

# The Portage Presbyterian



Newsletter for The Portage Presbyterian Family

May 2019

## PENTECOST OFFERING

Each year on Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church. The Holy Spirit remains with us still, connecting us with the *church of the past*, continuing to inspire the *church of today*, and pointing us to the *church of the future*. Each year, this celebration is marked by receiving the Pentecost Offering, which nurtures the faith of those who are the church to come—children, youth, and young adults.

**Our church will retain 40% of this Offering** which gives us the opportunity to invest in the future of the church by supporting ministries that encourage, develop, and support our young people, as well as provide assistance to at-risk children.

The Offering will be collected on Pentecost Sunday that is June 9<sup>th</sup>. Offering envelopes are available in your envelope box and in the pew racks and will be attached to the June newsletter. We will again have coin boxes to collect your loose change on the table in Parry Hall. Last year we collected \$291.91 of which \$116.76 stayed locally. Let's try to "up" that amount this year. Several members mentioned that they liked having the coin box on their kitchen counter to collect their change.

## TAXI CAB "VOUCHERS"

The PPC Deacons have purchased coupons to help aid our members in coming to church. If you are unable to find a way to church, call a cab! The ride will be covered with coupons that will be kept at church. The coupons can be used for both your arrival to church and your return ride home. Please consider using them whenever transportation to church becomes an issue for you. We want to see you at church! If you have any questions please call the church office 742-6006.



## Pitch In

### "PUT ME IN COACH, I'M READY TO PLAY"

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!

### PPC'S WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS!

Please come and join us for breakfast at our next meeting at Dino's Restaurant on May 4th at 9:00 a.m.

### POUNDS FOR THE PANTRY

Our Pounds for the Pantry Drive begins on May 1. Our goal is to collect 500# during the month of May. When you bring your items to church rather than put them in the basket set them on the table in Parry Hall and we will record the weight on our chart so that at the end of worship everyone will know how much we collected and how close we are to our goal of the 500#. Last year we collected 770# # so let's try and match or beat that this year. A reminder that some of the items needed are jelly, spaghetti noodles and sauce, Tuna and Hamburger Helper, canned fruit and vegetables, pancake mix and syrup, peanut butter, bottled juice, canned stew, cereal, tuna, Manwich, ketchup and mustard, **This is also a good time to bring the heavy items such as flour, sugar, bottled juice and laundry soap.** *Check for expiration dates because we cannot accept any item that has expired.*

## UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 5, 2019

The Third Sunday of Eastertide  
10:05 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*  
*Celebration of the Lord's Supper*  
*Fellowship Time after worship in Parry Hall*

Sunday, May 12, 2019

The Fourth Sunday of Eastertide  
10:05 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*

Sunday, May 19, 2019

The Fifth Sunday of Eastertide  
10:05 a.m. - *"Informal" in Sanctuary*

Sunday, May 26, 2019

The Sixth Sunday of Eastertide  
10:05 a.m. - *Traditional Worship in Sanctuary*  
*Tom Caflisch will be leading worship*

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*

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE - BE A GREETER?

Imagine what it might be like to be at PPC for the very first time!

That is the purpose for having "greeters" on Sunday mornings for worship.

*This is an important ministry opportunity as we seek to reach out and welcome visitors into this church community.*

We believe PPC is a wonderful, warm and caring community of God's people. And we want others to experience that which we have found here.

And we are seeking "volunteers" to sign-up to help collect the offering during worship.

But, in order to make this work we need your help!!!

*There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in Parry Hall.*

Please indicate your preference to help provide this important ministry here @ PPC.

Thank you!

