



The First  
United  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of Crafton  
Heights

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March 2020

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# The Runner

March 2020

It's Lent.

The days are getting longer (the word "Lent" comes from a word meaning "long-days" or "lengthening the days"), the weather should be improving, and perhaps your calendars are filling.

The Church of Jesus Christ, and the Lord whom we serve, calls each of us to engage in a season of reflection, meditation, fasting, and prayer. Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 26 and will continue until Easter Sunday, April 12. My deep prayer for you this season is reflected in a beautiful poem by Mary Oliver. In "Wild Geese", the poet calls us to simply head for home – the home for which God has made us – and to accept the gifts that God has placed in our hands and hearts. Take some time, dear ones, and reflect on this call, your home, and the truth of God's longing for you. Reflect. Repent. Be grateful. And remember your place in the world is a gift.

You do not have to be good.  
You do not have to walk on your knees  
For a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.  
You only have to let the soft animal of your body  
love what it loves.


Tell me about your despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.  
Meanwhile the world goes on.  
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain  
are moving across the landscapes,  
over the prairies and the deep trees,  
the mountains and the rivers.  
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,  
are heading home again.  
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,  
the world offers itself to your imagination,  
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting --  
over and over announcing your place  
in the family of things.

I look forward to seeing you in worship!

*Pastor Dave*



# March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:30 am Faithbuilders 11:00 am Worship 12:15 pm Luncheon and Annual Meeting 5:00 pm Confirmation Class 7:00 pm Youth Group	<b>2</b> 12:45-2 pm Preschool Open House	<b>3</b> 10:00 am Women's Grp 7:30 pm Preschool Board	<b>4</b> 6:15 pm Potluck Dinner 7:00 pm Worship	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:30 am Faithbuilders 11:00 am Worship 5:00 pm Confirmation Class 7:00 pm Youth Group	<b>9</b> 12:45-2 pm Preschool Open House 6:30 pm Deacons	<b>10</b> 10:00 am Women's Grp The Table	<b>11</b> 6:15 pm Potluck Dinner 7:00 pm Worship	<b>12</b> 7:00 pm Card Making	<b>13</b> Youth Group Retreat	<b>14</b> Youth Group Retreat
<b>15</b> 9:30 am Faithbuilders 11:00 am Worship 12:15 pm Coffee Hour Youth Group Retreat	<b>16</b> 12:45-2 pm Preschool Open House	<b>17</b> 10:00 am Women's Grp 7:30 pm Dartball @ CHUP	<b>18</b> 6:15 pm Potluck Dinner 7:00 pm Worship	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:30 am Faithbuilders 11:00 am Worship 6:00 pm Confirmation Class 6:00 pm Session Mtg 7:00 pm Youth Group	<b>23</b> 12:45-2 pm Preschool Open House	<b>24</b> 10:00 am Women's Grp 7:30 pm Dartball @ Yanks	<b>25</b> 6:15 pm Potluck Dinner 7:00 pm Worship	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30 am Faithbuilders 11:00 am Worship 7:00 pm Youth Group	<b>30</b> 12:45-2 pm Preschool Open House	<b>31</b> 10:00 am Women's Grp				

# Meetings

Session  
March 22  
6:00 pm

Deacons  
March 9  
6:30 pm

Preschool Board  
March 3  
7:30 pm

Annual Meeting  
March 1  
12:15 pm

# News

## Lenten Dinners & Worship Wednesday Evenings Through April 1

Pot luck dinner begins at 6:15 pm  
Worship service begins at 7:00 pm

Bring a dish, pizza or dessert to share. Everyone is welcome!  
We need helpers to set up for the dinners, make coffee, set out utensils and clean up. Please contact Cheri Mack or Barb Prevost to learn more about how you can participate.

## Annual Meeting March 1

There will be a Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of the First U.P. Church of Crafton Heights on Sunday, March 1 following the 11 am service of worship.

This meeting has been called for the purposes of

- 1) receiving the reports of the Session and Ministry Teams and Groups of the church;
- 2) remembering those who have passed from our midst in 2019; and
- 3) any other such business as is properly brought forth for this gathering.

We will precede the meeting with a soup and salad luncheon. Please make every effort to attend.

## Card Making March 12 7:00 pm

You are invited to an evening of creating two of your own greeting cards. We will meet in Fellowship Hall at 7 pm for refreshments, fun, and fellowship in a class led by Bonnie Schrenker. We have room for 15 participants so please let us know you are coming. There will be a small materials fee. This event is sponsored by Congregational Life. Call Barb Prevost 412-922-8240 to register.

## Calling All Parents!

The Open Door, Preschool and Church are sponsoring a training event called "Shape the Sky: Creating Responsible Kids on Smartphones". The program will be held at the church on April 22 at 6:30. This is a FREE event but we do need to know who is coming. Please contact Kelly Dix with questions and/or to reserve your spot at [kellydix37@gmail.com](mailto:kellydix37@gmail.com). For more information about this presentation you can visit [www.shapethesky.org](http://www.shapethesky.org).

