

Church Office
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Pastor Alex
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MARCH 2024

TIMELY NOTES

Milton Presbyterian
Church
250 North Street,
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DON'T FORGET!
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME STARTS
MARCH 10TH

SUNDAY SCHOOL starts at *9:15 am*

WORSHIP starts at *10:30 am*



Oh no! Pastor Alex is sending cryptic messages to the children again! What can this mean? The letters are RMP. Or maybe __RMP? Maybe he’s spelling “cramp”? Watch and find out in March!

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Keep in mind these special dates:

Mon., February 26 - Monthly Free Community Meal

Sun., March 10 - Gifts of Women Sunday

Sun., March 24 - Palm Sunday

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

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

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

Joy Ringers intergenerational handball choir.



Community Meal

Monday, February 26 at 6:30 p.m. Chef Bill’s menu is baked potatoes and salad. The speaker at 7:00 p.m. is Ashley Smith, Envoy and Corps pastor in the Salvation Army at Wadsworth.

March’s meal will be on March 25. Plans for the meal are 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!

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." *Matthew 5:14–16*

I looked at the full house, and saw the power of a good draw.

That evening, a young man named Darwin Snyder had come to our home. He had recently received a development position raising funds for an orphanage, and both Andrea and I were excited for him to share his message. We were also delighted to invite many others too, including a neighbor who was passing by on her walk, and we were thrilled with the response.

The orphanage was one that held a special place in our heart. Just a year after we were married, the Milton Church supported a group of six youth, Andrea, and myself to fly all the way down to Quito, Ecuador to experience God's work at For His Children in 2017. Darwin also had a special connection, as he was brought to For His Children as a baby a little over 20 years ago. His story was a special one, and it was very compelling to hear about his testimony. After being neglected and left at home alone as an infant, he was taken to the orphanage where he was loved, cared for, and ultimately adopted by a couple who had been working at the Orphanage. He then moved to Reno, Nevada with them shortly after the adoption, where he has lived ever since. Darwin remarked several times that evening how blessed he was to be sharing his story, along with the story of so many other children who had been abandoned—sometimes in terribly heart wrenching ways—so that God's work can be faithfully supported at the orphanage through gifts and prayer.

God's ever creative Word was at work the entire evening, and it was evident from the beginning of the gathering when Cindy Vaughn looked up on our mantle and found two coffee mugs that Andrea received as a gift. On the coffee mugs, God's word from a portion of Matthew 5:16 was etched into the side. Let your light Shine. Cindy was thrilled, remarking that it was a favorite verse of hers, and as I thought about this more, I can look back and see how this was exactly what this evening was about: shedding light on God's great work being revealed and witnessed by all of us who were gathered there.

It is written, "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

When Darwin was talking about how he spent his first years in an apartment right next to the guest house where our group stayed at the orphanage, the fond memories of our trip in 2017 came back into the spotlight of my mind. I recalled the incredible view from the window next to our dining table, overlooking the playground where we played with the kids, and then beyond to reveal a sprawling city full of humble homes cobbled together, patterning the valley before the backdrop of the mountains, dominated by the snow covered crags of mount Cayambe.

So it formed a powerful picture of God's Word - the little orphanage illuminating hope upon the hill, providing refuge for those who had nowhere to go. In that place, God's law to love the fatherless, the widow, and the foreigner would come to fruition ... just as it did in our humble home that evening. It was great to look around and see how God brought people from so many different places to come together and witness and pray for what God is doing both here and afar. In the gathering, I could see just how vital having a sanctuary of safety and love is to our lives, and how this can come together so fully in a loving home that is open to all.

It was just one more reminder that our own sanctuary on a hill can be filled and shared when we work alongside God, inviting those who are placed in our path into this living space, blessed in the light and love of God.

-Rev. Alex Barnes

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.

Thank you Pastor Alex and Andrea for opening your home to the congregation. If you couldn't attend, they served an open house style dinner. Afterwards, Darwin Snyder spoke about his experiences with For His Children in Ecuador both as an orphan and as an adult, returning there to volunteer and work for them. Darwin's amazing journey with God's help is such a blessing.



NEW ADDRESSES

Congratulations to Ron Hart III after purchasing his first home!

