



Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church COURIER

4222 Mt. Clinton Pike
Harrisonburg, VA,
22802

March 2020

Staff

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Seth A. Normington

Music Director

Sarah Layman Graf

Organist

Teresa Simmers

Nursery Coordinator

Kathy Lyons

Office Manager

Martha Shank

Custodian

Jean Will

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Connect with Us

540-867-5117
cookscreekpres@gmail.com
cookscreekchurch.org
facebook.com/cookscreekpres

You Are Invited....



Following worship on Sunday, March 29, we will have a potluck fellowship meal in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite dishes/desserts to share and enjoy getting together for some good food and fantastic company!

Lenten Prayer Gatherings

You are invited to join us as we engage in individual, group, and contemplative prayer during Lent. These are opportunities to refresh your spirit, learn new prayer practices you can incorporate into your own prayer life, and to pray for each other, our church, nation, and world. We will meet at the church on Tuesdays: March 3, 17, 31, and April 7. There will be two sessions each day: 10:00 am and 6:15 pm. Come to the one that is best for you that day! Nursery care will be available at evening sessions. Transportation can be arranged by contacting the office.



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Ramblings from the Reverend...

This month we are in the season of Lent and our sermon series through Easter is called Jesus is Greater. We will be looking at passages in the Book of Hebrews to see how Jesus is greater and needs to be the greatest in our life.

Continued on page 4



Volunteers this Month



	Acolytes	Hospitality	Liturgist	Sunday School Care	Nursery Care	Preschool Care
1	Kylee Hughes	Michele Bridges	Tracy Bosserman	Lynn McNulty & Pam Bocock	Autumn & Hunter Barnett	Lee Anne & Donald Biller
8	Beau Switzer	Beth Phillips	Skip Wallace	Nancy & Craig Miller	Michele & Bart Bridges	Ashley Hughes & Jana Miller
15	Hollis Switzer	Donna Kay Ritchie	Karen Moats	Kathy Lyons & Dianne Brown	Kathy Lyons & Becky Pierce	Patsy Scott & Phyllis Simmons
22	Layton Scott	Pam Bocock	Terry Morris	Kathy Lyons & Dianne Brown	Rachel & Matt Switzer	Kathy Lyons & Whitney Eberly
29	Elaina Garrison	Phyllis Miller	Ken McNulty	Natasha & Ryan Blosser	Karen & Rick Moats	Kathy Lyons & Lynn McNulty



Dates to Remember:

- 9-16** - Open Doors
- 11** - Mary Ruth Circle at 10:00 am
- 18** - Feed the Flock
- 23** - Session at 6:30 pm
Courier deadline
- 26** - Food Pantry 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
- 29** - Potluck meal following worship

Greeter/Elder on Call:
 Brad Miller: 540-578-2846
 Becky Pierce: 540-421-6068

Usher: Winnie Williams

Bus Driver: Donald Biller



Attendance Last Month

Feb	SS	Worship
2	77	112
9	63	125
16	73	127
23	84	130



Prayer Corner

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Rachel Weaver | Fred Eberly |
| Emily Hill | Ken McNulty |
| Carolyn Wampler | Jillian Shirkey |
| Carolyn Shiflett | Colby Heishman |

Session

- | Class of 2020 | Class of 2021 | Class of 2022 |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Dianne Brown | Chad Barnett | Mark Williams |
| Mary Etta Cornett | Tom Bocock | Terry Morris |
| Phyllis Simmons | Bob Scott | Jim Suter |
| Dick Travis | Adonica Miller | Brad Miller |
| Karen Moats | Don Myers | Becky Pierce |



Open Doors:

We will be hosting the homeless from March 9 – 16. It's not too late to volunteer your time, food, talents, etc.!

Church World Service's Blankets

Thanks to those that donated to support this blanket ministry. Donations will be accepted through March 1st. A list will be in the April Courier of those blankets donated in honor/memory of those we hold special in our hearts.

In February, CCPC used budgeted funds to support these local ministries...

Bridge of Hope

Bridge of Hope Harrisonburg-Rockingham launched in August 2010 as our community discerned the desire of churches to engage in meaningful relationships with families facing homelessness, and so, Bridge of Hope Harrisonburg-Rockingham was born. Word about Bridge of Hope spread in our community and today churches continue to step forward to be involved.

