



NEWSLETTER OF FPC:ENDICOTT

# FIRST PRES PRESS

APRIL EDITION



## HOLY WEEK

ADORATION TO CONDEMNATION TO VICTORY

WORSHIP SERVICES: PALM SUNDAY- 9 & 10:45AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY- 7:30PM | EASTER SUNDAY- 9 & 10:45AM

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# A Note from the Pastors

**Lent and Easter invite us to enter a profound season of reflection and response.**

Throughout Lent, we have been focusing on Christ's Seven Words from the Cross- seven times that Jesus spoke through his physical and spiritual agony, to show us the kind of selfless love and sacrificial service that leaves us humbled and speechless. It has been powerful to reflect on his words individually and together.

|                |                    |                         |                 |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| April 2, 2017  | 5th Sunday of Lent | 6th Word from the Cross | John 19:29-30   |
| April 9, 2017  | Palm Sunday        |                         | Matthew 21:1-11 |
| April 13, 2017 | Maundy Thursday    | 7th Word from the Cross | Luke 23:44-49   |

At the end of his agony we will celebrate Easter:

**Resurrection!**

**Victory over sin and death!**

**New life and hope for those who believe that the God of the universe did what He said He would do!**

But Easter is not the end of the story. The Kingdom of God has come, but it is not yet complete. The war against sin and death has been won, but battles are still being fought until Christ returns. God has given us promises that He will keep, as his Kingdom comes and his will is done on earth as it is in heaven.

**“But Easter is not the end of the story”**

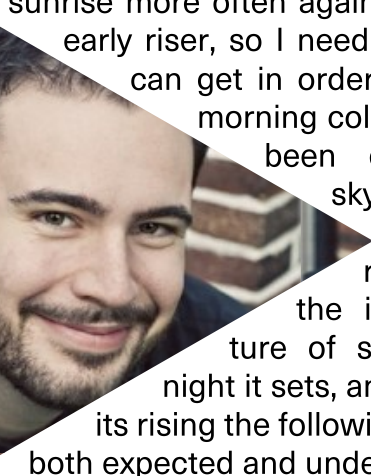
We are part of the continuing story. Belief requires Response. And so, for the seven weeks following Easter, we are going to focus on portions of the Gospel of Luke that prepare us to respond in love and gratitude by serving our Risen Savior with our lips and our lives.

|                |                         |  |                    |
|----------------|-------------------------|--|--------------------|
| April 23, 2017 | 1st Sunday after Easter | FOLLOWING JESUS TO THE CROSS<br>Cross-bearers answer the call of Jesus, saying, “Here I am, Lord.” | Luke 5:1-11        |
| April 30, 2017 | 2nd Sunday after Easter | WHO IS THIS JESUS?<br>Cross-bearers know Jesus as God’s Messiah, God’s Son.                        | Luke 9:1-11, 18-20 |

Continue on the journey- in worship, in small groups, and in your individual lives, as we learn how to respond, serve, and follow after the example of our Lord and Savior.

*Jan & Tim*

# AMONG OUR PEOPLE



This past month, Daylight Savings Time began and I was able to see the sunrise more often again. I am not an early riser, so I need all the help I can get in order to enjoy the morning colors! As I have been enjoying the sky in the mornings, I am reminded of the inevitable nature of sunrise—each night it sets, and the truth of its rising the following morning is both expected and undeniable. As we head toward Holy Week this month, I find myself reminded that the same is true of Jesus.

***As surely as the sun rises  
each morning after the night,  
so too can we see the truth  
that the Son of God rose from  
the darkness of the grave.***

As we experience the cycle of the Lenten season, we remember the dark, but always in the context of the coming light. The miracle of Jesus' resurrection gives us the hope of tomorrow in the midst of the long night. May we rest in the truth that the resurrected King is resurrecting us.

— Nate

We remember and give thanks for the life of **Ralph Tallman**, who passed away on March 18.

