



VILLAGE CHAPEL
PRESBYTERIAN

"THE VILLAGER" – MARCH 21, 2024

EASTER TIME

On March 27, 1948 C S Lewis wrote to a friend who was concerned about the state of the world. (Do you find yourself concerned about the state of the world we live in now – with the violence of war, the divisiveness of politics, economic inequalities, and climate concerns?)

Lewis wrote, ["On] Easter we shall celebrate the glorious Resurrection of Christ, Away with tears and fears and troubles! It would be impious to call ourselves 'miserable,' On the contrary, [we are] creatures the angels, were they capable of envy, would envy. Let us lift up our hearts!"

What Lewis does is put things in perspective – God has done something wonderful for us by raising Christ and us with him! Perhaps the repetition of 2000 celebrations of Easter had dulled our sense of the miraculous freedom we have been granted ... and the way that divine act has transformed the world.

If that is true for you and you feel little miserable every time you read the headlines, take heart and believe that our God, who raised Jesus from the dead, is also remaking the world!

ENVELOPE CAMPAIGN

Have you picked up your envelope and filled it and returned it to the office yet?

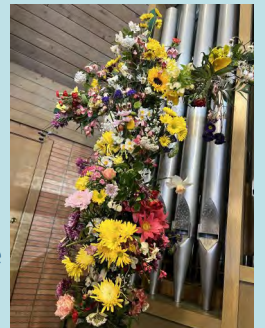
I ask because there are still a lot of envelopes on the wall in the Fellowship Hall.

We placed 200 envelopes there because that's how many people we have on our active roll plus non-members who are actively involved in the life of the church plus children! We need everyone to do their part to raise funds to repair and replace the sanctuary roof. So far we've raised about \$7,000 which is fantastic! But 200 envelopes represents over \$20,00. Please help us reach our goal!

EASTER IS ALL ABOUT RESURRECTION!

We see signs of it all around us – daffodils, and violets, and budding trees! So it is appropriate that, according to John, when Mary first sees the risen Jesus, she thinks he is the gardener!

Come join the celebration on Easter Sunday ... and bring a flower to take part in the flowering of the cross!



WORSHIP NOTES

Join us in person or virtually for worship during March and April

Mar. 24	Palm Sunday	John 12:12-16
Mar. 28	Maundy Thursday/Taizé	
Mar. 31	Easter	John 20:1-18
April 7		1 John 1:1-2:2
April 14	Service weekend	Luke 24:36b-48
April 23		Psalms 23 & 1 John 3:16-24
April 28		John 15:1-8

On Thursday, March 14th, Village Chapel co-hosted a Red Cross blood drive with Advanced Physical Therapy.



Thanks to all the volunteers who made people feel welcome, we collected 34 units of blood to help save lives!

THRIVING CONGREGATION PROJECT

The Thriving Congregation team spent a few days last week in Montreat. They narrowed the projects we will be researching further to:

- partnering with local schools, and
- developing older adult ministries

To explore these, we will put together two research teams that will have further one on one conversations with "experts" in both areas to see how we might best partner with existing organizations.



Presbytery of West Virginia's
Festival of Faith
All the Light We Can See

Saturday, April 6, 2024
First Presbyterian Church, Charleston
9:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Have you signed up yet?

Register available at wvpresbytery.org/fof-2024



LENT & EASTER 2024



EASTER SUNDAY EGG HUNT

For Preschool–Grade 5
10 AM Easter Activities
10:20 - 10:40 Egg Hunt
11 Worship
Everyone Welcome!



MAUNDY THURSDAY
TAIZÉ-STYLE WORSHIP
MARCH 28, 2024 AT 7 PM

AS WE REMEMBER JESUS' LAST NIGHT WITH HIS DISCIPLES, WE WILL READ SCRIPTURE AND SING AND PRAY AND SIT IN SILENCE, BEFORE WE SHARE COMMUNION. COME JOIN US!

