

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



MAY 2025

TIMELY NOTES

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

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Worship Times

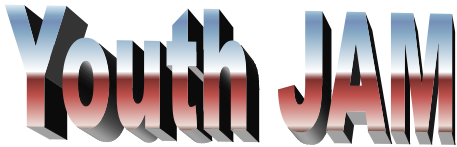
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 am

WORSHIP 10:30 am



May 4th at 8:30 a.m.

Take some time to fellowship with other men from church before the service. All men are welcome. Breakfasts will be held at the church in Fellowship Hall.



Jesus
Alive
Ministry

Jr. and Sr. High youth are invited to come to a Youth Jam on Sunday, May 4th at 6 pm here at Milton Presbyterian Church.

Pastor Alex is looking for help with feeding hungry teenagers. Please call him at 404-447-0273 if you are able to give him a hand.

The Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 26th begins at 10:30am, followed by a service at the Rittman Cemetery (usually around 11:15am).



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

SUN - TUES, JUNE 8 - 10

Fire up for a fun-filled, three-evening Vacation Bible School focusing on Pentecost! Please mark your calendars!



Community Meals

On March 31st, our speaker Ken Park from Rittman Lions Club updated everyone on the Lions Club's current activities. The meal was some tasty soup and salad. Thank you to everyone who helped to bring us these meals for fellowship in our area.

April 28th's community meal speaker will be Karen Noe from the Pregnancy Care Center. Come and enjoy Bill Crawford's shredded chicken, mashed potatoes, and steamed vegetables. The Cub Scouts will also be joining us and cooking up some jokes during dinner as well, so you won't want to miss that!



Pastor's Note - Timely Notes, May 2025

“Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.” - *John 12:24*

To remember and celebrate the power of Christ's resurrection is important every day - but of course on Easter it is lifted up above all else, and this hope was surely on display this year. Stepping out of our Easter worship service into the shining sun that warmed this little corner of the Earth, the budding spring was full of new life and a brand new season of growth. After the service, my family and I made the trip up to Cleveland Heights to have a meal with my mom and dad, and after the meal we took a trip over to Cleveland's historic Lakeview Cemetery, only a little over a mile from their house.

The defining monument of the cemetery was built for President James A. Garfield. A large round cylinder capped with a cone on top, if you ascended the stairs of the monument in any season, you can see Cleveland's skyline proudly rising from the land in the distance. On that day, we did not visit Garfield's tomb. Instead, we started a few hundred yards away upon the hill, by John D. Rockefeller's large obelisk. Since the new leaves were just tiny buds dotting the branches of the trees, on this day you could see Lake Erie quite clearly through the trees, delineating the uneven land from the smooth line separating the dark blue lake and the light cerulean sky in the distance. It was beautiful.

At the same time, around Rockefeller's grave—and others in this section—the sad reminders of our mortality were ever present. Stones marked ‘baby’ revealed what we know but do not want to face: the fact that all the wealth in the world can't stave off the final enemy. When my own children were surprised that there were babies buried there, I was thankful for their innocence even if it reveals a hard truth. I was also thankful for how far we've come with reducing infant mortality in just 150 years.

From Rockefeller's monument, we walked down the hill towards the pond. We saw the grave of legendary rock-n-roll DJ Allan Freed, memorialized by a large granite jukebox. Just behind him was a memorial to a man less famous, but far better known by myself. Dennis Wilcox, a consistent fixture as coach on my youth baseball team, rested there. He was my dear friend Michael's father. He was laid to rest last summer. I took a picture, and sent it to Mike, with the smell of spring grass and youth baseball bringing to mind his voice and demeanor in an instant. I could hear him gently and firmly correcting something that needed it, ready to deliver a joke with his characteristic deadpan humor. Further along the road was the grave of lawman Elliot Ness, instrumental in bringing down Al Capone. Next to him, the dozens of colored pens poking out of the ground like a rainbow porcupine adorned the grave of cartoonist Harvey Pekar, known for his comic *American Splendor*—and even this sight wasn't as eye catching as the hot pink hyacinths in bloom throughout the cemetery.

