



# Among Friends

APRIL, 2022



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



Greetings,

What a wonderful time Easter is. The day that gives all Christians a future. And not just a future, but a glorious future. We so look forward to celebrating Easter that sometimes (most times) we forget what happened before Easter. May we all slow down and remember the entire story...may we all slow down and not only remember Sunday, but remember Friday.

### *The Death of Jesus*

*Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. (John 19:28-30)*

Can you imagine what Jesus looked like? His body was bloody, bruised, beaten and pierced. It must have horrified anyone who loved him. What a cruel joke, Jesus was dead and his followers were horrified, hiding and denying that they ever knew him.

The story of Jesus' death reminds me of another story. On June 18, 1815 the Battle of Waterloo took place. The French under the command of Napoleon were fighting the allied forces of the British, Dutch and Germans under the command of Wellington. The people of England depended on a system of signals to find out how the battle was going. One of these signals was on the tower of the Winchester Cathedral.

Late in the day a signal flashed this;  
**W-E-L-L-I-N-G-T-O-N—D-E-F-E-A-T-E-D---**. Just at that moment a fog cloud made it impossible to read the rest of the

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**MAY**

**Newsletter  
Deadline**

**April 27**

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### SPECIAL DATES IN MARCH

- Holy Week, April 10-17, 2022
- Palm/Passion Sunday, April 10
- Maundy Thursday, April 14
- Good Friday, April 15
- Easter Sunday, April 17
- Administrative Professionals Day, April 27



Deadline for  
**MAY**

submission of  
information is  
**APRIL 27**

Submit to:

Sue Datt via

“Snail Mail”  
324 S. Main St.  
Harrisville, PA 16038

E-mail:  
suedatt70@gmail.com

Phone:  
724-991-5863

## From Our Pastor's Desk (continued)

message. The news of defeat spread quickly throughout the city. The entire countryside was sad and gloomy when they heard the news that their country had lost the battle.

Suddenly, the fog lifted and the rest of the message could be read. The message had four words, not two. The complete message read this way;

**W-E-L-L-I-N-G—D-E-F-E-A-T-E-D—T-H-E—E-N-E-M-Y.**

It only took a few minutes for the good news to spread. Sorrow was turned into joy; defeat was turned into victory.

So, it was when Jesus was laid in the tomb. Hope had died in the hearts of Jesus most loyal followers. After the horror of the crucifixion, the fog of disappointment and misunderstanding had crept in on the friends of Jesus, they had only part of the story. **C-H-R-I-S-T—D-E-F-E-A-T-E-D**—was all they knew. But then on the third day the fog lifted and the complete message was revealed; **C-H-R-I-S-T—D-E-F-E-A-T-E-D—D-E-A-T-H.** Defeat was turned into victory; death was turned into life; and the horrified Jesus was turned into the glorified Jesus.

Folks, we have always known the complete message. I think that's why it is so easy to skip Good Friday and go right to Easter. Please don't do that. You will never fully understand the depth of Jesus' love if you do. Take time this season to see how much you are loved. Take time to see what a great sacrifice Jesus made so that each of us could have life. Take time and appreciate what was done for you!

Have a Blessed Easter,  
*Diane*



### FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Friendship Presbyterian Women's group will be meeting on April 13, at 7:00 p.m., at the Community Center. Come and bring a bag of wrapped candy — we will be filling the eggs for the Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday and working on the jelly bean prayer for meals on wheels. Hostesses for the evening will be Heather and Sue Datt.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FPC?

### SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

#### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Continuing our spring theme, "God Frees and Redeems", April lessons from Matthew look at Jesus' triumphal entry in Jerusalem and follow through with the study of His death and resurrection. All are welcome to join in this time of Bible study, reflection, discussion and sharing. We meet at 9:45 a.m. every Sunday.



#### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:

The Children's. Sunday School class is learning how they can use the teaching of Jesus in their everyday life. We meet at 9:45 a.m. each week.