His new address (when he is finished moving) is:

157 N. Second St.
Rittman, OH 44270

Judy Beuth stopped by the office at church to let us know she is moving closer to family. Her new address is:

414 Eagle St., #204
S. Haven, MI 49090

Her cell phone remains the same: (330) 310-5535.

PJ and Lisa Miller have also moved:

2660 Prestwick Village Circle
Springfield, OH 45503



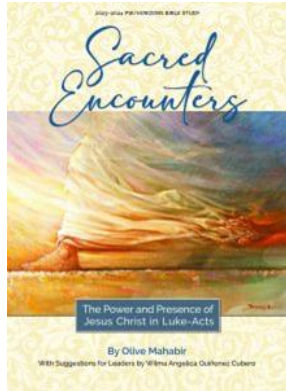
FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

FOOD 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, personal hygiene items, and feminine hygiene products.



MILTON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

MPW Circle meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month. On Thursday, March 14th, The group will be studying again from the Horizons 2023-2024 study “Sacred Encounters” by Olive Mahabir. This month’s chapter is Lesson Six: “A Person with a Physical Disability Encounters 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 January Revenue & Expenses

Financial Update – Budgeted Accounts Only:

Income from month of Jan.	\$ 6,336
HeadStart Fees	<u>+2,400</u>
	\$ 8,736
Expenses from Jan.	<u>\$ 11,909</u>
Jan. Net Income/Expense	<u>\$ 3,173</u>
2024 Net Income/Expense	\$ 3,173

January 2024 Boiler Donations: \$100

Total donations to date: \$48,594

Balance of Lance Fund loan: \$ 18,436

Thank you for all your donations!



Electronic giving services powered by Presbyterian Foundation.



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



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 we are going into the season of Lent, a period of 40 days before Easter when we remember Jesus being tempted in the wilderness after his baptism, and is a time where we focus on being intentional in our relationship with God. During these seven weeks leading up to Easter, we will be learning more about covenants - a very important part of our relationship with God as a people.

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



The next Youth JAM will be **Sunday, March 3**, 6:00 p.m. at **Wayne 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!





MARCH 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.*

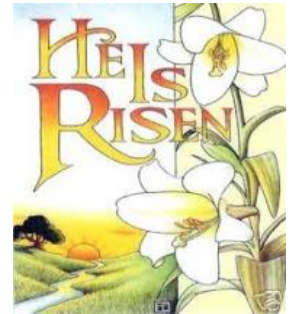
Moved by the Holy Spirit, our mission as a congregation of forgiven and loved disciples will be carried out in the Name of Christ.



Our heartfelt prayers go to the family of Rick Shreve after his passing January 31, 2024. Rick was a fixture in this community with his work at Rittman Schools and as a lineman at football games. Rick attended Milton Presbyterian for a long time.

Also, in our thoughts and sympathy go to the Breece family after the passing of Barb (Breece) Nelson on February 20, 2024. Barb was Marcene and John Breece's daughter and aunt to Jordan Breece and Lindsey Millan.

"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

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

Concordia Nursing Home, (970 Sumner Pkwy, Copley, OH 44321) - Bob Bowden

Linda Beddow, Leigh Ann Berkley, Jen Bishop, *Bob Bowden*, Charlie Brandes, Levi Brediger, Jan Champa, Thelma Chapman, Terri Click, Marie Cole, Tanya Coleman, Conner Compton, Mike & Mandii Cramer, 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, Lee Owen, Karen Peters, Ethan Porter, Sally Porter, Ron and Sue Price, Linda and Geoff Pyle, John Ramsier, Sue Ramsey, Elsie Richards, *Toby Rinaldo*, Bill Robertson, *Karl Rohrer*, Pat Rossmiller, Haylee Rufener, 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

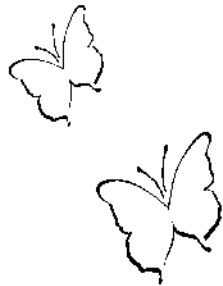




OUR LIVING HOPE

Easter is a time to rejoice because of what God did for us in sending his Son. Jesus is our living hope. Read 1 Peter 1:3-4 (NIV) below. Then find the bold words in the crossword search.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you"



