



# What's Up Wickliffe!



## PC(USA) offers assistance for the people of earthquake-ravaged Syria and Turkey

LOUISVILLE — Amid news of a devastating earthquake in Syria and Turkey, the Presbyterian Mission Agency has reached out to offer assistance to partners in the area, where thousands have died, and is asking Presbyterians to pray for those impacted by the quake and its aftershocks.

Through a coordinated response by [Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](#) and [World Mission](#), PMA has contacted multiple long-term partners of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) including the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon; the Middle East Council of Churches; the Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue; and the Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches.

“I have reached out to the four different entities to invite them to request a solidarity grant, which is our process,” said the Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus, Director of Humanitarian and Global Ecumenical Engagement for PMA’s [Compassion, Peace & Justice ministries](#). “PC(USA) is deeply grateful that we have such long-term and strong relationships in the region, so that we can stand in solidarity as they respond to this crisis.”

The partnerships have been established over the years through ecclesial work and to help people recover from war and other tragedies, such as the explosion in Beirut a few years ago.

PDA also plans to respond through [ACT Alliance](#) members on the ground to address urgent needs and provide humanitarian aid. ACT Alliance is a global faith-based coalition that operates in more than 120 countries. “We’re really grateful to belong to ACT,” which has broad reach into areas such as Turkey, Kraus said.

[The 7.8-magnitude earthquake](#) jarred people from their sleep about 4 a.m., sending tremors as far away as Lebanon and Israel, according to CNN. The Associated Press [reported Monday afternoon](#) that

more than 3,400 people have been killed, with more trapped in tangles of concrete and metal. (*UPDATE*: That number has grown to tens of thousands).

The aftershocks have included a 7.5-magnitude earthquake that occurred in Turkey about nine hours after the first quake, according to CNN.

Needs among those affected are believed to include blankets, medication, hygiene supplies, temporary housing, and heating, said Dayna Oliver, Associate for International Program Administration for PDA.

The Rev. Edwin González-Castillo, PDA’s Director, said, “As we continue to receive information from our partners about the needs and best ways for us to respond, we are inviting churches and everyone interested in helping to donate to [PDA DR999999](#). Through your generosity, we are able to attend to the immediate needs (that have) been identified by our partners and (believe there will be) long-term projects that will develop during the recovery stages.”

*by Darla Carter | Presbyterian News Service*

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# MARCH SCHEDULE

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- March 5**      **2nd Sunday in Lent**
  
- March 12**    **3rd Sunday in Lent**
  - ◆ **Support Meeting**
  
- March 19**    **4th Sunday in Lent**
  - ◆ **Session Meeting**
  
- March 26**    **5th Sunday in Lent**



March 1	Dow Davis
March 3	Dorothy Vaupel
March 4	Michele Grazier
	Patricia Morningstar
March 5	Carolyn Lewis
March 10	Ricky Witt
	Paul Velly
March 19	Michelle Manenti
March 28	Sherrie Wolfe
March 29	Steven Garstka
March 30	Aymie Hittle

**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](http://www.wickliffepc.com)  
Secretary's Email: [wickliffepc@gmail.com](mailto:wickliffepc@gmail.com)

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Wickliffe Presbyterian Church  
45 Idlewood Rd.  
Austintown, OH 44515  
P: 330-792-6441 F: 330-792-1006

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TLCC Daycare and Preschool  
Director, Norma Johnson  
330-792-9048





Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One/Great Hour Of Sharing (OGHS) are:

- ~ Presbyterian Disaster Assistance - Works along side communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters. PDA receives 32% of funds raised.
- ~ Presbyterian Hunger Program( PHP) - takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed. Receives 36% of funds raised.
- ~ Self -Development Of People (SDOP) - Invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues. Receives 32% of funds raised.

This offering is received usually on **Palm Sunday** which is on **Sunday, April 2, 2023**. Each gift helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The OGHS offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. "If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot"!

Please be as generous as possible! Thankfully, Donna Cooper

**Needle's Eye Soup Ministry**

Look for your initial and please give cans of soup, beans, or peanut butter! Hopefully there will be some donations for February! These donations are given to the elderly in our area who find their food supply very low at the end of the month.

Thank you for your generosity!  
Donna Cooper



This month's initials are: **V—W—Y**



**2023 Per Capita has increased to \$32.50. Per Capita information flyers are available at the church.**



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Just close your eyes and open your heart  
 And feel your worries and cares depart  
 Just yield yourself to the Father above  
 and Let Him hold you secure in His love  
 For life on earth grows more involved  
 With endless problems that can't be solved  
 But God only asks us to do our best,  
 Then He will "take over" and finish the rest  
 So when you are tired, discouraged and blue,  
 There's always one door that is open to you  
 And that is the door to "The House of Prayer"  
 And you'll find God waiting to meet you there,  
 And the "House of Prayer" is no farther away  
 Than the quiet spot where you kneel and pray  
 For the heart is a temple when God is there  
 As we place ourselves in His loving care,  
 And He hears every prayer and answers each one  
 When we pray in His name "Thy Will Be Done"  
 And the burdens that seemed too heavy to bear  
 are lifted away on "The Wings of Prayer."

*Submitted by Nancy Truslow*



Ronald  
McDonald  
House®

**"POP TABS—Reminder"**

This is a reminder that you take time to collect **Pop Tabs** for our **RONALD McDONALD HOUSE Outreach**. You will find the tall plastic container in

the Narthex. Let's please see how fast we can fill the jug this time. Blessings to all for your support of this worthy cause!

