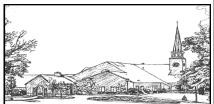
Good News

March 2024



Heritage Presbyterian Church

"Just as you did it to one of the least of these... you did it to me?" Matthew 25:39

Dear Friends,

In recent "Listening Sessions" a major named strength of Heritage was our emphasis on missions. We support several missions financially, usually spending about a tenth of our budget on gifts to mission. We also participate physically in missions especially Our Daily Bread, Tender Mercies and Family Promise of Warren County (FPWC). Recently, we adopted The Community Cupboard from the Mason Methodist Church.

It is wonderful for us to live out our faith with sacrifices of money and time on behalf of neighbors who are in difficulty. This is what our confession of Jesus as Lord means to the way we live.

It is important to give not only money but time. Often money is easier to give. Sacrificing money turns us from focusing entirely on ourselves to see and respond to the need of others. This shapes our spirits and souls transforming us from graspers to givers.

Giving time though shapes us as well. When we put our bodies close to those who need help, we are affected by them. We are changed. We become more aware of not just financial needs but the emotional and spiritual needs of our neighbor. We act out with our muscles and our touch the love we have for Jesus, and it teaches our hearts to love the people to whom we give care.

Heritage was one of the founding congregations of FPWC and continues to be a chief mission focus. For 20 of those years, 4 to 5 weeks a year HPC hosted several unhoused families. This required four dozen or more volunteers each week. Many volunteer jobs worked directly with the guest families. Distance between "us" and "them" was broken down. Guests told us their stories and we shared ours. By sharing meals and struggles our lives impacted each other and we become sisters and brothers.

When Covid hit in 2020, FPWC housed families in a motel in Lebanon. Churches provided meals for the families, delivered by FPWC van.

Now FPWC has purchased a motel – the former Shaker Inn on rt 42 in Lebanon – to house guests. Starting in April, churches will again be asked to meet face to face with guests making or bringing meals on site, eating dinner with the guests, spending time with parents and children and serving as overnight hosts. Again we can have conversation, fun and relationship with those who are temporarily in a hard place. This gift of ourselves to Jesus' least is transformative for the givers and receivers. Most volunteers will tell you that it is hard to tell who is the giver and who is the receiver.

As part of your spiritual growth and practice of your faith, I hope that you will join the nearly three dozen Heritage members who have done the FPWC training at their new site. Trainings are on Saturdays in March. Contact Nelson Kennedy to sign up.

This is a way that we continue to strengthen and grow in our faith.

Blessings,

Kevin Stainton

March Birthdays

2	Craig Jacob	13	Neil Plats	23	Elise Tymitz
4	Anthony Rought	14	Suzanne Kennedy	25	Alison Mount
6	Ashlyn Clark	14	Jim Whitaker	28	Tim LeVan
7	Glen Hamann	16	Al Reeves	28	Sarah Hill Sinisi
7	Morgan Perkins	17	Katie Atkinson Smith	30	Linda Spaeth
8	Beverly Todd	17	Sally Le Cras	30	Al Steverson
9	Zach Mount	18	Brad Dorman	31	Lily Huang
11	Judith Olsen	20	Chris Dauer	31	Nora Pestro
12	Craig Hoon	23	Doug Parrott		

<u>March Prayer Families:</u> Janet Hufford, Tim & Sally, Matt and Sam Le Cras, Ali & Tyreem Mitchell, Al & Bonnie Reeves

Continued Prayers: Steve Ritz

News from the Transitional Leadership Team

Dear HPC Family,

On Sunday, February 25th we held a Congregational Town Hall meeting to hear about the pathways available to HPC as we search for a new Pastor. Executive Presbyter, Lisa Allgood explained the difference between the Designated and Interim pathways. We will host a follow-up gathering this Sunday, March 3, 2024, immediately following the service to answer any further questions. Please join us and be a part of this very important process as we look to the future. If you have any thoughts, questions, or concerns in advance or after the meetings, please email Karen Saterfield at KarenSaterfield@gmail.com.

Call Stephanie Martin at 513-398-7671 for a Zoom link before 3pm, Friday, March 1st if you cannot attend.