### MISSION UPDATE



**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING:** One Great Hour of Sharing is continuing through the Lenten season. Sharing Calendars that provide daily activities for reflection and fish banks for donations are available in the vestibule. Offerings will be received on Easter Sunday, April 17.



**DRESS FOR SUCCESS:** As you clean out your closets during this spring time, please consider donation any clothing you are getting rid of for the Dress For Success program in Butler. Clothing should be clean and on hangers. Clothing should be appropriate for the work place, both formal and informal. Shoes, socks, jewelry, jackets are also needed. We are planning for a delivery in May or June.



### PRAY FOR UKRAINE

Submitted by: Chris Hogg



*Woke up warm and safe in my bed.  
While someone else heard bombs over their head.  
I jumped into a nice hot shower,  
While someone else has lost all power.  
I hugged my family, we were all together,  
While others said goodbye, possibly forever.  
While I fear the money that I will spend,  
Others worry of losing the country they defend.  
In the time it took for me to write this post,  
Many have lost the things they love most.  
So, when I start to mope and want to complain,  
I will stop myself and pray for Ukraine.*

-Art Smith

# Prayer List

*“Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.”  
James 5:16*

Anne D.  
April and Todd  
Bonnie of Georgia  
The Alben Family  
Gary Allison  
Jane Allison  
Carly Atkisson  
Zachary Barto  
Candy Boulanger  
Kayla Brundige  
Tyler Burson  
Martie Cooper  
Phyllis Cooper  
Ruth Cooper  
Jeff & Cindy Cross  
Heather Datt  
Jim Dickey  
Mark Doerr  
Blanche English  
Jennifer Gilliland  
Donna Grossman

David Hall  
Timothy James  
Rev. & Mrs.  
William Jamieson  
Graham Larimore  
Landry Lawson  
Ed Lind  
Joe Lowers  
Will McCoy  
Kevin Michael  
Willard Morse  
Randy Morgan  
David Parker  
Bernie and Linda  
Bill & Chris Schroeder  
Micheal Scott  
Cindy Solman’s  
Mother and Sister  
George Sonnet & Family  
Joe Vivelò  
Seth Vogan

Joan West  
Woman from Michigan  
Our military at home and  
abroad  
Persecuted Christians  
around the world,  
Alpha Omega (SR)  
Pregnancy Center  
Feed My Sheep Food  
Cupboard  
Beaver Butler Presbytery  
Cooperstown Church  
Family  
Friendship Presbyterian  
Church Family  
All those who have been  
impacted by  
COVID19  
The people of Ukraine,  
world leaders, our  
world.

## A LOVE-FILLED VICTORY



It’s tough to read about Jesus’ agony on the cross, where he felt “forsaken” by God (see Matthew 27:46). But as Philip Yancey explains in *Where Is God When It Hurts?* the Father didn’t desert Jesus — and doesn’t desert us:

*“God was not ‘up there’ watching the tragic events conspire ‘down here.’ God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself,” he writes. “If Jesus was a mere man, his death would prove God’s cruelty; the fact that he was God’s Son proves instead that God fully identifies with suffering humanity. On the cross, God himself absorbed the awful pain of this world.*

*“To some, the image of a pale body glimmering on a dark night whispers of defeat,” Yancey continues. “But another sound can be heard: the shout of a God crying out to human beings, ‘I LOVE YOU.’ Love was compressed for all history in that lonely figure on the cross, who said that he could call down angels at any moment on a rescue mission, but chose not to — because of us.”*

*He concludes: “Any discussion of how pain and suffering fit into God’s scheme ultimately leads back to the cross.”*

The Newsletter Newsletter,  
April 2022



### BIRTHDAYS

Heather Datt, 4/1  
Chauncey Allison, 4/11  
Roy Pepper, 4/22  
Donna Walker, 4/22  
Kevin Finch, 4/23  
Micheal Adams, 4/24



Maundy Thursday, also called Holy Thursday, commemorates the evening just before the crucifixion when Jesus and his friends broke bread together for the Last Supper. It was at this Last Supper that Jesus instituted the Eucharist or what we call communion.

