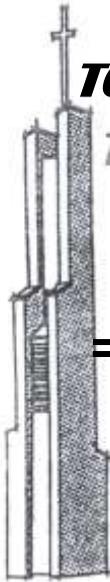


First Presbyterian Church
1803 - 83rd Street
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53143



TOWER TOPICS

Church Phone: 262-652-6838
Church e-mail: k1stpres@yahoo.com
Church Website: www.kenoshafpc.org
LANCE LOVEALL, Pastor

DATED MATERIAL
March 28, 2019

Upcoming

EVENTS

Soup suppers continue on Wednesdays in April.
Join us April 3rd and 10th at 6:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 18th - 6:00 p.m. soup
supper followed by 7:00 p.m. worship

Good Friday, April 19th - 7:00 p.m. worship

Easter Sunday, April 21st - 9:30 a.m. worship



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

There is a phenomenon in my job that I call ministry whiplash. It is that feeling that you are moving from item to item on your to-do list and it might be that those items vary significantly in importance. My day looks like this: begin working on a bulletin, get a call about a financial matter in the church, receive a call to help someone in need keep their power on, finish a meeting agenda, do an emergency hospital visit, set up a last minute with someone in crisis who needs to meet, vacuum up a spill from Sunday morning that got left, plan youth group. It moves from one level of emotional and mental engagement to another in the blink of an eye and you hardly have time to adjust before being asked to move on to the next thing.

Easter can feel a bit like that, spiritually. We spend forty days in the wilderness of Lent. We engage in self-reflection and spiritual discipline. We explore our faith and spirituality, and we explore, often, the deeper and sometimes darker parts of faith in Christ. The music is more introspective, the themes are a bit heavier, and we confront death and mortality on the way to the cross.

Then, in the blink of an eye, the tomb is empty, the flowers are blooming, the angels are singing “Hallelujah!” and everything is better. Suddenly we are supposed to be renewed and refreshed and on the Easter journey as a people of resurrection. It feels a bit like whiplash. Certainly, the first disciples needed some time to come to terms with the new reality. They were still gathered behind locked doors a week later. They needed time to enter the joy of the resurrection. They realized the resurrection, though in one way changing everything, did not mean everything was suddenly fixed. They were in danger, people were still sick, people still depended on them for survival, there were still things to do. So, too, with us. We enter the reality of the resurrection and we remind ourselves that we are Easter people who live in hope and eternal life. But we also recognize the pain we have been through, and sometimes remain in, despite our new hope in Christ. Perhaps it takes us a moment to move from “Were you there when they crucified my Lord?” to “Up from the grave he arose!”

Easter can come on strong with its message of hope, life, and redemption. It can leave us feeling a little jostled. But perhaps rather than a new reality that jars us from our current position, Easter is more like the primer that gives new meaning to all of our other experiences. It is like that stage in a book or movie that the plot begins to supply answers to our questions and we begin to understand the story in a whole new way. Rather than a new era, it is a warm light that shines on even the past and helps it make sense in a new way. We are not suddenly made all better, but we have new understanding even of the struggles we face in the light of Jesus’ resurrection.

I hope that Easter dawns upon you in a way that enlightens your current reality and brings hope to your complicated life. Easter is not a sugar-filled shot of “everything is better.” It is a new reality that shines light on the uncertainty of life, and a new hope for what we face in the future. It is a new call to faith and discipleship, and an invention to reorient our lives.

Lance

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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Called into being by God’s grace, we are Christians in progress;

Called to grow together in God’s ways through worship, study, fellowship, evangelism, and service;

Called to be servants of God’s love to one another, to our community, and to the world.

We welcome all to our community of faith.

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SNOWMAN MITTEN BARREL by Jane Frost

337 mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves were collected this winter and delivered to nine Kenosha elementary schools. The snowman mitten barrel was placed in the Narthex the last week of October and the items were delivered to the schools on January 23, 2019.