Transitional Leadership Team:

Karen Saterfield, Chair

Micah Ewing

Kai Huang

Danni Tymitz

Ben Zumkehr

Tuesdays Together In



Tuesdays Together in Lent

Each Tuesday evening, during the Lenten season, we will gather to eat a meal together and learn as a church community. Adults and teens are invited to meet at Heritage for potluck dinner, fellowship, and study. Childcare is available for our younger children. Contact susie.faas@hpcmason.org.

Remaining Tuesdays March 5, 12, 19, and 26 We will meet from 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Food: 6:00 – 7:00 pm will be a weekly potluck supper. The church will provide a main entree and we ask congregation members to provide a side dish or dessert.

Study: From 7:00 – 8:00 pm Pastor Kevin will lead us in study and conversation using the PCUSA curriculum "Follow Me—Make Disciples".

As we long for community and connection, this is an opportunity for fellowship as well as nourishment for our bodies and souls.

Sign up on the "LENT" bulletin board in the Atrium or use this link: https://bit.ly/TuesdaysTogether2024



Prayer Partners

During Lent, consider strengthening your prayer life by becoming a Prayer Partner with someone in our congregation. Over the years, several strong intergenerational faith relationships have grown in our congregation through this spiritual discipline. We will pair each interested adult (18 and older) with a youth (17 & younger, including babies). Throughout Lent, you will commit to praying for each other daily. Interested? Contact susie.faas@hpcmason.org to be connected with a partner and a receive a prayer packet.

Lenten Resources

The church season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday. This is a 6-week period when Christians prepare for Easter through reflection, study, and service. We have prepared several resources and experiences that are appropriate for all ages as we experience Lent. Take-home resources are available in the atrium.





Time to Pray - Spirituality Centers

During Lent, take time to be enriched in your faith by taking time to pray, meditate and reflect in beautifully prepared Spirituality Prayer Centers here at Heritage. The centers are located in the Fireside Room and Adult Library and are available anytime the church is open. They provide wonderful space to pray individually, with a family member, or a prayer partner. Centers have been carefully prepared for all ages; children, teens, and adults. Plan a time to be renewed and refreshed through the power of prayer.



One Great Hour of Sharing

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING fish banks and sharing calendars are available in the Atrium, under the Children's Ministry bulletin board. Also available is a OGHS board game, that helps our children and families to learn about the effects of a natural disaster, and the healing power of help from others. Gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing will be used to provide relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and assist in the empowerment of the poor and oppressed. We invite you to make a contribution, as an example of the Lenten discipline of service to others. We will return our offerings and fish banks to HPC on Palm Sunday, March 24, or by using the HPC on-line giving portal found at www.hpcmason.org/giving. Please mark "OGHS" in the notes box.

Holy Week at HPC



Maundy Thursday Simple Supper & Communion Service

On Thursday, March 28 we will have a Soup & Bread Potluck at 6pm, then the Maundy Thursday Communion Service at 7pm. We invite you to join us for these special Holy Week events.

HPC Easter Breakfast

Heritage Presbyterian Women will be hosting a yummy Easter Breakfast.

Please join us Easter morning for breakfast from 8:30 - 9:45am. Enjoy egg casseroles, bacon, yogurt and fresh fruit.

Volunteers will be needed to cook casseroles at home (ingredients are provided with the recipe) and help with cleanup. Please sign up online at https://hpcmason.breezechms.com/form/cf40449 or add your name to the sign up sheet on the PW Board in the Atrium so enough food is planned. Thank you and we hope to see you there!!

HPC Easter Service

Our Easter Service will be at the usual Worship Service time of 10:15am. All Sunday School classes and afternoon activities are cancelled for Easter Sunday.



Easter Flower Sale 2024

Easter Lilies — \$10 Hyacinths — \$10 Azaleas — \$18

To order: Fill out an envelope in the Atrium,

or contact Janet Clifford Brown: cliffordbrown.je@gmail.com.

Orders are due by Sunday, 3/17/24

Thank you for ordering Easter Flowers—they will brighten the celebration!

You may pick up your flowers during the week after Easter.



Lunch Bunch!