The family facing homelessness, with the support of their Case Manager and 6-10 Neighboring Volunteers, works toward goals of acquiring safe and sustainable housing, building strong and resilient families, and creating supportive relationships with their Neighboring Volunteers. These volunteers are from within a Christian faith community (church, Bible study, small group, etc.) who answer the call of Jesus to "love your neighbor." This includes finding immediate rental housing, training in money manage-

ment, and allocating rental assistance. They also encourage and equip both the family and the Neighboring Volunteers to build healthy, supportive relationships. Learn more at <https://hr.bridgeofhopeinc.org/>.

Mercy House

The mission of Mercy House is to provide food, clothes, and shelter to homeless families with dependent children in our safe community while providing services to help overcome the barriers leading to homelessness. This agency seeks to provide comprehensive, trauma informed supportive services that empower clients to build a better future for themselves and their children. Mercy House focuses on a "strengths based" approach to assisting participants to stabilize their lives, seek and gain employment, and ultimately restore them to long term permanent housing. Learn more at <http://www.themercyhouse.org/>.

Mission & Outreach Team

Prayer Ministry

"All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children." Isaiah 54:13

Over the past year and a half, it is quite evident that the Lord continues to bless CCPC in more ways than we can imagine. Church members and families continue to share a special bond through prayer, sharing special moments, and by mailing a card each month and on special occasions to a child, youth or college student. If you are not already involved in the Prayer Ministry and

would like to commit to a time of prayer for a child or youth, please contact me. As our church membership continues to grow, we have new members with children and newborns who are ready to be adopted into the Prayer Ministry. Interested Church Members can complete the CCPC form on page 6, and leave it in the office or send me an email.

Two quotes from Church Members praying for a precious child:

"I loved getting to know the children and their families and feeling like they are part of our family. The hugs, sweet notes, shy little "finger points" at church, and smiles have made many Sundays extra special."

"The child I'm praying for is very shy, and she usually gives me yes and no answers when I try to talk to her. I have really enjoyed my efforts with her and the monthly mail I send her."

May the Lord's teaching bring peace to us all!

Blessings,
Becky Pierce

540-421-6068

rpiercehome@hotmail.com

Choir News

Calling all Ding-a-Ling's!! We will begin practicing handbells for the Lenten season on Thursday, March 5th from 6:30-7:30 pm. No experience needed! Be ready to have fun fellowship while making music to glorify our Lord! Contact Sarah at 540-448-0876 or slayman-graf@gmail.com with any questions.



Ramblings from the Reverend

(Continued from Page 1)

Pastor Kyle Haack, who lives in suburban Chicago, asked the Sunday School kids to help him write a song about how Jesus is greater. Here's what he says:

In order to reinforce the theme of "Jesus is Greater Than" from the book of Hebrews with our Sunday School students, I decided to use the time usually set aside for singing to write a song with them. We began by brainstorming all the things that Jesus is greater than (a pretty long list!) and had them vote on the three items they wanted to include in the song.

In this case, they chose flame throwers, video games, and money. I went away and came up with a simple chorus and tune, then came back the next week. We discussed what makes flame throwers great and how Jesus is greater [and they carried on with this pattern].

Here is the song they came up with:

Jesus is Greater - by the Wheaton CRC Sunday School Kids and Kyle Haack

Music and Words: Kyle Haack, 2015, Creative Commons Copyright

Chorus:

Jesus is greater than the rest,
 No one is better; he's the best.
 There is nothing better than him,
 Jesus is greater than everything.

Stanza 1:

Jesus is better than flame throwers
 Because he has more heat.
 Instead of causing complete destruction,
 Jesus makes our lives complete.

Stanza 2:

Jesus is greater than video games,
 Because he is more fun.
 Games let us play just with our friends,
 But Jesus is friend to everyone.

Stanza 3:

Jesus is greater than our money;
 Only he can satisfy.
 Money can buy us all kinds of stuff,
 Jesus' blood bought our lives.

As we journey through this Lenten season and studying how Jesus is greater, what are three things that you need to make Jesus greater than in your life?

Blessings,



From the Pulpit

We begin our Lenten sermon series as the month of March begins. Our series is Jesus is Greater and will look at key passages in the Book of Hebrews. Plan on being here to make Jesus greater in your life!