SPEND ONE HOUR

praying, singing, and meditating on scripture.

The Easter Vigil starts on Good Friday and continues for 40 hours until sunrise on Easter.



We are inviting you to claim the same spot this year as in 2023. We'll remind you of your time/day; confirm it; and fill any empty slots.

2024 COMMON GROUNDS UPDATE

Common Grounds Outreach is entering the 17th year of being a 100% operated volunteer organization. The ministry opened doors in 2007, a group effort of members of St Agnes Church, Morris Memorial Methodist, and Village Chapel Presbyterian Church. As with all local food banks, they continue to experience a growing number of families needing assistance and an increased number of homeless seeking food.

In 2023 CG Served 5,471 Individuals/2,126 Families; 148 Thanksgiving Boxes were given out, \$21,919.27 in utility assistance provided, and \$51,579.84 in food purchased.

New volunteers are always welcome! CG continues to operate Tuesdays\Thursdays from 10AM • 2 PM

If interested in helping, please call:
Sheila Danzer (304) 610-2017
Betsy White (304) 437-0948

MENTOR AT FPC HOPE CENTER?

The FPC Hope Center is a nonprofit, formed by First Presbyterian Church Charleston, whose mission is to assist young adults in successfully transitioning out of foster/kinship care by providing a safe and supportive space and connection to a caring network of supports, services, and partners. One way Hope Center achieves its mission is by providing responsible mentors to support the young adults aging out of foster care. The Center is in the process of recruiting mentors for the young adults graduating this May from Hoover, Sissonville, Nitro, and Riverside High Schools who are transitioning out of foster/kinship care. These graduates will have a post-secondary education plan and the role of the Hope Center mentor is to provide support and a caring adult to help them achieve their goal. If you are interested in being a Hope Center Mentor, please contact Becky Ceperley at ceperleyb@gmail.com.

SERVICE WEEKEND

APRIL 13TH–14TH

Please join in one of the opportunities to serve others listed below

Donate to:

- Kanawha-Charleston Humane Society
- Bream Shower Ministry



Saturday April 13

10 AM - 4 PM: help with chores around the church

11 AM - 1 PM: preparation of bag lunches. They will be sold for \$5 each with the proceeds donated to Common Grounds. Any left over lunches will be taken to the veteran's home and/or given to the homeless.

11 AM - 1 PM: Creative Cards with Rita Sockman.

1 PM - 3 PM: Dog walking at the Kanawha Charleston Animal Shelter

Sunday, April 14th

8 AM - 11 AM: Prepare and serve breakfast at Ronald McDonald House (near Women and Childrens Hospital) Sara Slamick is kindly organizing

GUNS TO GARDENS

The way a Guns to Gardens event flows is that the gun owner is asked to bring their gun(s) unloaded, in the way back/trunk of their car. When they pull up to the curb, a "greeter" welcomes them and confirms the gun's location and condition. At the "gun expert station", the experts will remove the gun(s) from the car, inspect them and take them to the chop saw station. The gun owner, who remains in their car the entire time, is joined by a "shepherd" who accompanies them as they move through the event. The Shepherd's job is to listen to the gun owner if they would like to talk about why they have come that day. Pastoral care will be available if needed. A "runner" takes a slip of paper designating the type of guns surrendered into the church building where "gift card managers" will assign gift cards. After the guns are dismantled, the gun owner is given the gift cards by the shepherd and thanked for coming.

