HOGE HERALD

Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church

2023

March

PASTOR TOM'S "LITTLE CORNER OF HOGE"

February 2023

February 22nd this year is "Ash Wednesday", or the beginning of the 6-week period of "Lent". Ash Wednesday is a solemn reminder of our human-mortality, and the need for reconciliation with our God. Ash Wednesday is commonly observed by fasting and ashes, which are placed on foreheads for observance, and I hope you all plan to come to Hoge on Ash Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM to observe our Ash Wednesday worship service. During the season of "Lent", the church sets aside time for prayer, fasting, and reflection in order for us to grow closer to God. Each year, during "Lent", we relive Christ's temptation in the desert, his final meal with his disciples, and his ultimate death on the cross. "Lent" should remind us of our humanity, and of the one who chose to take on human-form to save our souls. With Jesus' resurrection, we celebrate our renewed-life, hope, and joy that God, who sent Christ to live among us, will continue to work with and through us each and every day. In the spirit of our Lenten-reflection this year, I've been learning about some of Hoge's rich history, and with the help of Rev. Ed Sensenbrenner and other Hoge historians, I am continually amazed by the foresight, faith, and courage of the people who have shaped and cared for our ministry over the many decades Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church has served our Lord. Just think of the people we've brought to Christ over the years! And I keep thinking of the people who don't know Christ in our neighborhood, that deserve to know his love, grace, and power! We have much work to do in our "Hilltop" neighborhood, so we need to embrace this opportunity that our Lord is presenting us with. The way I look at our future-ministry at Hoge is quite simple – To offer personal enrichment of the spiritual-life with Christ, and to create a passion for us to share Christ with our neighbors who so desperately need Jesus! We must remember that Christian discipleship is a vital two-way relationship and continuing process – It implies growth, development, and enrichment – changing the lives of the people in our neighborhood should be our first priority, and it makes possible the establishment of the kingdom of God on earth and on the "Hilltop!" Lives that are really changed, reflect a passion to share Christ with our neighbors, which is indicative of a spiritual-awakening of major proportions in a neighborhood of Columbus that so desperately needs Jesus Christ! Our Hoge fore-fathers, including the Rev. James Hoge, who risked everything he had to venture west into the wilderness to bring others to Christ, would be extremely proud of what we have today at our church. So, we all need to challenge ourselves to evangelize Christ in this present-day-wilderness we call "The Hilltop", because the need is so great and we have potential future Christians on our doorstep. God speed Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church! Get on board for this exciting ministry so you can be a valuable part of our renaissance in our church neighborhood. Exciting times await! Can't wait to see you all in worship during "Lent", and please know that your pastor loves you all very much!

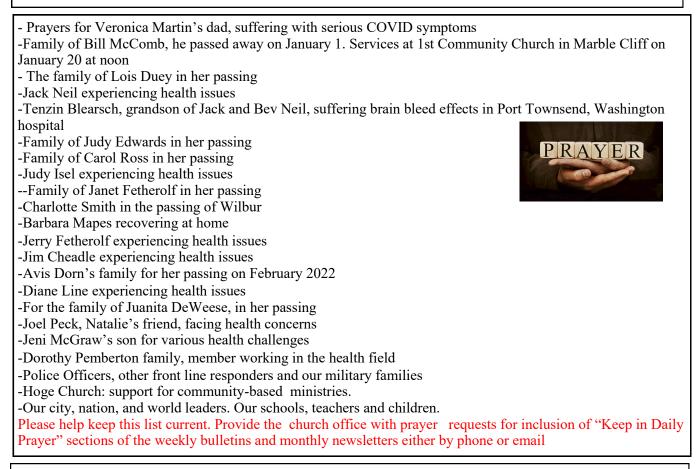
Grace & Peace!

Pastor Tom

Special Announcements

KEEP IN DAILY PRAYER

Please remember the following Joys and Concerns in your daily prayers.



Food Pantry Jan Totals: 46 Households, 29 Seniors, Adults 83 Children 37 Total Number of People Served 149



Happy Birthday – March

John Marin, 4 (Leila's brother); Janet Mullins, 4; Bill Aiken, 9; Marilyn Andrews, 20; Dan Isel, 29



Note: If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know and we will be glad to add it.