**Jason Mitchell's aunt, Tina**, had emergency brain surgery to repair an aneurysm | **Harry Frederick** had angioplasty and then a second heart procedure | **Janet Frederick's brother, Craig**, whose cancer is now also in his liver | **Maria, Carole Cockrell's neighbor**, had some health issues | **Kristen Shafer** qualified for a Navy scholarship | **Students and leaders** went to the THAW retreat | **The family of Derik Brown**, a friend of the Goetzes, who grieve his passing following a long struggle with brain cancer | **400 children and families** came to the Nursery School Art Show and Gala | **Marge Jacobs** fell in a parking lot and broke her arm | **Linda Glajch's mother and father** both are experiencing health-related struggles | **Jen and Josh Luce** welcomed their second son, **Aaren Joshua**, to their family | **Emma Bates** broke her wrist | **Former members, Kara and Jeremy McGinniss, and their infant, Jax**, who had complications following a premature birth | **Jason Mitchell** will be having surgery at Upstate Medical Center to arrest a severe case of mastoiditis | **Helen Jephson** is receiving chemo to treat melanoma | **Billy Beardsley** is fighting an infection | **The family of Karen McClure** are grieving her passing | **The brother of a co-worker of Sheila Beblavy** is in hospice | **Bob King's brother, Charlie** is recovering from major lung surgery | **Alyssa Baumann** had additional testing | **A friend of the Goetz's** was in ICU | **The mother of a friend of the Willets** was in the hospital with a brain bleed | **Christy Williams** got the go-ahead from Back2Back Ministries and is finishing support raising | **The family of Connor Brown**, the 7-year-old boy who drowned in the river

# FPC:E COMMUNITY

Look here for opportunities to serve the Kingdom and grow in your faith through the missions and ministries of FPC:E

• If you would be willing to periodically provide a ride for members of our congregation who are unable to attend worship for lack of transportation, please contact Beth Dean 607-624-6582 (text or call). Thank you to those that are already helping in this ministry. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated!!!

- **After much hard work, Session is ready to present our new by-laws for congregational approval.** Hard copies of both our current by-laws and the pro-

posed new by-laws are available at the back of the sanctuary. There are also digital versions available online (see the Weekend Update). **There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, April 30**, between the services to vote on approving the new by-laws.

- **One Great Hour of Sharing** gifts will be dedicated on Palm Sunday, April 9, so remember to bring in your fish banks that day.
- **New Member Classes**- If you are able to profess Jesus as your Lord and Sav-

**Congregational Meeting Sunday, April 30, to approve new by-laws**

ior, and are ready to commit to this particular community of faith, please let us know! While you can certainly be active at FPC:E without being a member, membership gives people the opportunity to have a voice and vote in

directions that are set and decisions that are made. After attending, you will be able to decide

without pressure if this is the right time and place to commit to doing life and ministry with others here at FPC:E. If you are interested, please speak to Jan Devine.

# CM

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### MAY 7

WORSHIP ONLY GOD

Deuteronomy 1; 3:23-4:40

*Volume 2, Unit 6  
Session 4*

### MAY 14

GOD REMINDS US OF  
HIS COVENANT

Deuteronomy 5:1-6:25;  
8:1-11:1, 26-28

*Volume 2, Unit 6  
Session 5*

## CELEBRATE!

KIDS LEAD WORSHIP  
SUNDAY, MAY 21

Join us @ 10:00am  
as we walk through  
Genesis and Exodus



*Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. — 1 Timothy 4:12*

Even children are called to set an example in the Body of Christ! This starts with digging into God's Word and seeing that those around them are doing the same. As students grow spiritually, we want to celebrate and encourage them. Students are eager to explain and share God's Rescue Plan as it begins in Genesis and continues through the first five books of the Old Testament. You'll hear the music and verses they've been learning in Jungle Jam, listen to the re-telling of incredible Bible stories, and share in encouraging our youngsters to fully engage God's Word.

CHURCH FAMILY CELEBRATION & REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW @ 11:30AM

### JUNE 4

FAMILY DAY

Wrap Up  
Celebration!