## "EMAIL INFO" FOR PPC OFFICES

To reach Pastor Dave by email:  
[pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com](mailto:pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com)

To reach the church office by email:  
[office@portagepresbyterian.com](mailto:office@portagepresbyterian.com)

## THE PORTAGE PRESBYTERIAN

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Portage Presbyterian Church  
120 West Pleasant Street, P.O. Box 222  
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Phone & Fax Line: - 608-742-6006

Portage Presbyterian Church E-mail Addresses  
Pastor - [pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com](mailto:pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com)  
Church Office - [office@portagepresbyterian.com](mailto:office@portagepresbyterian.com)  
Portage Presbyterian Church Website Address  
[www.portagepresbyterianchurch.com](http://www.portagepresbyterianchurch.com)

Editor - Kathryn Curtis  
Pastor - The Rev. David J. Hankins

**Church Office Hours**

Monday – 10:00am – 12:00pm

Tuesday – Office Closed

Wednesday – 8:00am – 1:00pm

Thursday – Office Closed

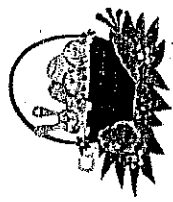
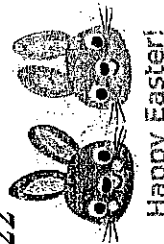

Friday – 8:00am – 1:00pm

# April

2019



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

<p><b>BTR</b> – Bell Tower Room  <b>FH</b> – Fellowship Hall  <b>PH</b> – Parry Hall  <b>SA</b> – Sanctuary  <b>WC</b> – Westminster Center</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> 	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>9:00am Bell Choir Rehearsal, PH</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>5:00pm Meal, FH          5:30pm PEACE, BTR          6:05pm Worship, SA          6:30pm Chancel Choir, FH</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>6:00pm Light Supper, FH          6:30pm Euchre, Mission for River Haven</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>9:00am Presbyterian Women Meeting at Dino's</p>
<p><b>7</b> 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent          10:05am Traditional Worship, Lord's Supper, SA          Discipleship Committee, WC</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>5:30pm Corporate Affairs, PH</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>10:00am Region 5 Prayer Group, PH          5:00p.m. Memorial Stewardship, WC</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>5:00pm Meal, FH          5:30pm PEACE, BTR          6:05pm Worship, SA          6:30pm Chancel Choir, FH</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>8:30am – 4:30pm Bi-Vocational Ministry, FH          6:00pm Session Meeting, WC</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>May Newsletter Articles Due in Office</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>8:00am – 5:00pm Fairest of the Fair, Church and WC</p>
<p><b>14</b> Palm Sunday          8:45am Bible Study, BTR          10:05am Traditional Worship SA          Produce and Bake Sale Day          Donkey Walk</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>10:00am Worship Service at Tivoli</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>9:00am Bell Choir Rehearsal, PH          11:00am "Late For Breakfast" at Dino's</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>5:00pm Meal, FH          5:30pm PEACE, BTR          6:05pm Worship, SA          6:30pm Chancel Choir, FH</p>	<p><b>18</b> Maundy Thursday          12:15pm Maundy Thursday Service with Lord's Supper          6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service with Lord's Supper</p>	<p><b>19</b> Good Friday          7:05pm Good Friday Tenebrae Service</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>
<p><b>21</b> Easter Sunday          7:00am Easter Sunrise Service          10:05am Easter Celebration Service, SA</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>  <p>Happy Easter!</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>9:00am Bell Choir, PH          11:00am "Late For Breakfast" at Dino's</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>5:00pm Meal, FH          5:30pm PEACE, BTR          6:05pm Worship, SA          6:30pm Chancel Choir, FH</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>4:30-8:00pm Women's Association Fundraiser at Pizza Ranch</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> 	<p><b>27</b></p>
<p><b>28</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter          8:45am Bible Study, BTR          10:05am Traditional Worship, SA</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>5:00-6:00pm Sharing Supper at Bartels Middle School          5:15pm Events Committee, WC</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>9:00am Bell Choir, PH</p>	<p><b>WHO DOES WHAT?? MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> !!!!!</b></p>			

Dear Friends and Members of the Portage Presbyterian Church:

This letter is being sent as a reminder that the Memorial/Mission Stewardship Committee has established a **Legacy Fund** after the church incurred significant unexpected maintenance expenses in the past few years. We have had to recently use some of the money from this fund for the purpose for which it was originally established so we are extremely appreciative to those who have contributed thus far.