# Preschool

## February Activities



February was about Art Exploration and Famous Artists. We learned about Michelangelo as we colored paper on the underside of tables, laying on our backs. We had fun matching the size and shapes of brightly colored rectangles and squares on a floor size grid to create our own Mondrian art work. We splashed and poured paint following the messy creative style of Jackson Pollock. We've blended, cut and glued our way through various art pieces in February.

All of this culminated in an Art Show on February 25, as we hosted a celebration to see who the lucky winner was of the \$2,500 vacation getaway, provided by Litterini Travel. The winner will be announced in the bulletin on March 1.



A huge THANK YOU to our preschool families who were able to quickly sell so many tickets, making the success of this fundraiser possible!

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## Registration and Open House

Registration is going on now for the 2020/21 preschool year! Every Monday in March, we will have an Open House Tour and Information Session from 12:45-2:00 pm. Stop in during the time listed to tour the classrooms, talk with the teachers and enroll in our program. Tell your friends about our great preschool program.



If you would like to know how you can support our program and would like to hear and see more of the great things we are doing to continue to bring a quality preschool education to our young neighbors, please email Cheri Mack [cherischool@comcast.net](mailto:cherischool@comcast.net)

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## Hoagies

Hoagie Sales! Hoagie orders are due March 10. Pickup is March 17. 12" Italian or Turkey sub \$7 each.

# Prayers, Joys & Concerns

## Prayer Concerns

**Members:** Erlina Mae Adler, Cheryl Shaw, Kitty Kistler, Eva Neszpaul, Aliza Ciechanowski, Linda Piper, John Fullwood, Linnea Kunicky, Gabe Kish, Glenn Mack, Clare Weaver, Marge Freeman, Barbara Wasner, Eleanor Arlet, Alice Schnelbach, Tina Dame, Maryanne Richardson, Cheryl Reed, Joey Szumigalski & Family, Justin & Eric Barth, Joe Connor, the homebound, and those in caring facilities.

**Friends & Relatives:** Kate Kuhn, Ann Wolbert, Joe Petagno, Dawn Sedlock, Elmer Trunick, Frieda Jones, Pauline Whitaker, Tim Murray, Janie Hervert, Laurie Trunick, Ellie Musolino, Lorraine Barth, Lisa & Nicholas Daugherty, Eadie Children, Krieger Family, Mark Mattern.

## Mission Opportunity

How many times in a week do you buy your lunch or grab a cup of coffee with a friend? Or how about buying something you want, but don't necessarily need, from the store? We live in a world of excess- one in which we don't always think about how, or where, we are spending our money. So, the Deacons are asking you to take a small step back and consider making a small, but valuable donation to a cause that is near and dear to our church.

This fall, several Malawian and South Sudanese will be looking to spend time in community together- and will need financial assistance to make that happen. We are hoping to sponsor the cost of one traveler, which is approximately \$1500. In order to invest as many people as possible in this adventure, the Deacons are asking each family to consider donating \$10 towards this cost.

Can you sacrifice a couple cups of coffee to make this happen? Or pack your lunch instead of buying one more expensive for a couple of days? If you can, wonderful! Please consider giving that amount to this partnership – simply bring your gift to the church with “Mission Travel Scholarship” written on the envelope or in the memo line. Our hope is to not only reach our goal of \$1500, but to exceed it if possible so that we can assist more than just one traveler.

If you are not in a position to offer financial support, that's ok too! You know how to pray, so please spend time doing so. If your home has room, you might want to think about offering the gift of hospitality to an African visitor at some point in the first two weeks of October. We are looking for hosts who can provide a bedroom and an introduction to life in the USA for these sisters and brothers from Malawi and South Sudan. Thank you for your support and prayerfulness as we look to welcome our African friends once again.

## March Birthdays

1 <sup>st</sup>	Tim Prepelka David Salinetto Julia Imler
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Fred Sam
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Linda Dawson Cheryl Reed Carter Padula
5 <sup>th</sup>	Shayden Butti
6 <sup>th</sup>	Joanne Holt
8 <sup>th</sup>	Jayden Musko
9 <sup>th</sup>	Eric Barth
10 <sup>th</sup>	Don Weaver
12 <sup>th</sup>	Fay Reynolds
14 <sup>th</sup>	Michelle Salinetto
17 <sup>th</sup>	Marge Freeman Cody Schrenker
18 <sup>th</sup>	Season Ciechanowski
19 <sup>th</sup>	Rebecca Weaver
21 <sup>st</sup>	Mya Austin Josh Mehl Megan Yelley
26 <sup>th</sup>	Jeffrey Voeltzel
27 <sup>th</sup>	Caleb Connor
28 <sup>th</sup>	Justin Barth Erika Locke
30 <sup>th</sup>	Arlene Donovan
31 <sup>st</sup>	Everett Dix

## CHUP Online

Did you know that you can view the Runner in full color on our website? Back issues, too! Please visit [www.chup.org](http://www.chup.org) to find newsletters, sermons, prayer concerns, giving opportunities, announcements, and information on how you can become involved in our many ministries.

Articles for the April Runner are due by Sunday, March 15.

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***Worship  
Schedule***  
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Faithbuilders  
All ages  
9:30 am  
Worship  
11:00 am



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A Monthly Newsletter  
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