

PFAFFTOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
 (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
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Church Staff
Rev. Rodney Stilwell
 Minister
Rev. Tim Shoaf
 Minister of Music & Programs
Traci Canter
 Office Administrator

*We have some wonderful things happening at
 Pfafftown Christian Church!*



We would love to have you visit and worship with us!



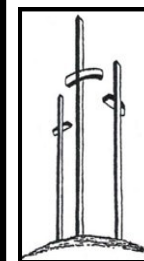
Luke 24:6

April, 2023

THE VISITOR

PALM SUNDAY A HOLY WEEK CELEBRATION

Please come and join us on **Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.** for a very special Palm Sunday Worship Service. We will remember the famous entrance of Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey as His followers spread palm branches at His feet and in His path exclaiming "Hosanna" or "Savior". Our precious Savior would later be arrested on Holy Thursday or Maundy Thursday with His crucifixion on Good Friday thus marking the beginning of Holy Week and the final week of Lent.



Tenebrae Service Good Friday, April 7 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

The Seven Last Words of Christ
 A Sacred Choral Work composed
 by Theodore Dubois
 presented by the Chancel Choir, Soloists,
 Harp, Timpani, and Organ

Tenebrae' is Latin for shadows. At a Tenebrae Service we feel the emotion of the passion story as shared in music. This is not a service of celebration. We sing solemn hymns and hear the scriptural narratives of Jesus' final words from the cross. Seven black candles and a Christ Candle are lit. After each reading of Jesus' words a candle is extinguished until only the flame of the Christ Candle remains. The Christ Candle is carried out of the Sanctuary at the end of the service leaving us in total darkness (tenebrae).

The Tenebrae service recreates the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the crucifixion and is left unfinished, because the story isn't over until Easter Day. It is a moving spiritually reflective service. We need to witness the full story of Jesus' last hours to truly experience the wonder of Easter morning.

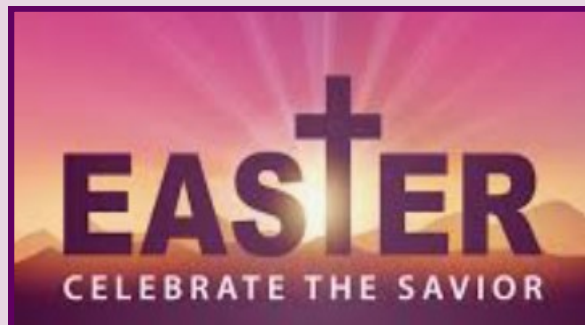
Make plans now and invite family, friends and neighbors to this powerful Tenebrae worship experience. *-Tim*

Maundy Thursday



Thursday, April 6 7:30 p.m. - Sanctuary

The night before Jesus' betrayal and arrest, He washed the feet of His disciples and then gave them a new commandment "to love one another as He had loved them." Maundy Thursday commemorates Jesus' humble act of love and kindness and the Last Supper with His Disciples in the Upper Room. Please join us as we remember our Lord and Savior's teachings through scripture, mediation and followed by Holy Communion.



EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9

Come and celebrate the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

- 9:30 a.m. - Breakfast Buffet in the DFH
- 10:00 a.m. - Easter Egg Hunt (Lawn)
- 11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

***Please remember** to bring your fresh cut flowers to the Sanctuary by 9:30 a.m. to be placed on the beautiful Easter Cross in the Chancel.



Children, grab your baskets and join us for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt following breakfast and before our Worship Service! There will be lots of eggs to find and lots of fun to be had!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Tim and Beverly Brown

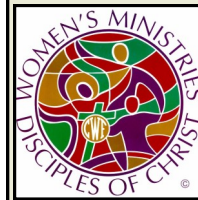
We received into our church membership on Sunday morning, February 26. We extend a warm hand of love and friendship to them!

APRIL ELDER LEADERS

Ruth Saalweachter, Leader

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Pam Backi and Doug Ramsey



CWF News

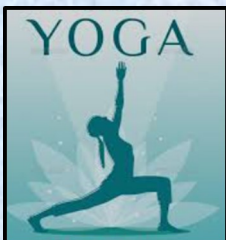
CWF did not meet during the month of March, but they did assist with the purchasing of hygiene items that were needed for the Easter bags which will be distributed at the Forsyth Prison Easter Service. Many thanks also to all the PCC volunteers that came and helped pack and get the bags ready. What a joy it is to serve others in Jesus' name! Our next CWF Meeting will be held Tuesday, April 25 at 6:30 pm in the Downstairs Fellowship Hall.