### MAY 28

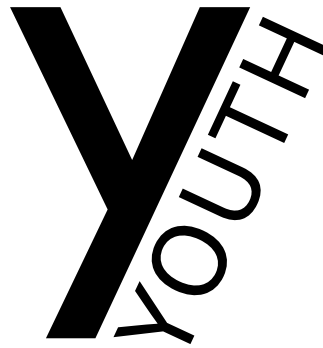
MEMORIAL DAY  
WEEKEND

No Sunday morning  
Children's Ministry



# GA-GA BALL

Was a hit at the THAW Retreat, where a couple hundred students gathered to focus on God's Word, relationship-building, crazy games and skit writing.



## APRIL 2

5:00PM-7:00PM  
The Pierce's

## APRIL 9

5:00PM-6:30PM  
Monroe House  
Easter Focus  
Bring Bible, Snack, & Friend



## BTW...

Did you know that "ga-ga" is Hebrew for "touch-touch," which describes this variant to dodgeball?

## ANY GUESS WHAT THIS IS?

The annual sibling race of course!

## APRIL 16

HAPPY EASTER!  
No Youth Group

## APRIL 23

SCHOOL VACATION!  
No Youth Group



High School Small Group meets at the Monroe House on Sundays, 10:30am-noon. Students are working through a curriculum called *Alpha*. *Alpha* is a series of sessions exploring the basics of the Christian faith, based on the premise that everyone should have the chance to explore the Christian faith and ask questions.

Don't miss out on the fellowship and a chance to study Scripture and what it means for your life. Breakfast is included!

To connect, contact Megan at [megmansfield22@gmail.com](mailto:megmansfield22@gmail.com) or Chris at [ccampbe77@gmail.com](mailto:ccampbe77@gmail.com).

# MISSION MINDED



One of the identifying traits of FPC:Endicott is a strong call to mission. Here are just a few highlights of upcoming mission work being done in and through our faith community.



# CHRISTY WILLIAMS

Christy Williams has partnered with Back2Back Ministries in order to go to Monterrey, Mexico as a long-term missionary in orphan care. Her heart for orphans is powerful and her story of how she came to faith and to discern God's call to missionary work is moving. You can check it out in her own words at [fpcendicott.org/stories/a-heart-for-orphans](http://fpcendicott.org/stories/a-heart-for-orphans).

Christy is in the final stages of fundraising for her work and could use your support! To support her in doing Kingdom work, visit [donations.back2back.org](http://donations.back2back.org) or email [cwilliams@back2back.org](mailto:cwilliams@back2back.org).



The next Men's Mission Trip to Honesdale, PA is April 20-22. We will head down Thursday night to serve in a community meal and then spend the following two days in devotions, prayer, worship, campfires, fellowship, and a building service project. We will return Saturday evening. If you speak to any of the guys who went on our previous trip in November, you'll hear that the trip was a powerful experience. If you have interest in joining us for any portion of the trip, please speak to Nate Jacobs or Bryan Early.



## HONESDALE, PA



# KENYA

There is a mission trip to Kenya planned for June 26-July 8. There are currently 2-3 additional spots available; the team is beginning to meet and plan, so if you sense God leading you to take a step out in faith and travel for mission, please speak with Jan or Tim ASAP.



## SERVICE PROJECTS

Small Groups are already planning their service projects associated with our Lenten and post-Lent studies. At least one group has already been at work, thanks to a record-breaking storm in March!

If your group is having difficulty planning your service project, please speak with Sharon Early.



# LEAPS



Pastor Tim jammed with Alisha Finn and Family to a Pete the Cat favorite. The 9th Annual Art Show was a huge success and brought in over \$2000 in donations and bids!



Roxanne Shank and her Paws for Friendship therapy dogs treated the students to a visit during our study of pets. Mr. Washburn also presented proper safety protocol around dogs.



Former pre-school teacher Hannah Smith enlightened her two grandchildren's Safari Suite classmates with two lessons on embracing and celebrating each other's unique qualities. Variety is the spice of life!