March 1

Jesus is the Greatest Hebrews 1:1-4

March 8

Jesus is Greater than Angels Hebrews 1:5-14

March 15

Jesus is Greater than Moses Hebrews 3:1-19

March 22

Jesus is Greater than Priests Hebrews 4:14-5:10

March 29

Jesus is Greater than Our Sacrifice Hebrews 8:1-13; 9:11-15

Financial Snapshot through February 2020

Income	\$43,995.96
Expenditures	\$56,698.26
	(\$12,702.30)

Thank you for your continued financial support of the ministries of Cooks Creek! Our expenditures outpace our income chiefly due to paying the remaining expenses for our sanctuary technology update and beginning of the year fixed costs. We have received \$53,501 towards our \$100,000 capital campaign goal and look forward to fulfilling that goal by the end of 2020. We appreciate your continued devotion to God's work here at Cooks Creek with the investment of your time, talent, and resources!



Good Friday Experience



Good Friday is the day of Jesus' death. It is hard to call someone's death good, but Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday makes it good. This year on Good Friday we will have a chance to engage in a guided, self-directed journey through the events of Good Friday with our Good Friday Experience. We will have seven experiential stations for you to engage with Jesus' journey on Good Friday and your journey will likely take 30-45 minutes. This will be a good way to experience the story of Jesus on this day with your children who are in 2nd grade or higher. Childcare will be available for the younger ones.

Good Friday Experience is Friday, April 10 from 6:00 pm-8:30 pm at Cooks Creek. The last entry is at 8:00 pm. Sign-up for an entry time beginning March 22 (strongly encouraged). Child-care runs from 6:00-8:00. Contact Pastor Seth with questions.

Playground Upgrade

The FaithLine Sunday School Class is excited to share with you our upcoming project - a new playground for the growing number of children at Cooks Creek! The current play area and structures have served the children of Cooks Creek well for many years (over a decade!). We will absolutely be incorporating aspects of the existing play area



into the new playground to honor the hard work and dedication that was put into its construction as part of Barret Dalrymple's Eagle Scout project in 2009.

Our vision for the new playground is a space where children of all ages can learn stories from the Bible while safely playing, climbing, swinging, and laughing together in fellowship.

For the new playground, we envision one large flat, level surface to house various pieces of playground equipment. We want to provide a large playset structure with slides, bridges, towers, etc., and also a smaller play space designated for the younger children. We would also like to include swings and possibly other traditional playground equipment for all ages. Stories from The Bible will be incorporated into the play structures.

We plan to purchase the larger playset as a pre-cut kit that our FaithLine class can assemble together once we have the ground graded and prepared. The structure of the larger playset will likely be cedar. We are blessed to have a variety of construction trades represented in our group to help with the grading, equipment, materials, assembly of the larger playset, and also possibly innovative design work for the smaller play pieces.

Our estimated budget for this project is \$5,000. We have around \$3,000 more to raise to meet our goal.

Our goal is to have a usable playground structure (maybe not entirely complete, but usable) by Cooks Creek Presbyterian Vacation Bible School 2020- that's June 7-10! We have a lot of work to do by then, but we are up for the challenge! Stayed tuned for upcoming fundraisers to support the playground.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Shelley Newman (pierce.shelley@gmail.com), or any FaithLine member. We appreciate your support!

Congregational Care's Guidelines for the Prayer Board

- * The purpose of the prayer board is to keep the congregation aware of prayer needs as they occur.
- * When you add a name, please give a short description of the need, if appropriate, and the date the name is being added.
- * In order to keep the information current, the Congregational Care team will leave the names on the board for one month. The board will be erased and/or updated at the first of each month.



Sunday, March 8

It's time to

Spring Ahead



Please see instructions for this form on page 3 under Prayer Ministry.

I WILL PRAY FOR C. C. P. C. CHILDREN/YOUTH FOR ONE YEAR

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone number: _____

I would like to pray for _____ 1 child OR _____ 2 or more children in a family for one year. Once a month I will send a personal card/note to the child(ren) to let them know they are a gift from God, and that I am praying for them.

If you are praying for several children in a family, please send individual cards to each child at the same time. Cards can also be sent for birthdays and holidays.

