

Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church

The View

APRIL 2026



*But God
demonstrates His
own love for us in
this: While we were
still sinners, Christ
died for us.
Romans 5:8*

Purpose: To inform, encourage, and promote engagement in Mt. Pisgah's mission in the community, and opportunities for spiritual transformation. To invite reflection on the process of personal spiritual growth. To emphasize the bond that holds us together, and avoid magnifying the differences that separate us.

Worship Service 9:45 am (see back cover for location)



Mt. Pisgah
VIEW
April 2026

⁴*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!*

⁵*Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.*

⁶*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:4-7 (NIV)*

I am sure these words are familiar to you, even if you didn't recognize where they may be found in scripture. Paul and his friends in Philippi had plenty to be anxious about! Paul is in prison. The Philippians are experiencing the testing of their faith because of false teaching, and internal bickering. All of this on top of a lifestyle that challenged the prevailing values and attitudes of the empire.

So, note the simple advice that Paul has for the disciples in Philippi and for us. First, rejoice. That's a command, not a suggestion. A verb, not a descriptive word. It is something we choose to do, no matter our circumstance. The second has two parts, a negative countered by a positive command. Do not be anxious but pray! Prayer is an effective antidote for anxiety.

Following this pattern produces peace – it doesn't necessarily make the problems, whatever those may be, go away. But following this pattern will bring shalom!

August will mark the conclusion to our fifth year in our space at Noble Manor (where does time go!!?). When we signed our first lease in August 2021, we signed a five-year lease, not certain what the Lord would have in store, but determined to follow the Lord's lead. We find ourselves at another crossroad. The Session has been working at discerning the Lord's will for the future. We have enough in reserve for an additional year of lease. Our current giving covers our costs except for the lease. We are entertaining several options moving forward, ranging from continuing in our current space, to looking for a less expensive option, to dissolving the congregation with gratitude to the Lord for his faithfulness.

No decision has been made. The Session would like to hear from all of you as part of this process. We plan to take time after worship on March 29th to share options with you and hear your thoughts and feelings. We are in this together.

As we navigate our way in this season of our life together, please embrace Paul's advice. Rejoice, don't be anxious, but pray in faith. The Lord is faithful, and come what may, we belong to God in Jesus Christ. If you are unable to join us for the time after worship on the 29th, please feel welcome to email me or Marta, your thoughts and feelings. We value your opinions and feelings!

Peace...Tom

Prayer Corner

JOHN 17:6-26

In the Upper Room following the Last Supper, Jesus prays what is known as “the High Priestly Prayer”, a prayer of



intercession for His disciples (then and now). This prayer has a beautiful flow as He describes His relationship to His disciples and then moves to His prayer for them:

- ◆ **Protection:** Jesus asks the Father to protect the disciples by His name.
- ◆ **Unity:** A major theme is that the disciples “may be one as We are.”
- ◆ **Holiness:** Jesus sanctifies himself for their sake, that they may be set apart for a holy mission.
- ◆ **Joy:** He prays that they have a “full measure of my joy within them.”

He then continues and EXTENDS the prayer to include future generations who would believe in Him through the disciples’ message.

²⁰ **“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.**

Picking this prayer apart doesn't do it justice. I hope you will read it in its entirety and let the power of these words move you:

As believers, we were prayed for in the Upper Room that night.

As believers, we now pray for and witness to our “future generations”, the Gen Xers, the Millennials, the Gen Zers, Generations Alpha, Beta and beyond, that they all be one and united with Him. And we pray that, united with Him, His words will be our words in that witness.

Submitted by Marta Pletz

for the Prayer Corner Team:

Cindy Grindel, Luann Walton, Marta Pletz

April Breath Prayer

Breathe In: Risen Lord,

Breathe Out: thank you for victory over death.

Maundy Thursday

The Thursday prior to Easter, **April 2**, (known as **Maundy Thursday**) the Worship Team invites you to come and join us for a covered-dish dinner. We will gather around tables at 5:00 pm in the worship space and reflect upon the Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles. If you're not able to join us for dinner, please know you are more than welcome to join us for communion, which will be served at 6:15 pm.

