



The Portage Presbyterian Church

April 2022

"The Church is a people - and we are the Church!"



Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and peace!

"He is risen! He is risen indeed!"

Donna Wolff's Birthday Party - May 1

Donna Wolff will be celebrating her birthday with an "open house" at the Portage Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, May 1 - from 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

Funeral Service for Brad Macfarlane

We celebrated Brad's life and faith on **April 22, 2022 @ PPC**. Brad passed away on early Easter Sunday morning at the hospital.

Brad is remembered at PPC for his service as a Ruling Elder and for his sharing of his musical talents over the years, as he played his Euphonium usually with his favorite accompanist, Cordelia Connor.

We give thanks to God for Brad's life and celebrate that he is now in the comforting and healing presence of God.

A "Celebration of Life" for Edwynna Curry

A "Celebration of Life" for Edwynna Curry will be held on **Saturday, May 7 - beginning @ 11:00 a.m. @ PPC**. Visitation will be held from 10:00-11:00 the day of the service. There will be a lunch served following the service in the Fellowship Hall.

Edwynna passed away on January 20, 2022 at her home.

She was a long-time member of PPC who faithfully served as a Deacon.

Edwynna will always be remembered for her sense of humor, her many sewing and craft projects, her angel food cakes and homemade pies and her deep love of family.

"Thank You" - Worship and Holy Week Readers

Our Lenten and Holy Week worship services this year were wonderfully enhanced by those who served as "readers."

"Thank you" to all who participated - on Palm Sunday (Liz Bellmore, Nancy Schaper and Nicky Cross) - on Maundy Thursday (Fred Taylor) - on Good Friday (Larry Day, Glenda Day, Amy Weishaar and Nancy Schaper) - on Easter Early Service (Peggy Alf) - on Easter Late Service (Larry Day, Glenda Day, Amy Weishaar and Debby Capener).

Also "thank you" to our "readers / liturgists" who have participated during Sunday morning worship services this past month - Fred Taylor, Larry Day and Debby Capener.

Help Support The Deacons' Ministries

The Deacons want to thank all who support our outreach projects for members who are unable to come to church. The cards, and other items, remind the homebound that they are loved. We have seen smiles on the faces of the individuals who receive these gifts.

We hope you enjoyed the Easter flowers in the sanctuary.

The Deacons are again providing the elements for communion.

These are just a few of the tasks the Deacons are doing.

The Deacons are a vital part of the ministry of our church community - providing a ministry of care and compassion to those in need - in a variety of settings.

And their only funding for their ministries comes from donations received.

If you wish to donate to our Deacon's fund, please note this on your offering.

Thank you!

"Are You Ready For Some ... Brats?"

The Events Committee will be hosting a brat sale at **Festival Foods Brat Hut** on **Saturday, May 7th**. We will be grilling *brats, hotdogs and hamburgers*.

We will be ready to sell by 10:00 AM so come for lunch or a late breakfast. All profits will be donated to the general operating budget of our church.

Any questions contact Nancy Schaper

Mark Your Calendars ... Upcoming "Events"

Mark your calendars for June 4th when the Events committee will be having a *brat and hot dog sale during Canal Days*. Our stand will be in front of the Chamber of Commerce Office. All profits will go to our church.

Mark your calendars for June 16th when the Events Committee will be hosting the *concert at the VFW Hall*. Think of the kind of Pies you would like to donate!!! More info to come in the June Newsletter.

Join Us For A "Board Game" Afternoon

Do you have a favorite "board game?" Or "card game?"

"Chutes and Ladders" perhaps? Or maybe "Candy Land?" Or possibly an "oversize" game of "Connect 4" or "Jenga?" Then again, maybe a "card game of Uno" would be of interest?

On Sunday afternoon, May 15 - from 2:00-4:00 p.m. all children and adults are invited to a "Board Game Afternoon."

We will have some "games" ready to play - or please bring one of your own that you would like to teach others to play.

There will be "snacks" available - or you can bring your own as well.

Please note: The "Board Game Afternoon" will be in Parry Hall (*not in the Fellowship Hall*).

Come on along and have a fun afternoon! And invite your family and friends too.

PPC's "Women's Association" Mission News

1. Pillow Drive

Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a non-profit organization, with a local branch, that makes beds for children who don't have a bed. Each bed is delivered with a pillow and full bedding set. If you would like to provide pillows (standard size), please bring them to church by May 29th. Thank you to everyone who has already brought in pillows.

2. Personal care bags are still being provided to individuals through local organizations (i.e. Social Actions, Pregnancy Resource Center, St Vincent de Paul Free

Clinic). Our greatest needs, currently, are deodorant and combs and brushes. These can be brought to church any Sunday.

3. Our Mission Soup mix is available in the church office and any Sunday after service.

Thank you for your support.
Glenda Day

Freshly-baked Cookies, Anyone?

The Women's Association will be selling fresh baked cookies on Sunday, May 15th after the church service for .50 per cookie.