Our Maundy Thursday and Communion Service will be held on **April 14, at 7:00 p.m.**

Please join us as we commemorate the core events of our faith: the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

# THE SATURDAY CONCERT

Second Saturday Concerts are restarting in April. Praying that covid doesn't surge again! Here is the spring and summer schedule.

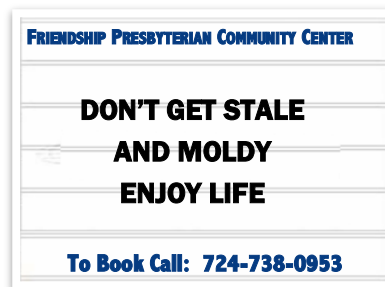
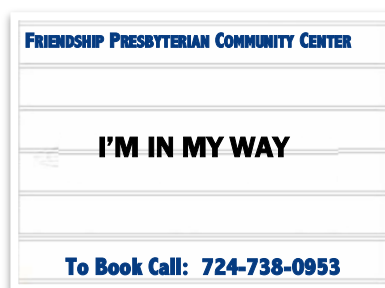
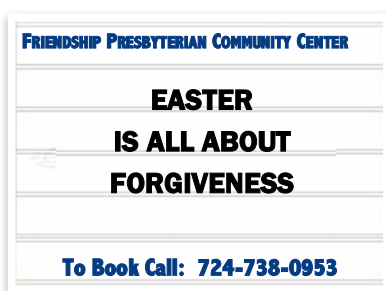
- April 9** Humble Music Ministries featuring Tom and Gina Toth in a program of gospel music including some original compositions
- May 14** The Tom Walker Family with a program of southern gospel music from this group from New Castle
- June 11** Ventriloquist Cindy Speck
- July 9** Barry and Debby Wiles with a program of Christian music

All concerts begin with a fellowship time beginning at 6:30 p.m. The concerts begin at 7pm and last from 45 to 60 minutes. Watch for sign-up sheets for refreshments and clean-up help.

## LOOK FOR THE SIGN!

Submitted by Evelyn Vargo

When driving past the Community Center don't forget to look for the sign!



## A DOSE OF HUMOR



On the Sunday after Easter, some churches incorporate joy into worship through "holy humor." During his four decades in ministry, Thom Rainer has collected these funny gems heard by real-life pastors:

- "Is it okay to lie if I ask for forgiveness in advance?"
- (during the offertory) "Pastor, do you have change for a twenty?"
- (during an ordination council) "What's your view on Christian missions in space?"
- "My husband's ashes are in two different places. Will Jesus be able to find him?"
- "Pastor, will you pray for my son? He's wild and out of control." (Pastor: "Sure, what's his name?") "Maverick."

Newsletter, Newsletter  
April 2022



## On the Road Again

# Twice The Fun This Year!



*Live on Stage at:*



### FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2022

Tour Cost: \$149.00 per person

Tour Includes: Roundtrip motorcoach transportation  
Free time at Hartville Flea Market/Shops OR Hardware Store  
Lunch and Show - Hartville Kitchen Conference Room with  
**The Oak Ridge Boys**  
Hartville Bakery - Goodies to take home!  
All taxes and meal gratuities

Check payable to Jeff Cross

Tour Departs: 7:00 a.m. Friendship Community Center, 886 New Castle Road, Slippery Rock, PA

Tour Returns: 6:30 p.m. Friendship Community Center 886 New Castle Road, Slippery Rock, PA

Due to advance payment for tickets, payment in FULL must be made when making your reservation(s).