P	R	A	I	S	E
P	E	R	I	S	H
B	I	R	T	H	A
K	E	P	T	U	S
L	O	R	F	A	D
E	V	E	A	R	G



R	E	S	U	R	R	E	C	T	I	O	N	J	E	S	U
H	E	A	V	E	N	I	N	H	A	D	L	I	V	I	N
I	G	S	P	O	I	N	H	E	R	I	T	A	N	C	E
C	H	R	I	S	T	L	O	R	D	P	R	A	I	S	W



H	O	P	N	S	E
H	O	P	E	P	L
L	I	V	V	O	I
J	E	S	E	I	V
E	V	E	R	L	I
S	U	F	F	E	N
U	T	A	S	I	G
S	O	D	O	E	T
A	M	E	R	C	Y



EASTER CARD

Many symbols remind us of Jesus' death and resurrection. This Easter, put some of those symbols on special cards. Then give the cards to other people to share the good news that Jesus is alive.

What you need:

- Craft foam
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun
- Empty food can without label
- Paint and paintbrush
- Paper plate
- Paper (8 1/2" x 11")
- Markers or crayons



What you do:

1. Choose some simple Easter shapes to draw on the craft foam (cross, empty tomb, heart, etc.).
2. Cut out each shape.
3. With an adult's help, glue the shapes onto the can.
4. Pour a thin layer of paint onto a paper plate.
5. Roll the can in the paint and then roll the can onto the paper.
6. Try this several times using different colors.
7. When your paper is dry, fold it into a card.
8. Write "Happy Easter!" or a Bible verse on the front of the card. Then give it to someone.



March 2024



BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Debbie Russell
- 2nd Luca Pink
- 5th Nancy Leach
- 6th Rev. Jim Watt (95)
- 8th Bill Crawford
- 14th Kinley Shreve
- 22nd Kaleb Labo
- 24th Robin Goodman
- 30rd Ron Hart III

ANNIVERSARIES

- 24th Erick & Kristen Shreve - 17 yrs.

MEETING DATES

- Building & Grounds - Wed., Mar. 6 at 7:00pm
- Deacons/Hospitality Comm. Meeting - TBA
- Worship & Music - Mon., Mar. 4 at 10:00am
- MPW Circle - Thurs., Mar. 14 at 7:00pm
- Session Meeting - Wed., Mar. 13 at 6:30pm

COMMUNION PREPARERS

- 28 Maundy Thursday Donna Robertson
- 31 Easter Portia Haller and Vickie Schumacher

JR. CHURCH SCHEDULE

- 3 Angel Mackey
- 10 Vickie Schumacher
- 17 Andrea Barnes
- 24 Tammy Wilson
- 31 Cindy Mann

FLOWER SCHEDULE

- 3 Cindy & Ken Mann
- 10 Traci & Steve Coso
- 17 Tammie Shreve
- 24 Palms
- 31 Lilies

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

- 3 Bill Crawford
- 10 Milton Women
- 17 Samantha Williamson
- 24 Debbie Russell
- 31

COFFEE HOUR

- 3 Linda Crawford
- 10 Sheri Wachtel
- 17 Cindy Mann
- 24 Bill Crawford
- 31



March 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Fell. Hall Rental
3 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	4 10:00 am Worship & Music Comm. 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	5 Noon - Bible Study (Library)	6 6:00 pm DAA (FH) 7:00 pm Bldg. & Grounds (Library) 7:00 pm Pack	7	8	9
10  DST 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship GIFTS OF WOMEN	11 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	12 Noon - Bible Study (Library)	13 6:00 pm DAA (FH) 6:30 pm Session (Library)	14 7:00 pm MPW Circle (Library)	15	16
17 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	18 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	19 Noon - Bible Study (Library)	20 6:00 pm DAA (FH) 6:00 to 8:00 pm Free Laundry Day	21	22	23
24 PALM SUNDAY 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 	25 6:30 pm Community Meal 7:00 pm Speaker for Meal (Fellowship hall) 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	26 Noon - Bible Study (Library)	27	28 7:00 pm MAUNDY THURSDAY Service (Communion) 	29 7:00 pm GOOD FRIDAY Service 	30
31 EASTER 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship (Communion)  						

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