

Church Office  
330-925-2651  
Pastor Alex  
404-447-0273



# APRIL 2024 TIMELY NOTES

Milton Presbyterian  
Church  
250 North Street,  
Rittman, OH 44270  
(330) 925-2651

## Table of Contents:

- Pg. 1 – Important Announcements
- Pg. 2 – Pastor’s Note
- Pg. 3 – Church News
- Pg. 4 – MPW, Deacons, Youth, Announcements, & Financial Update
- Pg. 5 – Prayer Concerns
- Pg. 6 – Children’s Page
- Pg. 7 – Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Pg. 8 – Calendar

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** starts at 9:15 am

**WORSHIP** starts at 10:30 am



## *LENTEN SCHEDULE*



Sun., March 24 - Palm Sunday with the Joy Ringers children’s handbell choir.

Thurs., March 28 - 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service -Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Fri., March 29 - 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service at Milton Presbyterian Church

Sun. March 31 - Easter - Sacrament of Holy Communion.



My guess was completely wrong! It wasn’t cramp. Pastor Alex has been talking about covenants with the youth in Jr. Church. Every letter in promise represented a covenant God had with man. If you want to know what each letter means, ask one of the children!

**ROOFING TIME!** This month the Grounds and Maintenance Committee are having LS Commercial Roofing replace the flat roof over the church (the choir room, offices, parlor, and narthex.) The cost will be \$49,000. Your donations to the Roof Fund will be appreciated.

## **RUMMAGE SALE**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 18**  
7:00 PM, SETUP

**FRIDAY, APRIL 19**  
9:00 AM, PRICING

**SATURDAY, APRIL 20**  
9:00 AM-1:00 PM SALE



For questions,  
contact **Cindy Mann** at 330-835-8913 or  
**Chris White** at 330-703-2720.

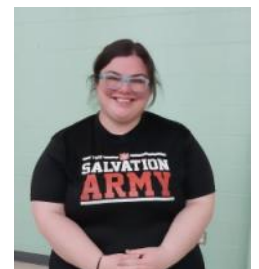


## Community Meal

Thank you Ashley Smith, Envoy and Corps pastor in the Salvation Army at Wadsworth, for joining us in February ‘s community meal.

March 26th’s meal at 6:30 pm will be soup and salad. Joining us at 7:00 p.m. will be

Clyde and Betty Phillips with their music. Be sure to attend these meals for good food and companionship. Thank you to all who help!



---

---

*“The Sun will be darkened and the moon will not give off its light.” - Matthew 24:29*

Since ancient times, people have closely watched the sky for direction. After all, the heavens were the realm of the Gods, and they moved with a consistency that was often absent in everyday society on earth. Every year, the seasons would pass and the stars would return to their places, with the noted exception of a few strange wanderers (*planets* in Greek) that moved about on their own course.

This consistent movement of the heavens established Holy celebrations that marked the presence and power of Israel's God as well. Festivals were set in season, taking us out of our own imminent present to honor the eternal realm. It was not uncommon for astrological events to mark the birth of the great leaders who would change the world, and our own scriptures are no different. Jesus' birth was heralded by the appearance of a new star, and even magi from distant lands recognized the importance of this because they were watching the sky.

As we discovered more about planetary motion and the movement of the skies, we also have become very good at keeping time with physical devices and gears on Earth. The more we watched our watches, our gaze has drifted to those things that are closer to our person, and we spend less time looking to the heavens to govern our lives. It has changed how we look at ourselves, and how we look at God. Yet every once in a while, an event occurs that takes our minds away from looking down at the next steps we take and brings our gaze back upward to the eternal realm - to the movement of the heavens and the incredible power and mystery they hold.

On April 8th, a lot of people are getting excited about witnessing the full solar eclipse that will direct our attention back to the skies in the middle of the day. Count me among them! I have been praying for miraculously clear early-April skies for some months now. An eclipse is unique in being both a very localized event and one of immense proportion. It is also a good reflection on our own relationship with God and God's Word. The convergence of the heavens to cast a shadow over our little patch of land is a good reminder of how the language of our scripture often casts the power of the almighty God of the universe into our own little lives in more ways than one, and this movement revealed in the highest heaven brings our vision back upward to the skies and reminds us of the message Jesus sent us promising to return.

