRAMER
330-881-0130**

PLEASE NOTE: Nancy Truslow's room number has changed. It is now Room #123. Please update your directory.

Needle's Eye Soup Ministry

Let's keep those donations of soup, beans, and peanut butter coming for February!! I wish you could see Emmeline, Dennis, and The Bishop smile when we take our donations for the month! I would love to have some Wonderful Wickliffe Members come along with me when it is time to deliver the food! Let me know when you want to accompany me! Thanks again!

Thank you in His Name! Donna Cooper



A SPECIAL NOTE FROM YOUR WPC SESSION

On Sunday, February 18th 2024, our new friends from First Presbyterian Church Hubbard will be joining us for our next shared joint service. This is another chance for us to share in Christian Fellowship and get to know each other better. Service will begin at our normal time of 10 am with Bryce Wiebe preaching. There will be a Continental Luncheon Potluck afterwards. WPC is in charge of bringing breakfast casseroles and things like bacon and eggs. First Presbyterian will be bringing the bread items such as bagels, donuts and pastries. There will be a signup sheet in the Narthex starting Sunday January 28, 2024. Hope to see everyone there!!

Please feel free to reach out to Janelle Truslow or myself with any questions.

**God Bless,
Jamie Bryant WPC Elder**



Journey Towards Healing

An 8 Week Grief Support Group



Group will be hosted by Rev. John Bower, Chaplain

**Journey Group will be held every Tuesday
for 8 weeks from 6:30-7:30 pm
at Tabernacle Evangelical Presbyterian Church
2432 S Raccoon Rd, Austintown OH 44515**

January 30th – March 19th 2024

*Groups are open to the public and FREE of charge, however
pre-registration is required

Please call **330-899-0180** or email jbower@harmonycares.com
to register or for more information

February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 5:45 PM Tops	2	3
4 Annual Congregational Mtg./Potluck 10:00 AM Worship Service 8:00 PM AA Mtg.	5	6	7 11:30 AM Goodtimers Denny's 4927 Mahoning Ave.	8 5:45 PM Tops	9	10
11 10:00 AM Worship Service 8:00 PM AA Mtg.	12	13	14 	15 5:45 PM Tops	16	17
18 10:00 AM Worship Service Joint Service w/ FPC Hubbard Communion 8:00 PM AA Mtg.	19	20	21	22 Newsletter Deadline 5:45 PM Tops	23	24
25 10:00 AM Worship Service 8:00 PM AA Mtg.	26	27 12:30 PM Discovery Group-WPC	28	29 5:45 PM Tops		