



# 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Bulletin: March 27<sup>th</sup>



## What is the 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Bulletin?

The 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Bulletin is a newsletter of sorts that will be coming out regularly. I would like this bulletin to be more than just passing on information about the pandemic. I would like this bulletin to be something that truly helps us. I want to be able to put in all sorts of things: helpful links and websites; prayer requests, funny stories, jokes, helpful tips, ideas of ways we can stay connected and anything else that makes sense.

I would especially like to put in stories and thoughts from you all. Do you have a funny story, do you have a thought you would like to share, maybe you could tell us your favorite memory from church, or a Scripture that seems to speak to right now? With that in mind, please submit items to the church email as you find them or think of them [firstpresofc@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresofc@gmail.com)



## Food Pantries

The Licking County Food Pantry is keeping all of its main pantries open. You can come and pick up enough food for several days at a time. The food

pantry is maintaining several soup kitchens. They are also continuing their produce markets. Guests can leave these markets with 20 lbs of fresh produce each week. Call (740) 344-7401 for more information, hours and locations.

## Here Are Some Books I Wouldn't Recommend

– Thanks Keith

"How to Write Big Books" by Warren Peace

"The Lion Attacked" by Claude Yarnoff

"The Art of Archery" by Beau N. Arrow

"Songs for Children" by Barbara Blacksheep

"Irish Heart Surgery" by Angie O'Plasty

"Desert Crossing" by I. Rhoda Camel

"School Truancy" by Marcus Absent

"I Was a Cloakroom Attendant" by Mahatma Coate

"I Lost My Balance" by Eileen Dover and Phil Down

"Positive Reinforcement" by Wade Ago

"Shhhh!" by Danielle Soloud

"The Philippine Post Office" by Imelda Letter

"Stop Arguing" by Xavier Breath

## It is Ok to Reach Out!

Matthew 8 tells the story of the Centurion who had a sick servant. In this story, the Centurion seeks out Jesus, hoping he can heal his servant. The Centurion then believes that Jesus can heal his servant without going to his house. We tend to focus on the fact that he believes in Jesus' power to heal so strongly. Jesus can heal, without even being present. That is some serious faith. Yet, none of the story is possible without the Centurion first approaching Jesus.

In Matthew 9, a woman reaches out and touches Jesus' cloak. She is instantly healed after having

suffered from bleeding for 12 years. There are so many examples of people in Scripture that are healed or have their life transformed after approaching Jesus. They made the first step. They went to Jesus and asked for help, asked for guidance, asked for wisdom.

There are examples in which a person is approached by Jesus. Such as Jesus approaching Simon and Andrew while fishing and asks them to be his disciples. However, the majority of those who interacted with Jesus, made the first move. They came to see him preach, they shouted out to him as he walked by, they reached out to touch him, they brought their friends and loved ones to see him.

I think that this has loads of applications for us today. What I want to bring up this morning is the importance of reaching out. We need to reach out to help others. This is clear. I think many of us are pretty good at this. I have had several volunteers offer to help others during the past few weeks.

More of us seem to have difficulty reaching out when we are in need. Calling someone because we are lonely. Asking for help with a task we have. It is important that we can reach out when we can help AND when we need help. The help we need might be small, like we are bored, or huge, like a serious concern or lack of resources.

What would have happened to the Centurion's servant or the woman who had a bleeding disorder if they had waited for Jesus to make the first move? Chances are good, that we would have never heard of them. Chances are good, that they would have missed out on the healing they needed.



**Q. How does Moses make his coffee?**

**A. Hebrews it.**

### **Ways You Can Help**

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance always uses the word GAP as a way of guiding us in times of trouble. G: Give your financial resources to help those in need or effected by a disaster. A: Act, get

involved in recovery or assistance efforts. P: Pray for all of those effected and for those who are helping.

We can use this as a way of guiding our response. We can give a portion of our resources to those in need. I suggest that this happens mostly though organizations or directly to those only you know. We can act in ways that help others. Remember that each of us can help. We might not all be doctors, or even be able to leave our house. Yet, each of us can make a real difference with our actions. We can all pray. How can you help fill in the GAP today?



### **One Less Major Source of Confusion**

-Thanks Carolyn

We can all agree that there is just too much to have to think about right now. Too many decisions to make. Luckily a software developer and an artist from London have given us a tool to help us check one thing off our list.

<https://howmuchtoiletpaper.com/>

This user-friendly website helps us figure out just how much toilet paper we need! Maybe this will help those poor souls leaving Walmart with pallets of TP.