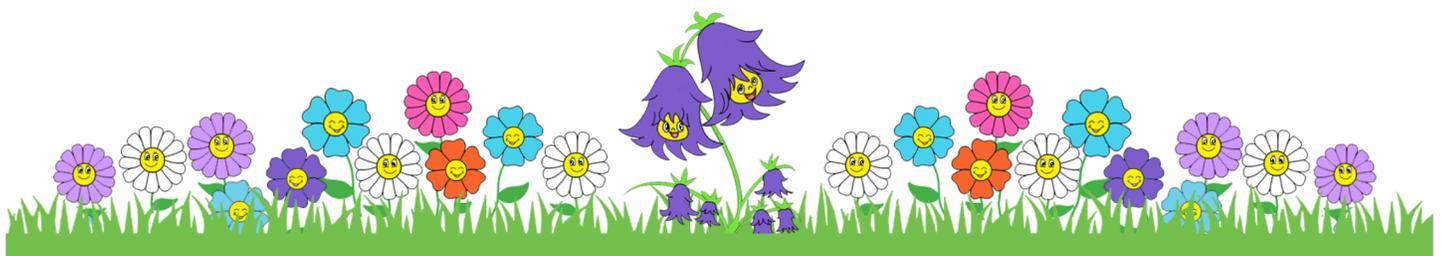
"Pour out your heart like water before the face of the Lord. Lift your hands toward Him for the life of your young children." Lamentations 2:19

Easter Egg Hunt

The Christian Education Committee is seeking someone to coordinate an Easter Egg Hunt for our youth. If you are interested in coordinating this, please contact a member of the committee; Michele Bridges, Dianne Brown, Bob Scott or Dick Travis.

Palm Sunday

Join us on Sunday, April 5th, for worship and a presentation of "Good Day on a Bad Day" by the children of Cooks Creek.





I am overwhelmed once again by the outpouring of love from the members of Cooks Creek! A simple thank you just doesn't seem adequate but it will have to do. Thank you for the cards, the excellent help in the office, the rides, the offers to help, the meals, and all the prayers. None of that was taken lightly and all of it was greatly appreciated. May each of you be abundantly blessed in return!

Martha Shank

Thanks so much for helping us out in this terrible journey we are on. Every day is getting a bit better. We are truly blessed to be a part of such a caring community.

*Very much appreciated,
Colby & Shannon Heishman*

Thank you for the cards, calls, get-well wishes, and good food sent during my recovery. Thank you, also, for the help with transportation. A special thank you to the Mary Ruth Circle for the beautiful flowers and Valentine cookies. Thank you to Pastor Seth for his telephone calls and I appreciate everyone's prayers.

I thank God for you!

2 Timothy 1:3

Carolyn Wampler





COOKS CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OUTREACH MINISTRY

Keeping in Touch with Members and Friends

One of our most important ministries is to love and care for one another. All of us can participate in this by reaching out with phone calls, cards, visits and prayer. We want to remember the words of our Lord: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." John 13:34



Dennis Early 2/2	Bellaire at Stone Port 1684 Port Hills Dr. Harrisonburg, VA 22801 540-810-3168	Mary Ann Brown 6/1	Bridgewater Retirement Community Assisted Living Room #336 302 N. 2nd Street Bridgewater, VA 22812 540-564-0640
Dorothy Harper 7/19	White Birch Communities #6 847 Oakwood Drive Harrisonburg, VA 22801 540-236-5906	Mary Ann Morriss 11/11	Summit Square Retirement Community 501 Oak Ave Waynesboro, VA 22980 540-941-3157
Tom and Luanne May T 4/11 L 4/29	1235 Quince Drive Harrisonburg, VA 22801 540-476-3205	Lois Frye 10/25	White Birch Communities 847 Oakwood Dr. Rockingham, VA 22801 540-236-5918
Jerry & Charlsie Miller J 7/30 C 3/5	4463 Mt. Clinton Pike Harrisonburg, VA 22802 540-908-8316 millerhomestead@comcast.net	Pam Sonner 3/20	229 Emerson Lane Harrisonburg, VA 22802 540-217-0805