The March Lunch Bunch will meet on Monday, March 4, 2024. The meeting will be at 11:30am at the Mason Perkins on OH-741

Food with Friends: Saturday, March 30

Emails will come soon with the signup link!



Nursery Coordinator

HPC is seeking a qualified adult individual to fill the part-time staff position of Nursery Coordinator. This is a part time position (2-3 hours/week on Sunday mornings), with occasional hours for special events. Qualifications include:



- An adult with 3–5 years of experience providing a safe, secure loving environment for children in a nursery setting,
- Creativity skills that provide a stimulating, welcoming environment for young children,
- Ability to professionally communicate with parents and staff,
- Current certification in basic first aid and infant CPR.

Any offer of employment will be contingent upon completion of background check. Please send resumes and inquiries to susie.faas@hpcmason.org



Solar-Bration April 6-8

Do you have any interest in a family outing?

There is a special mini-retreat opportunity during the weekend of the solar eclipse April 6 –8 at Camp PYOCCA, a lovely Presbyterian camp in Brownstown, IN.

PYOCCA is providing a planned retreat with activities, including viewing of the solar eclipse from April 6—8. Brownstown is located in the path of the total eclipse. The information and registration link is provided below https://pyoca.org/programs/solarbration.php

Please contact <u>susie.faas@hpcmason.org</u> if you would be interested in going so that we can investigate the availability of cabins we could rent as a group.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Once again, HPC generosity was in high gear as we collected over 1,300 pantry items and \$1850 through this year's SouperBowl of Caring. Our food and cash donations will be given to our own HPC Community Cupboard, and the Mason Comet Cupboard that supplies food to Mason children. Gratitude to all who contributed, and to Diane Sherrard and the 'Tweens for another year of delicious chili. We are taking a faithful step to end poverty and hunger in our community.



Summer Camp Opportunities

As you make your summer plans, consider a church camp experience at the Kirkmont Center in Zanesville, OH. Information brochures are available in the atrium, as well as online. Registration for summer camps, their PMV Women's Retreat, and a Total Eclipse Event are open now at https://kirkmontcenter.campbrainregistration.com/. New and updat-



ed information is frequently posted to their social media pages at Facebook.com/Kirkmont and Instagram.com/KirkmontCenter. You are welcome to reach out at info@KirkmontCenter.org and (937) 593-2141.

Memorial Garden



The HPC Memorial Garden, located on the north side of the church, has the ashes of 10 former church members and relatives interred there: Jean G. Weingartner Kinstler; Jilaine S. "Jill" Wineing Kinstler; Richard C. Kinstler; Rev. George E. "Mac" McKean, Jr.; Roy R. "Rusty" Phillips; Michael A. Reeves; Rita J. "Jacque" Day Willwerth; Thomas R. "Tim" Willwerth; Dorothy A. Sander Wineing; and Vernon S. "Doc" Wineing.

You are encouraged to visit this special place, either in person or online. The following link will take you to HPC's Memorial Garden page on **Find a Grave**, a website where over 238 million ancestors are remembered with virtual memorials in cemeteries worldwide. On HPC's page, click on "View Memorials" for an index, and click on the individual's name to see their memorial page. To leave a virtual flower and a message on their memorial, click on "Leave a Flower." For future HPC internments, anyone can create a free account on **Find a Grave** and then add a memorial on the HPC page for their loved one.

https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2794635/heritage-presbyterian-church-cemetery

Concert Invite!

The Hospitality Committee cordially invites you to join us in seeing Christian music artist CECE WINANS in concert at Princeton Pike Church on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at 7pm. Sign-Up is in the Atrium or email karensaterfield@gmail.com. I currently have a few tickets available for \$50 or you purchase tickets here: https://www.ticketweb.com/event/the-goodness-tour-with-cece-princeton-pike-church-tickets/13290153



Children's Ministry News

Sandusky Mission Trip

We are preparing the annual mission trip to the Sandusky Presbyterian Outreach Center June 6-9, 2024. This year, children completing grades 4 – 7 will be included in the trip. If your child is interested in going on the mission trip, please contact susie.faas@hpcmason.org.



