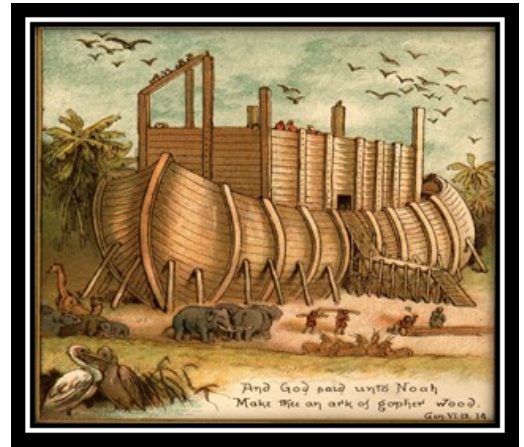


The ARK

Sharing the Good News ... Daily

April 2025

Issue 4
Volume 53



Holy Week Schedule 2025

Palm Sunday Breakfast

Hosted by the Deacons 10:00a

Palm Sunday Worship begins at 11:00 a

Maundy Thursday Worship service 7:00p

Celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

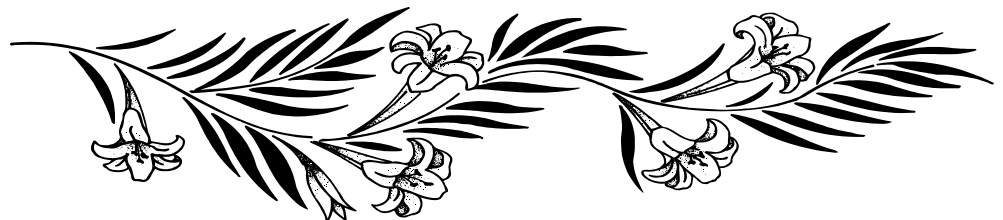
Closing with a Tenebrae service

Easter Sunday

Celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord!

Worship begins at 11:00 a

Invite a friend to any or all worship services,
all are welcome here!





"The table is near, our seats assigned. Jesus shares this moment with us. His grace calls for love, but are we ready to take our place?"
John 13

As this issue of the April 2025 ARK finds its place in your hands, we are entering the fifth week of Lent. We are nearing the end of our Lenten journey with the worse and best yet to come.

So how has Lent been going for you? Hopefully since the ashes were placed on your forehead, you have enriched your relationship with Jesus. Hopefully you have made extra time to reflect and repent; read scripture; pray without ceasing; participate in our Lenten study and worship wholeheartedly.

Our Lenten study will continue on April 6 but will take a pause on Palm Sunday (April 13) and Easter Sunday (April 20). Due to a later start and this interruption, Sandy and the class will decide how many more weeks it will continue after Easter. The class has had great participation and we are thankful for Sandy's leadership.

The class will pause on Palm Sunday because the Deacons are planning and organizing a breakfast to begin at 10:00 in our fellowship hall. Offer a hand if asked to help and be sure to come early to attend. This is a great day to bring a friend to breakfast and worship.

On Maundy Thursday (April 16) we will gather for worship beginning at 7:00. Like our Ash Wednesday service, this special service will be different than our regular Sunday worship service. We will be re-living the Last Supper with Jesus and his disciples as we celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. As you are aware, the Lord's table is open to anyone who believes in Jesus so be sure to invite a friend or neighbor to come with you to this service. The service will conclude with a tenebrae service. A tenebrae service is also known as a service of shadows and is traditionally held on Good Friday. Since we aren't having a Good Friday service on the actual day, we will end the Maundy Thursday service with meaningful scripture and music of the last hours of Jesus' life on earth. The service will end in silence and darkness, a time for reflection and anticipation of the resurrection to come.

Easter Sunday (April 20) will be celebrated with many Alleluias and Glory to God at 11:00. Again, invite a friend or neighbor to come with you. We welcome all!

Many blessings for a beautiful spring and Easter to all First Presbyterian members and friends, Let's look forward to see what God can do in this new season.

Pastor Lynn

The First Day of Spring saw the Women's Circle complete their study of the book of James. For the next three months before our summer break we will use a study by Anne Graham, a different one each month. Two chosen so far are 'For This We Need Jesus', and 'Constant Companion', the later one referring to the Holy Spirit. Come join us for a spirited discussion next month.

