



WBPC Messenger

The Small Church with a BIG Heart!

4/2017

West Berlin Presbyterian Church

2911 Berlin Station Road
740-362-5305

Delaware, Ohio 43015 www.westberlinpc.info
Pastor Gustafson15@gmail.com 614-595-1009

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From the Pulpit...

By Robert J. Gustafson

Being a Missional Church

One of the messages of current church planning literature is that our churches need to be more missional, more outward focused. Sarah Cunningham in her book Portable Faith – How to Take Your Church to the Community shares the following incident that demonstrates the dilemma.

“The church?” The middle-aged woman behind the desk at the local bond office asked incredulously, tucking a stray strand of silvering-brown hair behind her ear. “I don’t see how ‘the church’ would change anything about a community. There have been churches here since before the city was chartered.”

The woman, although saying things that felt inflammatory to my seasoned religious ears, was difficult to dislike given her gentle-flowing tone and the weathered, mom-of-many smile lines that framed her eyes. I could image her bustling about a kitchen in a flour-covered apron, basting a turkey and offering me a tall glass of milk on Thanksgiving.

“There are at least a dozen churches within a four-block radius of here and that doesn’t change anything.” She gestured at the surrounding area almost sympathetically. “The city is the same as it’s always been. Same problems, same hardship, same cycles. Churches hold weekly services for anyone who wants to come, but I don’t think there’s any reason to believe they impact people beyond their own buildings.”

As we continue our efforts through the New Beginnings Act 2 activities to set direction for the future of West Berlin Presbyterian Church, it will behoove us to look carefully at our role in being missional in our community. We can both be of service to our community while seeking to follow the great commandment of making disciples of all nations.

With Holy Week rapidly coming up on us, it is a great time to once again, or maybe for the first time, invite friends, neighbors, relatives to join us for Palm Sunday (April 9, 10:30 AM, 11:30 AM Easter egg hunt for children); Maundy Thursday (April 13, 7:00 PM w communion, and Easter Sunday (April 16, 9:45 AM for hot cross buns, 10:30 AM worship).

Pastor Bob

April 2017 Mission & Ministry

**WILLIAM MCGRAW'S
EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF
HONOR**

Scott & Cindy McGraw 740-369-5461

WHEN:
**Sunday, April 2 from 2:00 PM
to 4:00 PM**

WHERE:
**West Berlin Presbyterian Church
2911 Berlin Station Road
Delaware, OH 43015**

Women's Society Meeting – Wednesday, April 5, 2017

WBPC Women's Society April Meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Annex. This will be a dinner meeting hosted by Diane Cox, Anna Haas, Mary Ann Johnson, and Barb Schanck. The Program is "Knotty" Blankets" that will be made at the meeting to support various mission initiatives. The Spiritual Nugget will be presented by Amy Martindale. Please plan to join us for the dinner and activity. Supplies to make the blankets will be provided. See you there!!!



Maundy Thursday Service & Communion April 13, 2017 - 7:00 PM

Please join us on Thursday, April 13, 2017 for the Maundy Thursday Service.

Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper when Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples on the night before he was crucified. While different denominations observe Maundy Thursday in their own distinct ways, two important biblical events are the primary focus of Maundy Thursday solemnizations:

Before the Passover meal, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples.

By performing this lowly act of service, the Bible says in John 13:1 that Jesus "showed them the full extent of his love." By his example, Jesus demonstrated how Christians are to love one another through humble service.

During the Passover meal, Jesus took bread and wine and asked his Father to bless it. He broke the bread into pieces, giving it to his disciples and said, "This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup of wine, shared it with his disciples and said, "This wine is the token of God's new covenant to save you--an agreement sealed with the blood I will pour out for you."

These events recorded in Luke 22:19-20 describe the Last Supper and form the biblical basis for the practice of Communion. For this reason, many churches hold special Communion services as a part of their Maundy Thursday celebrations and include West Berlin Presbyterian Church.

The word "Maundy" is derived from the Latin word *mandatum*, meaning "commandment," *Maundy* refers to the commands Jesus gave his disciples at the Last Supper: to love with humility by serving one another and to remember his sacrifice. Hope you will join us for this special service.



Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Bible Dedication Service Palm Sunday - April 9, 2017

During our Palm Sunday and Passover worship service, we will be dedicating the new bibles purchased for the church by Bill Hanning, Barb Schanck and the Alice Cox Class. The new red bibles are the New Standard Revised Version and are in large print. WBPC shows its appreciation for this wonderful gift!!!!