In our own church calendar, we will be gathering soon to celebrate Easter and the resurrection of Jesus' body from the Earth to be revealed to us in *this* world. It was a sign of things to come, but Jesus himself knew that he would only be resurrected on Earth for a short period of time, ascending to be with God the father. Jesus taught his disciples that from there he would return. He also admitted that he had no knowledge of the time it would happen, saying that *only the Father knows the exact time*. This hasn't stopped us from predicting the second coming without success ever since, and this is exactly why Jesus warned his disciples not to be led astray by false teachers. Jesus teaches us that following his death and resurrection, there would be distress to come in the form of earthquakes, famines and wars that would be experienced throughout the world—and for thousands of years the world *has* been experiencing these calamities. Jesus reveals to his disciples that only *after* these disasters came to pass would he return, accompanied by signs in the heavens as foretold by the prophet Isaiah who revealed, “The Sun will be darkened and the moon will not give off its light ... and you will see the Son of Man coming with the clouds.” It makes me think of an event like a solar eclipse, where the sun is darkened, and since the solar eclipse can only happen during a new moon phase, the moon will not give off its light. This year, the timing is even more of a powerful sign as the eclipse we will observe also falls on the very *last* day of the Hebrew calendar.

It's enough coincidence to get you excited - and humbled. We have to be careful not to predict with proud certainty, yet also must be careful not to be so distracted by our own daily rhythm or unfulfilled expectations that we lose sight of seeking Christ and His return. All of these happenings are good reminders to keep looking to God and God alone in great hope and promise.

---

---

In coming to Holy Week, we remember Christ and the culmination of his ministry on Earth, and his resurrection a sign of the new life to come. It is fitting that on the *next* week, our gaze is shifted away from the tomb and up towards the sky, struck by the wonder of God’s promises and how they come to pass in a movement so grand as to change our perspective on Earth. All of this to serve as signs that point to God’s mercies which are new every morning, and a fresh beginning that lasts once and for all. Amen. - Alex

*If you wish to contact Pastor Alex please give him a call, email or text. If unable to reach him at the office, please call him at cell phone number 404-447-0273.*

**Imagine my surprise to see a horse at church. If you noticed a few hoof prints in the grass near the circle drive, you are not imagining things. Headstart had a special “guest” visit the children. Needless to say, there were some very excited children.**

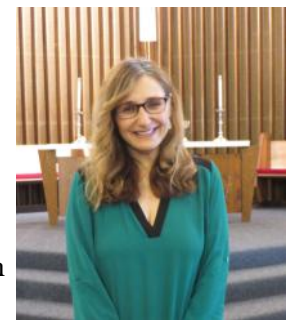


### **GIFTS OF WOMEN SUNDAY**



Betty Winchell

On Sunday, March 10th, the women of the church led the worship service. Thank you to Kim Hart, Patty Cristino and Donna Robertson for all their hard work setting up the service. If you missed our special sermon by Betty Winchell be sure to check the service out on YouTube along with gifted singer Denise Goehring. We appreciate these two very talented women taking time to share with our congregation. Many thanks to all the women who helped with the service.



Denise Goehring



Sunday, April 7th, after morning worship service, you are invited to help coordinate the hospitality of the church. Anyone is welcome to attend. Help us plan fellowship time, coffee hour, luncheon's, and special events for our church for 2024. Come bring your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions. If unable to attend and would like to make a suggestion, talk to Elders Bill Crawford or Pat Cristino.