CCPC MEMBERS AT VMRC

Nelson Miller 12/25	Bridgewater Retirement Community Unity House 302 N 2nd St. Bridgewater, VA 22812	Emily Hill 3/1	1501 Virginia Ave. #210 Harrisonburg, VA 22802 540-574-3840
Pete & Ann Rhodes P 6/1	624 Erickson Ave. Harrisonburg, VA 22801 540-434-9473	Lois Alexander 4/1	1401 Virginia Ave Crestwood, Cedar Room 101 540-564-3574
Wanda Ritchie 1/19	68 Cooks Creek Rd. Harrisonburg, VA 22802 540-434-1944	Nelson Alexander 11/24	1401 Virginia Ave Crestwood, Walnut Room 330 540-564-5611
Mary Elizabeth Smith K 10/11	Living Waters Senior Care 379 N. Main St. Timberville, VA 22853 540-896-4558	Millie Harman- DeVall 4/15	1285 Shank Drive Apt 323 Harrisonburg, VA 22802
Eddy & Mary Ellen Wampler E 9/15 M 3/23	335 Westview Street Dayton, VA 22821 540-879-2257 Eddy – 540-383-5653	Jimmy & Evelyn Miller J 5/31 E 4/24	1401 Virginia Ave. Crestwood, Hickory Apt. 303 540-564-6527
		Bonnie Wampler 3/13	Brunk House 1316 Woodland Park Circle Harrisonburg, VA 22802 (Off Oak Drive, 4th house down the row)



FOOD PANTRY REPORT

Beginning Balance January 1, 2020	\$14,680.74
DEPOSITS	
Individual Contributions	\$1045.00
Church & Religious Organizations	\$1889.00
Businesses	\$1100.00
Total Deposits	\$2,334.00
DISBURSEMENTS	
Bread	\$138.60
Meat (Hamburger)	\$656.00
Eggs	\$79.00
Food Purchases to fill Bags	\$955.39
Milk Vouchers (Finder's Keepers 51 gal. - \$172.29 Red Front 135 gal - \$443.67)	\$615.96
Total Disbursements	\$2,444.95
Balance as of January 31, 2020	\$14,569.79

What a great way to start the year! The expenses were just \$110.95 more than the income this month. We served 75 families this month, four of whom indicated they were there for the first time, and one family received an emergency bag in January. Each family received a 2-pound package of hamburger, a 2-pound package of ground venison, a dozen eggs, and a loaf of bread, with large families receiving two loaves, and selections from the variety table. And we gave the recipe for shepherd's pie with variations that should give ideas for inexpensive meals. Approximately 1,853 pounds of food was distributed in the prepacked bags. The Dayton UMC sent a large bag of knitted gloves of various sizes, and the Vertical Connection mobile clothes bank made lots of nice clothes available.

We thank the Calvary Mennonite Fellowship for hosting the distribution. The EMU softball team was scheduled to be the hosts on February 27 but they had a conflict this month. However, Diane McCurdy

arranged for her tennis team and a Cooks Creek Sunday school class to take care of the duties that evening, and Greenmount COB volunteered to pay for the eggs. How great it is to have people willing to pick up the slack and work together to see that needs are met.

Making the change from Red Front to Bridgewater Foods for most of our purchases seems to be working well. I have talked with Finders Keepers about being prepared for an increase in the number of milk vouchers since families will not be able to redeem them at Red Front after February. Food Lion at Harmony Square is willing to redeem the vouchers but has to get approval from corporate. If corporate is willing to accept them, maybe the Food Lion on Rt 42 South would also redeem them.

In Psalm 41:1, David says, "Blessed is he who considers the poor." To most of us, the word consider means to think about, especially to make a decision. In an Our Daily Bread devotional, David Roper says

that this verb here means "to pay attention." If we pay attention, we have to do something. We may not be able to alleviate the poverty of those we meet, but we can treat them with courtesy and respect and give of our abundance to make life a little easier for them. We can listen to them and pray for them. I believe that those involved with our food pantry do really "consider" those who come to us each month. Some who work at the pantry on the fourth Thursday listen when they sometimes tell us about their families or some physical condition they are dealing with. Others pay attention by doing things for them like taking in the food the second Wednesday, buying food, or making a donation. I have to wonder how many people in the almost 11 years this pantry has been in existence have had a change of attitude about the poor among us since they have "considered the poor" and have realized a blessing in their lives for it.

