

The Falling Waters Messenger

Issue Four

April 2025

Volume XXXX

Shared thoughts with Judith Lawrenson

Daffodils, forsythia, and blossoms on trees-Who could ask for more? The temperatures are going up and so is my happy level. Okay, I know that not everybody doesn't like winter and I know that not everybody watches every day for the robins to come, but I certainly do. When West Virginia bursts into bloom, there is nothing in this world that is more lovely. We are gifted with beauty all around us. Pretty soon we will have strawberry juice dripping down our chins and going out to Orr's Farm to see the rows of peach blossoms too.

I know that we are not meant to plant before Mother's Day. Anna Marie Collis told me that a long time ago, but I can't help it. I am digging in the dirt already and I will

plant my herb garden very soon. I would be grateful if someone who is into flowers could give me a tip about a good long stem flower to plant. I am going to do zinnias but I don't have another idea. I am planting my usual herbs, flowers, my usual grape tomatoes and some impatiens but so far that is all I am doing.

I know, you guys, that you all have big super gardens but this is what I can do and I really love it. Somehow planting something and watching it grow is close to God. Many gardeners I know feel that way even if they only grow a lawn. After we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord the window committee will again decorate the church and suggestions and help are always appreciated. I love that word-appreciated, and I love the way we all appreciate each other. Thank you all so much!

Pray Without Ceasing

Avalon Blizzard
Larry Brown
Rev. John Cushwa
Christi Heaton
Bill Lawrenson
Shirley McDaniel
Sandy Pohlenz
Patty Runkles
Buck Shipper



April Birthdays

April 3	Sharron Reel
April 4	Glen Cushwa
April 6	Brandon Cushwa
April 7	Gabriella Peach
April 13	Radonna Mullenax
April 14	Marge Chamblin Lori Effland Paul Peach
April 15	Donivan Collis
April 24	MaggieBeth Ponton
April 27	Trevor Henry
April 30	April Cushwa



It is Time to Prepare for VBS



It is that time of year again when we begin to prepare for Vacation Bible School. VBS will be held the week of June 9-13 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Without the help of the congregation this important ministry to our youth would not be possible. If you have a heart for children and feel called to this important ministry give Fawn a call at 754-8211.

Four Cents A Meal

This hunger offering is collected on the first Sunday of each month. 25% of the offering benefits Hedgesville Loaves and Fishes and the other 75% is sent to the PCUSA for world-wide hunger programs. It is called Four Cents A Meal because it is suggested that each family contribute four cents for each meal each family member eats in one month, i.e. a family of four would contribute 16 cents per meal per day. 16 cents x 3 meals a day = 48 cents. 48 cents x 30 days = \$14.40 per month.

Pavilion Reservations 2025

June 19-13 - VBS

July 22 - Lions Club

August 9 - Hite Reunion

August 16 - MacDonald

August 23 - MacDonald

If you wish to reserve the pavilion, please call the church office.

April Guest Speakers

April 6 - Rev. Rick Hill

April 13 - Rev. John Cushwa

April 20 & 27 - Rev. Bob Osborne



This year's Easter flowers are given to the glory of God from an anonymous donor in honor and memory of the FWPC congregation, their families and friends.

Sessional Committee Assignments for 2025

Clerk of Session - Ruth Berg
Congregational Nurture - Donna Pill
Worship - Billy Berg
Fellowship & Recreation - Becky Tobin
Mission/Outreach/ Christian Education - Phil Noll
Personnel - Ruth Berg
Maintenance - Chris Breeze
Finance - Crystal Mason

Our committees are in need of volunteers. Prayerfully consider where your strengths and talents can best be used and get in touch with the committee chair to help.

Christian Ed - oversee Adult and Youth Sunday School, VBS, Sardines and any other education church program.

Congregational Nurture - responsible for Shepherd Program, Prayer Chain and visitation.

Outreach - facilitate church growth and community outreach.

Fellowship and Recreation - organize fellowship dinners, recreational events, coffee hour, and refreshments for miscellaneous meals, gatherings and funeral receptions.

Finance - Set and manage budget and church finances.

Maintenance - maintain church property excluding cemetery, and maintain manse property.

Mission - Coordinate church participation in mission activities of Presbytery, Synod, General Assembly and Eastern Panhandle Mission Community. Promote special offerings and seek opportunities for community and overseas mission projects.