Optimist vs. Pessimist - A family had twin boys whose only resemblance to each other was their looks. If one felt it was too hot, the other thought it was too cold. If one said the TV was too loud, the other claimed the volume needed to be turned up. Opposite in every way, one was an eternal optimist, the other a doom and gloom pessimist. Just to see what would happen, on Christmas day their father loaded the pessimist's room with every imaginable toy and game. The optimist's room he loaded with horse hay. That night the father passed by the pessimist's room and found him sitting amid his new gifts crying bitterly. "Why are you crying?" the father asked. "Because my friends will be jealous, I'll have to read all these instructions before I can do anything with this stuff, I'll constantly need batteries, and my toys will eventually get broken." answered the pessimist twin. Passing the optimist twin's room, the father found him dancing for joy in the piles of hay. "What are you so happy about?" he asked. To which his optimist twin replied, "There's got to be a pony in here somewhere!"



Lay readers: January-Mike Minch, February-Patti Gorman, March-Judy Manley, April-Mike Minch, May-Donna Swaneck, June-Gail Garman, July-Diana Purcell, August-Gail Garman, September-Mike Minch, October-Judy Manley, November-Donna Swaneck/Gail Garman, December-Donna Swaneck. If you cannot be the lav reader for the month, contact Worship Committee **Communion Servers** - If you are unable to serve, please try to find a replacement and notify the worship committee. January 1-Natalie Alter, Donna Swaneck, Diana Purcell, Joy Rector February 5-Susan Barrett, Jack Neil & Bev, Patti Gorman, Gail Garman, March 5-Charlotte Smith, Mike Minch, Diana Purcell April 2-, Donna Swaneck, Gail Garman, Patti Gorman May 7-Natalie Alter, Joy Rector, Jack Neil, Bev Neil June 4-Susan Barrett, Gail Garman, July 2 - Mike Minch, Donna Swaneck, Gail Garman August 6-Patti Gorman, Joy Rector, Diana Purcell, Natalie Alter, Bev Neil September 3- Jack Neil, Gail Garman, Susan Barrett October 1- Mike Minch, Diana Purcell November 5- Natalie Alter, Joy Rector, Patti Gorman, Bev & Jack Neil, Gail Garman December 3-Gail Garman, Mike Minch. Susan Barrett, Charlotte Smith, Ann Adair December 24-Donna Swaneck, Diana Purcell, Debbie Peters, Bev Neil Schedule of Ushers: If you would like to usher, please contact Gail Garman Usher Team #1 (Jan, April, July, Oct.) Jack Neil, Bev Neil Usher Team #2 (February, May, August and November): Mike Minch, Judy Manley Usher Team #3 (March, June, Sept, Dec): Mike Purcell, Diana Purcell, Jim Cheadle Worship Committee This is the schedule for the fellowship hour on the second Sundays: January-Finance and Facilities; February-Session; March-Outreach/Worship/Christian Ed; April-Choir; May-TBA; June - Session; July - Finance and Facilities; August– Ushers; September- Outreach/Worship/Christian Ed; October– TBA; November- Deacons; December- Ushers

Regular Session Meeting. January 16, 2023. Moderator: - Tom Billman. Clerks' Report - Diana Purcell

Communion was served to (17) people January 1, 2023, and HM3 on December 17th, 2022. Brief Session meeting was held on Sunday January 1, 2023 to vote on Flat Roof Estimate that was approved by Finance & Facilities with Holland Roofing doing the work. Bill McComb passed away on January 1, 2023. Partners In Education was held on Saturday Jan. 21, 2023, at Covenant Presbyterian Church from 9:00-3:00 pm. Moderators/Pastoral Care Report: Pastor Tom visited Joby Whitehead, Dave & Carolyn Colborn. Phone calls were made to Rev. Ed Sensenbrenner, Theresa Kline, Daniel Katosin, Barbara Mapes, Ron & Diane Line. Left messages for Janet Mullins, Charlotte Badgley, Judy & Dan Isel, Leila Parker, Jeanne Grothaus. Treasurer's Report - Patti Gorman-Conrardy: Contributions are down, Other Income is up. Operating expenses are Down. Building expenses are up. Other expenses are stable. Office expenses are up. Other Salaries are up due to Christian being terminated. Utilities are down. Non-Operating Income is up. Non-Operating Expenses are up. (see page 5). Committee Reports: Worship/ Outreach/ Christian Ed: January Ministers: Pastor Tom Billman January 1st - 15th, January 8, Rev Susan Warrener-Smith, January 22 - Peggy Holcomb CRE, January 29, Eric Downing The fourth Sunday in March is still open, and the fifth Sunday in April is also open. Ash Wednesday is February 22, 2023 and a service is planned. Pastor Tom and Patti are going to contact Second Community Church to see If they would like to do a combined service. HM3: Open Saturdays for 2023 meals are August 26, December 9th, and December 23. Brandi is an HM3 Attendee who helped clean on Saturday nights. Out of the Box Community Theatre: No shows scheduled at this time. Finance, Facilities, and Stewardship - Jack Neil / Mike Purcell: Committee met on Thursday December 29th to review Flat Roof Estimates and voted to go with Holland Roofing. Cameras have been installed through out the building to monitor activity in the Hallways. Looking to install a few more and some on the outside. Steve Lawrey (Plumber) looked at Water Fountains and Quoted an Estimate of \$3,200.00 to repair. Needs to go Back to Finance and Facilities for final approval. Nominating: - Natalie Alter- No Report Personnel: - Natalie Alter/Judy Manley - 8 Cameras have been installed throughout the building and are being Monitored by Natalie Alter. On December 23 an incident was recorded on the West Door and Pantry camera which resulted in the termination of Christian as of December 27, he returned on December 28 and surrendered his keys and his holiday pay. Personnel Committee has been interviewing candidates and hopes to have the position filled by end of January. (continued on page 4)