Join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt following Worship Service on Palm Sunday, April 9, 2017. Donations of candy or monetary donations are much appreciated!!! Please see Amy Martindale if you wish to contribute. Bring family and friends and join in the fun. In the event of inclement weather, the hunt will be held in the Church Annex.

Good Friday Cross Walk and Ecumenical Worship April 14, 2017

Please mark your calendar for Friday, April 14, 2017, for the Good Friday Crosswalk and Ecumenical Worship Service at St. Mary's Catholic Church. If you are attending, plan to meet at 11:00 AM. for the crosswalk with Worship Service to begin at 12:00 PM.

Easter Sunday Worship & Baptism Service - April 16, 2017

Easter Sunday is observed on Sunday, April 16, 2017. Join us as we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior!!!! Please bring spring flowers to decorate our Living Cross during worship.

We look forward to having you, your family, and friends worship with us on this Holy Day and celebrate the Resurrection together! Jaycen Jordan will be baptized during the service. This will be a wonderful event in our worship time!!!



One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance), provide food to the hungry (Presbyterian Hunger Program), and helping to empower the poor and oppressed (Self Development of People). For example, thanks to our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) was able to respond to the refugee crisis in Syria and Lebanon soon after it began. Working with churches in the region, primarily the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon, PDA helps Syrian refugee children in Lebanon continue their education and provides refugee families food, shelter, and heating oil.

**Our congregation will receive OGHS contributions on Passion/Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.
Please share your resources to change lives by designating 'OGHS' on your One Great Hour of Sharing offering**

Save the Date - Annual Chicken Noodle Dinner April 28, 2017



It's that time of year again...WBPC looks forward to welcoming family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and colleagues to our Annual Chicken Noodle Dinner as we will gather from 4:30 PM until 7:00 PM over food, fun and fellowship. The Alice Cox Class will donate this year's donations to Family Promise Ministry.

All are welcome!!! Bring a friend!

MTSO Community Supported Agriculture

Seminary Hill Farm is a 5-acre certified-organic produce farm on the campus of MTSO. Their CSA program provides members fresh, local fruits and vegetables every week grown for three seasons. Distribution is on the MTSO campus or Mirada apartments in Lewis Center. Sign-up before March 31st. You can learn more about the program and farm at <https://www.seminaryhillfarm.org/csaprogram/>

April 2017 Worship and Calendar of Events

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| Sunday, April 2, 2017 (9:30/10:30 AM) | Adult Sunday School/Worship/Communion/Session |
| Sunday, April 2, 2017 (2:00 – 4:00 PM) | William McGraw Eagle Scout Court of Honor - (Hosted by Women's Society) |
| Monday, April 3, 2017 (7:00 PM) | Deacon and Mission Board |
| Wednesday, April 5, 2017 (6:30 PM) | Women's Society – "Knotty Blankets" |
| Sunday, April 9, 2017 (9:30/10:30 AM) | Palm and Passover Sunday Worship/New Bible Dedication/Easter Egg Hunt following Worship-All Are Welcome!!! |
| Wednesday, April 12, 2017 (11:00 AM) | John Rae Class – 36/37 Bob Evans |
| Thursday, April 13, 2017 (7:00 PM) | Maundy Thursday Service/Communion |
| Friday, April 14, 2017 (11:00 & 12:00 AM) | Good Friday Activities – St. Mary's Church, Delaware, Ohio |
| Sunday, April 16, 2017 (9:30/10:30 AM) | Easter Sunday Service /No Adult Sunday School/ Hot Cross Buns before Worship Service/Baptism Jaycen Jordan |
| Thursday, April 19, 2017 (6:30 PM) | Ladies' Night Out – J. Gumbo's – Sandusky Street, Downtown Delaware |
| Sunday, April 23, 2017 (9:30/10:30 AM) | Adult Sunday School/Worship |
| Friday, April 28, 2017 (4:30-7:00 PM) | Chicken Noodle Community Dinner |
| Sunday, April 30, 2017 (9:30/10:30 AM) | Adult Sunday School/Worship |

LOOKING AHEAD>>>>>>>

Wednesday, May 3, 2017 (6:30PM)

Women's Society Dinner Meeting – “Turning Point”

April Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Birthdays

6 – Charlene Barrie; 7-Eileen Doucher, 8-Aaron Roll and Tom Gooding,
14-Cathy Cramer, 21-Blaire Martindale, 25-Julia Roll

Anniversaries

4-Aaron and Jaymi Roll

