

First Presbyterian News

April 2023

401 Lincolnway East

Mishawaka, IN. 46544

How could this happen? Wasn't Jesus the King, the Savior that God had promised? Christ's unexpected death was a surprise to his followers—they didn't know what to do because it wasn't what they thought would happen. They were confused and unsure about what it all meant.

Have you ever experienced something unexpected that left you feeling confused and unsure? How did you handle it?

In the book "The Incomparable Christ" by John Stott, he shares the story of Joni Eareckson—a young, athletic girl who was left paralyzed from the neck down after a driving accident in 1967. Despite her initial determination to walk again, she eventually came to accept that her injury was permanent.

Joni struggled with a range of emotions, including bitterness, frustration, and even suicidal depression. However, with the help of her loved ones and her renewed faith in the Bible, she was able to overcome her despair. But the most significant change in Joni's life was finding hope in the Bible's teachings about the resurrection. She looked forward to the day when she would dance again in heaven, her body "glorified" and free from the limitations of her earthly body. Joni's story is a testament to the power of faith and the resilience of the human spirit.

It's normal to feel confused and unsure when things don't go as planned, but we shouldn't give up hope, because there's always a chance for a better future. As Christians, we believe that we can have a better future because of Jesus Christ. We believe that Jesus died on the cross for the sins of humanity, and on the third day, he rose again from the dead, demonstrating his power over death and offering the promise of eternal life.

Easter offers hope to us, even in the midst of challenges such as illness or suffering. It reminds us that death is not the end, but rather the beginning of a new life with Christ, providing hope for a better tomorrow. This message of hope is especially powerful during the darkest of moments, offering the assurance that we are not alone, that there is the promise of a new beginning.

How can the message of hope and new beginnings, that Easter brings, help you to face challenges and difficulties in your own life? In what ways might the Easter message of hope impact our attitudes and actions towards others, particularly those who are facing challenges or suffering?

Christ has died, he has risen, and he will come again. Thanks be to God for the gift of salvation and the hope of eternal life!

Happy Easter everyone!

Pastor Daniel



Presbyterian Women at First Presbyterian Church, Mishawaka



Presbyterian Women Circles

Each Circle meets once a month—Elizabeth is on the 3rd Monday of each month, contact Mary Ann Dentino for more details. Ruth is on the 3rd Thursday of each month, contact Teresa Primmer for more details. A list of dates and times can be found on the church bulletin board. If you find yourself free, you are very welcome to join us.

Date Change

There is a date change for the PWCT coordinating team calendar meeting from June 7th to **May 24th** at Chris's house at 6 p.m.



Upper Room News

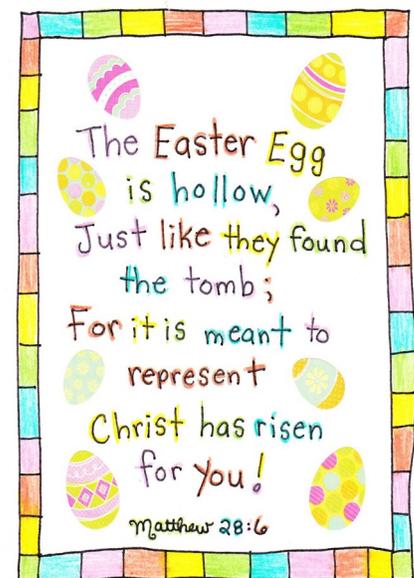
Please remember that when you donate items, be sure to check them to make sure that they are in good working order and free of dirt, stains, or tears.

Thank you for your continued support in helping to make the Upper Room the best it can be! The next work day is set for **April 19th from 10 a.m. until Noon**. If you have an hour to share, your helping hands will be put to work. Thank you!

Gifts of Women

Gifts of Women Sunday is April 16th, the women will be leading worship, and we will recognize our Honorary membership recipient. The Speaker will be Carol Bechtel. Carol is the author of our current PW Bible Study, "Celebrating Sabbath". She resides in Holland, MI and we are excited to have her in the pulpit. We will have a special fellowship hour, including our Birthday offering for Ricca, and yummy treats as always. Please join us for a great service.

Judy Green and Chris Wukovits



One Great Hour of Sharing

The One Great Hour of Sharing will be received on Palm Sunday.

This offering provides us a way to share God’s love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters and offers support for refugees. PDA receives 32% of the funds raised.

Presbyterian Hunger Fund Program (PHP) takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and the systematic causes of poverty so all may be fed. PHP receives 36% of the funds raised.

Self-Development of People (SDOP) invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice, and educates Presbyterian about the impact of these issues. SDOP receives 32% of the funds raised.



Thank you in advance for your gifts given on Palm Sunday!!
Mission Committee

MAC FOOD Pantry

We are seeing a rise in homeless families, families living in their vehicles, and large blended families consisting of 10+ members. Although we utilize the Northern Indiana Food Bank for purchase of food, all of our needs cannot be met there. We rely heavily on donations from YOU, our supporting organizations. Thank you again for your generosity!

May you be blessed and take joy in knowing that when you donate to MAC, you are “feeding the least of these among you”.

Staple products:

Cereal, Soup, Canned Vegetables and Fruit, Pasta, and easy to cook foods are the best donations. Pop-top cans and foods that don’t have to be cooked are also appreciated for those that do not have a kitchen. Nothing perishable and please watch for expiration dates.



Feeding the Community

**MAC Mishawaka
Alliance of Care**

Church grounds clean-up day will be May 20th from 9 a.m. until we are finished. Please come out and join your church family help remove remnants of winter, making the outside look fresh and clean again.

Suggestions for work to be done can be made to Chuck Wukovits. Please bring your own yard equipment. It may not seem like it can be a fun day, but we always have a good time and lots of work gets done. So join us for an hour or the whole morning!
Thank you! Chuck



Worship 10 am



April



Fellowship 11 am

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Upper Room sale day 9-1
 2 Palm Sunday Greeter..Bill Bellairs Usher..Ethan DeMaegd W.L. Chuck Wukovits PW Meeting after worship	3	4	5	6 Communion Maundy Thursday 7 p.m. Greeter..Bill Bella Usher..Carole P, Greg Phillips W.L. Dyan Phillips	7 Good Friday	8
9 Communion Greeter..Bill Bellairs Usher..Carole Polk, Greg Phillips W.L. Darlene Seufert 	10	11	12	13	14 QoV 9-2	15
16 Gift of Women's Sunday Greeter.. Usher..Carole Polk, Rose Marie Reif W.L. Judy Green Worship & Music meeting after worship Book club 3 p.m.	17 Elizabeth Circle 7 p.m. host, Mary leader, Mary	18	19 Upper Room workday from 10-Noon	20 Ruth Circle 7 p.m. @ Judy's	21	22
23 Greeter... Bill Bellairs Usher...Neil Seufert W.L. Darlene Seufert	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Greeter..Bill Bellairs Usher..Bill Bellairs W.L. John Rice Session Mtg after worship						