

# L I G H T M E M O R I A L P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H

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## Presbyterian PATHS May Edition From the Pastor's Pen



Easter tide is always about moving beyond life's crucifixions and into life's resurrections. The third of Jesus' blessings in Luke's gospel reads: "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh."

Jesus, his disciples, and the followers are gathered on the Plain. He looks out and sees people dressed in black rags. He looks still further and sees people dressed in black finery. He notes to himself, "If money tends to divide people, death tends to unite them, however briefly." Death. One day soon, but not this day. So he teaches, heals, feeds, and laughs with the interested and the needy.

The world is full of tears: obituaries, hunger, frustration, anger, loneliness, physical pain, confusion, doubt, status changes, fear. We may even cry when we feel separated from God. Death, grief, and pain are unavoidable. Sooner or later, all of us cry. Even, despite what my dad used to tell my brother, "Big boys." Yet while it is true that for some people, laughing through tears is a way of life, it is also true that some people hurt in such a way that they come to fear that they may never laugh again.

Jesus says that sorrow will not be the last word in God's kingdom, laughter will be. (Compare this to Isaiah 25:8, and Revelation 21:4) What we see and feel now is not what we will see and feel in God's house. Weeping and mourning are natural responses to rejection, ridicule, loneliness and loss, but one day Jesus says, all that will be reversed. You will enjoy companionship, acceptance, & affirmation: a complete reversal of one's present circumstance.

This is not about the criticism that we Christians are about "pie in the sky, when we die by and by". Jesus is saying, "You who are crying now, cry. Cry as long as you need to cry." Jesus knew that humans cry in the exact amount of our attachments. We cry as much as we love. He also knew that until we empty ourselves, there really is no room for anything else. Yet when we are finally empty, when we have given love and grief their fullest measure, finally there is room for a new joy. When we are empty, there is room to laugh. Jesus, light and truth, healer and teacher, has told us once again what is so: we are made to love and cannot remain empty of love, whether that love is expressed as tears or laughter. So, fear not tears little flock, just know you are making more room for love.

Pastor Mary Jo





Our rummage and bake sale took place on April 5th and 6th with lots of hard work and fun fellowship included! Many thanks to all who helped out with organizing, setting up, and helping out with the sale. So many worked very hard raising money to support our church. Our totals for the rummage and bake sale were \$1748.49. Great work, everyone! It is not too late to pick up a treasure and add to our total.

## **FELLOWSHIP AND EVANGELISM**



Ice Cream Social-Fellowship Hall-June 9th-2:00-4:00-GAME DAY!

Bring a game or puzzle to share and enjoy great fellowship!

Please bring the following items to share-Last names beginning with:  
A-M bring ice cream toppings    N-Z bring ice cream

Fifth Sunday potluck-after worship service June 30th-bring a dish to share and enjoy!

**Dear God**

I know that I'm not perfect, I know sometimes I forget to pray, I know I have questioned my faith, I know sometimes I lose my temper, but thank you for loving me unconditionally and giving me another day to start over again..



## Birthdays

- 4 Cindy Payne
- 5 Marilyn Nightingale
- 9 Arlan Hartmann
- 13 Aspen Schilz
- 14 Owen Kurz
- 17 Jane Easterly
- 28 Jan Farmer
- 29 Jean Willburn



## Anniversaries

- 6 Fritz & JoAnn Guenther
- 25 Steve & Cathy Mattoon
- 31 Don & Clara Benisek

## Serving in May

### Lay Readers

- 5 & 12 Dwight Easterly
- 19 & 26 Sharon Hargreaves

### Greeter

- Usher Bret Whartman

### Communion Servers (12)

- Sharon Hargreaves Sally Harris
- Leslie Richards

### Local Church Committee

- \* Bret & Wanda Whartman
- Susan Griffiths
- Mary Nightingale
- Judy Pohl

## May at a Glance

**Regular Sunday Schedule: 10:00 Worship; 11:00 Fellowship**

- 5 - Reg. schedule ( Graduation Recognition - Zach Holtz & Jakob Kurz )
  - 10 - Graduation reception (Zach Holtz) fellowship hall
  - 11 - 8:00am Men's Breakfast
  - 12 - Regular Sunday -Graduation /Mother's Day  
Reception for Jakob Kurz - following gradation at their home
  - 18 - Rummage sale clean up
  - 19 - Regular Schedule
  - 21 - 6:00pm Session
  - 26 - Regular Schedule (Memorial Weekend)
  - Tuesdays- 10:00 am Bible Study
  - Wednesday— 6:30 pm Choir practice
  - Thursday- 9:00 am Donuts
- If you have not paid your Per Capita yet, it's not too late.  
This year it is \$54.34 per person.

If you are in need of Pastoral care or have names for the prayer chain please call Leslie  
at  
308-249-0557, Pastor Mary Jo at 443-359-9553, or Judy Pohl at 254-2254.