Also, for a small donation of \$10 there is also an opportunity for you to have a *Variety Box of One Dozen Cookies* delivered in the Afternoon of Saturday, May 14th to a friend, family member, or neighbor in the Portage City Limits.

We ask that you contact Tara Bandekow at (608)697-8402 or the church office to get on the list that is limited to 20 spots.

All money earned from the sale of the cookies will directly benefit the many missions of the Women's Association.

"Volunteers" For Projection Screens In Sanctuary

We are looking for "volunteers" who might be interested in helping to "prepare" and / or "project" our Sunday morning worship services on the projection screens.

Presently we are using the "PowerPoint" program for the slides.

You do not have to be "in the office" to do this - you could actually prepare the slides in the "comfort of your own home" and save them on a flash drive.

For Sunday mornings, we would need to have someone who could advance the slides using a "clicker."

If you are interested in this, or would like more information, please contact Pastor Dave. Thanks!

Donations To Ukraine Relief - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

The **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** is responding to the refugee crisis happening in Ukraine. Over one million Ukrainian people have already been displaced since the invasion began. As the violence continues, the number of people becoming homeless due to fighting or fleeing to neighboring countries increases by the day.

If you would like to make a donation to support PDA's humanitarian response, please send your donation to the John Knox Presbytery.

You can include it with any other remittances to the Presbytery on the same remittance form and the same check. Please be sure to identify the PDA project in section C – Directed Mission Support on the Presbytery Treasury Service form (attached). The project number is DR000156 (Disaster Relief-International Refugee Programs).

We will forward your donations to the PDA and your donation will also appear on your quarterly statement we send to each church. For more information on the PDA's assistance to Ukraine, please click the following link <https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/ukraine/>.

Upcoming Worship Services

Sunday - May 1, 2022 - "Traditional" Worship - Third Sunday of Eastertide

John 21:1-19

*"We will share the "Lord's Supper" during the service.
The "Bread" and "Cup" will be served in the pews -
you may also choose to prepare your own elements.*

Sunday - May 8 - "Traditional" Worship - Fourth Sunday of Eastertide

John 10:22-30

Sunday - May 15 - "Traditional" Worship - Fifth Sunday of Eastertide

Revelation 21:1-6

Sunday, May 22 - "Informal" Worship - Sixth Sunday of Eastertide

Acts 1:1-11

Sunday - May 29 - "Traditional" Worship - Seventh Sunday of Eastertide

Rev. Dr. Carol Hermann leads worship

Sunday - June 5, 2022 - "Traditional" Worship - Pentecost Sunday

"Confirmation Sunday"

Acts 2:1-14

*"We will share the "Lord's Supper" during the service.
The "Bread" and "Cup" will be served in the pews -
you may also choose to prepare your own elements.*

"Stained Glass Windows" - An Update

We are updating costs on the church's remaining four stained glass windows in the sanctuary. Two of the windows are 3 1/2 x 10 feet and two of the windows are 3 1/2 x 13 feet in size. These windows are getting cost updates.

A new studio, "Willet Hauser Architectural Glass" and the present company "Stage Stainedglass" have put together new cost estimates. Cost updates were last done in 2019.

Fred Taylor, ACA Committee

Thank You!

We want to express our "thanks" to two recent volunteers here at PPC.

"Thank you" to Glenda Day for "signing on" to update our church's "digital sign."

"Thank you" to Peggy High for volunteering to be a "greeter" to those who join us by video on Sunday mornings.

Sharing Your "Gifts - Abilities - Talents - Hobbies"

The "EdMin Work Group" is working on some exciting ideas for revitalizing PPC's Education Ministry.

And we need your help!

We are looking for members of the PPC community who would be willing to share their "gifts - abilities - talents - hobbies" with young people (and even adults).

For example, *Pastor Dave plays guitar and would be willing to lead music and teach guitar.*

There will be "sign-up sheets" out in Parry Hall. Or you may contact any member of the "EdMin Work Group" (Peggy Alf-Sechtig, Liz Bellmore, Nancy Schaper, Lee Roundy, Pastor Dave) to share information. Or you may contact the Church Office.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact any member of the "EdMin Work Group." Thanks!

"Video" People for Sunday Morning Worship

One of the exciting new ministries we have developed is our "Sunday Morning Worship Video" option.

And we are looking for additional "volunteers" who would be interested in being involved in this ministry.

If you have a "smart phone" - and a little time - would you consider helping out?

If you would be interested in participating in this ministry - or would like more information - contact Pastor Dave.

Next Worship @ Tivoli - May 16, 2022

Provided that all is well, we will again provide worship for the residents at Tivoli on

Monday, May 16 @ 10:00 a.m.