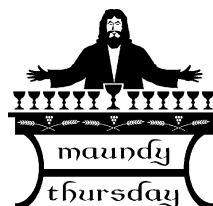
Personnel - Serve as liaison between Session and church employees. Recommend salaries and conduct yearly reviews of all paid employees.

Worship - Assist pastor in planning and enhancement of Sunday worship, seasonal and special worship services and communion. Support work of church organist and choir. Arrange for sanctuary decorations.

Easter Celebration Schedule

The Worship Committee has planned several special worship services to enhance our worship experience during Holy Week.

Rev. John Cushwa will be our guest speaker on **Palm Sunday, April 13.**



Maundy Thursday Service on March 28 at 7:00 pm. More details later.



On **Easter, April 20**, the morning will begin with **breakfast at 8:00** hosted by the Men of the Church. You won't want

to miss this delicious meal of country and city ham, scrambled eggs, toast, raisin sweet rolls with extra vanilla frosting, orange juice, coffee and tea. Breakfast will be followed by an **Egg Hunt at 9:00** on the manse lawn for all children under 12. We'll round out the morning with **worship at 10:00**. We will include the **Dressing of the Cross** at 10:00 am. Rev. Osborne will be our guest speaker.

**EASTER
EGG HUNT!**



HACC News

The HACC (Hedgesville Area Community of Churches) is sponsoring a program to encourage folks to grow their own fresh vegetables. Therefore, we will be distributing Vegetable & Flower Seeds during HACC's April distribution. But we need your help! We will be collecting packets of SEEDS donated through the area churches.

Tomatoes, herbs, peppers, peas, beans, radishes, lettuce, flowers, etc. Last year's seeds are fine!

Partial packs are welcome!

Please bring your seed donations to church by April 20 to be handed out at the HACC's April 26th distribution. Thanks for your support!

“Who is my Neighbor?”

During Lent we support Presbyterian ministries through our gifts to the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**. OGHS began in March 1949, in response to the devastation of World War II. A Saturday evening nationwide broadcast asked Americans to give generously the next morning in their churches. A remarkable variety of national leaders and celebrities gave their efforts to the broadcast, and more than 75,000 churches responded the next day.



This year the PC(USA) will roughly divide its money between three programs - Self Development of People, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Presbyterian Hunger Program. The PC(USA) has received \$9 million - \$ 11 million for at least the past 20 years. Thank you for your long -time support of this offering. Your support has made a tremendous difference to people around the world who are experiencing need. We will collect our One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on **Easter morning, April 20.**

CEMO Update

Our work with the Rescue Mission on Patrick's Projects is going along better than we could have ever imagined and as we go from success to success others are joining with us so that we can do even more for the mission. Their needs are very great and it is a privilege to be a part of an organization with Christ at its center. Bill and I work with and meet with every Friday Mr. Patrick Lewis who is the media volunteer coordinator and we determine the project for the next month and set our goals. Bill and I also do all of the commercial and videos that you see on their web site. In April I am starting a series of devotional readings on their Web Chanel and I will do interviews with local women who are involved in Bible study.

Minute For Mission is open to anybody who has an announcement regarding any project or mission they are involved in. Brenda reports on HACC on the second Sunday and I do the Mission report on the 4 fourth Sunday but we are always open to whoever wants to speak. Just ask me or Renee and I will ask the Head Elder to call on you. This is an open time for us all to share what we are doing.

Judith

Help Fill the Pantry 2025

April

Ground Beef, Canned Tomatoes
Tomato Sauce, Manwich
Toiletries, Seeds

May

Hot Dogs, Ketchup
Baked Beans, Mustard
Bread, Seeds

* Monetary donations are preferred
for Ham and Ground Beef

Additional Pantry items are always needed:

Pasta Sauce, Pasta, Canned Fruit, Soup,
Peanut Butter,
Mac & Cheese, Canned Vegetables, Baked Beans,
Rice, Syrup,
Pancake Mix, Cereal, Hamburger Helper

Monetary donations can be made to
Hedgesville Loaves and Fishes
P.O. Box 726, Hedgesville, WV 25427

For more information contact:
Karen - 301-992-1368 or Bill - 571-216-9320