

Weekly Update

Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church

April 5, 2023

Pastor Nancy's News and Notes

April 5, 2023

Holy Week Hello,

On [Wednesday evening](#) of Holy Week, Jesus went again to Bethany, to the home of Simon the Leper (Mark 14:1-9). Church tradition says that Mary, Martha, and Lazarus were there. After dinner, something unexpected happens. Mary brings an expensive (really expensive) jar of perfumed oil and anoints Jesus' head with the whole thing. This is Mary's extravagant way of acknowledging that Jesus is the Messiah - the anointed King of Israel.

That brings on the judgment from the other disciples. *What a waste of money. We could have done a lot of ministry with the money from that alabaster jar!* Jesus defends Mary... and that leads us to ponder. Why? Why was it worth using in this manner? It was worth more than a thousand dollars, likely a year's pay.

Jesus refers to how this story will be told forever - whenever the Gospel story is mentioned. Then he makes reference to anointing for his burial, something that Mary definitely did not have in mind. Yet it speaks to Jesus' state of mind. He knew. So the oil was both - an anointing of a king and preparation for burial. And yes, yes, we still tell the story of the alabaster jar of spikenard.

Sometimes I wonder if we fail to comprehend what it means that God came to us. Is there anything too extravagant for our Lord? Yes, caring for the poor (selling the oil) is reflective of the command to love our neighbor. But this use of the oil demonstrates Mary's extravagant love for Jesus. He is worthy of our great riches, and we will not really be able to love our "irritating" neighbor until we are captured and steeped in ever-loving wonder and praise for our God. After all, loving God with all our heart is the first (and most important) part of the great commandment.

May we, like Mary, waste our time, affection, money, and energy in our attempts to love God well and then to love his people.

Waiting for Resurrection Sunday

Pastor Nancy





April 05 - Jerry Herman
 April 09 - Jane Ann Heilman
 April 10 - Debbie Hewitt

HOLY WEEK



Palm
Sunday



Maundy
Thursday



Good
Friday



Easter
Sunday

- Maundy Thursday's communion service is April 6 at 7:00 p.m.
- A Community Easter Sunrise Service will take place at 6:45 a.m. at East Cemetery, and everyone is invited back to the Church of Christ for breakfast.
- Our Easter morning begins at 9:30 a.m. Nursery and Kidz Jam will be available. Please note: There is no Second Hour on Easter Sunday.

The **First Friday** date for April has been changed to April 14. Meet at the church at 6:30 p.m. Bring a snack to share.

Save
the
date!

Trustee Work Day
May 6
Rain Date
May 20

PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.

Note: The prayer needs listed in **BOLD** are new to the list.

Praises

- **The stained glass in the windows**

Military Service:

- Isaiah Styer - in Norway
- Rusty King - in the Middle East
- Matt Burkhardt - National Guard
- Gaven Bee - Turkey

Prayer Needs

- **Melinda & siblings for unity and strength**
- **Christa Nelson sent to Pentagon**
- **Storms in the south**
- Miriam Styer - senior year and job applications
- Veronica's mom - living arrangements if released
- Darcy's search for a new job
- UNSPOKENS!

Health Concerns:

- **Steve Gordon - leukemia**
- **Barry's mom - pinched nerve**
- **Enda's brother & sister, Andy & Sandy**
- Grandkids
- Jeanne Smith - heart stents
- Mary Fry - infection in knee
- Lillian Duncan - non cancerous brain tumors
- George & Jane Ann Heilman

Battling Cancer

- **Herb Martin**
- **Dan**
- **Andrew Miller - 7 years old. Siblings are being tested**
- Bill Opie - throat cancer
- Those in hospice care
- Sonya Griffen - brain cancer
- Leslie Carr
- Dale & Tonya
- Heather
- Kacen's grandma, Susie Parrot - inoperable brain tumor
- Bonnie Stryker - breast cancer
- Dale James



We currently have youth group during the “second hour” after Sunday worship (10:45-11:45 am) in the Youth Room. Members of the congregation are taking turns

sharing their gifts and insights on various topics. This is going well and enables the teens to get to know members of the congregation and each other. These discussions are scheduled roughly every other week, depending on the church schedule. On the “off” Sundays, youth are encouraged to hang out in the youth room and play air hockey, carpet ball, etc. or just chat.

On Sunday, April 2, Matthew Smith shared “What is the Bible and Why Do We Study It?” Matthew has been involved with the youth for many years and has great insight.

Also, we are trying to schedule a youth mission trip this summer. Pastor Nancy has put us in touch with Pastor Kurt Hopper of Ripley Presbyterian Church in Ripley, Ohio. He is excited to have his youth group partner with us as his church will be undergoing a “refresh and reopen” and they can use help painting, cleaning, moving furniture, etc. We are working on getting a date that will suit most folks on both ends of the project.

If you have any questions about the youth program you can contact me at get2thewoods@gmail.com or talk to Pastor Nancy. We have a great group of teens and would love to see more join us.

-Michell Wood, Youth Ministry Team Leader



CALENDAR FOR APRIL

- April 6 @ 7:00 p.m. - Maundy Thursday service
- April 9 @ 6:45 a.m. - Community Sunrise Service at East Cemetery
- April 9 after Sunrise Service - breakfast at the Church of Christ
- April 9 9:30 a.m. - Easter Worship here at FPC. Kidz Jam and Nursery will be available. No Second Hour.
- April 12 @ 10 a.m. - GLOW Ladies
- April 12 @ 6:30 p.m. - Music Team
- April 12 @ 6:30 p.m. - Trustees Meeting
- April 14 @ 6:30 p.m. - Ladies First Friday Mmeet at the church

Do you have questions or concerns or just curious about something within the church? You are invited to reach out to our Church Elders:

Joe Chupp	330-466-5305
Beth Miller	513-319-6447
Paul Miller	330-465-8329
Earl Rhamy	330-988-4285
Steve Schlegel	330-317-3898
Matt Smith	330-464-4698
Adam Swinehart	330-641-1575
Claudia Ward	330-466-3417
Randy Wirick	330-473-2362

To contact staff:

201 N. Mill St. Fredericksburg, Ohio 44627

Phone 330-695-2511

Email: fredpresby@gmail.com

Website: www.fredericksburgpres.org

Follow us on Facebook too!

* * * * *

Rev. Nancy Dumford

614-425-2552

nancydumford@gmail.com

* * * * *

Church Office Hours

Monday thru Friday

9:30 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.