**Conscious Discipline**  
 Join Ronne Sisco for the last workshop of the year; learn a process built on the premise of developing discipline within children rather than applying discipline to them. Dr. Becky Bailey will be zooming in on "Empathy" & "Consequences."  
**Thurs. April 27**  
**Church Lounge**  
**6:30-8:15 pm**  
 Free childcare available!  
 Register on the pink Sign-ups throughout the school.

**Summer Program**  
**Directory**  
 Furnished by the Family Enrichment Network, this directory is a free guide of summer programs in Broome, Chenango, and Tioga counties, as well as some programs in nearby NY and PA. It is available by request by contacting Family Enrichment Network's Norma Bergmann at (607) 723-8313 ext. 829 or [nbergmann@familyenrichment.org](mailto:nbergmann@familyenrichment.org).

# EASTER FLOWERS

## 2017 EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

Please PRINT clearly! This information will be used in the bulletin. The deadline for orders is *Friday, April 7*, and must be accompanied by payment. No phone orders please! The flowers this year will be a mixture of tulips and daffodils.

This flower is donated by:

---

(Check one)  in honor of  in memory of

---

(Check one)  cash  check

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Price per plant is \$13.00. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church of Endicott.

The flowers will be delivered on Easter Sunday to members of our church who are homebound or over 80.



FPC:E INTERN  
SERVANT-MAKER  
FUTURE ECO PASTOR

# BRENDA REIBSON

# LEADERSHIP VELOCITY

*WE BELIEVE IDENTIFYING AND DEVELOPING GOSPEL-CENTERED LEADERS IS CRITICAL FOR THE CHURCH, AND A GREAT LEADERSHIP CULTURE IS RISK-TAKING, INNOVATIVE, AND ORGANIC.*

---

Leadership Velocity is one of the nine Core Values of ECO.

Developing Leaders is also one of the 2017 Goals at FPC:E.

Beginning on Sunday, April 9, Brenda will be joining us at FPC:E for a six-month internship, as her final step on the path to ordination as an ECO pastor.

Brenda recently graduated from Biblical Theological Seminary in Hatfield, PA, where she received a Master of Divinity and Certificate in Counseling.

Before attending seminary, Brenda worked for four years as the Director of Equipping Ministry at Manor Presbyterian Church in America in Cochranville, PA. She was responsible for raising the value of “serving” throughout the church by helping members determine their spiritual gifts and find appropriate places to serve using those God-given gifts. She also trained ministry leaders

to disciple and mobilize the volunteers within their ministries. Part of Brenda’s responsibility at FPC:E will be to renew a similar ministry here called the Servant-Making Ministry.

Brenda will also be involved in outreach to the community through the Samaritan Supper, as we begin to explore ways to deepen the spiritual dimension of feeding people. The rest of her twenty hours/week will be quickly filled with several opportunities to preach, serve as a lay leader, participate at Session meetings, and spend time with the staff as we study, plan, and pray together.

On a personal note, Brenda is married to Mike, who is a Shop Teacher at the Wyalusing High School. Mike will join us on special occasions, but also wants to stay connected to the church they attend in their own community. Brenda has two grown sons, Jason (27) and Evan (25). Brenda also loves to read and hike.

## WORSHIP

**C**elebration Sunday (Graduation, Father's Day, Small Group Studies and Service Projects) was approved to be held on June 18, 2017 as one united worship service at 10:00am.

The children will celebrate what they have learned this year by leading a united worship service on May 21, 2017 at 10:00am.

## SERVICE

**T**racy Adams was approved to be the Financial Secretary to replace Charlene Gebler, who completed her term as an elder. The effective date of this appointment will be around April 1, 2017. We are grateful to Charlene and Tracy for their service!

A bid to replace the retaining wall, which collapsed at the manse, was approved. Thanks to Ede Sornberger, Lou Pasquale, and Larry Pierce for overseeing this.

Endicott Proud Committees have been formed to work on specific areas of redevelopment/revitalization. Jan and Tim Devine are serving on the Civic Responsibility Committee, and Sharon Early has volunteered to be a part of the Beautification Committee.