A View of the Flooding Behind Middleton

## Adult Elective Live!

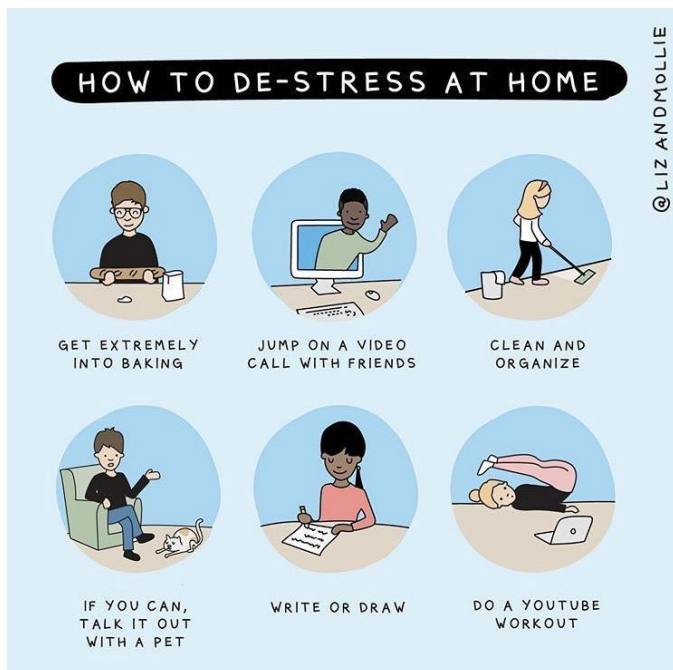
Adult Sunday School is still meeting! Thanks to “Zoom” – a video-conference, web-based service. Last week 13 brave souls logged in and we could see and hear each other, and watch our DVD-based study. We began a 4-week Lenten study as we prepare for Easter. It’s called “Why Easter Matters” and is by Andy Stanley.

While you don’t need a study guide, they can be ordered at [www.christianbook.com](http://www.christianbook.com) for \$6.99 plus shipping, or Amazon for \$9.99 (Kindle \$5.99).

If you have a computer, smartphone, tablet or I-pad and an internet connection, you can join us. Please call me (Peggy) before Sunday if you need assistance getting Zoom set up. It’s pretty easy to do – just takes a bit of fiddling sometimes. This is a live meeting – I hope you can join us at 9:15 on Sunday mornings. You will receive an email with a link to click on which will take you to our group – no need to log in, no subscription to buy!

If you have questions or would like assistance in setting up Zoom, please call Peggy (740-323-2353).

Peggy



## Questions You Might Have About How the Church is Functioning Right Now

-Worship- Every Sunday I will be putting out a sermon video on YouTube and Facebook. You can find a link in your weekly email. I will be adding music to these videos.

**Please let me know if you would like DVD copies of the sermons mailed to you. Contact Rev Steve or the church office.**

If you would like a live service, you can watch the live-stream of many churches on Facebook. Including, 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian of Granville, Broad Street Presbyterian or Central College Presbyterian.

We are not doing a live service because we do not have any musician right now. The service would just be me talking. A pre-recorded service is also easier for those with limited internet.



**I’m stocking up on ice cream, canned fruit, raspberry sauce, and sprinkles.**

**I’m planning to self-isolate for a month of Sundaes.**

-Session – Session is meeting weekly virtually. We have met once on Zoom and once on a conference call app. We are working through issues as they come up and keeping in contact with each other.

-Bible Studies – The adult elective is meeting virtually every Sunday morning with Zoom. See the article above for more information.

-The Church Building – Gary, Shari, & Myself are all still going to church on a regular basis. There are no office hours, but the building is being maintained and taken care of.

-The Church Office - Phone messages are checked at least once a day, mail is being collected several times a week, and the church email is checked regularly. Earlier in the year, we installed a locking mailbox.

-Offering – If you would like to maintain your church offering, you can do so. There are several ways you can do this. You could mail a check to the church. Or you can set up a direct debit by calling and speaking to your bank or through online banking. There are several online options that Budget & Finance are checking out.



-Deposits – Session voted to allow Keith Hare or Barb Jobes to count and make the deposit individually while we cannot have physical gatherings. They will do this once a week. I stress that this is only for the time being.

### When Can We Meet as in the Sanctuary Again?

It is incredibly difficult to answer this question. However, Session has determined that we should follow the CDC recommendation of 8 weeks. They recommend that people of groups of more than 50 or more than 10 at risk individuals do not meet for 8 weeks. This Makes May 10<sup>th</sup> our target date for reentering the sanctuary.

This might seem excessive. I can tell you that every member of session has been investigating this issue. Many other congregations are following the same guidelines. The Presbytery of Scioto Valley sent us a letter “urging us in the strongest language possible to suspend all in person meetings indefinitely.” On a Sunday morning, one individual could spread this virus to as many as 20 at risk individuals. A very friendly church greeter from South Korea is linked to about 40 cases of COVID-19.