### JUNE 23-24, 2022

2 Days - 1 Night



*Live on Stage at:*



Tour Cost: \$380 per person double occupancy  
\$365 per person triple occupancy (two beds)  
\$440 per person single occupancy

Tour Includes: Roundtrip motorcoach transportation  
One night accommodations Country Inn & Suites  
One Breakfast - Day 2, Country Inn & Suites  
Two Lunches - Day 1, Shady Maple Smorgasbord (Awesome!)  
Day 2, Amish Home Family-Style  
One Dinner - Pizza at hotel after the show  
Sight and Sound Theatre – **DAVID** (New Show for 2022)  
Bird-In-Hand Bakery (Goodies)  
Strasburg Railroad and Choo Choo Model Train Museum  
All taxes, meal gratuities and baggage handling.

Deposit Due: \$50.00 per person to guarantee your reservation

Balance Due: Friday, May 20, 2022

Checks

Payable: Friendship Presbyterian Church

Forward to: Jeff Cross

328 South Main Street  
Harrisville, PA 16038

JUST FOR FUN

HOLY WEEK  
i-spy

Create this craft to share the events of Holy Week with a younger sibling or friend.



What you need:

- Clear bottle or jar with lid
- White rice
- Small items that symbolize Holy Week events

What you do:

1. Pour rice into bottle or jar so it's about two-thirds full.
2. Add the small items. Ideas: leaf, donkey, cup, towel square, praying hands, coin, bird, nails, thorn, cross, dice, stick, lamb, stone, white fabric.
3. Fasten the lid. Then shake and turn the bottle to "spy" each item.



PUZZLE   
Resurrection refresher

All four gospels confirm Jesus' resurrection, and each one offers important details.

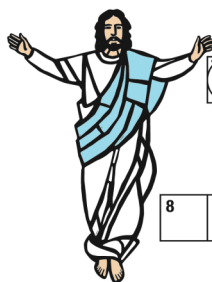
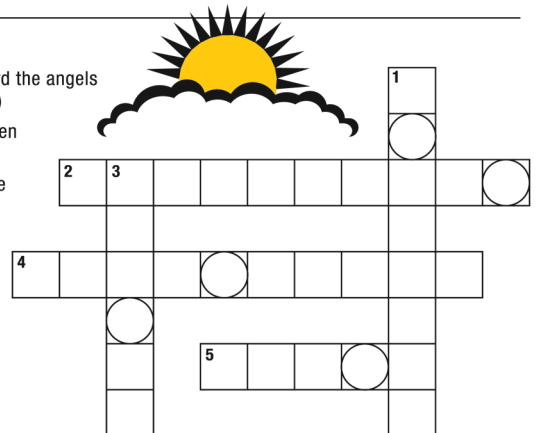
Directions: Complete the crossword. Then insert the circled letters (in order of the clue numbers) to complete John 20:17 below.

ACROSS

2. The women did this when they heard the angels talk about Jesus' death. (Luke 24:8)
4. The women at the tomb did this when they saw Jesus. (Matthew 28:9)
5. The man in Jesus' empty tomb wore this color robe. (Mark 16:5)
7. Jesus instructed his brothers to go here. (Matthew 28:10)
8. Peter saw strips of this in the tomb. (Luke 24:12)

DOWN

1. At first, Mary thought Jesus was this person. (John 20:15)
3. As an angel came from heaven, this happened. (Matthew 28:2)
6. She went with Mary to anoint Jesus' body. (Mark 16:1)



What did Jesus want Mary to tell his brothers?

"I \_ m ascen \_ ing \_ o my Fat \_ er and your Fa \_ her, to \_ y \_ od and your God."  
Joh \_ 20:17, NIV

Answer: ACROSS 2. remembered, 4. worshipped, 5. white, 7. Galilee, 8. linen; DOWN 1. gardener, 3. earthquake, 6. Salome; "I, am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." John 20:17, NIV





FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
877 Franklin Road  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057



Submitted by Heather Datt