From there, continuing our walk up the hill, we saw what we were looking for from a distance. Nestled amongst the trees, little dots of yellow punctuated the green hillside everywhere. Known as ‘Daffodil Hill’, hundreds of flowers carpeted the ground announcing the new season. I was humbled to be at this place on Easter Sunday, reminded of the seed of God's Word, scattered freely. God's Word that delivered the good news of hope. It is God's Word that formed us, describing our own bodies as seeds when the apostle Paul powerfully proclaims that ‘What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else (1 Cor 15:36-37).’ So we look upon the flowers and flowering trees with hope-filled eyes as they reach towards the light with beauty and majesty completely transformed from the tiny seeds that brought such life to be. Walking through the garden, seeing a place of ‘death’ spring to life is indeed a powerful reminder that if the seed of God's Word grows in our heart and our faith is growing in God, we are not buried, but rather planted in our death. And in that death are new seeds of life that are scattered nearby, revealing how a life faithful to God's Word and Love propagates and carries forth God's promise which holds the DNA of our hope.

There is a reason why Jesus uses this language to show the truth of his resurrection, and why he is described in his resurrection as the *first fruit* of the new creation. Now, holding on to the truth of the resurrection firmly in our heart, we carry the seed of God's word to this very day, sowing and bearing witness to God's kingdom of heaven continuing to grow everywhere we look.

- Reverend 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.



I want to thank everybody for your thoughts, prayers, cards, and visits as I recovered from my surgery. I don't know if I could have gotten through it without them.

- Roger Ramsier

YOU'RE INVITED!

Come help us celebrate Justine Brandes' 90th birthday.

Drop in to the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 31st between 2 pm and 5 pm.

If you cannot attend, you can send a card to the church addressed:

**Justine's Birthday
c/o Milton Presbyterian Church
250 North St.
Rittman, OH 44270**

Great Joys!!

Congratulations!



Best wishes to Gretchen and Charles Dixon on the birth of their son Crew Anthony on March 25, 2025.

Proud grandparents are Cindy and Curtis Vaughn.



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

With various cuts in the federal budget, there has been a trickle down effect with support to the less fortunate. Please see if you can help donate a few items.

ITEMS are always needed for the pantry. Staples are needed. Currently personal items are needed as are pasta or noodles, instant potatoes, cereal, pasta sauce, canned fruit, peanut butter, canned meat, quick foods like canned stew, and personal hygiene items (especially shampoo, toothpaste, bar soap, and feminine hygiene products.) Dish soap and laundry detergent are also hot items!





Adult Sunday School begins at 9:15 a.m. Students are studying the book of Proverbs.

Tuesday Bible Study will continue to meet and discuss the book of Isaiah. It meets at 12:30 p.m.

During Junior Church, the children will be learning more about "Walking With Jesus".



MILTON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

MPW Circle will meet on
Thursday, May 8 at 7:00

p.m. If you are interested in coming to the meeting, please let Kim Hart know. Her telephone number is 330-612-3302.

Circle will continue their studies in The Presbyterian Women Study Book "Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation" by Patricia K. Tull. This month's lesson is Chapter 8 "Intergenerational Justice".



Our next **Youth JAM** will be hosted here at **Milton** on **Sunday, May 4** at 6:00 p.m.

The Youth JAM (Jesus Alive Ministry) is our combined youth group with other Presbyterian Churches in our area. All middle school and high school age kids are invited to participate!

If you would like to help with setup or help prepare the meal for a group of hungry teenagers, please let Rev. Barnes know at (404) 447-0273.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Summary of March Revenue & Expenses

Income from month of Mar.	\$ 8,115
HeadStart Fees	<u>+2,400</u>
	\$ 10,515
Expenses from Mar.	<u>\$ 13,012</u>
Mar. Net Income/Expense	\$ <u>2,497</u>
<u>2025</u> Net Income/Expense	\$ 811

Mar. 2025 Boiler Donations: \$220

Total donations to date: \$ 52,255

Balance of Lance Fund loan: \$ 11,786

Mar. 2025 Roof Donations: \$250

Total donations to date: \$ 4,000

Balance of Lance Fund loan: \$ 31,687

Thank you for all your donations!