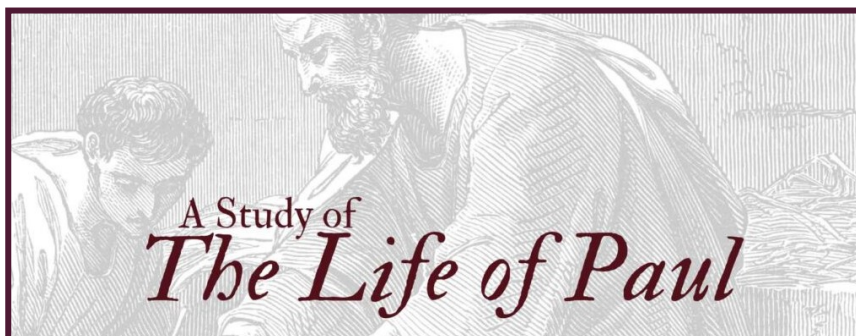


It was on the Thursday of Christ's final week before being crucified and resurrected that He said this commandment to His disciples --

A new commandment I give to you,
that you *love* one another;
just as I have *loved* you,
you also are to *love* one another.

John 13:34

From the Worship, Learning and Prayer Team:



Please join us after worship on the first and third Sundays of April (beginning April 19) as we begin our year-long exploration of Paul – his life, his teaching, and his example.

It would be our blessing to fellowship around tables with you for this most wonderful study of the Apostle Paul!

April worship services will be
based on the following:

- | | | |
|------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 4/2 | <i>Maundy Thursday</i> | <i>(5:00 pm, see page 6)</i> |
| | Saul and Religious Zeal | Acts 8:26; 9:2 |
| 4/5 | <i>Easter Sunday</i> | <i>(see also page 8)</i> |
| | Paul the New Man | Acts 9:1-22 |
| 4/12 | Paul the Apostle | 2 Corinthians 1:1-2; Mark 3:13-19 |
| 4/19 | Paul's Preparation (Wilderness) | Acts 9:26-31; Galatians 1:15-24 |
| 4/26 | Paul's Strategy | Acts 13:1-3, 13-52 |

He Has Risen!



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Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026

**Come celebrate our risen Lord and
Savior Jesus with us!**

**Easter morning breakfast and fellowship:
8:30 am**

Worship service: 9:45 am

**EASTER
MORNING
BREAKFAST**

8:30AM



Memory Verse Challenge, 2026

We are now four months into our Memory Verse Challenge. Can you bring to mind the first three? Take a moment before continuing to read!

January, month 1:

For the fruit of the Spirit is Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Gentleness, Faithfulness, Self Control. Against these there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

February, month 2:

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 2 Corinthians 5:17

March, month 3:

¹⁸“And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.” 2 Corinthians 3:18

And we are in ***April, month 4:***

This month we will take a bit of a breather by memorizing a short verse, but one that says it all!

***⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this:
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.***

Romans 5:8

Happy Easter! He is Risen!

For the Worship, Learning, and Prayer Team,
Marta Pletz

Afterschool News

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN AFTERSCHOOL?

The students enjoyed an Easter Celebration party after making Passover Crosses just before their Easter break. They had pizza, played “pin the tail on the bunny”, decorated paper chains and made “Easter slime”.

In April, they will feature Spring themed activities including:

- ◆ The world in a glass jar
- ◆ Tissue box flower pots
- ◆ Pet Rocks
- ◆ Watercolors

Also featured in April will be their creation of a Comic Strip:
The Hero of Hearts on Fire!

The staff report that the students continue to show increased discipline, self control, and improved organizational skills as they work within the routines of the Afterschool program.

