

A P R I L 2 0 2 4

INSIGHTS

The Newsletter of Mitchells Presbyterian Church

Looking ahead:

APRIL 1 -- APRIL FOOLS DAY

APRIL 7-- COMMUNION (First Sunday of Month)

APRIL 21-- POTLUCK 5 PM

MAY 18-- QUILTING WORKSHOP 9AM-1PM

MAY 19-- END OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION

AUG 16-- STEAK DINNER 5-7 PM



Contact Us:

12229 Mitchell Road
Mitchells, VA 22729

Office: 540-825-1079
Pastor's cell: 540-881-0201

Website:

mitchellspresbyterian.org

YouTube:

youtube.com/@mitchellspresbyterian

Email:

mitchellspresbyterian@gmail.com

Pastor's Email:

mitchellspcpastor@gmail.com

Prayer Chain Email:

prayersofmitchells@gmail.com

Pastors Corner:

This year, we have found ourselves in a time in which Easter feels as though it has come exceptional early. For a timeline perspective, I preached Easter Sunday last year on the 9th of April, nearly 2 weeks later than 2024. Therefore, the month of March will be exclusively the Eastertide season this year. No other major Christian holiday will break into our lives during March, which means we have a unique opportunity to reflect upon how Eastertide (and for this year, fully the month of March) can inspire our faith journeys.

After reflecting for the 40 plus days of the Lenten season, we enter into the fullness of Holy Week, and we can be left exhausted by all that is held within the season. Yet, Eastertide brings us another counting of days, and another opportunity for spiritual and faith consideration. You see, while for many Easter is simply the weekend that begins with Good Friday and ends with Resurrection Sunday, or for the more secular folks Easter Monday (simply due to when the public holiday occurs); it is often forgotten that the full Easter periods **BEGINS** with resurrection Sunday and ends with Pentecost Sunday, a total of 50 days.

Eastertide (Easter Sunday to Pentecost) corresponds with the Jewish feasts of Pesach, which we know as Passover, and the holiday of Shavuot [shah-voo-OTE], which is the holiday celebrating the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. The count is from the second night of Passover to the day of Shavuot, totaling 49 days, where we as Christians at the Sunday of Resurrection as our 50th day. These days in-between the feasts and Easter/Pentecost are known as the Counting of the Omer. This period marks the beginning of the barley harvest when, in ancient times, Jews would bring the first sheaves to the Temple as a means of thanking God for the harvest.

Continued on Page 2

Pastors Corner, Continued:

The word omer literally means “sheaf” and refers to these early offerings. This time is based off the words of Leviticus 23:15-16. “You shall count from the eve of the second day of Pesach, when an omer of grain is to be brought as an offering, seven complete weeks. The day after the seventh week of your counting will make fifty days, and you shall present a new meal offering to God”.

In Christianity, these 49-50 days are symbolic of the days that passed for the followers of Christ from Christ’s resurrection to the Pentecost (the coming of the Holy Spirit during the ancient Shavuot celebration. Nowadays, it is meant to be, for us, a time of celebration, of prayer and of jubilation at the power of God and the resurrection of the Messiah as we prepare ourselves to celebrate the gift that is the Holy Spirit, which fills each of us and connects each of us to one another as well as to God Almighty and Jesus, our Messiah. It is a time that defined Christianity, as it bears witness to the risen Lord. Therefore this year’s April is Eastertide, and Eastertide is our time to ponder on a crucial, though seldomly highlighted period of the Christian calendar as we count the days, leading us to our next encounter with the divine.

**Eastertide Blessings,
Pastor Patrick**

GriefShare is coming to Mitchells

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people try to understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through this 13-week faith-based group, you’ll discover more about the grief journey. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you’ll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way. Trained and equipped facilitators will be on hand to guide the sessions and be available to help in healing.

Graeme Tidman and Pastor Patrick will be facilitating sessions of GriefShare at Mitchells Presbyterian Church. The ministry will be in the planning stages for the next few months and dates and times for the first session will be announced soon. Please be in prayer for this worthwhile and much needed program in our community.

**LENT IN PLAIN SIGHT
--BOOK STUDY--**

TUESDAY MORNING
4/2 @ 9:00AM
SOUTHGATE COFFEE SHOP

THURSDAY EVENING
4/4 @ 6:30PM
OLD HOUSE VINEYARD

USHERS:
Perry Kinsey
and
Scott Mitchell

CHURCH CALENDAR

MORNING WORSHIP11:00AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL9:45AM-10:30AM
CHOIR [WEDNESDAY]7:30PM
MEN OF CHURCH [FIRST THURSDAY OF MONTH]60PM
YOUTH [SECOND SUNDAY OF MONTH]5:30PM
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN [SECOND TUESDAY OF MONTH].....5:30PM
SESSION [SECOND THURSDAY OF MONTH]7:00PM

CHURCH DIRECTORY

PASTORREV. PATRICK FISHER LANE
ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTORMARY SCOTT GYORY
TREASURERRON EVANS
ASSISTANT TREASURERTOM CUCCHERINI

CLASS OF 2024

Brett Massey
Carol Inskeep
Ron Evans

CLASS OF 2025

Kim Hicks
Scott Mitchell
Thomas Cuccherini

CLASS OF 2026

Ann Walker
Tom Cuccherini
Roger Eakin

MUSIC NOTES FROM MARY SCOTT



Culpeper is truly blessed to have exceptional musical performances presented to the community by Culpeper Baptist Church. All concerts are free and take place in the church sanctuary. I urge you to place these dates on your calendar and bring friends with you. You will be blown away as you experience these concerts. Check out the bulletin board near the Music Room for more details about each concert.



This was outstanding and can be viewed at the Culpeper Baptist Church YouTube channel starting at 7 minutes 40 seconds.

March 14 | 7:00 p.m. | Nathaniel Gumbs

April 9 | 7:00 p.m. | Claire Jones

May 19 | 7:00 p.m. | Virginia Bronze

July 3 | 7:00 p.m. | Seipp/Sheets Duo

September 22 | 4:00 p.m. | Washington Balalaika Society

October 15 | 7:00 p.m. | Howard University Choir

November 3 | 4:00 p.m. | Eric Byrd Trio



Potluck Dinner and Dessert Walk

Bring your favorite potluck meal,
and bake your favorite dessert for a dessert walk
hosted by the Congregational Life and Ministry Committee



**Sunday, 5pm
April 21st**

Free Admission

Donations Appreciated

THE BLUE RIDGE CHORALE PRESENTS



SPRING CONCERT

Friday, May 3
Lake of the Woods
Church
7:30 PM

Sunday, May 5
Culpeper United
Methodist Church
3:00 PM

Melanie Bolas | Director
Kathy Pellegreen | Assistant Director
Brittany Bache | Accompanist

End of School
Celebration
May 19th

Name: _____
Grade Completed: _____

2023-2024

Safety & Security Committee April 2024

CPR, AED, First Aid Classes a Resounding
Success

The Safety & Security Committee (SSC) has been concerned that MPC did not have enough attendees certified in CPR, AED, and First Aid. The SSC's decision to offer classes and subsidize 75% of the cost of training met with outstanding results! Ten people completed the all-day classes on Saturday, March 16th! To our knowledge we now have 12 people currently holding all 3 certifications. A big thank you to Becky Payette for making the arrangements and to all who participated and became certified.



The Shawl Ministry

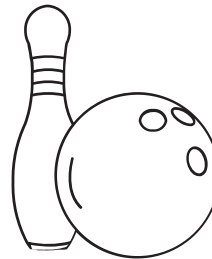
is sponsoring a new opportunity, and it is open to ALL !
If you can tie your shoes, you will be an asset to our new mission.
There will be a Quilting Workshop at the church on:
May 18, 2024, from 9:00 - 1:00.

The Shawl Ministry will be making Prayer Quilts. The quilts will be at different stages of construction, and anyone will be welcome to help.

Please mark your calendars.



The Mitchells Presbyterian Women prepared 27 fun-filled Easter Baskets for the Culpeper Food Closet to distribute to area families.



BOWLERS.....Dust off those bowling balls & shoes!!
We are looking for a group of 4 to team up for the Encompass Fundraiser in Warrenton on Saturday June 22, 2024.

More information will be shared in upcoming Sunday morning services.

Please see Pastor Patrick for details.

MITCHELLS PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Mitchells Presbyterian Women met Tuesday, March 12th. Kim Hicks presented our lesson from our Study Book "Your Beautiful Purpose". We prepared for the benevolent reception for the Settle Family, scheduled the Easter Basket project for the Culpeper Food closet, and discussed considering another end-of-summer retreat. Our next meeting will be Tuesday April 8th at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

The Culpeper Presbyterian Women will be hosting the annual Spring Gathering for the Presbytery of the James. All women of MPC have been invited to attend this gathering on Saturday April 20th, 8:45 M to 12 Noon. Morning refreshments will be served followed by the meeting focus of supporting the missions worldwide, working for justice and peace, and building an inclusive community that strengthens the Presbyterian Church and witness to the promise of God's kingdom.

This is a great opportunity to participate, since it is being held in our hometown. If you are interested in attending this event please contact me as-soon-as-possible.

GOOD TIMERS

We have a change in our April 25th scheduled lunch.

*Please note we will **NOT** be going to The Silk Mill in Orange.*

They have notified us that they are not serving lunch at this time due to a shortage of servers.

We hope this is temporary and we can return there at another date.

Alice went on the hunt and has found us another place in Orange called Main Street Tavern. Guess what! It is right on Main Street!!! She brought me a menu and it looks quite good and delicious.

A few of the items are:

Turkey Club Panini	Herb Crusted Salmon
Chicken Bruschetta Panini	Champagne Chicken
Fish and Chips	Crab Cakes
Philly Cheesesteak	Italian Wrap

These are just a few of the entrees, but I wanted to get your taste buds going!

April 25 Good Timers will meet at Main Street Tavern in Orange on Main Street at noon.

Still hunting for a place for our May 23rd gathering. We have a couple places to check out, but we welcome any suggestions.



Ms. Vera Somerville was selected as Dogwood Village Valentine's Day Queen 2024

Submitted by:
Amy Shea, Activities Assistant
Dogwood Village of Orange County Health & Rehab.



.....

COMMUNITY STEAK DINNER

Friday, August 16th, 2024
5:00pm - 7:00pm

.....

Steak - Potatoes - Corn
Pudding - Green Beans -
Hot Dogs - Salad - Rolls -
Drinks - Dessert



5 & Under: Free Hotdogs
Ages 6-12: \$8
Older than 12: \$17

12229 Mitchell Road
Mitchells, Virginia 22729

Session Report

January and March 2024 Session Meetings

Following the vote by the Congregation last fall, the Session members are now the Trustees of Mitchells Presbyterian Church, Inc., the business agent of Mitchells Presbyterian Church. At the January 2024 meeting the following Corporate Officers were elected:

Ann Walker -- President
Roger Eakin -- Vice President
Ron Evans -- Treasurer
Steve Hicks -- Secretary

Session elected the following officers of the Church for 2024:

Ron Evans -- Treasurer
Thomas Cuccherini -- Assistant Treasurer
Steve Hicks -- Clerk of Session

Session approved the use of the Sanctuary on April 27th from 11:00 a.m. through 5:30 p.m. for the wedding of Cindy Graff and John East.

Session approved transferring 5% of the average balance of the Replacement Reserve Fund for Missions & Outreach use in 2024 on an as-needed basis.

The Audit Committee of Mary Lou Phillips, Posey Howell, and Kaye Inskeep reported to Session that they "found the accounting records for Mitchells Presbyterian Church to be in order for the calendar year 2023." Session adopted the Audit Committee report.

The Pastor was granted leave for: Continuing Education April 8-11 & October 8-14, and Vacation April 24-29 and May 22-29.

The following dates for Communion were approved:

February 4, 11, and 14; March 3, 24, 28, and 31 (Easter); April 7; May 5, 19, and 26; June 2; July 7; August 4, and September 1. Additional dates will be approved at future Session meetings.

Session requested that the Mission & Outreach Committee work with Graeme Tidman to fund a GriefShare program at Mitchells at an initial cost of \$600. More information will be forthcoming on this vital ministry.

Approval was given to the Buildings & Grounds Committee to purchase gutter guards for the rain gutters at a cost of \$3,000 and to also purchase asphalt crack sealer (final price unknown).

Tom Cuccherini thanked those who came out for the Saturday Clean-up day on March 9th .

Session approved a request from the Safety and Security Committee to pay for firearms simulation training for members of the Quick Response Team of the Church at an annual cost of \$780.

As a reminder, Session meets on the 2 nd Thursday of odd numbered months normally at 7:00 p.m.

Congregational Meeting Actions

At the Annual Congregational Meeting held Sunday, February 25, 2024 the Congregation approved the following:

Elected Conley Wallace, Patti Weaver, and Janet Miller to be Congregational members of the 2024 Nominating Committee.

Session members will be Carol Inskeep, Chair, and Kim Hicks.

The Congregation also voted to rescind the restriction placed on the proceeds from the sale of the manse in 2011 and allow those funds to be added to the Replacement Reserve Fund for future Church needs.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY:

Would you be interested in getting to know one another better? If there is enough interest, Congregational Life and Ministry (CLM) Committee will create random 4 x 4 groups each quarter.

A group could consist of 4 singles, 4 couples, 2 couples and two singles, etc. Once a group is formed, the members of that group will decide what they want to do together as a group (go to lunch after worship service, dine in a member's home, go to an event as a group) during that quarter. It is recommended that the group does something together at least twice in the quarter. This is an amazing way to really get to know one another.

If you're interested, please let Kim Hicks know by the end of April.

The first groups will be created and ready for July 1. Kim can be reached by email at nannakim58@gmail.com or by phone 540- 718-3058.

There will also be a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.

Mitchells Presbyterian Cancer Care Team



The American Cancer Society's estimates for testicular cancer in the United States for 2024 are:

- About 9,760 new cases of testicular cancer diagnosed
- About 500 deaths from testicular cancer

The incidence rate of testicular cancer has been increasing in the US and many other countries for several decades. The increase is mostly in seminomas. Experts have not been able to find reasons for this. Lately, the rate of increase has slowed.

Testicular cancer is not common: about 1 of every 250 males will develop testicular cancer at some point during their lifetime.

The average age of males when first diagnosed with testicular cancer is about 33. This is largely a disease of young and middle-aged men, but about 6% of cases occur in children and teens, and about 8% occur in men older than 55.

Because testicular cancer usually can be treated successfully, a man's lifetime risk of dying from this cancer is very low: about 1 in 5,000 .

Men of Mitchells Church

The April meeting of the Men of Mitchells will be held on Thursday, April 4th at 6:30 p.m. at Uncle Elder's Restaurant on Culpeper Street. Please let Steve Hicks know by April 2nd if you plan to attend.

The May 2 meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. at the Church with dinner. Roger Eakin will present to the Men a project that was discussed briefly before, but now has funding. Please be in attendance for this meeting. The project will be one that will get the whole congregation involved in supporting disaster relief.

APRIL
AUTISM
AWARENESS MONTH



Spring has sprung and there have been a lot of things to announce this month.

It is exciting to see our church family and community "blooming"!

If you have anything you would like to include in the newsletter, let us know of your joys, concerns, jokes or suggestions.

Submissions are due monthly by the 25th to: mस्कaffy2@gmail.com

April 2024

NOTES:

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Linda Brooks APRIL FOOLS DAY	2 Jill Preihs	3	4 MENS MEETING	5	6
7 Nancy (Pannill) Denton Brett & Kathy Massey COMMUNION	8 SOLAR ECLIPSE	9 WOMENS MEETING	10 Kathy Massey	11 Posey Howell Roger & Hazel Eakin	12	13
14	15	16 Patricia Somerville	17	18	19	20 Charlie Cuccherini
21 Libba Chase POTLUCK	22 MANNA	23	24	25	26	27 WEDDING
28	29	30 Matthew Sousa				

**PROGRESSIVE DINNER
SEPTEMBER DATE TBD**

You're all invited to Mitchells Presbyterian Church's First Progressive Dinner! It is a time to connect with others over a fun meal setting including appetizers, soup & salad, a main course and pie for dessert. Congregational Life and Ministry (CLM) Committee is looking for both people who would like to host a part of the meal and for individuals wanting to attend!

For the hosts, you can expect 8 to 10 people. Pie for dessert will all be together at the church at the end of the evening. If you aren't hosting part of the meal, we ask that you bring a pie to share at the church for the end of the evening.

Complete the form and return to Kim Hicks. Paper copies can be found in the fellowship hall.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER REGISTRATION:

Name(s): _____

Home Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Number of Individuals Attending: _____

List any Food or Pet Allergies: _____

Would you like to:

Host: _____

Attend: _____

If you would like to host, what part of the meal?

Appetizers: _____

Soup & Salad: _____

Main Course: _____

If you would like to host, would you be willing to take on extra people if there is a need?

Yes: _____

No: _____