Please come and join us for our next "Taste & See" Bible Study Luncheon to be held Wednesday, April 12, from 11:30A - 12:30P in the Downstairs Fellowship Hall. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex or you may call the church office to sign up.



PCC continues to be a beacon of light in our community. The Crisis Control gift for April is **Instant Oatmeal and Grits**. Thank you for your love and support of others.



INTRODUCING YOGA CLASS
at
Pfafftown Christian Church
Come and learn all the healing benefits of Yoga!

Yoga benefits your body, mind and spirit! Tap into your inner self and feel the great sense of well-being all around!

Classes will begin **Tuesday, April 4** and then held every Tuesday and Thursday at 2:00pm. in the Downstairs Fellowship Hall.

Please bring your yoga mat, water and wear comfortable clothing. (*Donations Only*)

Please call the church office at 336-924-9925 to register or sign up in the Narthex. Call Shawn Widmyer at 631-680-9606 with any questions.



Celebrate Life



If you would like to receive Rev. Rodney Stilwell's weekly devotional, please call the church office at 336-924-9925 or let Rodney, Tim or Traci know and you will be added to the distribution list. We think you will be very richly blessed!



Please start cleaning out your closets, basements, and garages now! Any donations can be brought to the church or you may call Kitty Hunt for pick-up arrangements at 336-775-8966. Thanks!



Notes from Tim

One of the most meaningful hymns we sing during Holy Week is *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*. I read an article a few years ago where a news reporter once asked a Londoner what he remembered about Winston Churchill. The Englishman never mentioned Churchill's great speeches or his courage during the dark days of World War II. He said the thing he remembered was Churchill's walking among the smoking ruins of the city after a night of air raids and his giving comfort to the people. The man from London said: "He was always there, in the flesh. We knew he was in it, that he was right in the middle of all the suffering with us."

The cross gives us a vision of that same kind of personal involvement by God in the life of His creation. God does not simply sit back and watch us as we struggle with sin, heartbreak and death. In a very real sense, He walks, in Jesus Christ, among the smoking ruins of life's devastation. He, like Churchill is "right in the middle of all the suffering with us."

In those times, when you feel alone with your burdens and hopelessness weighs heavily on your spirit, just focus on that cross and remember the One who died there. He shares our pain and struggle, and we discover hope and new life, as we appropriate in our personal faith the promise of His power and presence in all of the peaks and valleys, in all of the ringing joy and dark moments of these earthly hours. Let us always carry with us these familiar words from one of my favorite hymns:

*Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock
Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness,
A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat,
And the burden of the day.*

*I take, O cross, thy shadow
for my abiding place
I ask no other sunshine
than the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss;
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all the cross.*

May our Lord's great love be with you. Tim

Prayer Requests

Church Family:

Tad Elliott, Jack Groff, (*Accordius Health*) Jo Poplin (*Vienna Village*), Helen Johnson, Pat Millsaps, Skip Stanley, Garland and Sue Terry, Betty Tilley, Julie Tilley

Others:

Jason Alexander: Friend of Jack and Mary Groff
Barbara Bradley: Sister of Betty Barker
Mike Booth: Friend of Pam Backi
Jan Everton: Sister of Jo Stanley
Bill Flynt: Cousin of Robert Flynt
Betty Haddock: Mother of Sharon Binkley
Dean Johnson: Friend of Betty Barker
Cayden Kingsbury: Grandson of Rodney & Beth Stilwell
Kathy Mason: Friend of Tim Shoaf
Sue Miles: Friend of Jo Stanley
Dene Pitts: Friend of Traci Canter
Pamela Reynolds: Friend of Traci Canter
Danny Safrin: Friend of Traci Canter
John Shoaf: Cousin of Tim Shoaf
Heather Stokes: Niece of Jill Robertson
Joy Stokes: Sister of Jill Robertson
Mike Stokes: Friend of Pam Backi
Judy West: Cousin of Ann Fletcher

Please let us know of additions or updates to our prayer list by placing a message in the offering plate as you leave the sanctuary or by calling the church office.



Disciples of Christ Easter Offering
April 2 - April 9

April Worship Schedule

Sunday, April 2 ~ Rev. Rodney Stilwell
Sunday, April 9 ~ Rev. Rodney Stilwell
Sunday, April 16 ~ Rev. Rodney Stilwell
Sunday, April 23 ~ Rev. Rodney Stilwell
Sunday, April 30 ~ Rev. Rodney Stilwell