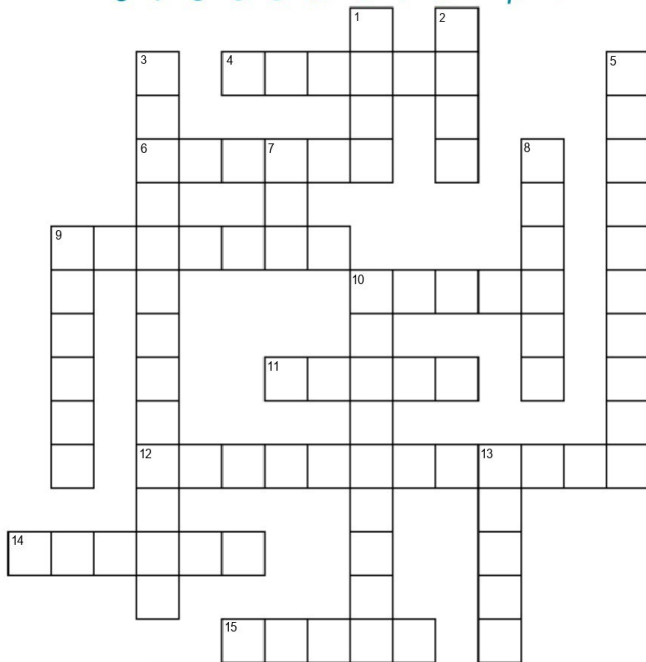
The staff and students thank you all for your ongoing support of the program along with Carla who also continues to support them through Hearts on Fire.

For the Community Care Team,
Marta Pletz

The Community Care Team consists of Jill Folkmire, Chair,
Kim Cook, and Marta Pletz

EASTER

crossword puzzle



WORD BANK:

BASKET
 BONNET
 BUNNY
 CHICK
 CHOCOLATE
 CLUES
 CROSS
 DYE
 EASTER EGG HUNT
 EGGS
 HOT CROSS BUNS
 JELLYBEANS
 LILY
 PARADE
 PRETZEL
 SPRING
 SUNDAY

Down:

Across:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Popular Easter flower. | 4. The season when Easter occurs. |
| 2. Oval shaped items you search for on Easter. | 6. Day of the week when Easter occurs. |
| 3. Event where you look for plastic eggs. | 9. Twisted bread topped with salt with religious symbolism. |
| 5. Colorful candies which are popular on Easter. | 10. Chirping animal that hatches from eggs. |
| 7. Used to color Easter eggs. | 11. Religious symbol seen during Easter. |
| 8. Woven container that holds candy & small gifts. | 12. Easter buns with crosses on top of them. |
| 9. Festive procession in the streets on Easter. | 14. Hat worn on Easter Sunday. |
| 10. Easter eggs are often made of this confection. | 15. Riddles that lead to an Easter basket. |
| 13. Jumping animal the represents Easter. | |



Dear family and friends of Mt. Pisgah . . .

In addition to your own prayers of thanksgiving and petitions to our most capable Father in Heaven, creator and master of all things seen and unseen, all praise and glory be to Him who reigns victorious now and throughout eternity – “O, what a Savior!”

Prayer Focus for April:

*Gracious Father,
may the hope
of the resurrection
give us strength
for the journey.*

Hope to see you in worship Sunday morning, 9:45 am.
Submitted by the Worship, Learning and Prayer Team.



FLOWER SHOW

**The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing
of birds is come. Song of Solomon 2:12**

Unscramble the letters for a list of favorite flowers. Then unscramble the letters in parenthesis for another colorful flower.

1. A A T N O N R C I

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ (___) ___ ___

2. L F D F D O A I

___ (___) ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

3. S O G L U I D L A

___ ___ ___ (___) ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

4. P A A G R O D N S N

(___) ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

5. S A N Y P

___ ___ ___ (___) ___

6. Z L E A A A

___ ___ ___ ___ (___) ___

7. H D I A A L

___ ___ ___ ___ (___) ___

Answer: ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

Answers can be found on page 15



Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 11:00 am

TED Talk Presentation

Everyone is invited to experience the TED Talk: "The AI Revolution is Under Hyped" by Eric Schmidt. If you have listened to any newscast, this topic is out there. What do we expect and what is AI going to do in the future. Hope you enjoy this relevant topic.