Anyone coming to be a part of the worship community will be asked to "check in" at the entrance and to "wear a mask" during the service (*per Aspirus-Divine Savior Healthcare guidelines*) - as will the Tivoli residents

Important "Information and Activities" In Our Portage Community

"EYE GLASS COLLECTION"

As spring-cleaning season gets underway, the Portage Lions Club is asking people to look through drawers and closets for old, unwanted eyeglasses and donate them to the Lions Recycle for Sight Program.

During the month of May, the Portage Lions Club will be collecting used prescription eyeglasses and sunglasses (prescription and non-prescription) as part of a unique recycling program throughout the United States and Canada. The glasses will be distributed to those in need in developing countries where eye care is often unaffordable and inaccessible. In most developing countries, an eye exam can cost as much as one month's wages, and a single eye doctor may serve a community of hundreds of thousands of people.

To donate used eyeglasses, place them in the labeled container in Parry Hall. If you have any questions please contact Nancy Schaper.

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"Portage Summer Lunch for Kids" - Volunteers Needed

Beginning on Monday, June 13 the "Portage Summer Lunch Program for Kids" will begin its 9th summer. Last summer the program served over "10,000 meals" to young people in the Portage area.

As a result of the guidelines established by the USDA, the meals served this summer will not be the "Grab and Go" option as we have had the last 2 years.

This summer young people will be "required" to eat their meals "on site" (what we did before the pandemic)

Therefore we are **looking for volunteers** who would like to work with the Dells Food Service staff to serve meals at the different sites. You will have your choice of site and can volunteer as your schedule allows.

In order to continue this important program, we will need volunteers!

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Pastor Dave.

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"ADRC" Drivers and Volunteers Needed!

ADRC of Columbia County is looking **for volunteers** to deliver home meals and for "kitchen assistance." Schedules are "flexible" according to your availability - you can volunteer as much as works best for you.

ADRC of Columbia County is also looking for **"paid drivers."** This involves transporting elderly and people with disabilities to medical appointments or delivery of meals. Schedules are "flexible" according to your time availability. And you would get to drive an "ADRC Van."

If you are interested in either of these or would like more information, please call 1-888-742-9233.

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"Sharing Suppers" Are On The Menu Again

Beginning on **Monday, May 23** - from **5:00-6:30 p.m.** - Portage's "Sharing Supper" will again be serving the community meal - **@ Bartels Middle School.**

"Sharing Supper" is organized around the idea that it is good for people to come together - in community - to "share a meal" - along with conversations. Different organizations and groups in the Portage area provide the meals each month.

The "Sharing Supper" will be served each month - on the last Monday - at the Bartels Middle School.

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"Kwik Trip" Car Wash Cards

"Kwik Trip" Car Wash Cards are still available!

For \$36.00 / card, you will receive 5 -

yes, that's right - 5 "Ultimate" car washes (normally a cost of \$50.00)

If you would like to purchase a "Kwik Trip Car Wash Card" - contact Pastor Dave.

Guidelines for Worship

The Session has established the following guidelines for worship and gatherings

- Hymnals and Bibles have been returned to the pews to be used.
- The wearing of masks in worship or at other times of meetings or gatherings- *will be left to each person's individual preference and comfort level*
- The wearing of masks during singing will be *left to each person's individual's preference and comfort level*
- Seating in the sanctuary will not be "marked off" - one's seating preference and distancing will be left for each one to determine - according to their own comfort level.
- The Celebration of the Lord's Supper - Beginning Sunday, May 1 - Communion will once again be served by the Elders - there will be no "passing of the elements" however - the Elders will serve both the "bread" and the "cup" from trays - if you are more comfortable providing your own elements, you may continue to do this - also we will have a "very limited number" of pre-packaged elements available when Communion is celebrated

Update - From The Women's Association

The Women's Association is **again providing funeral luncheons** since the pandemic. If you would like to make a salad or cake for a funeral, please let me know. Thanks to all who donated food and/or worked for the funeral for Brad Macfarlane.

We will be putting in a **Scrip order soon**. Please get your orders to Elaine **by May 13th**. Order forms on the table in Parry Hall.

"Take Me Out To The Mallards' Game?"

Plans are being made for a "PPC Group" to go to a Madison Mallards baseball game on Sunday, July 17 @ 1:05 p.m.

The tickets for the game would be \$12.00 each.

We are planning to reserve at least 20 tickets for this game.

So, if you are interested - please call or email the Church Office with your name and number of tickets you would like to purchase - or indicate on the "sign up list" in Parry Hall.

And remember - baseball is mentioned in the Bible ... Genesis - "*In the big-inning ...*"

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It is "easy" to make a "financial" offering  
for the work and ministry here @ Portage Presbyterian Church

You may choose to ....

Mail it to the Church Office or Drop it in the "mail slot"

*or*

Use the "online giving" option on "PPC's Website"

*or*

On "Amazon Smiles" - Select "PPC" as your preferred "CHARITY"

*Your financial support for the work and ministry of God  
in and through the Portage Presbyterian Church  
is greatly appreciated!*

*"Together" - we continue to share God's "Good News" in so many ways!*