Electronic giving services powered by Presbyterian Foundation.



Time for Tea

WITH THE LADIES OF MPC

Join us for tea and brunch

FEATURING: KERRIE'S CUP OF TEA
INVITE A FRIEND

MAY 17 | 10:00 AM

@ The Server

RSVP to Andrea at 330-317-0386 or Call the church at 330-925-2651

MAY 2025**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.



Thank you for your cards and telephone calls after my mishap. I am fortunate to have such a caring church family.

Thank you! Ellen Williams

Remember to Remember

One Memorial Day, some children were asked what the holiday meant to them.

"That's the day the swimming pool opens!" answered one eager boy. What he didn't realize or appreciate was that he can freely go to the pool because more than one million people have put their lives on the line to preserve America's democracy. Many of them have died so citizens of other countries might also enjoy the privileges of political, social and economic freedom.

Memorial Day is our opportunity to pause and remember the sacrifices of many of America's best citizens. They made the supreme sacrifice on our behalf, so please remember to honor these heroes on May 26.

****Please remember our church family members who are in our local area nursing or assisted living homes:***

Dorothy Johnson, Ron Steele - Apostolic Christian Homes, (10680 Steiner Rd., Rittman, OH)

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

Judy Twinem - Heritage Crossing Assisted Living (251 Cleveland-Massillon Rd., Montrose, OH 44333)


Jim Davis, Jim Roberts - Autumnwood Nursing & Rehab (275 E. Sunset Ave., Rittman, OH 44270)

Rev. Jim and Joan Watt - The Echelon (629 N. Huntington St., Apt. 2742, Medina, OH 44256)

Karen Aberegg, Pam Ahrens, Brenda Arnett, Shawn Aronhalt, Dawn Bauman, Bob Baus, Leigh Ann Berkley, Jen Bishop, Jonathan Bonilla, Josue Bonilla, Charlie Brandes, Boyd Breece, Levi Buxman, Jan Champa, Thelma Chapman, Marie Cole, Tanya Coleman, Mike & Mandii Cramer, Bill Crawford, Stanley Crawford, Michael Crawford, Lesa Crawford, Megan Crawford, Jamie Culler, Jim Davis, Nicholas Dras, Deb Easterday, Jordan Edgar, Scott Erwin, Darla Fletcher, Maria Fortner, Donnie Foutty, Patrick Gable, Robert Gardner, Marcia Geyer, Chris Goodman, Reed Heggie, Dwayne Hopton, Veronica Hughes, Madi Jackson, Lori Johnson, Debbie Keel, Alexis Labo, Kevin and Linda Lampar, Abbey Lentine, Chad Lightner, Lisa Lipscond, Bill Loebick, Bob Ludolph, Lauren Mackie, Laurel Mader, Helen Mann, Keith Marsden, Lisa Martin, Gemma Matthews, PJ Miller, Kristen Morris, Corey Mullinax, Denise Neeley, Frances & Joyce Nichols, Charlie Owen, Dale Owen, Ethan Porter, Sally Porter, Ron and Sue Price, Linda and Geoff Pyle, John Ramsier, Roger Ramsier, Sue Ramsey, Toby Rinaldo, Jim Roberts, Karl Rohrer, Pat Rossmiller, Haylee Rufener, Jay Russell, Linda Rutter, Betty Santmyer, Sheryl Saunders, Colleen Sheppard, Betty Shreve, Sarah Shreve, Lavonne Silva, Rick Singleton, Paul Sparkman, Verns Steele, Todd Stephan, David Stewart, John Swarzentrubler, *Carol Telford*, Ella Thomas, Kelly and Holly Thomas, Bill Timmons, Luke Truman, Alice Widmer, Sue Wilson

**Italicized are recent additions.*





A Mother of Noble Character

In Proverbs 31 (NIV), God provides the best example of a godly woman. Write the number of the sentence in the space next to the character quality it best describes.