If you have not contributed, but are interested in participating in the **Legacy Fund**, please complete the bottom portion of this letter and return to the church office.

If you have questions about the **Legacy Fund**, please contact Nancy Schaper at (608)742-7242 or Fred Taylor at (608)429-3011 or email the church office at [office@portagepresbyterian.com](mailto:office@portagepresbyterian.com).

Thank you!

Memorial/Mission Stewardship Committee - Session of the Portage Presbyterian Church

### **Portage Presbyterian "Legacy Fund"**

"Honoring the Past - Empowering and Building for the Future"

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to make a one-time contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to make ongoing or regular contributions of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to make a gift in honor of \_\_\_\_\_ in  
the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to make a gift in memory of \_\_\_\_\_ in  
the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will remember PPC in my estate planning.

Your Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_





# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019

Monday August 5th- Friday August 9th  
8:30AM-11:30AM

At Roar VBS, kids discover that even though life gets wild, God is good! Roar is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids will see, hear, touch, and even taste! **Sciency-Fun Gizmos™, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats** are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. (Since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and safe shoes.) **Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings®.** Get ready to hear that phrase a lot!

**So mark these dates on your calendar:**

**Monday, August 5-Friday, August 9**

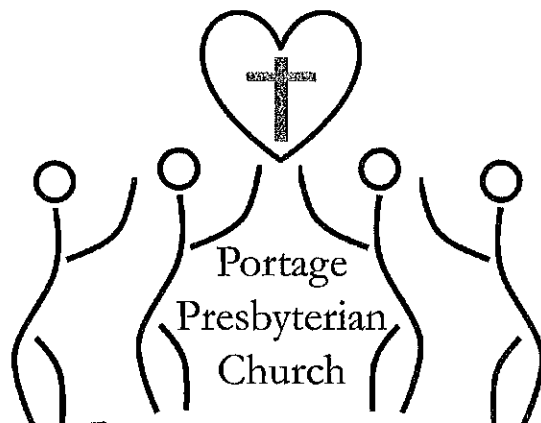
**Open to all young people ages 4 years through 6th Grade**

**Questions?**

**Contact the Church Office, we'd love to talk to you!**

Email: [office@portagepresbyterian.com](mailto:office@portagepresbyterian.com)

Phone: 742-6006



*The church is a people;  
we are the church!*

## Pastor's Page

The response of the disciples to the "good news" of Jesus' resurrection is not quite what one might expect.

When they are confronted with the news that the one they thought to be dead was alive, that Jesus had risen - just as He said - their initial reactions are not joy and celebration. Rather we read of those closest to Jesus having doubts, being afraid and not really believing such a thing could have happened.

We who are many centuries removed from the first Easter find it easy to ridicule those who should have known better. Had not Jesus told them what was going to happen? Did they not listen?

Well, yes - and yes!

But on the way to Easter they encountered some of the most difficult, most painful and most discouraging experiences of their lives. That which they had "heard" became obscured by betrayals, death, sadness, loss and fear. Life happened!

They believed! They really did! It was "good news" when they heard the stories of Jesus' resurrection and when they are encountered by the risen Christ.

Nevertheless they also had to work their way through all of the distractions and temptations that life had thrown at them to get to the point where this became "good news" that they could accept for themselves. Their difficulties, their pain and their discouragement did not just disappear. It took time.

Jesus respected the struggles with which the disciples were dealing. He appreciates all with which they were dealing - both the difficult and the celebratory. And over time Christ patiently and lovingly guides them to a time when they could experience this "new life" and anticipate the days which were yet to come.

There is no doubt - the resurrection of Jesus Christ is "good news!" We celebrate this new reality with joyful songs, shouts of "He is risen" and other traditions.

Still in the midst of our journeys there are times when "life happens" and we can find ourselves thrown into situations which we do not understand and circumstances that are beyond

control. Fear and uncertainty and doubt and questions can abound.

Does this mean that we have somehow "failed" as God's people or we need to just "get with it?"

No! It simply means that, like those first disciples who went before us, we are God's people trying to live lives that are not always perfect and not always easy.