## LINDA WILLETS CLERK OF SESSION

Each month, Linda provides an overview of the work of our Session. Keep an eye out on this page to see what God is doing through the work of our leadership.



## MISSION BLESSINGS

**F**inancial support up to \$6,000 (\$500/month) was approved for one year to support Christy Williams, who will be serving in Monterrey, Mexico, through Back2Back Ministries. The Session called and prayed with Christy immediately after the approval.

Session approved \$1,200 to be sent to Cornerstone Presbytery from Session-Approved Causes to support a specific opportunity for leadership development in our presbytery.

The proposed internship of Brenda Reibson was approved (see page 4). A stipend will be provided using the balances in two mission funds. The Session called and prayed with Brenda immediately after the approval.

A Men's Retreat is being planned for April 20-22, 2017 in partnership with the Honesdale Presbyterian Church.

## ECO

**S**ession approved the proposed bylaws and will hold a congregational meeting on April 30, 2017, for voting. The congregation is asked to submit comments and clarifications to the Clerk of Session by March 29, 2017.

It is the prayer of ECO leaders that each Elder/Session would engage with ECO's *Becoming a Flourishing Church* series in order to grow in their own discipleship, spiritual maturity, and have a greater sense of their call and role as leaders.

# APRIL

## 02 5th Sunday of Lent

9:00am Worship Service  
10:30am Children's Ministry  
10:45am Worship Service  
5:00pm FPC:Youth

## 03

7:00pm AA Meeting

## 04

12:30pm Staff Meeting  
5:30pm Samaritan Supper  
6:30pm AA Meeting  
7:00pm Deacons

## 05

6:00am Men's Group  
7:00pm Session  
7:00pm Worship Team Rehearsal  
7:30pm AA Meeting

## 06

7:00pm Chancel Choir  
7:30pm AA Meeting

## 08

9:00am Tech Training

## 09 Palm Sunday OGHs

9:00am Worship Service  
10:30am Children's Ministry  
10:45am Worship Service  
5:00pm FPC:Youth

## 10

4:00pm Endicott Proud  
6:30pm NS Parent Council  
7:30pm AA Meeting

## 11

12:30pm Staff Meeting  
5:30pm Samaritan Supper  
6:30pm AA Meeting

## 12

6:00am Men's Group  
7:00pm Worship Team Rehearsal  
7:30pm AA Meeting

## 13

### Maundy Thursday

7:30pm Worship Service  
7:00pm AA Meeting

## 14

### Good Friday

Chapel Open for Prayer  
12pm-3pm

## 16

### Easter Sunday No Children's Ministry

9:00am Worship Service  
10:45am Worship Service (ATOB)

## 17

### Office Closed

7:00pm AA Meeting

## 18

12:30pm Staff Meeting  
5:30pm Samaritan Supper  
6:30pm AA Meeting

## 19

6:00am Men's Group  
1:00pm Women's Circle  
7:00pm Worship Team Rehearsal  
7:30pm AA Meeting

## 20

4:00pm Men's Mission Trip to Honesdale Leaves  
7:00pm Chancel Choir  
7:30pm AA Meeting

## 21

### Honesdale Trip

## 22

### Honesdale Trip

## 23

### 1st Sunday after Easter

9:00am Worship Service  
10:30am Children's Ministry  
10:45am Worship Service  
5:00pm FPC:Youth

## 24

6:00pm NS Board Meeting  
7:30pm AA Meeting

## 25

12:30pm Staff Meeting  
5:30pm Samaritan Supper  
6:30pm AA Meeting

## 26

6:00am Men's Group  
7:00pm Worship Team Rehearsal  
7:30pm AA Meeting

## 27

6:00pm NS Conscious Discipline Class  
7:00pm AA Meeting  
7:00pm Chancel Choir

## 30

### 2nd Sunday after Easter

9:00am Worship Service  
10:15am Congregational Meeting  
10:30am Children's Ministry  
10:45am Worship Service  
5:00pm FPC:Youth



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH: ENDICOTT**

An **ECO** Member Congregation



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