Myra called our meeting to order at 12:35 following a brief period for lunch. The minutes were approved as read and Roxie gave the Treasurer's Report followed by Pat's Rada Report.

We learned that the Backpack Bash is on again at Kiski Area School District August 13, and the session gave us approval to collect items to fill these back packs from early June to the end of July. The items to donate will be listed in the May Ark and are the same as last year.

Session approved our plans to use fellowship hall for a spring luncheon for the bakers in the church who contributed to the bake sales. At noon on Saturday, April 26 we will host those members with a spring salad luncheon including tea sandwiches, salads, and desserts. LuAnne Baker, who does presentations portraying various women in Biblical history, will show us her version of how Noah's wife might have reacted while he was building the Ark in their backyard. She will also share how Mrs. Noah experienced gathering the animals and living on the Ark.

We set three dates for bake sales. The first will be at Community Days otherwise known as the Avonmore Yard Sale, May 17. Then on June 26 we will have a regular bake sale at the Saltsburg Farmers Market (SFM). August 7 may see us selling pepperoni rolls also at the SFM (still to be decided). And the last bake sale of the season will be September 25 again at the SFM. We decided not to sell baked goods at the Street Fair in June; we didn't want to wear out our bakers.

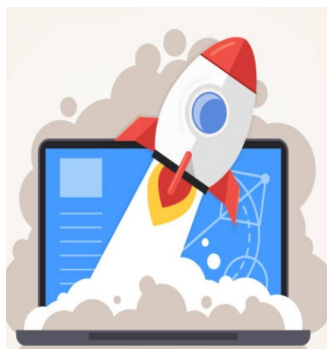
Our next meeting date will fall on Maundy Thursday so we decided to move our meeting date to Thursday, April 10, the week before Easter.

Till next month, Sandy

**Appreciation Luncheon
For All Our Bakers!
Noon, Saturday, April 26, Fellowship Hall**



Many of you know that the bake sales have been a wonderful fundraiser for us. They helped us contribute over \$1300 for the stair lift. To that end the Women's Circle would like to invite all the members who baked for these sales to an Appreciation Luncheon Saturday, April 26. We'll need to know how many to expect so we can prepare enough food. So please use one of the posted signup sheets to let us know if you plan to attend. Special entertainment will be the appearance of LuAnne Baker with her presentation "Mrs. Noah: A Woman's Point of View of the Great Flood".



Good News! First Presbyterian Church of Avonmore now has a website!

Anyone who is looking for a church or wanting to know more about our church can easily find us both on Facebook and now on our new website.

Our domain name is fpcofavonmore.org and can be easily typed into your browser or simply goggle First Presbyterian Church of Avonmore and our church will appear!

Our website will be updated weekly. It is a continued work in progress, so if you find any errors or have any suggestions, please let Pastor Lynn know.

Also Pastor Lynn is looking for some help with it. If you think you would like to learn how to maintain the website, please let her know. Your interest and help is appreciated.

Spotlight on Session

Session met on Monday March 10, 2025

- Going to have a Maundy Thursday service
- Stair Lift permits are on the way.
- Celebrated National Quilt Day on March 15. Displayed two quilts from the 1890's from our church.
- Talking about placing a prayer box outside.
- Will do a shoe collection for Latrobe Hospital April –July
- Will do a Backpack collection for Kiski Area School District in July
- Webpage is almost done (as of the meeting date). Thank you Pastor Lynn!

Empty Bowl Event Sunday April 6, Noon-4 PM Hempfield Area High School Cafeteria

After a few years' hiatus, the Empty Bowl Event is back. Hempfield Area High School is once again hosting this event to raise money for the Westmoreland Food Bank.

Community members are able to purchase tickets online or in person. Admission is \$20 and comes with food provided by local businesses and a ceramic bowl to take home. The bowls are made by local artists and students at one of several Westmoreland County schools.

Soups will be provided by Delallo, Sam's Club, Texas Roadhouse, Poulich Pit BBQ, Parkwood Inn, Marino's American Eatery, DeNunzio's, 3 Stone Merchant and Jioios. Participants can enjoy as much soup as they like and bread is also complimentary.

A basket raffle, 50/50 drawing and auction will also be held.