- 1** "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies" (v. 10).
- 2** "She brings [her husband] good, not harm, all the days of her life" (v. 12).
- 3** "She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands" (v. 13).
- 4** "She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks" (v. 17).
- 5** "She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy" (v. 20).
- 6** "When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet" (v. 21).
- 7** "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised" (v. 30).

___ Caring	___ Godly	___ Prepared
___ Hardworking	___ Hearty	___ Priceless
	___ Kind	

Answers:

1. priceless, 2. kind, 3. hardworking, 4. hearty, 5. caring, 6. prepared, 7. godly

A HEART FOR Mom

Show Mom how much you appreciate all she does for you with this "heartfelt" craft. Give it to her on Mother's Day.

What you need:

- Floral stem wire
- Dried cranberries (about 100, depending on the wire's length)
- Pliers
- Decorative ribbon (about 12 inches for each craft)
- Construction paper or cardstock
- Hole punch
- Crayons or markers

What you do:

1. With an adult's help, thread cranberries, one at a time with no space between them, onto the straight wire.
2. Bend the wire into a heart shape.
3. With pliers, twist the wire together at the top of the heart.
4. Tie ribbon to make a loop atop the heart (so your mom can hang it up).
5. Fold the paper into a card, and write a message of love and gratitude to your mom. You might want to add a verse from Proverbs 31 that best describes her.
6. Punch a hole in the card. Attach it to the ribbon that's tied to the heart.



May 2025



BIRTHDAYS

Eleanor Stufft	5/1
Traci (Cristino) Coso	5/3
Isabelle Shreve	5/3
Samantha Williamson	5/6
Cindy Mann	5/8
Garrett Farlow	5/11
Rocco Pink	5/13
Alice Gilman	5/16
Denise Bennett	5/17
Mark Wachtel	5/20
Kaitlyn Thomas	5/27
Barbara Dean	5/27
Colleen Sidol	5/31

ANNIVERSARIES

- 5/4 Dennis & Tracy Wilson – 23 yrs.
 5/15 Traci & Steve Coso - 4 yr.
 5/29 John & Sandi Trogdon – 43 yrs.

MEETING DATES

- Building & Grounds - Thurs., May. 1 at 6:30 p.m.
 Worship & Music - Mon., May 5 at 10:00 a.m.
 Session Meeting - TBA
 MPW Circle - Thurs., May 8 at 7:00 p.m.

JR. CHURCH SCHEDULE

- 4 Renee Busic & Vickie Schumacher
 11 Tammy Wilson
 18 Angel Mackey & Lindsey Millan
 25 Andrea Barnes

FLOWER SCHEDULE

- 4 Kim & Ron Hart
 11 Chris & Ron White
 18 Linda & Bill Crawford
 25 Linda & Geoff Pyle

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

- 4 Kim Hart
 11 Sarah Knight
 18 MPW Participants
 25 Rich Schumacher

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

- 4 Justine Brandes
 11 Chris White
 18 Needed
 25 Needed



May 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30 pm Bldg. & Grounds (Library)	2	3 11:00 am Diann Leatherman Memorial
4 8:30 am Men's Breakfast (Fellowship Hall) 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 1-4 pm Madi Jackson Baby Shower 6 pm Youth JAM	5 10:00 am Worship & Music Comm. (Library)	6 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library) 1:30 pm - Prayer Group	7 7:00 pm Pack Leaders (Library)	8 7:00 pm MPW Circle (Parlor)	9	10 11:00 am Karen Fiorenza Memorial Service
11 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 	12 6:30 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	13 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library) 1:30 pm - Prayer Group	14	15	16	17 10:00 am Ladies Tea at Server
18 9:15am Sunday Sch. 10:30 am Worship	19	20 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library) 1:30 pm - Prayer Group	21 6:00 to 8:00 pm Free Laundry Day at laundromat 6:30 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting (FH)	22	23	24
25 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	26 6:30 pm Community Meal 7:00 pm Speaker 	27 12:30 pm - Bible Study (Library) 1:30 pm - Prayer Group	28	29	30	31 2:00 to 5:00 pm Justine's Birthday Party

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Visit us at: www.miltonpreschurch.org