Easter is God's proof to us that God does not give up! "Neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come will ever separate us from God's love for us in Christ Jesus" is the way that the Apostle Paul says it.

Wherever we are on our life and faith journey, God meets us there first and foremost with God's presence. Then, when we are ready and able, God helps us and leads us through the muck and mud to start on a new and right path.

Think about it - there is a reason that among the first words that the disciples hear again and again after Jesus' resurrection are "do not be afraid!"

**Do not be afraid!**

**Christ is risen!**

**Christ is risen indeed!**

May God's peace be with us all as we make our way through these days after Easter! And into the rest of our lives!

### **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.

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!

## "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!



## RIVER HAVEN FUNDRAISER

The River Haven fundraiser luncheon held on March 24<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. We served 136 people a wonderful meal of spaghetti, salad, french bread, cookies, cake and bars. Thanks to the Events and Mission Stewardship committees who donated all the food. Pete and Raquel from River Haven did a wonderful presentation about the needs and successes of River Haven. We had an unexpected crowd of people and thanks to everyone who pitched in and helped set up extra tables, serve food and clean up. Pastor Dave was able to present a check for \$1,266.00 (includes ticket sales and donations) to the River Haven board who were thrilled with the amount.



## "HARMONY FOR THE HOMELESS"

You are invited to join in a unique and entertaining experience on Saturday, May 11th at 7:00 pm. The "Harmony for the Homeless" program to support River Haven Homeless Shelter will be held at the Portage Center for the Arts.

Come for an evening of entertainment, a silent auction, and chance to win our fabulous door prize!

Tickets are available at the door for \$

## 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!



## CARD PARTY

On April 5<sup>th</sup> we hosted a card party to benefit River Haven. We had 24 people playing cards and served creamed turkey along with chips, pickles, bars and drinks. Thanks to the members of the Events Committee for providing the food and drinks. We also collected 21# of food for the food pantry. This has been a wonderful mission our church is providing and the people that come to play cards always remind us of that. If you have never attended one of our card parties, come and join us and see what they are talking about it. It is a lot of fun! We made \$120.00 to benefit River Haven. **Our next card party will be June 7<sup>th</sup>.**

## 2019 SESSION COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

<u>Breese Fund</u>	Pastor Dave Hankins (Chair) George Beasley (Ruling Elder) John Crammond (Ruling Elder)
<u>Nominating</u>	Kathy Raimer (Co-Chair) Alex Harvey (Co-Chr)
<u>ACA</u>	Fred Taylor (Chair) Kevin Foster John Crammond Jerry Schneiter George Beasley
<u>Discipleship</u>	Kathy Raimer (Co-Chair) Alex Harvey (Co-Chair)
<u>Events</u>	Kevin Foster (Chair) Allison Foster
<u>Memorial &amp; Mission/ Stewardship</u>	Fred Taylor (Co-Chair) Allison Foster (Co-Chair)
<u>Personnel</u>	Alex Harvey (Chair) Jerry Schneiter John Crammond



### PPC "T-SHIRTS" STILL AVAILABLE

If you wanted to order the wonderful PPC "T-Shirt" but did not - we have a few extra shirts available for sale.

Each of the shirts cost \$10.00.

At the time of this printing we have the following in stock:

- 4 - small
- 3 - medium
- 2 - large
- 1 - extra large

If you would like to purchase a shirt, call the church office or talk to Kathy Hankins on Sunday mornings.

## INTERFAITH SERVICES

### "TOUCHED TWICE" VOLUNTEERS

Greetings,

Well that time of year is here "or soon will be", when all of our Churches in Columbia County come together in one way or another to serve our community through the Touched Twice clinic on September 21st.