~ Nancy O'Hara, Clerk of Session

**REMINDER FROM JEFF**

Jeff Bryant is still collecting **aluminum cans** this year for a project with the VFW called "**Cans for Vets**".



Please bring your cans to the church (garbage can is placed near the door) or set them by the garage for this very worthy cause. Jeff will be collecting the cans for the remainder of the year.

PRAY  
FOR  
UKRAINE



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**A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE**

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.



Dear Friends,

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and concerns for the East Palestine congregation over the saga of the last few days. It's not over yet, but as I write this on Monday evening the immediate danger from exploding cars seems to be over, but the fire continues. East Palestine has canceled school until Friday and people who evacuated remain unsure of when they can return to their homes.

I have talked with almost every participant in the East Palestine congregation and to my knowledge they, along with their families, are fine. Those who evacuated have found refuge with nearby family or friends. Some have gone to hotels. I do not know of anyone in immediate need of housing assistance. Supposedly, Norfolk Southern (the railroad) is reimbursing for hotel rooms.

We are too early in this disaster to know what sorts of long-term aid and support might be needed. Two short term relief efforts are underway.

1) The Columbiana Church and the Presbytery are joining together to provide small cash payments to those in the East Palestine congregational family who have had to evacuate.

2) The Way Station, a mission partner of both the Columbiana and the East Palestine churches, is offering free clothing, toiletries and motel-friendly food to those who have had to evacuate.

Donations are not desperately needed for either of these initiatives, but if you or your congregation desires to make a donation you can in the following ways:

First Presbyterian, Columbiana - go to [www.firstpresbycolumbiana.org](http://www.firstpresbycolumbiana.org) and click on donate. Select Other and put EP Fire in the special instructions that will appear on the next screen.

The Way Station - go to [www.thewaystationinc.org](http://www.thewaystationinc.org) and click on donate.

The Greater Akron and Mahoning Valley Red Cross has been in East Palestine and staffing the emergency shelter. To support them go to: <https://www.redcross.org/local/ohio/northern-ohio.html>.

Again, thanks to all for their concern and their prayers. If additional support is needed, we'll let everyone know.

Fritz

*Rev Fritz Nelson*

*Pastor, First United Presbyterian Church-East Palestine*

*Pastor, First Presbyterian Church-Columbiana*

**A Message from your Clerk of Session-**

I'm reaching out to all those who have had questions but haven't had the opportunity to speak up at this time.

**\*We recently had our Congregational meeting and our membership who attended had the opportunity to voice questions they may have had. Unfortunately nothing was brought up. I know that concerns needed to be asked and I want to at least keep you up to date on the happenings going on at Wickliffe.**

**\*We are still filling the pulpit at this time. Thank you, Janelle, for working so diligently to find Pastors and other speakers to lead our Sunday morning services. It is not an easy task. Ruth also is trying to find Lay leaders for each Sunday. You will see a sign-up sheet in the Narthex on the large bulletin board. Please remember, because we are only able to find pastors, etc. to fill Sunday mornings, that services such as Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday Service, etc will unfortunately fall to the way side. I am hoping that our members will take the initiative to attend another church and take part in these special services that are offered.**

**All will work for the good of the whole with God's help. Keep our Church in your prayers.**

**\*As far as a search for a Pastor, it is a very slow process. Your Session has been invited to attend a meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup> @ 1 PM for a discussion with other churches that are also looking for a Pastor. We have not met with the Committee on Ministry as yet, but our Session**

**Is working on a letter entitled "What we are looking for in a Pastor". We will be discussing its content at our next Session meeting in order to move forward. Just so you are aware, we cannot afford to pay a full time Pastor at this time, so Part time is what we are looking for. Not an easy task, but we will find a way.**

**\*For those who attend Sunday Service and want to return to the ways we have been accustomed to in the past such as Ushers, Choir, bible Studies etc., please be aware that not only are we still having issues with Covid which we know is still out there, we need to take the process at our own pace. Many churches still meet on zoom. Some still wear masks.**

**Each church has to address issues individually. We don't like to hear the comment that "The New Normal" is how we address these issues. Your Session will keep you apprised as we try and adopt a Worship Service that we all can accept. If you have suggestions, please let your Session know and we will address these issues and answer them at the beginning of each service.**

**\*We are starting to have Coffee Hours at the beginning of each Service and a sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for all who would like to participate. We just ask that only one person sign up at a time and keep it as simple as possible for now.**

**Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your understanding of our situation right now. Hopefully we all will be journeying together to make Wickliffe Presbyterian stronger as we move forward through the next days, weeks, months but hopefully not years to accomplish what we would like to set out to do.....**

**Love and Prayers from Nancy "O", your Clerk of Session**

# March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1          <b>11:30 AM Goodtimers</b>	2          <b>5:45 PM Tops</b>	3	4
5  <b>10:00 AM Worship Service</b>   <b>8:00 PM AA Mtg.</b>	6	7          <b>Session Meeting at 6 PM</b>	8	9          <b>5:45 PM Tops</b>	10	11
12 <b>10:00 AM Worship Service</b>  <b>8:00 PM AA Mtg.</b>	13          <b>TLCC Board Mtg. at 6 PM</b>	14	15          <b>12:00 PM Esther Circle</b>	16          <b>5:45 PM Tops</b>	17          	18
19 <b>10:00 AM Worship Service</b>   <b>8:00 PM AA Mtg.</b>	20          	21	22	23          <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>          <b>5:45 PM Tops</b>	24	25
26  <b>10:00 AM Worship Service</b>   <b>8:00 PM AA Mtg.</b>	27	28          <b>12:00 PM Discovery Group</b>	29	30          <b>5:45 PM Tops</b>	31	