### **FOOD PANTRY UPDATE**

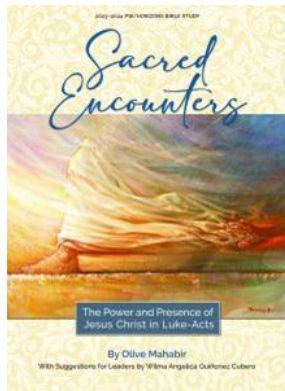


Have you ever not had enough money to buy shampoo? How about toothpaste? How about food for your family? Sadly, there are a number of people here in Rittman and surrounding area that either are down on their luck or just don't make enough money to pay for life's expenses. God reminded me this past week that people seek the pantry for so many reasons. One woman had neck surgery 9 months ago and just got back to work. Behind on all her bills, she wanted food and other assistance. She is just like you and me. Sometimes life deals you a bad hand. Another young man was looking for work. He has a young child. - Cindy

ITEMS are needed for the pantry. Staples are needed. Usage has been very high! Currently personal items are needed as are pasta or noodles, pasta sauce, canned fruit, peanut butter, canned meat, quick foods like canned stew, and personal hygiene items (especially shampoo and bar soap, and feminine hygiene products. )

### MILTON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

MPW Circle meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month. On Thursday, April 11th, the group will be studying again from the Horizons 2023-2024 study “Sacred Encounters” by Olive Mahabir. This month’s chapter is Lesson Seven: “An Ethiopian Eunuch Encounters the Good News of Jesus”. All are welcome. Please let Kim Hart know if you are interested in joining over Zoom. Her telephone number is 330-612-3302.



### FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you for your continued support!

Summary of February Revenue & Expenses  
 Financial Update – Budgeted Accounts Only:

Income from month of Feb.	\$	8,915
HeadStart Fees		<u>+2,400</u>
	\$	<u>11,315</u>
Expenses from Feb.	\$	<u>11,719</u>
Feb. Net Income/Expense	\$	<u>404</u>
<b>2024 Net Income/Expense</b>	\$	<b>3,577</b>

**February 2024 Boiler Donations: \$325**

**Total donations to date: \$48,919**

**Balance of Lance Fund loan: \$ 17,961**

*Thank you for all your donations!*

Electronic giving services



### SONNENBERG STATION CONCERT SCHEDULE

- Sat., Apr. 6, 3 p.m. St. Paul’s Episcopal Church-Canton
- Sat., Apr. 6, 7 p.m. Berlin Mennonite Church– Millersburg
- Sat., Apr. 13th, 3 p.m. Grace Lutheran Church-Wadsworth
- Sat., Apr. 13th, 7 p.m. Crown Hill Mennonite Church-Rittman
- Sun., Apr. 14th, 7 p.m. United Church of Christ-Trinity UCC–Wooster



Our topic for the Adult Sunday School and Tuesday Bible Study is the books of the 12 minor prophets. Please come and join us to learn more about worshipping our Lord.

In Jr. Church, the focus will be on the body of Christ after Easter. The children just finished studying the covenants of God.



**The Server is in need of more pre-made frozen meals in gallon freezer bags. Please contact Pastor Alex if you can help.**



**Muskingum Valley Presbytery has set the Per Capita for 2024 at \$38.41.**

The next Youth JAM will be **Sunday, June 3** , 6:00 p.m. at Milton Presbyterian Church. The group is made up of Jr. and Sr. high school students. The group meets quarterly throughout the year. The youth are encouraged to bring their friends! Anyone wanting to help host this quarter’s meeting are encouraged to contact Pastor Barnes.





**APRIL 2024  
TIMELY  
NOTES**

**Our Mission Statement:**

*Believing in one Lord, one faith, and one baptism, the Milton Presbyterian Church, as the Body of Christ, will carry out the ministry of Jesus within the congregation, within our community, and to the world.*

**To accomplish this mission we will:**

*\*Experience God's presence through worship, prayer, Bible study, the sacraments, fellowship, and service;*

*\*Demonstrate our Savior's compassion through our daily lives to those in need;*

*\*Give our time, our talents, and our material possessions to serve and glorify God .*

*\*Share the Good News of Jesus Christ by word and deed to all the world.*

*Moved by the Holy Spirit, our mission as a congregation of forgiven and loved disciples will be carried out in the Name of Christ.*

**Milton Church Family,**

**During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us... Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered.**



**Gratefully, Linda, Samantha and Kevin LaBo**

Wildflower clipart courtesy of Jeff McMillen. Thank you Jeff!!