Bea Morris

Joyful noise



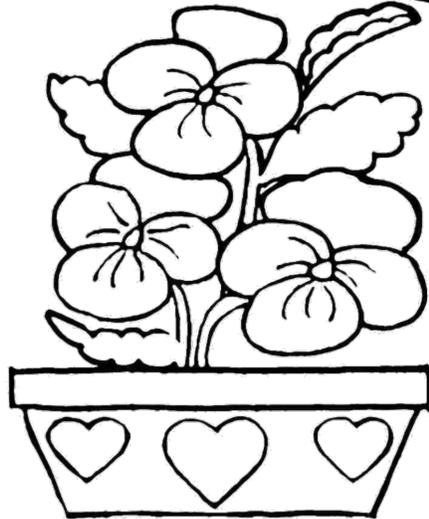
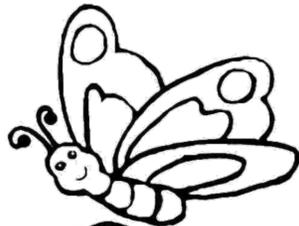
Use your voice and this hand-crafted percussion instrument to make joyful noises to the Lord.

What you need:

- Dry beans (about one Tbsp)
- Plastic Easter egg
- 2 plastic spoons
- Masking tape
- Markers and stickers

What you do:

1. Place the beans inside the egg and snap it closed.
2. Set the egg in a spoon and cover it with the second spoon so the spoons are holding the egg.
3. Tape the spoons to the egg. Also wrap tape around the spoons from top to bottom to make a shaker handle.
4. Decorate your shaker and use it as you sing praises to God.
5. Experiment with sounds by filling other eggs with coins, rice, and so on.



SPRING

PUZZLE

MAKE MUSIC TO THE LORD

People of the Bible used many different instruments to worship God through music.

Directions: Using the clues, unscramble the names of instruments found in Psalm 150. Then write the circled letters in order in the spaces below to complete verse 6.

	A type of horn	_____ <input type="checkbox"/>	MURTEP
	Played by King David	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	PRHA
	Plucked to make sound	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	IGSNSTR
	Similar to a tambourine	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	MRBELT
	A type of harp	_____ <input type="checkbox"/>	ELRY
	Blown through to make sound	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	EPPI
	A percussion instrument	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	YBLACMS

Le_ everyt_ing tha_ has _r_ath
_raise the _ORD. Psalm 150:6, NIV

Answer: trumpet, harp, strings, tambourine, lyre, pipe, cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Psalm 150:6, NIV

Signs of Spring



This spring Peony is going on a field trip with her class to the state park. Her teacher gave the class a list of things to look for in the woods and meadows, but the words got all mixed up. Can you help Peony unscramble her list?

1. OFGR _____
2. FEUYRBTLT _____
3. SRSGA _____
4. ORMHTARWE _____
5. SNTGLHUI _____
6. UDB _____
7. DDNLIAENO _____
8. ORELWF _____
9. EBE _____
10. GLBDYAU _____
11. OMLOB _____
12. ERGEN _____

March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Lenten Prayer 10 am & 6:15 pm	4	5	6	7
8 	9 Open	10 Doors	11 through Mary Ruth Circle @ 10 am	12 the	13 16th	14
15	16	17 Lenten Prayer 10 am & 6:15 pm	18 Feed the Flock	19 	20	21
22	23 Courier deadline Session @ 6:30 pm	24	25	26 Food Pantry 4-6	27	28
29 	30	31 Lenten Prayer 10 am & 6:15 pm	Looking Ahead: April 5 - Palm Sunday April 10 - Good Friday Experience April 12 - Easter			

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 - Tim Higgs
Emily Hill
Linda Morris
Savannah Pence | 14 - Tom Bocock
Ellie Eberly |
| 2 - Mary Smith | 15 - Dick Travis |
| 3 - Jeff Heatwole | 20 - Laura Harper |
| 5 - Adriana Keech | 21 - Gemma Amendola |
| 6 - Craig Miller | 22 - Bayler Bocock |
| 8 - Ella Blosser | 23 - Donald Myers
Mary Ellen Wampler |
| 9 - Brian Bocock | 25 - Catherine Carrier
Elizabeth Dolack |
| 10 - Bruce Stilwell | 26 - Evelyn Travis |
| 11 - Collyns Shoemaker | 27 - Dianne Brown |
| 12 - Bill Pierce | 28 - Nora Newman
Keith Simmons
Madison Swope |
| 13 - Gerald Harper
Bonnie Wampler | |



MARCH
BIRTHDAYS &
ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 - Norman & Linda Smith
- 21 - Fred & Phyllis Simmons
- 27 - Tim & Lana Higgs