Brass, Grant, Grewenow, Jefferson, McKinley, Southport, Strange, Vernon and Wilson elementary schools each received a bag of winter items. Many of the beautiful hats, mittens, and scarves were hand-knit or crocheted by our church members and church friends. We also received \$59.00 in cash, which I used to buy more mittens and gloves. The schools were very thankful for the donations.

Treasurer's Report:

General Operating Fund

Beginning Balance 2/1/2019	\$59,842.88
Receipts	\$24,799.75
Disbursements	<u>\$41,095.21</u>
Ending Balance 2/28/2019	<u>\$43,547.42</u>

Building Reserve Fund

Beginning Balance 2/1/2019	\$59,580.12
Receipts	\$ 585.32
Disbursements	\$ 0.00
Interest	<u>\$ 4.59</u>
Ending Balance 2/28/2019	<u>\$60,170.03</u>

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## **SHALOM SOUP KITCHEN MINISTRY**

On March 5, 2019, there were 9 church volunteers serving a yummy, warm meal at the Soup Kitchen on 39th Avenue. Darlene and Cris Doil made delicious chicken noodle soup that was enjoyed by everyone. Thank you Darlene and Cris! We served 62 adults and 12 kids, which is a low number. High numbers or low, the customers are always very appreciative.

The next date for Soup Kitchen is the first Tuesday in May, May 7th. We do not serve in April, as another group takes that month. Thank you all for your support of this worthy mission and remember, if you'd like to make soup, sign up in the Narthex.

# DAILY LECTIONARY PASSAGES

## APRIL 2019

- Apr 1** – Psalm 119: 73-80, 145, 121, 6; Jer. 16:10-21; Rom. 7:1-12; John 6:1-15
- Apr 2** – Psalm 34, 146, 25, 91; Jer. 17:19-27; Rom. 7:13-25; John 6:16-27
- Apr 3** - Psalm 5, 147:1-11, 27, 51; Jer. 18:1-11; Rom. 8:1-11; John 6:27-40
- Apr 4** – Psalm 27, 147:12-20, 126, 102; Jer. 22:13-23; Rom. 8:12-27; John 6:41-51
- Apr 5** – Psalm 22, 148, 105, 130; Jer. 23:1-8; Rom. 8:28-39; John 6:52-59
- Apr 6** - Psalm 43, 149, 31, 143; Jer. 23:9-15; Rom. 9:1-18; John 6:60-71
- Apr 7** - Psalm 84, 150, 42, 32; Jer. 23:16-32; 1 Cor. 9:19-27; Mark 8:31-9:1
- Apr 8** – Psalm 119:73-80, 145, 121, 6; Jer. 24:1-10; Rom. 9:19-33; John 9:1-17
- Apr 9** – Psalm 34, 146, 25, 91; Jer. 25:8-17; Rom. 10:1-13; John 9:18-41
- Apr 10** – Psalm 5, 147:1-11, 27, 51; Jer. 25:30-38; Rom. 10:14-21; John 10:1-18
- Apr 11** - Psalm 27, 147:12-20, 126, 102; Jer. 26:1-16; Rom. 11:1-12; John 10:19-42
- Apr 12** – Psalm 22, 148, 105, 130; Jer. 29:1, 4-14; Rom. 11:13-24; John 11:1-27
- Apr 13** – Psalm 43, 149, 31, 143; Jer. 31:27-34; Rom. 11:25-36; John 11:28-44
- Apr 14** – Psalm 84, 150, 42, 32; Zech. 9:9-12; 1 Tim. 6:12-16; Matt. 21:12-17
- Apr 15** – Psalm 119:73-80, 145, 121, 6; Jer. 11:18-20, 12:1-16; Phil. 3:1-14; John 12:9-19
- Apr 16** – Psalm 34, 146, 25, 91; Jer. 15:10-21; Phil. 3:15-21; John 12:20-26
- Apr 17** - Psalm 5, 147:1-11, 27, 51; Jer. 17:5-10, 14-17; Phil 4:1-13; John 12:27-36
- Apr 18** – Psalm 27, 147:12-20, 126, 102; Jer. 20:7-11; 1 Cor. 10:14-17; John 17:1-11
- Apr 19** – Psalm 22, 148, 105, 130; Gen. 22:1-14; 1 Peter 1:10-20; John 13:36-38
- Apr 20** - Psalm 43, 149, 31, 143; Job 19:21-27a; Heb. 4:1-16; Rom. 8:1-11
- Apr 21** – Psalm 93, 150, 136, 117; Exod. 12:1-14; Isa. 51:9-11; John 20:19-23
- Apr 22** – Psalm 97, 145, 124, 115; Jonah 2:1-10; Acts 2:14, 22-32; John 14:1-14
- Apr 23** - Psalm 98, 146, 66, 116; Isa. 30:18-26; Acts 2:36-41; John 14:15-31
- Apr 24** - Psalm 99, 147:1-11, 9, 118; Micah 7:7-15; Acts 3:1-10; John 15:1-11
- Apr 25** – Psalm 47, 147:12-20, 68, 113; Ezek. 37:1-14; Acts 3:11-26; John 15:12-27
- Apr 26** – Psalm 96, 148, 49, 138; Dan. 12:1-4, 13; Acts 4:1-12; John 16:1-15
- Apr 27** – Psalm 92, 149, 23, 114; Isa. 25:1-9; Acts 4:13-21; John 16:16-23
- Apr 28** – Psalm 93, 150, 136, 117; Isa. 43:8-13; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-7
- Apr 29** – Psalm 97, 145, 124, 115; Dan. 1:1-21; 1 John 1:1-10; John 17:1-11
- Apr 30** – Psalm 98, 146, 66, 116; Dan. 2:1-16; 1 John 2:1-11; John 17:12-19