**Installation and Ordination**

*On Sunday, March 3rd, Patty Cristino and Bill Crawford were ordained and installed to Session for a 2 year term. Ron and Chris White were ordained to serve as Deacons. Thank you for all of your service to our church.*

**"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God ; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you." John 14**



**\*Please remember our church family members who are in our local area nursing homes:**

**Inn at Coalridge (1300 Coalridge Pkwy., Wadsworth, 44281) - Elsie Richards  
Apostolic Christian Homes, (10680 Steiner Rd., Rittman, OH) - Dorothy Johnson,  
Ron Steele, Judy Twinem**

**Village of St. Edwards, (880 Main St., Wadsworth, OH 44281) - Sally Barnes**

**Rocky River Assisted Living, (22900 Center Ridge Rd., Rocky River, OH 44116) - Anita Vohar**



Shawn Aronhalt, Linda Beddow, Leigh Ann Berkley, Jen Bishop, *Jonathan Bonilla*, Bob Bowden, Charlie Brandes, Levi Brediger, Jan Champa, Thelma Chapman, Terri Click, Marie Cole, Tanya Coleman, Conner Compton, Mike & Mandii Cramer, *Drew Crawford*, Lesa Crawford, Megan Crawford, Jamie Culler, Nicholas Dras, Deb Easterday, Jordan Edgar, Scott Erwin, Darla Fletcher, Donnie Foutty, Patrick Gable, Robert Gardner, Marcia Geyer, Reed Heggie, Dwayne Hopton, Lori Johnson, Alex & Diane Karther, Debbie Keel, Kevin and Linda Lampar, Kurt Lampar, Abbey Lentine, ConiAnn Limpert, Lisa Lipscond, Glenna Bennett Logiudice, Bob Ludolph, Lauren Mackie, Laurel Mader, Helen Mann, Keith Marsden, Lisa Martin, Bobby Martinez, Gemma Matthews, Erin McGorry, Linda Melenbacker, Lois Middleton, PJ Miller, Kristen Morris, John and Joe Musgrave, Taylor Netting, Frances & Joyce Nichols, *Dale Owen*, Lee Owen, Ethan Porter, Sally Porter, Ron and Sue Price, Linda and Geoff Pyle, John Ramsier, Sue Ramsey, Elsie Richards, Toby Rinaldo, Karl Rohrer, Pat Rossmiller, Haylee Rufener, Debbie and Jay Russell, Linda Rutter, Sheryl Saunders, Rose Serna-Wallander, Tina Simcox, Rick Singleton, Paul Sparkman, Verns Steele, Todd Stephan, Gloria Stroll, Patti Stuart, John Swarzentrubler, Bill Timmons, Laura Toledo, Luke Truman, Judy Twinem, Anita Vohar, Don Vohar, Amy Wilson, Sue Wilson, Bobby Wolf, Ron Woodward, Jim Zimmerman



# HOT CROSS BUNS

Make this traditional Easter recipe to remember how Christ gave his life for you.

## What you need:

- 1 can (12 oz.) evaporated milk
- 1 stick (½ cup) butter, melted
- ½ cup sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1½ Tablespoons yeast
- 1 egg, beaten
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- 5 cups flour
- Icing
- An adult to help

## What you do:


1. In large bowl, combine the first eight ingredients.
2. Stir in flour, one cup at a time, to form soft dough. Knead on a floured surface until smooth and elastic (about five minutes).
3. Place in a greased bowl, turning once to grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled (about one hour).
4. Knead out air bubbles. Form six two-inch balls.
5. Place two inches apart on a greased cookie sheet. Cover and let rise until doubled (about 30 minutes).
6. Bake at 375 degrees until golden (13 to 15 minutes). Cool on wire racks.
7. Add icing in a cross shape. Enjoy!




# FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection helps us live with gratitude every day.


Use the picture and number code to fill in the blanks for Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV.


























1. Jesus	5. cross
2. weary	6. endured
3. endured	7. scorning
4. opposition	8. shame



1. Jesus	5. perfecter
2. lose	6. him
3. pioneer	7. faith
4. sinners	8. hand



1. eyes	5. right
2. us	6. grow
3. joy	7. God
4. heart	8. throne

“... fixing our  1 on  1, the  3 and  
 \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ . For the \_\_\_\_\_ set before \_\_\_\_\_  
 5  7  3  6  
 he \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ its \_\_\_\_\_, and  
 3  5  7  8  
 sat down at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 5  8  8  7  
 Consider \_\_\_\_\_ who \_\_\_\_\_ such \_\_\_\_\_  
 6  6  4  
 from \_\_\_\_\_, so that you will not \_\_\_\_\_  
 4  6  2  
 and \_\_\_\_\_.” HEBREWS 12:2-3, NIV  
 2  4

Answer: “...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV



# April 2024



## BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Portia Haller
- 2nd Erik Kinch
- 4th Mandii Cramer, Dorothy Johnson (92)
- 6th Mike Pyle
- 10th Merida Cramer
- 12th Alex Barnes
- 13th Bruce Watson
- 18th Dave Rue
- 21st Judy Twinem
- 22nd Andrew Mackey, Jay Russell, Will Yoho
- 24th Tim Fetter, Laurie Pink
- 27th Mickey Shankland



## JR. CHURCH SCHEDULE

- 7 Angel Mackey
- 14 Vickie Schumacher & Renee Basic
- 21 Andrea Barnes
- 28 Tammy Wilson

## FLOWER SCHEDULE

- 7 Bill & Linda Crawford
- 14 Donna & Bill Robertson
- 21 Justine Brandes
- 28 Linda & Geoff Pyle

## ANNIVERSARIES

- |      |                    |          |
|------|--------------------|----------|
| 1st  | Cindy & Ken Mann   | 29 years |
| 16th | Erik & Karen Kinch | 58 years |
| 17th | Ryan & Laurie Pink | 21 years |



## MEETING DATES

- Building & Grounds - Wed., Apr.3 at 6:30 pm
- Hospitality Coordination Meeting - Sun., Apr. 7 at 11:45 am
- Worship & Music - Mon., Apr. 8 at 10:00 am
- MPW Circle - Thurs., Apr. 11 at 7:00 pm
- Session Meeting - Wed., Apr.17 at 6:30 pm

## LITURGIST SCHEDULE

- 7 Mandii Cramer
- 14 Donna Robertson
- 21
- 28 Cindy Mann

## COMMUNION PREPARERS

No Communions in April.

## COFFEE HOUR

- 7
- 14
- 21 Vickie Schumacher
- 28 Tammy Wilson & Karen Kinch



# April 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 pm Garden Club (Fel. Hall)  7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	2 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library)	3 6:00 pm DAA (FH) 6:30 pm Bldg. & Grounds (Library) 7:00 pm Pack Leaders (Parlor)	4	5	6
7 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 Hospitality Group (Library)	8 10:00 am <b>Worship &amp; Music Comm.</b> 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	9 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library)	10 6:00 pm DAA (FH)	11 7:00 pm <b>MPW Circle</b> (Library)	12	13
14 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	15 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	16 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library)	17 6:00 pm DAA (FH) 6:30 pm <b>Session</b> (Library) 6:00 to 8:00 pm Free Laundry Day	18	19	20
21 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	22 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	23 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library)	24 6:00 pm DAA (FH)	25	26	27
28 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	29 6:30 pm <b>Community Meal</b> 7:00 pm <b>Speaker for Meal</b> (Fellowship hall)	30 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library)				

**Milton Presbyterian Church**  
**250 North Street, Rittman, OH 44270**  
**(330) 925-2651**