An event of this size takes much planning and many volunteers to meet the needs of our communities. This event is much bigger than one individual or church could ever handle. We are looking to serve over 400 individuals and families with much needed medical, dental, physical, food and spiritual needs this year. With that being said, we would like for you to consider sending a group or individuals from your congregation to help volunteer in the following areas:

- Prayer
- Fundraising
- Coordinators
- Check-in
- Security
- Pastoral Care
- Parking
- Childcare
- Graphic Design
- Media
- Setup/Tear down
- Advocates
- Concessions
- Transportation

If you interested, contact Pastor Justin O'Boyle at City of Refuge Church either by phone at 742-4035 ... or by email at [cityofrefugepastor@ymail.com](mailto:cityofrefugepastor@ymail.com)

Thank you for your time and consideration.



## MINISTRY AND WORSHIP @ TIVOLI

PPC is blessed to provide a monthly worship service at Tivoli.

We have found that our worship service is one of the better attended worship times – and that is great news!

*We are looking for additional people to come and help get people to and from the chapel.*

You will have the opportunity to share in a special worship experience as well as being able to interact with some very nice people. Chaplain Monica remarks how much the residents enjoy having people come and share worship with them.

If you could help with this ministry once in a while, contact Pastor Dave.

**NOTE!** We share worship on the Monday May 20th ... @10:00 a.m.



## "SHARING SUPPER" – MAY 20, 2019

The "Sharing Supper" will be shared on Monday, MAY 20!!! - it will be a week earlier than normal because of "Memorial Day."

Serving begins at 5:00 p.m. **at the Bartels Middle School cafeteria.**

The "Sharing Supper" is served from 5:00-6:00 p.m. PLEASE NOTE - there has been a change in the ending time for the "Supper."

"Sharing Supper" is a meal, sponsored by community groups and organizations. It is intended to bring people in the community together, around tables, where we get to know one another and have an opportunity to learn more about what is happening in the community around us.

A unique part of this experience is the "Kid's Corner" designed especially for the younger folks. Here young people will have a chance to hear stories and do craft projects related to what is happening around us.

All are welcome! Bring your friends and neighbors.

Come and share in this unique and wonderful experience – on May 20 @ 5:00 p.m.



## "BIBLE STUDY" IN MAY @ PPC

The Adult Bible Class will finish out May by studying two lesser known stories from the Old Testament.

Since Mother's Day is the second Sunday of May, we will be meeting on the first and third Sundays of May. On May 5<sup>th</sup>, we will study the *healing of Naaman*, and on May 19<sup>th</sup>, we will study the *faith of Esther*.

We meet in the Bell Tower Room at 8:45 am, and all are welcome to join us for this special time together.

We had a most interesting discussion about Balaam and the talking donkey. Then we talked about Shiphrah and Puah, the two midwives, who obeyed God rather than the king of Egypt.

We always come away feeling that we have been drawn a bit closer to God by our studies.



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!



# WORTHY OF RESPECT

On Mother's Day, we celebrate our moms and everything they do for us. How does God tell us to treat our moms?



Directions: Using the key below, fill in the blanks to complete Deuteronomy 5:16, NIV.

A	C	D	M*	N*	O*
E	F	G	P*	R*	S*
H	I	L	T*	U*	Y*

" \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_

and your \_\_\_\_\_,

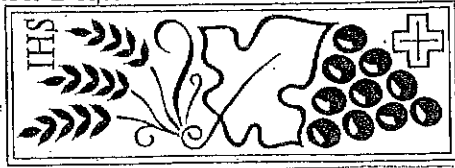
the \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ has

\_\_\_\_\_."

\_\_\_\_\_ 5:16, NIV

Answer: "Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you." Deuteronomy 5:16, NIV

# HOLY COMMUNION



## 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, May 5, 2019  
 @ 10:05 a.m.  
 "The Third Sunday of Fastertide"



## EYE GLASS COLLECTION

The Portage Lions Club is collecting used prescription eyeglasses, prescription sunglasses and hearing aids for distribution to the needy in underdeveloped countries. Children's glasses are especially in high demand. This year we are also collecting printer ink cartridges.

A collection box will be available at the church during the month of May. Any questions contact Nancy Schaper

12



Wednesday Worship Service  
 6:05 p.m. Informal, Interactive Worship



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  
 PO Box 222  
 Portage WI 53901

Non Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Portage WI 53901  
 Permit No. 158