## **SOUP KITCHEN**

There will be **NO SOUP KITCHEN IN APRIL**. The next date for soup kitchen is Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you would like to volunteer.

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FIRESIDE FRIENDS

Fireside Friends will meet on Tuesday, April 9th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. Our guest will be Cameron Swallow, wife of the President of Carthage College. She will explain and demonstrate “plarning”, a craft that helps in different ways, especially the homeless. If you can, bring a cleaning or baby product for Women and Children’s Horizons. They always need these things. Also, in the course of silliness, wear a spring or Easter themed hat, or at least your favorite themed attire. Flowers, Easter eggs, little umbrellas, Easter bunnies, baby chicks, “peeps”, etc. are fair game. (Please no rubber chickens!) We’ll vote for your favorite hat! If you have questions, please contact Mary Wirch or Julie Iorio.

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## **SENIOR LUNCHEONS**

Our senior luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. All seniors and guests are welcome. Please join us for delicious food and wonderful fellowship!

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PRAYER SHAWL

Prayer Shawl will meet on Wednesday, April 17th at 10:00 a.m. All knitters and crocheters are welcome!

CHECK IT OUT by Sheryl Becker

As I write this, it is officially the first day of spring. It's still chilly, but there's a tulip unfurling its leaves near my back door, daffodils poking out on the side of the house, and a crop of fresh books for our library.

I had our teenagers in mind this month when I ordered books that are categorized as Christian literature, but aren't preachy. *Last Summer at Eden*, fiction by Christina Hergenrader, is about a 19-year-old who gets a new job as a summer director at a summer camp and the complications that ensue when the camp is in danger of closing. *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teenagers* is a classic handbook for teenagers to gain self-esteem and success. It is updated for our time, including cyber bullying and social media. From award-winning author Jenny B. Jones comes *In Between*, the first in a series of Katie Parker books. Katie is a problem teen whose mom is in prison and her dad is AWOL, so Katie is sent to live with a foster family so perfect that they could have their own sitcom. How can Katie get out of there? *Live Fearless* author Sadie Robertson is a role model and a real model who battled insecurity, comparison, and isolation before living a fearless life through her journey with God. A *Dancing with the Stars* alum, she shares her story of overcoming anxiety and fear. Now, for teens and adults alike, *The Rector*, a Christian murder mystery, combines a suspenseful murder mystery with theology. The mystery centers around an Episcopal church in a small Mississippi Delta town. Lance quoted from the book *God at Ground Zero* during one of his sermons, and it's been on my to-order list ever since. Written by Chaplain Ray Guinta, who was chaplain at Ground Zero for 68 days, it explores the question many asked after this tragedy, "Where was God?"