Our Guns to Gardens event will be May 4th from 1-3pm at St Marks United Methodist Church 900 Washington St East Would you like to help cover gift card expenses? You can write a check to Village Chapel Presbyterian Church with "Guns to Gardens" in the memo line.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS ON THESE DATES:

APRIL

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Noah Lawson | 16 Linda Meadows |
| 2 Josie Lawson | 17 Brian Misiti |
| 3 Mike LeMaster | 18 Mary Misiti |
| 4 Joyce Lemaster | 19 Richard Mitchell |
| 5 Becky Lippitt | 20 Sally Mullins |
| 6 Jeanne MacDonald | 21 David Mullins |
| 7 Joan Mansell | 22 Phillip Mullins |
| 8 Peter Markham | 23 Steve Murray |
| 9 Tara Markham | 24 Sherry Murray |
| 10 Addison Markham | 25 Joan Myers |
| 11 Paul Markham | 26 Gerald Nottingham |
| 12 Susie Matulis | 27 Harriet Nottingham |
| 13 Steve Matulis | 28 Alex Panger |
| 14 Cathy McClung | 29 Michael Panger |
| 15 Mike McClung | 30 Joanie Panger |

PRAYER CHAIN

An important part of our caring for each other is the **Prayer Chain**.

Please let **Betsy White** (betsywhite06@yahoo.com) know of any prayer concerns you may have.

You may also contact Leslie Bremar in the church office (**304-925-7265** or leslie@vcpresby.org). Leslie will direct your prayer request to Betsy.

If you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain, please contact the office.

TOILET PAPER DONATIONS NEEDED!

As part of Village Chapel's Ministry to Common Grounds, we donate toilet paper for those less fortunate. The Presbyterian Women have set the second Sunday of every month the official donation Sunday for toilet paper. You can just bring your donation with you to Church and place it in the specified area at the back of the Sanctuary. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

SCRAPBOOKING CLASS

Saturday, April 20th 10:00am - 2:00pm come learn scrapbooking and journaling with your pictures. There will be a break for a light lunch. Supplies will be provided, but please bring your pictures! If you would like to attend please RSVP to Rita Sockman at (239) 938-4983

NURTURING FAITH IDEAS



I have a plant on my desk that came with clear instructions on how to nurture it – optimum sunlight, water, and temperature. 'Wouldn't it be nice to have similar information to help us nurture our own faith... or that of our children or grandchildren? Well, the Presbytery of WV is providing weekly ideas for nurturing faith.

March 24: Read Mark 1:1-11

On the Sunday before Easter, we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on the back of a colt, over a carpet of cloaks and leafy branches, to the shouts of the people's Hosannas. By the end of the week, Jesus will be put to death on a cross. Over the course of the week, read Mark 14:11-15:47 which tells the story of the last days of Jesus' life before his crucifixion. What are ways we praise and betray Jesus in our lives today?

March 31: Read John 20:1-18

Each gospel tells the story of Jesus' resurrection differently. In John's gospel, the risen Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene as she stood near the empty tomb. Mary didn't recognize Jesus until he spoke her name; after that encounter, she went and told the disciples, "I have seen the Lord." Are you open to hearing Jesus speak to you when you don't expect it? What might you do to be more open to that possibility?

April 7: Read John 20:19-31

Thomas has gotten a bad rap through the centuries, often being referred to as "Doubting Thomas" because he wouldn't believe it when the other disciples told him Jesus was alive and had visited them. When he did see Jesus, Thomas believed. We all have our doubts at times, but that doesn't stop Jesus from coming to us. Jesus meets us where we are and invites us to believe.

April 14: Read 1 John 3:1-7

The children's song 11 If Anybody Asks You Who I Am" contains the words, 11 If anybody asks you who I am, tell 'em I am a child of God." The concluding verse changes it a little bit to "If anybody asks you who are you, tell 'em you're a child of God." The author of the first letter of John reminds us that we are all children of God, not because we are always good and loving, but because God loves us. As God's child, how might you share God's love with others?