Save the Date! VBS June 24-28 6-8pm



Vacation Bible School is one of our favorite seasons! Mark your calendars, so you don't miss any of the fun and faith at Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is CAMP FIRELIGHT! We are looking for lots of helpers for VBS. If you would like to help with advance planning or decorating, or if you would like to be a volunteer the week of VBS, please contact susie.faas@hpcmason.org. There is a place at VBS for everyone.

Peanut Butter and Jam Concert: March 16, 10:30am Concert

Heritage is happy to host the Peanut Butter & Jam Concert Series — PB & J is an interactive concert series for children aged 2 – 6 and their families. This award-winning series will be welcoming "The Mad Cap Puppets," a Cincinnati favorite, to present Peter and the Wolf. PB & J concerts are performed by professional musicians and led by a



music educator. Enjoy great music, learn, and have an opportunity to meet the musicians at the end of the concert. Tickets are FREE. Further information about Peanut Butter & Jam can be found at www.Peanutbutterandjam.org

HPC Preschool News

What an exciting "love filled" month February has been!

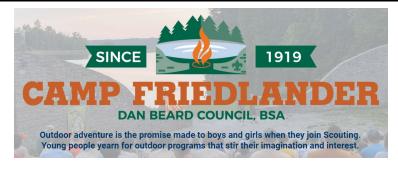
Love was definitely in the air in all of our hallways and classrooms as children wrote and shared valentines with their classmates and teachers. There were lots of heart-themed projects and fun parties with ice cream sundaes for snack. The children are learning about the importance of Presidents' Day and starting to memorize the Pledge of Allegiance and "God Bless America." We had a won-

derful Daddy and Child event. Our Donuts with Dad was a huge hit. Children ate yummy donuts and had the opportunity to decorate a wooden airplane with their dads.

We have a few openings for preschool left for the 2024-2025 school year. We also have several spots available in our Kindergarten Enrichment classes for children who are in half day kindergarten at MECC. For more information about any of our programs, please contact Beth Galberg at directorHPP@gmail.com.



750 Troop 750 Report



Our Troops and Pack had a lot of adventures this past month. The girl's troop went to our Scout Camp in Loveland called Camp Friedlander. There, they learned how to create a movie and created their own small movie to show to our future Scouts.

On Monday the 12th, an important event called Blue and Gold happened for our Cubs. Cubs introduce Scouts to younger kids where they learn about the Scout skills they will need when they join the older troops. The Blue and Gold event is when the oldest youth in Cubs called AOL's, cross over from Cubs to join the older Scout troops. Troop 750 had 6 boys join and Troop 1750 had 2 girls join. The girl's troop was able to show the movie that they made as a way to introduce themselves.

SCOUT SUNDAY



On Sunday, February 4th, both the church and the troops were able to come together for Scout Sunday. Adults and youth from the troops helped to make the lunch that was enjoyed in the afternoon.

We recently had our mulch kick-off. Selling mulch provided funds that the troop is able to use. The kick-off reviewed what mulch would be sold, prizes to those who sell high amounts, and the other benefits that selling mulch would have for our troops.

Youth leadership within the troops changes every 6 months and we have just had our new leaders instructed into their roles. Our venture crew for older teens participated in an overnight event called Night for the Fight and raised over \$11,000 to help the group CancerFree KIDS.

Looking further into March, the girl's troop will be going to Camp Friedlander to have a cooking campout where they will do cooking competitions and they will also help our new scouts learn more about the scout skills they need.

On Sunday the 3rd, the troop will be having a very important day called Equipment Day. Equipment Day is the main time during the year when the troop can look over the gear they have and learn how to take care of their equipment.

A fun activity for our Cubs coming up is the Pinewood Derby. The youth can create, paint, and race wooden cars with their friends. It is one of the most loved events in Cubs.

In addition to the two troops which serve youth ages 10 - 17, HPC also charters a Cub Scout Pack for youth in kindergarten through fifth grade and a Venture Crew for youth ages 14 - 20. A huge thank you to Heritage for your continued support of the Scouting program.

HPC Missions

Mission Committee Activities: We continue to respond to the changes in needs for mission work. We appreciate your support through 2023 and beyond with our various missions. See below for some (but not all) of the various mission activities we are involved in. We also invite and welcome members to get involved with the Mission Committee. Please contact Roger Rude or any of the other Mission Committee members (Lori Ball, Leslie Dauer-Creek, Charlie McCaulou) if you want to learn more or offer help.



Family Promise Campus Opening Delayed

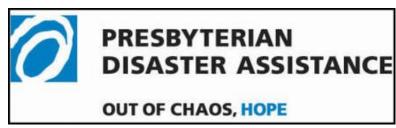
Family Promise has pushed back the date for the opening of the new Campus for Homeless Guests. The opening of the new Campus is now scheduled for 4-21-2024, pushed back from 3-10-2024. Guests will continue to be housed in the Guest Inn in Lebanon until then. The reason for the delay is that not enough "Hosts" have been trained or will be trained prior to 3-10-2024. This is despite the fact that our Heritage Church Partnership is doing quite well in getting Hosts trained. As of 2-17-2024, our Partnership has 25 Hosts trained. We are likely to have a total of 51 Hosts trained by the start of our next hosting week, which is 3-24-2024. Thank you, thank you to all of you who have attended training or who have signed up for training!

This means we should plan to continue to use the Covid Model to provide meals for the Guests in the week of 3-24-2024. Our Appreciated Meal Providers should plan to bring meals to the door of the Education Wing of Heritage by 5pm, for each of the 7 days of that week. We should plan to start being Hosts in the weeks of 5-26-2024 and 9-22-2024 and thereafter.

If you want to support the FPWC efforts, you can still donate to them directly through their website, with the donation link under their mission statement, using PayPal at https://www.familypromisewarren.org/ or send a check to: Family Promise of Warren County, 203 East Warren St., Lebanon OH 45036. They are still in need of contributions to their capital campaign in support of their new facility.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Matthew 25 Ministries:

Part of our Mission budget, along with any donations we receive specifically denoted by donor(s) for a specific disaster, are earmarked to go to help out disasters that impact our country and internationally. The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and Matthew 25



Ministries respond to these needs by providing various items such as food, clothing, water, medicine and other supplies. To find out more about how your donations are used by these ministries, please visit https://m25m.org/.

HPC Missions



Community Cupboard

We have started our hosting of the very beneficial Community Cupboard on site (in our parking area) successfully, with your support. A special thanks goes out to our wonderful coordination team led by Joanne Foster, Libby McKean and Martha Bard. We will also have help from other churches in the area, so we do not have to provide donations ourselves for some months (April and October have already been covered by other churches so far). We appreciate all the generous donations you all made during the Souper Bowl of Caring and look forward to any further support you all can provide in the future. Please leave any donations in the grocery cart in the hallway just inside the front entryway.

<u>What we can accept</u>: non-perishable food items, hygiene products (don't donate things outside of this scope unless specially noted in current needs)

<u>What we cannot accept</u>: anything in glass containers (too temperature sensitive for an outdoor storage shed)

<u>Current special needs</u>: Carry-out plastic utensil packs, peanut butter, crackers, cereal, hearty stews, juice and canned fruit

Our Daily Bread Sandwich Mission:

Our Daily Bread continues to serve the needy community by providing bagged lunches with sandwiches, and we are helping in preparing and providing these sandwiches each Wednesday night/Thursday morning. We also now have several church members volunteering on-site at ODB (near Findlay Market downtown). We have provided and delivered more than 28,000 homemade sandwiches (over 212 stories tall stacked). This mission will continue through June and beyond. The Mission Committee asks if you are willing and able to make some sandwiches for this mission, please contact Nelson Kennedy (513-470-1279).



Mary Haven (a facility for troubled youth)

We are making monthly visits every third Tuesday evening of each month (March 19th is the next date, followed by April 16th). Please contact Leslie Dauer-Creek at 513-313-4597 if interested in helping or if you want to learn more about this mission.

6546 S. Mason-Montgomery Road Mason, Ohio 45040





In-Person and
Streamed Worship
on Facebook & YouTube
at 10:15 Sunday Mornings



Scan this QR Code with your phone's camera to make a contribution to HPC!



Please RSVP to Kevin's Retirement Party!