Help yourself to a book, sign and remove the card on the inside cover, and put it in the small wooden box. When you finish the book, find your card, put it back in the book, and return it to the display cart. And don't forget to let me know how you feel about the book!

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## **PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST**

The Mariners are again sponsoring a yummy Palm Sunday breakfast of breakfast bakes, muffins, fruit and beverages from 8:00 to 9:00 AM on Sunday, April 14th. Please come for fellowship and good food before the service. No charge, but there will be a free-will offering.

## **DIRECTORY UPDATE**

Please add Bonnie L'Abbe's name and address to your church directory. Bonnie attends First Presbyterian during the winter months. She has moved back to her summer home, but plans to return to worship with us again next winter. Her summer address is:

Bonnie L'Abbe  
S – 7775 Aspen Ridge  
DeSoto, WI 54624

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2019 GARDEN PLANNING

Plans are underway for this year's garden. If you want input on planning, can volunteer for watering, weeding, planting, picking, selling, delivering, or can help in any other way, PLEASE let me (Sandy Billingsley) or a Mission Committee member know. I would really like to see some of our younger families get involved. We will need more dirt, mulch and fertilizer delivered and spread prior to our first plant date in early May. This would be a great task for the younger, stronger bodies! We are also looking to have teams of more than one person for the weekly watering (you pick the day or evening) – so that one person can water, another can weed or pick. We missed most of our pea crop last year, because the peas did not get picked when they were ripe and ready. Most veggies can be stored in the kitchen or refrigerator for a few days once picked. More than one team per night enables coverage for vacations. SO – lots of opportunity to help!

Early crops are radishes, spinach, kale, peas, broccoli, cauliflower, onions, cabbage, and maybe bush beans, potatoes, beets and carrots, which we can plant the first week of May. Later crops - tomatoes, squash, peppers, cucumbers, pickles, lettuce and herbs - can go in the last week of May, first of June. We have been very lucky with the abundance of produce from our garden, and it is quite gratifying and fun to see everything grow. Plus this is a great source of nutrition for our congregation and recipients at the food programs to which we have donated. But we definitely need your help. SO please consider how you can participate in this year's garden.

P.S. We will hold a garden planning meeting at one of the tables in Fellowship hall after church on Sunday April 7. Please stop by to plan - or if you can help this year - watering, picking, selling are the big needs. Thanks.

FELLOWSHIP NOTES

The fellowship committee has been busy in March with no plans for slowing down in April. Beginning in April, we begin having a birthday cake on the 3rd Sunday of every month to celebrate our congregation birthdays for that month. Birthdays are in Tower Topics and will be posted on the Fellowship bulletin board. If your birthday is not listed and you want to be included, please let Jenny know.



There will be a Bingo Night on April 12 at 6:30pm. Snacks and drinks are provided.



Movie Night will be April 26th. Dinner is provided at 6pm with movie starting at 7pm. April's movie will be "Won't You Be My Neighbor?", an American documentary film directed by Morgan Neville about the life and guiding philosophy of Fred Rogers, the host and creator of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood.

Save the date: Church Picnic September 8th

Look for details on a May Cake Cook Off, Women's Day Retreat, and more fun. If you are looking to get more involved with hosting a Sunday morning, helping with just one event or joining our committee, contact Shari Infante.

PARISH NURSE NOTES

I think it's gone. Thank goodness! Of course, I'm referring to this past winter, and what a strange winter it has been....too cold at times, too snowy (especially late in the season), too gloomy, and just plain too long! Yes, we live in Wisconsin, and yes, we can certainly see snow in April, but let's hope that if we do, it doesn't hang around long.