May 10<sup>th</sup> is a goal. This goal date will move around as more information becomes available. We pray for an earlier date, but we prepare for whatever length is necessary.



**Q. Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?**

**A. Because Noah was standing on the deck.**

### A Note from Pricilla

I wanted to reach out to all of you today to just remind you, and ask you to remind anyone you are speaking with, that rough times bring out people who prey on those in fear or panic. We are going to see an onslaught of email and messages regarding what you “really need to survive”. Just today, I cannot tell you how many emails I have received regarding ‘Pandemic Survival’ and ‘Total Shield Masks’ etc. They want you to respond giving your contact information, personal information, credit card numbers etc. so you can get whatever the

miracle cure/protection/information is that ‘you need’ and ‘they have’. It is easy for all of us to slide into, “well maybe? I don’t know? Would it really hurt to just see what they are saying?” mode, especially when we are spending lots of time on our own. If you find your mind racing, STOP, breathe deeply, remind yourself that you are a Born Again Child of GOD. He really does have the whole world in His Hands. The evil one is desperate and will come after us, but we do not have to respond. Turn your eyes upon Jesus.

Love and Miss you All!

### Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Alan Jackson

O soul are you weary and troubled?  
No light in the darkness you see?  
There's light for a look at the Savior  
And life more abundant and free

Turn your eyes upon Jesus  
Look full in His wonderful face  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
In the light of His glory and grace

Through death into life everlasting  
He passed, and we follow Him there  
Over us sin no more hath dominion  
For more than conquerors we are

And turn your eyes upon Jesus  
Look full in His wonderful face  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
In the light of His glory and grace

His word shall not fail you, He promised  
Believe Him and all will be well  
Then go to a world that is dying  
His perfect salvation to tell

And turn your eyes upon Jesus  
Look full in His wonderful face  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
In the light of His glory and grace



**50 Year Member Celebration, 2016**



**Email Kim Dershem if you have prayer requests,  
or would like to receive prayer chain emails.  
kdershem@windstream.net**

-Wayne Carlyle passed away March 26<sup>th</sup> peacefully in his home. Wayne has been having serious health issues since a recent fall. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

-The Matterns had to be evacuated from their home due to the recent flooding. They got out safely. They had had an inch or two of water in their house and more in the garage. They are staying with their daughter in Cleveland while their house is being repaired and cleaned.

-Gaye has had many tests that have proven normal. Her blood pressure has begun to come down and she is feeling better.

-Hazel Joyce has completed her therapy and is feeling better. Hazel is Sandy's friend who had two strokes.

-Rose Gibson's brother and sister in law were also evacuated and staying with their daughter in Heath, recently moved here from FL, not unpacked yet and he desperately needs a hip replacement which was cancelled.

-Carol Floyd is doing well after her hip replacement.

-Ashley (Sarah Bowles' Friend) she has been battling cancer. She is in ICU and is not expected to make it.

-Lois Spangler is still recovering from a recent fall.

-Kay Kittel was scheduled to have a knee surgery but it was canceled.

-Rick Looney, is in Flint Ridge rehab after breaking his shoulder.

- Marshall Rosene, is in Flint Ridge rehab after suffering a stroke. He is unable to walk.

-Libby (the Denunes granddaughter) has been ill for over a month, but seems to be doing better.

-Sharon Baughman has a heart blockage that needs monitoring and has been diagnosed with congestive heart failure.

-Ann Howard – had an operation for breast cancer but is at home now. Please pray for a quick recovery.

-Ann (Priscilla's friend) has two forms of breast cancer, please pray for healing and peace.

-Diane Higgins- continue to pray for healing after foot surgery.

-John Denison -his hip replacement was canceled.

### **~Long Term Prayer Needs~**

Gary Deweese, Shirley (Barb Jobes' Mom), Lovona Parkhill, Penny Ellsworth, David Baughman, Carol & John Denison.

### **~Our Members in need of Special Care~**

Dee Barber, Tracee Barr, Jean Nichols, Barb Ryan, Lena Mae Weekly & Travis Edwards

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### **Psalms 105:4-11**

**Look to the Lord and his strength;  
seek his face always**

**Remember the wonders he has done,  
his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,  
you his servants, the descendants of Abraham  
his chosen ones, the children of Jacob.**

**He is the Lord our God,  
his judgments are in all the earth.  
He remembers his covenant forever,  
the promise he made, for a thousand generations,  
the covenant he made with Abraham  
the oath he swore to Isaac.**

**He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree,  
to Israel as an everlasting covenant:  
"To you I will give the land of Canaan  
as the portion you will inherit."**

### **\*Action Steps\***

-Send the church an email with:

1. Ways you are making the best of the quarantine.
2. Ways you are working to help fill in the GAP.
3. Any needs you might have. Or needs of others you are aware of.
4. Prayer requests.