STATISTICAL REPORT	3/17/24	3/10/24	3/3/24	2/25/24
In-Person Attendance	44	49	54	45
Non-Pledged	\$90	\$220	\$805.96	\$80
Pledged Contribution	\$2,345	\$11,515	\$4,029	\$1,840
Miscellaneous Income	\$1,894	\$3,112	\$2,449	\$1,085
Total Contributions	\$4,329	\$14,847	\$7,283.96	\$3,005





APRIL 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	2	3 7 PM - Worship Team Meeting	4 10 AM - PW Coord. Team	5 7 PM - NA Group	6 PWV Festival of Faith
7 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship Service	8 10 AM - Bridge	9 7 PM - Choir Practice	10 7:30 AM - Rotary Club 7 PM - Stewardship Team Meeting	11 10 AM - PW Circle	12 7 PM - NA Group	13 SERVICE SATURDAY
14 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship Service 12 PM - Fellowship Time; Choir Practice	15 10 AM - Bridge	16	17 7 PM - Session	18 12 PM - PW Luncheon	19 7 PM - NA Group	20 10 AM - Scrapbooking Class
21 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship	22 10 AM - Bridge	23 7 PM - Choir Practice	24 7:30 AM - Rotary Club	25 NEWSLETTER 10 AM - Book Club	26 7 PM - NA Group	27
28 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship 12 PM - Fellowship Time	29 10 AM - Bridge	30	April Birthdays: 1 - Sharon Waggy; 2 - Donzy Fleck; 4 - Jeff Chiparo; 6 - Beth Chiparo; 8 - Tish Hodovan; 13 - Michael Misiti; 16 - Fifi Wolfe; 17 - Joey Stonestreet, Patti Salisbury; 19 - Martha Foster; 22 - Lillie Jacobs; 23 - Gavin Jones, Kevin Blank; 24 - Lynne Gunnoe; 29 - Grace Falbo			

THANK YOU
FOR
HELPING IN
ANY WAY
YOU CAN!

VILLAGE CHAPEL
SERVICE
WEEKEND 2024

3818 Venable Avenue
Charleston, WV 25304

Phone: 304-925-7265
info@vcpresby.org

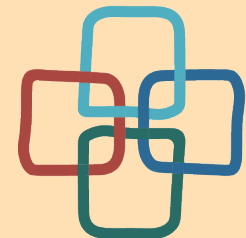


VILLAGE • CHAPEL
PRESBYTERIAN

THE
CHURCH
HAS LEFT THE
BUILDING...

**Village Chapel
Service Weekend
2024**

**Saturday, April 13th
Sunday, April 14th**





Kanawha-Charleston Humane Society

Purina Dog Chow, Purina
Puppy Chow, Purina Cat
Chow, Purina Kitten Chow

Puppy pads

Paper towels

Latex gloves

Dawn dishwashing soap

Greenies pill pockets

Peanut butter

Bream Shower Ministry

Men's and women's under-
wear of all kinds and sizes but
they are low on small and me-
dium sizes at this time

Bottled drinks

Snacks

Hygiene products

Gently used clothing

Saturday April 13

10 AM - 4 PM: help with chores
around the church

The list of needs includes: check
and restock First Aid Kit, mulch
under maple tree, weed flower
beds, wipe down interior doors
and other "hand print surfaces",
cut down dead tree near garage,
trim azalea bush near door, work
on "dents" in sanctuary carper,
repair walk into fellowship Hall,
attach chain to retain Fellowship
Hall door open, and repair
overhead attic light in the house
next door

11 AM - 1 PM: preparation of
bag lunches.

They will be sold for \$5 each
with the proceeds donated to
Common Grounds. Any left over
lunches will be taken to the
veteran's home and/or given to
the homeless.

11 AM - 1 PM: Creative Cards
with Rita Sockman.

Rita has graciously agreed to
teach us her beautiful card
making skills. The cards will go
to the Care of Members
Committee for their card
ministry.

1 PM - 3 PM: Dog walking at
the Kanawha Charleston
Animal Shelter

Sunday, April 14th

8 AM - 11 AM: Prepare and
serve breakfast at Ronald
McDonald House (near
Women and Childrens
Hospital) Sara Slammick is
kindly organizing