We need to give thanks that we have been spared the horrible destruction that accompanies tornadoes and severe flooding. Remember that we can give financial help to many through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. This group is present in many areas affected by disasters, here in the United States as well as internationally. Their motto is "Out of Chaos, Hope." There are so many in need of hope and we can help by opening our wallets and giving generously. This is stewardship in action.

There are quite a few in our congregation who are dealing with a variety of health problems, some chronic and others acute. Please remember to include them in your prayer time, even if you don't know "who or what" is involved. Prayer is powerful, and it is a wonderful, up-lifting feeling to know someone is praying for you.

There is a never-ending need for blood donors. To those of you who give regularly, thank you. I have arranged for another drive here in our Fellowship Hall, to be held on Monday, June 3rd, from 2:30 until 7.00 p.m. Last December, we had a 'bit' of a log-jam, as some of you well remember. We are scheduling this as a larger drive, so that problem should be alleviated. If you are able, please plan to be a hero and come and donate. More information will be available soon.

Remember to get up off your "cushion of comfort" and move your body! Get enough sleep and eat well. Find something to enjoy every day!

Blessings to all.

Karen Sorenson, Parish Nurse

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

Tower Topics

Kenosha, WI 53143

Issue #257



April Birthdays

- 4thJean Bourque
.....Leslie Pottorff
- 7thGary Anderson
.....Jane Djuplin
- 13thGeorge Serpe
- 14thKurt Koesser
- 18thLucelia Pollock
- 19thPat Koesser
.....Emily Loveall
- 21stDave Robinson
- 23rdBecky Rasmussen
.....Karen Rasmussen
.....Mike Shaner
- 26thKrist Pottorff
.....Julia Robinson

One Great Hour of Sharing collection will take place on April 21st. Envelopes will be available in the pew holders.

DEACONS

Tana Baldwin, Lori Barnes, Sherry Craig, Teddi Griffin, Lisa Hawley, Penny Ingraham*, Brenda Langerman, Nancy McGovern

SESSION

- Gary Anderson (Fellowship, Memorial)
- Kelly Andrichik (Worship & Music, Personnel*, Nominating*)
- Scott Barnes (Building & Grounds)
- Sandra Billingsley (Christian Education*, Mission*)
- Mark Bourque (Building & Grounds*)
- Walter Deignan (Building & Grounds, Nominating)
- Cris Doil (Stewardship & Finance*)
- Marcy Hufendick (Christian Ed, Personnel, Memorial)
- Shari Infante (Fellowship*, Mission, Memorial)
- Ron Meinhardt (Worship and Music*)
- Leslie Pottorff (Mission, Fellowship, Personnel, Memorial)
- Jodi Prince (Fellowship and Membership)

() indicates committee assignments; *indicates Team Leaders

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

March 3	132
March 10	141
March 17	120
March 24	137
March 31	tbd
Sunday Average	132



APRIL WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE



Head Usher: Jourene Frederick

April 7th

N. Door Greeter: Penny Ingraham
Greeters: The Kovachiks
Reader: Deb Kotten
Sound System: Walter Deignan
Counters: Julie Iorio
Penny Ingraham
Nursery Helper: Tana Baldwin
Fellowship Host: Fellowship Team
Comm. Prep.: Kelly Andrichik

April 21st

N. Door Greeter: Lori Barnes
Greeters: The Langermans
Reader: Ron Bauman
Sound System: Don Mandry
Counters: Volunteer Needed
Volunteer Needed
Nursery Helper: Volunteer Needed
Fellowship Host: Fellowship Team

April 14th

N. Door Greeter: Penny Ingraham
Greeters: The Kripelbeins
Reader: Marcy Hufendick
Sound System: Jerry Jones
Counters: Julie Iorio
Penny Ingraham
Nursery Helper: Karen Edenhofer
Fellowship Host: Fellowship Team

April 28th

N. Door Greeter: Brenda Langerman
Greeters: The Laupans
Reader: Dorla Ceconie
Sound System: Tyler Peroutka
Counters: Volunteer Needed
Volunteer Needed
Nursery Helper: Hanna Bergeson
Fellowship Host: Mariners

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS