



The Portage Presbyterian



A Newsletter for The Portage Presbyterian Family

June 2019

PORTAGE SUMMER LUNCH FOR KIDS

This will be the 6th year in which the "Portage Summer Lunch for Kids" program will help to meet the nutritional needs of young people in our community.

"Volunteer training" will be offered on Thursday, May 30 (during the day - time to be determined) and on Tuesday, June 4 (in the evening - time to be determined).

Once again we will serve meals at 4 sites: *Portage Public Library; Goodyear Park (Splash Pad); Lincoln Park; and Sanborn Park.*

Last summer we served over 5000 meals to young people in the community.

The first day of serving meals this summer will be Wednesday, June 12.

Come and help make a difference in the lives of young people in the Portage community.

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Dave.

Thank you!

"HABITAT FOR HUMANITY" NEWS

"Habitat for Humanity in Columbia County" has just been approved to do "aging in place" modifications to homes.

If there is anyone who needs ramps or shower bars, anything to allow them to stay in their home, they should apply!

"PPC SOFTBALL" - IN THE "BIG-INNING"

Efforts are being made to organize a Portage church softball league which would begin play near the end of May or beginning of June.

Alex Harvey has agreed to be the "GM" for "Team PPC."

If you would like to be a part of this team or would like more information (or need to have your contract details worked out), contact Alex ASAP.

Thanks!



VBS Registration

COMMUNITY VBS COMING IN AUGUST!

From August 5-9 young people from 4 years of age through 6th grade are invited to "Roar!"

Four churches are coming together to offer this unique community Vacation Bible School experience, which will be held at the Portage United Methodist Church - Portage United Methodist, St. Mary's Catholic, Bethlehem Lutheran and PPC.

New this year is an "online site" where you can get more information, register and volunteer. Please check it out at ...

<https://sites.google.com/view/portage-area-vbs-2019/home>

Costs for "Roar" are \$10.00 / child or a fee of \$25.00 / family.

Come and hang out for a wild and fun time as we learn more about God's love for all of us.



HOW TO "HELP" ONE ANOTHER

Sometimes we wonder where we might go if we need a little help. Or sometimes how we can best help someone in need.

In order to help you be aware of the many wonderful resources in our community, we have included a "community resource" insert in this month's newsletter.

Please feel free to use this information and to share this information with everyone.

Thanks!



UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 2, 2019

The Seventh Sunday of Eastertide

9:30 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

"Graduation Sunday"

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Fellowship Time after worship in Parry Hall

Sunday, June 9, 2019

Pentecost Sunday

9:30 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, June 16, 2019

Trinity Sunday

9:30 a.m. - *"Informal" Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, June 23, 2019

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, June 30, 2019

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

"EMAIL INFO" FOR PPC OFFICES

To reach Pastor Dave by email:
pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com

To reach the church office by email:
office@portagepresbyterian.com

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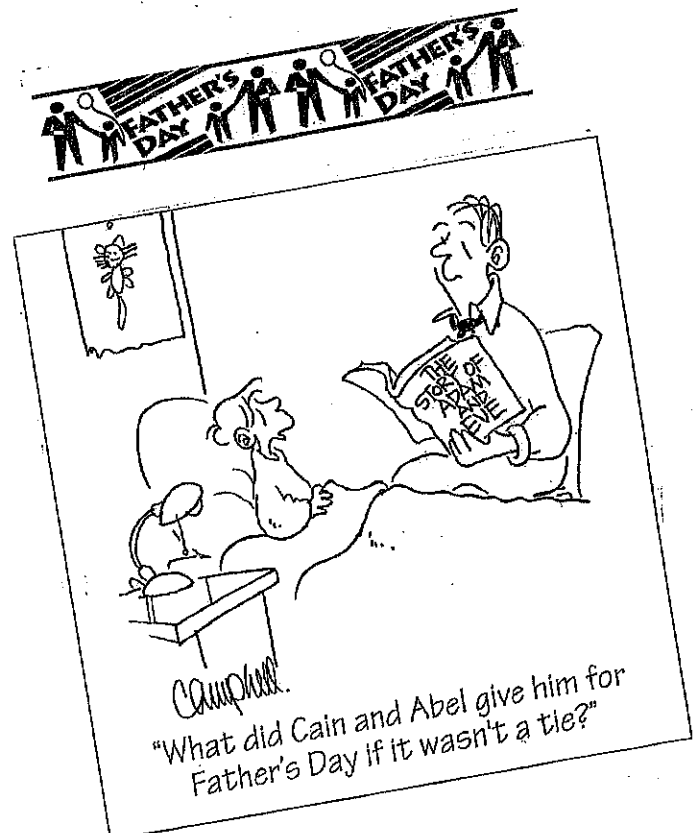
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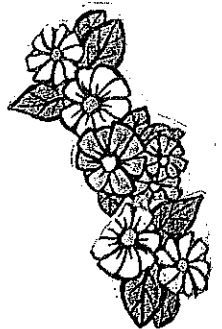


Church Office Hours

Monday – 10:00am – 12:00pm
 Tuesday – Office Closed
 Wednesday – 8:00am – 1:00pm
 Thursday – Office Closed
 Friday – 8:00am – 1:00pm

June

2019



SUNDAY **MONDAY** **TUESDAY** **WEDNESDAY** **THURSDAY** **FRIDAY** **SATURDAY**

<p>BTR – Bell Tower Room FH – Fellowship Hall PH – Parry Hall SA – Sanctuary WC – Westminster Center</p>						<p>1 10:00am-3:00pm Cupcake Stand at Commerce Plaza</p>	
<p>2 7th Sunday of Easter Commencement Sunday 8:30am Bible Study, BRK 9:30am Traditional Worship, SA Lord's Supper Discipling Meeting, PH</p>	<p>3 5:30pm ACA, WC</p>		<p>4 6:00-8:00pm Summer Food Volunteer Training, Columbia County Health and Services Building</p>	<p>5 6:00pm Session Meeting, WC</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 6:00pm Light Supper, FH 6:30pm Euchar, Mission for River Haven</p>	<p>8 </p>
<p>9 Pentecost Sunday 9:30am Traditional Worship SA Fellowship Produce/Bake Sale Day</p>	<p>10 </p>		<p>11 10:00am Region 5 Prayer Group, PH</p>	<p>12 6:00pm Women's Association serving pies at Concert at the Portage (VFW)</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Newsletter Articles Due in Office</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 Trinity Sunday 9:30am Informal Worship, SA Luncheon For Thomas 4:00pm New Directions 4-H Meeting, FH</p>	<p>17 10:00am Worship Service at Tivoli Home Communion</p>		<p>18 11:00am "Late For Breakfast" at Dino's</p>	<p>19 6:00pm Women's Association serving pies at Concert at the Portage (VFW)</p>	<p>20 Home Communion</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 2nd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Traditional Worship, SA 30 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Traditional Worship, SA</p>	<p>24 5:00-6:00pm Sharing Supper at Barrels Middle School</p>		<p>25</p>	<p>26 </p>	<p>27 Home Communion</p>	<p>28 Sunday Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Third Sunday of Each Month is Informal Service Child Care Available Church Is Handicapped Accessible Everyone Invited!</p>	<p>29</p>

PENTECOST OFFERING

The Pentecost offering will be collected on June 9th. Our church will retain 40% of this offering that will be used to support ministries that encourage, develop and support our young people, as well as provide assistance to at-risk children. Offering envelopes are available in your envelope box, in the pew rack and attached to this newsletter.

UPCOMING "BIBLE STUDY" INFO

The Adult Bible Class will be having its last class (until Fall) on Sunday, June 2 ... @ 8:30 a.m. Please note the change of time for this class!

Come and join us in the Bell Tower Room for a time of interesting discussion and fellowship.

The Adult Bible Class is led by the Rev. Dr. Carol Hermann.



"THANK YOU" FROM THE GIDEONS

On behalf of Gideons International, Adam Russ and I would like to thank you for the offering totaling \$228.00. (That amount will grow as several folks said they will be sending checks in) We will be able to provide 46 Bibles or 182 Pocket Testaments for distribution in 201 countries and in over 100 languages. It was good to be with you. We appreciate your support.

The offering is evidence of what we consider to be a partnership between the church and The Gideons International in providing God's Word to a lost world. We are actively working as an extended missionary arm for our supportive churches. Please know that these funds will be used in their entirety to purchase and provide Scriptures in the traffic lanes of life. Certainly we can pray for searching hearts to be touched and for souls to be saved by way of these Scriptures.

We pray that you continue to enjoy God's abundant blessings!

*In Christ,
Kenneth R. Manthey
Portage Gideon Camp*



"RIVER HAVEN" - VOLUNTEERS?

The River Haven's Family Shelter and Men's Shelter are both open again!

One of the things that River Haven Shelter is doing is reconnecting with the community in order to recruit volunteers to help in the work and ministry of the shelter.

Being available 24/7 for those in need necessitates a significant number of people to be a part of the work of the shelter.

This is a perfect opportunity for those who seek to help make a difference in the community by offering your time and presence as a shelter volunteer.

To find out what volunteer opportunities are available or for more information, contact the River Haven Shelter @ 742-7687.

Thank you!

Pastor's Page

I find it fascinating how long it took Jesus to convince the disciples that he was not dead.

Now, we should not look to denigrate the disciples for their struggles. After all, "resurrection" had never happened before. They had seen Jesus die! While they had hoped things would be different, the stone rolled in front of the tomb seemed pretty strong evidence that indeed it was finished.

Then Jesus starts appearing - here, there and everywhere. The disciples were filled with a strange mix of emotions. Over and over again we read and hear about them being terrified and confused, and yet joyful, when Jesus is with them.

In the 24th chapter of Luke's gospel, we find a most intriguing gathering. Jesus shows up with the disciples and says "Peace be with you." The disciples, we are told, are startled and terrified.

But this leads to a really extraordinary exchange between Jesus and those who knew him best. Jesus recognizes the terror in the eyes of these people and tries to set their minds at rest. "*Why are you frightened and what do doubts arise in your hearts?*" Jesus asks. "*Look at my hands and my feet. It is really me. Touch me and see.*"

Still, we are told that they were "*joyful, but still disbelieving and still wondering.*" Jesus had to wonder what in the world it would take to convince these disciples that he was not dead.

Jesus knew that unless and until they believed that he was not dead they would not be able to really hear, understand and accept what God had made possible in and through Jesus' death and resurrection. What would it take to break through?

So, Jesus does something wonderfully unconventional. He asks them a question. "*What do you have to eat?*"

Undoubtedly, the disciples had to wonder if they really heard this. Nevertheless, they go and get a piece of broiled fish and give it to him. "*And he took and ate it in their presence.*"

And Jesus took the fish and he ate the fish. Imagine something so ordinary and common would be the tool which Jesus uses to convince these disciples he was not dead. Not his appearing among

them. Not his words. But Jesus eating a piece of fish!

Once they were sure that Jesus really was not dead, it was then that Jesus could move on and begin to "open the Scriptures" to them. When they accepted that he was not dead, "then" they could hear these life-giving words for them.

Sometimes we are led to believe that it is only by a "jaw-dropping, mind-blowing, knock your socks off Lucas-film type" of miracle that we can begin to experience the presence of God in our lives and through our lives. Yes, the Apostle Paul is proof that there times that God uses such miraculous displays to intercede in the world.

Yet, how often do the Scriptures point to the "ordinary" ways in which God reaches out to get our attention. Jesus in fact used the simple and ordinary objects and experiences to help those around him begin to explain the mysterious and inexplicable Kingdom of God.

I began to wonder - just how might God be trying to get our attention? What might it take us to be convinced that God is alive and at work and with us?

Could it be something as simple as the bright sun in the morning? Or the laughter of children playing? Or the cycle of the seasons? Or eating together around a table here at PPC?

Or the lives with whom we intersect, either long term or for a few moments, which may not only make a difference for the others, but certainly touches our own lives.

It is indeed an awesome thing to realize that God is with us and that God continues to reach out to us even now. Knowing that God is truly with us can make all the difference in our life's journey.

Yet, perhaps, just as awesome is for us to consider that we, as individuals and as a church community, can be the means through which God reaches out to the world. We could be the ones through whom God gets the attention of others. Knowing that God is working in us and through us can make all the difference in the life's journey of the people and the world around us.



TRY "SCRIP" - YOU'LL LOVE IT!

Scrip Fundraising is here @ PPC!

And it is EASY!!!

Scrip fundraising is a no selling program that enable members and friends of the Portage Presbyterian Church to participate in.

Scrip gift cards are the same gift cards you can purchase from the retailer. With over 300 of the Country's biggest brands, including grocery, department stores, gas stations, restaurants and home improvement and by planning ahead on everyday purchases the Women's Association will profit!

Examples of gift cards in our area are: *Festival Foods, Piggy Wiggly, Walmart, Walgreens, Subway, Cracker Barrel, BP Gas Stations, Kwik Trip, Mobil, Applebee's, Bath & Body Works, Amazon.....and so many more.*

Questions???? Contact Elaine Crammond at 742-3899 or 608 215-8899.

This is an ongoing fundraising program that will be available year round.

Consider our new approach and help us reach our mission goals!

An "order sheet" is included with the newsletter and also are available in Parry Hall!

CONCERT AT THE PORTAGE

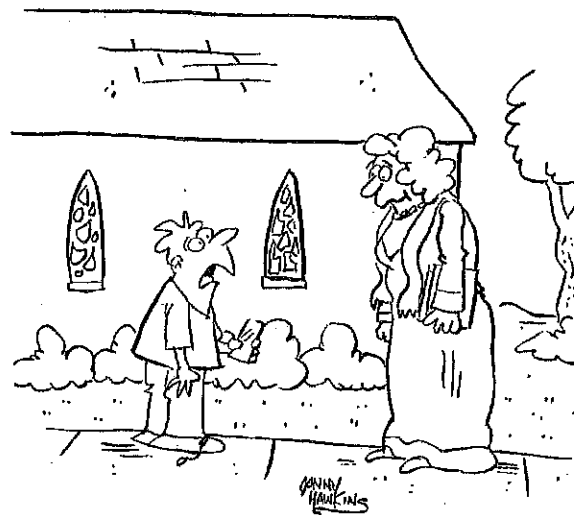
On Wednesday evening, July 10, the Event's Committee will be providing dessert at the Concert at the Portage that is being held at the VFW. The group performing that evening is "Best Practice". They will draw a huge crowd. There will be a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in Parry Hall for pies. If possible please use a disposable pie pan. The pies need to be brought to the church by noon July 10th. It should be a fun evening so come join us at the park.

Mark your calendars for November 9th, which will be the Harvest Dinner

EYE GLASS COLLECTION

Thanks to all who donated glasses during our Lion's Club eyeglass collection in May. If you find old glasses other times during the year just bring them to me and I will see they get to the proper place.

Nancy Schaper---Portage Lions Club



"I'll come to VBS, but can you take the word 'school' out of it?"

"TECHNOLOGY" PROJECT GROUP

Would you like to be a part of a conversation about how "technology" might benefit the work and ministry here at PPC?

From our initial conversation 3 areas of consideration were raised: **educational uses; worship uses; and enhancing communication uses.**

While these areas are distinct we also noted that there is significant crossover with them.

We would welcome anyone else who may be interested in exploring how technology could enhance the ministry and outreach of the PPC community.

This is a "project group" experience. The task of the "group" will be to discuss, explore and make any recommendations to the Session regarding technology. Once this has been done, the "project group" has completed its task. That's it!

If you are interested in finding out more or in participating, please contact either Pam Crossley or Pastor Dave.



PRODUCE DAYS

Summer Produce Days will be held on June 9, July 14 and August 11. For the past three months we have had delicious items for our monthly bake sales. We are looking forward to more fresh produce being available. Bring your fresh flowers, fresh vegetables, fresh fruit, homemade jelly or other food items to church on those days or any Sunday. They will be displayed and the money received will be used for Mission Stewardship projects. Any questions contact Nancy Schaper.

BRAT and HOT DOG SALE

We had a wonderful brat, hamburger and hot dog sale on Saturday, May 11 at Festival Foods Brat Hut. We sold 200 brats, 24 hamburgers and 30 hot dogs along with soda and water. We made \$590.09 for the general operating budget of our church. Thanks to Kevin Foster for grilling all the brats and hot dogs. Thanks also to Donna Mohr and Allison Foster for their help all day. Thanks to all of you who came and supported us. Mark your calendars for **August 31st** when our next sale will be at Festival Foods.

Nancy Schaper

CARD PARTY

Our next card party to benefit River Haven will be on **June 7**. We will serve a Lite Lunch at 6:00 and Cards will begin at 6:30. The cost is \$5.00 and a donation to the Food Pantry is requested. Every one is welcome to a "fun" evening.

CANAL DAYS

On June 1st we will be walking in the Canal Days parade. We will also be selling cupcakes at the Chamber Plaza from 10:00AM-3:00PM to benefit our Mission Trippers 2020 Mission Trip. Come and join in the fun and enjoy delicious cupcakes.

**Mark your calendars for
November 9th, which will be the
Harvest Dinner**

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Thanks to all who supported our fundraiser at Pizza Ranch. We made \$495.00, which will go towards mission projects. We recently purchased a new robe for Pastor Dave.

We will be serving pies at the Concert at the VFW on June 19th. The group performing that night will be "Country Legends". A sign up sheet will be in Parry Hall for pie bakers to donate pies. They will need to be at church by noon on June 19th. If possible please use a disposable pie pan. If you are unable to sign up, please call Donna Mohr or Kathy Hankins to get on the list.

We will be hosting the John Knox Presbytery Women's Meeting in September. We are planning another Paint Nite in November.

Our next meeting will be September 7th at 9:00AM at Dino's. Come and join us!!!

THANK YOU

The Women's Association would like to offer a huge Thank You to all of you who supported our Newborn Layette Drive by donating cash or a baby clothing item. On May 4th during our regular meeting at Dino's we put together 5 boy and 5 girl baby kits made up of onesies, blankets, outfits, books, socks and diapers. These were sent to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota where they will be a blessing to those who are preparing to take their new baby home. Thank you again for helping out. We greatly appreciate it.

Tara Bandekow

On Behalf of the Women's Association

DINNER AT THE FAIR

On July 24th our church will be hosting a meal at the fair. We will be selling shredded chicken, pork and beef brisket sandwiches along with potato salad and cookies. We will need lots of help with this event along with at least 20 dozen cookies. There will be sign up sheets at church for help and the cookies. All proceeds will go to the general operating budget of our church. Please contact Nancy Schaper or Kevin Foster if you have any questions.

GIVE A HELPING HAND



Make this craft to show appreciation for your dad or another special man.

What you need:

- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- Adult garden gloves
- Garden gloves that fit you
- Permanent marker

What you do:

1. Paint your right palm and press it on the back of the right adult glove. Lift to reveal your handprint. Repeat with your left hand and the left glove.
2. If you have younger siblings, layer their handprint(s) on top with a different color.
3. Write your name(s) and the date.
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 on your gloves.
5. Present the gift. Offer to use your gloves to give a helping hand with chores!

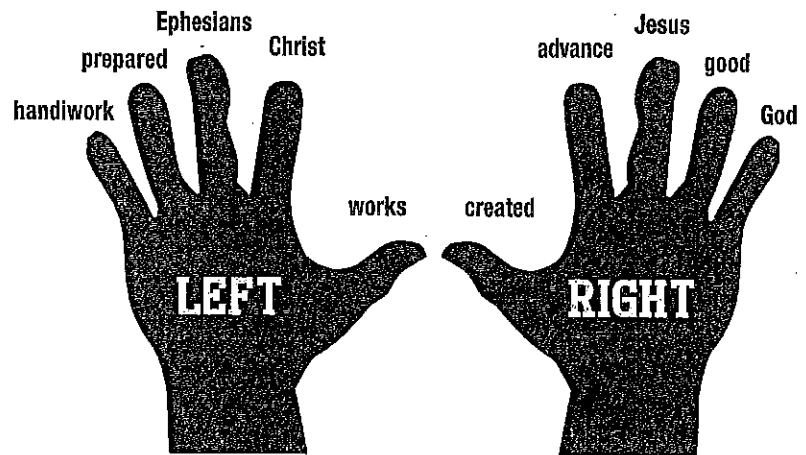
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Handiwork to do good works

God has a special plan and purpose for each of us.

Directions: Use the finger-position clues under the blanks below to complete Ephesians 2:10, NIV.



For we are God's _____, _____ in
L pinky R thumb
 _____ to do _____,
L pointer R middle R ring L thumb
 which _____ in _____
R pinky L ring R pointer
 for us to do. _____ 2:10, NIV
L middle

Answer: handiwork, created, Christ, Jesus, good, works, God, prepared, advance, Ephesians

[KID0619B]

PPC COMMUNION SCHEDULE

You are encouraged to take time before each Communion to reflect on the meaning of the Lord's Supper for you, for PPC and for the world.

The "Directory for Worship" notes that *"in preparing to receive Christ in this Sacrament, the believer is to confess sin and brokenness, to seek reconciliation with God and neighbor, and to trust in Jesus Christ for cleansing and renewal."*

As Presbyterians, we believe that coming to the Lord's Table is not a right, but a privilege given to those who come in faith, repentance and love - the gifts of God for the people of God.

Sunday, June 2, 2019

@ 9:30 a.m.

"The Seventh Sunday of Eastertide"

"GLUTEN-FREE" BREAD- COMMUNION

In an effort to make sure that all have access to the Lord's Table, the Board of Deacons decided that all of our communion breads served will be "gluten-free."

POUNDS FOR THE PANTRY

With only four Sundays in May we have extended our food drive through June 2nd. Our donations will help many children this summer. Remember that just because our challenge will be over we accept donations to the food pantry all the time. Be sure and check expiration dates because we cannot accept expired items.

KWIK TRIP "CAR WASH" CARDS -

Don't driver around this winter with all of the salt and "gunk" on your car.

You can have a clean vehicle and help support PPC's "mission trippers" at the same time when you purchase Kwik Trip "Ultimate" Car Wash cards.

Each card has FIVE car washes on it.

If you were to purchase these at the store, they would cost \$50.00 (\$10.00/wash)

But, the Mission Trippers are selling these cards for the price of \$36.00 / card.

For each card sold the "mission trippers" earn \$16.00!

If you are interested in purchasing cards, contact the Church Office. Thanks!

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*Sunday Worship Service
10:05 a.m. Traditional Worship
Third Sunday of Each Month is Informal Service
Child Care Available
Church is Handicapped Accessible
Everyone Invited!*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Portage Presbyterian Church
120 W Pleasant Street
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