Please let Linda know by April 14, using the **contact information** below or for any questions you may have.

FUTURE MEETING:

May 26, 2026 Pittsburgh Botanic Garden. We can also stay for lunch at the Garden Café. This will be our last meeting until September 29.

Day Timers will be participating in the **Crafton Food Pantry**. They would like us to gather items that the Pittsburgh Food Bank Does Not Supply. Please note that the Food Bank is asking for **Macaroni and Cheese** along with the usual **Saltine Crackers** (those in a box of 4 sleeves) and **Ramen Noodle Soup packages**.

DayTimers will continue our assistance in supporting Westwood Elementary's autistic class teachers with Marta Pletz as our liaison.

If you have any comments or questions, call Linda Polaski, 412-921-8605, to leave a message, or email rlpolaski@AOL.com. The church phone number is: 412-921-8444 to speak with Marta. Please check your email for any changes or updates.

Blessings,
Linda and Rich, Kim, Marta, Bob and Mary

Session News . . .

The Session's study of Chapters 4 and 7 of Paul: A Man of Grace and Grit, has been rescheduled for May 18 at 4 p.m.



Answers

1. Carnation
2. Daffodil
3. Gladiolus
5. Pansy
6. Azalea
7. Dahlia

Answer: Daisies

Father,

I praise You for this season of new life. Thank You for mornings, sunlight and the fresh air of April. Thank You for hope that rises again. Even if I have problems, I choose to worship You. You are good and You are worthy of my praise.

Amen.



This prayer will appear at the end of the BUZZ each week.

~Submitted by Wendy deVries for the Prayer Team



Please submit May VIEW articles by April 19 via email to 37.s.devey@gmail.com. Thank you!

On the Lighter Side . . .

Submitted by Sharon Devey

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04-06-2012

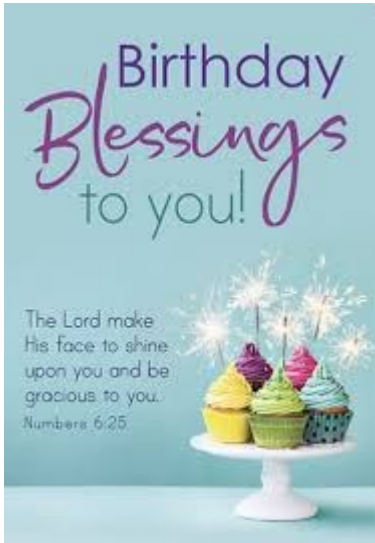
ACTUALLY, ALL FRIDAYS ARE GOOD ... WE SHOULD CALL TODAY 'GREAT FRIDAY'!



OUR CONGREGATION CONNECTS . . .

1 Thessalonians 5:16 “Rejoice Always!”

Who will receive an **April**
birthday wish from **you**?



5th ... Bud Fickley
23rd ... Janet Jones
26th ... Steve Spiegel

Bless this your child, Lord, in the year to come. May they know the comfort of your presence, the certainty of your purpose, and the consolation of your love at work in their life.

“Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him or her up.” Romans 15:2

SCRIP Update:

*There will **not** be a SCRIP order in April for the month of May. The next order will be placed May 31 for the month of June.*



| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

Mark your calendar . . .

2nd Maundy Thursday, Covered Dish Dinner at 5:00 pm,
Communion at 6:15 pm *(see page 6)*

3rd Good Friday

5th Easter, breakfast at 8:30 am *(see page 8)*

19th Adult Class following worship

19th May VIEW articles due *(see page 16)*

20th Session Meeting 4:00 pm

26th Worship, Learning & Prayer Team Meeting
following worshi28th DayTimers Meeting, 11:00 am
(see page 14)

Weekly

Sunday through April 5, **Lenten Offering** to Genesis House

Wednesday, Prayer Group online 5:30 pm

Wednesday & Friday, AfterSchool Program, 4:10 - 6:00 pm

Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church

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