Music will be provided by high school students and local musicians Detention and Brothers Kelly will provide entertainment.

Starts at 12:00, ends at 4:00. Come and go as you please.

Go, have fun, enjoy good food, take home a souvenir while helping our Westmoreland Food Bank.



Donate Your Gently Worn, Used and New Shoes To

Latrobe Area Hospital Aid Society

Help us raise funds for our organization by
donating your gently worn,
used and new shoes!

And don't forget to ask friends, family,
neighbors and co-workers to donate too!

Collected shoes are used to support micro-enterprise vendors.
Micro-enterprises are small businesses in developing nations.
They are typically operated by one person or family and
friends, depending on size.

WHERE & WHEN

First Presbyterian
Church of
Avonmore at
518 Indiana Ave.
Avonmore, PA

Collection Dates:

April 1, 2025
to
July 1, 2025

All kinds, dress,
boots, athletic,
slippers, sandals,
flip flops, ballet
slippers and cleats.

Please no shoe
boxes!

Contact

Jan Mills: 724-433-9601

Church: 724-697-4221

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Thank you to Jeannie Orvosh and Al Shoupe for being liturgists in March.
 Thank you to the Deacons for preparing and serving the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on March 9.
 Thank you to Bill Frain for making the new platform to be used in future worship visuals.
 Your service is appreciated!

**Church Opener/
 Closer for April
Hugh Jamison**

April Deacon of the Month
 Lisa Flick
 (724) - 697-5205

April Prayer Chain Starter
 Marsha Reynolds
 (724) -697-4124

April Anniversary
 Al & Gretchen Shoupe- April 17

Finances February 2025

INCOME	
General Fund	4,283.00
Benevolence total	145.00
Giving Envelopes	5.00
Two Cents a Meal	58.59
Building Fund	120.00
Transfer (Soup)	1,153.00
Stairlift	145.00
<u>Total Income</u>	<u>5,909.59</u>
EXPENDITURES	
Salaries	2,112.96
Supply Pastors	200.00
Pastor mileage	127.40
Supply Pastor Mileage	51.80
Social security offset	82.08
Office Supplies	328.73
Operations	1,453.24
Transfer out (soup)	1,160.00
Benevolence	145.00
Two Cents a Meal	58.59
Church Programs	33.36
Misc. (Donation AVFD)	150.00
Stair Lift	727.66
Deacons	34.36
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>6,665.18</u>

Celebrating April Birthday's	
Dylan Gorman	April 1
Jenna Jones	April 9
Ruth J. Rupert	April 14
Lori Coleman	April 15
Jan McCullough	April 18
Dayne Auden	April 27
Tammy Keller	April 30



Long-time member Linda Sue Shoupe Speedy joined the Church Triumphant on Wed. March 26. Linda had been a member of First Presbyterian Church since 1980. She was an ordained PC(USA) Deacon and PC(USA) Elder. She was active on the church service committee for many years and she and her husband Ted were youth group leaders as well. Pastor Lynn officiated her funeral service on March 30. Remember her family in your prayers.

April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
OGHS collection continues through Easter Sunday		1 Organizing Church Committees meeting #2 6:30p	2 Deacon's Meeting 6:30p	3	4	5
6 10:00 Lenten Study Worship 11:00a with Guest Pastor Tammy Noss	7	8	9	10 Women's Circle study/meeting 10:45	11	12
13 Palm Sunday Breakfast 10:00a Worship 11:00a	14 Session meets 6:30p	15 Faith Manor Outing with special Guest 6:00p	16	17 Maundy Thursday service 7:00p	18 Good Friday	19
20 Easter Sunday Worship 11:00a	21	22 Earth Day	23	24	25 Arbor Day	26 Women's Appreciation Luncheon 12:00n
27 Worship 11:00a with Guest Pastor Karen Gray	28	29 Pastor's Retreat Pine Springs Camp 10:00-2:30p	30			

The First Presbyterian Church

518 Indiana Ave.
P O Box 27
Avonmore PA 15618-0027

fpcofavonmore.org

Phone: 724-697-4221

Address Service Requested

Our Mission Statement

We gather as the First Presbyterian
Church of Avonmore

To give God praise and thanks -

To hear the Good News -

To strengthen one another -

To commit ourselves to the outreach
of Jesus, the Christ.