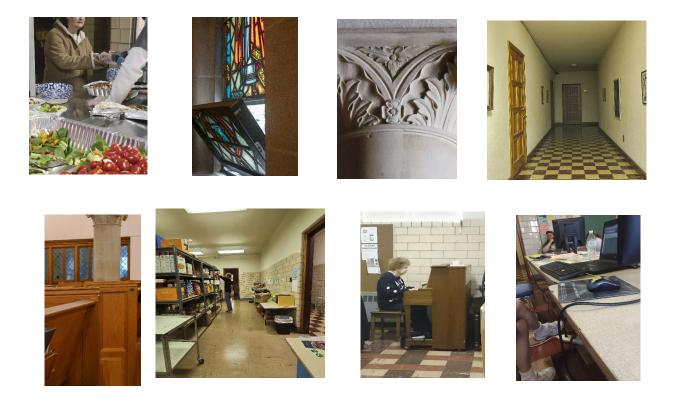
Notes and Photos

Session report (cont. from page 4) Deacons: December Food Pantry: Served 54 Families (see page 3) Presbytery of Scioto Valley/Cap City Helping Hands: Meeting January 16, 2023, to discuss Partners in Education training being held Saturday January 21, 2023, 9-3:00 p.m. Old Business: No Report New Business: Need to set date for Congregational Annual Meeting. (March 19, 2023) Reports need to be Sent to Joy by March 1, 2023. Designated Memorial Funds being put towards Flat Roof Repair. Session will Oversee distributions. Rev Ed would like to have someone pick him up on Sundays he would like to come to Church. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm with the Lord's Prayer. Next Session Meeting: at 7:00 pm. February 21st, 2023. Respectfully: Diana L Purcell, Clerk of Session

Hello Hoge Presbyterian! I'm David Zimmerman, the newest chorister and musician here at the church! I am an Ohio native, and study music at Otterbein University in Westerville. Branching between two instruments and many different music disciplines such as classical opera, contemporary worship, jazz, and modern pop/funk, I'm thankful for the opportunity to share my gifts with you all in the name of God. Even just being here for such a short time, I can already see the amazing community here and beautiful environment you all have built with that community. For me, a church is made not through its location, but through its people. Everyone I've met here at Hoge has been nothing but kind to me, and I hope I'll get the chance to meet even more friendly faces as

the weeks pass. I feel blessed to share memories and praise with you all, and I am excited for the future at Hoge! Thank you!

A Section of a Hoge Photo Album



Financial Update

Rev. Keith Jones

1 Corinthians 2:6-10 English Standard Version

Wisdom from the Spirit

6 Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. 7 But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

9 But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"— 10 these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

Take a minute -- how would you describe the wisdom of today's age?

It's changed a lot over the years. The wisdom of the age would probably be described very different 50 years ago. How about 200 years ago? I'm currently reading a book of historical fiction set in the battle of Thermopalye. Very different wisdom of the age for the Spartans back in the day.

What's amazing is that the wisdom of God transcends all of this. In every age, we think of our age's wisdom as the pinnacle of human wisdom, but so did the people 250 years ago, and we laugh at how outdated some of their lines of thinking were. In 100 years, people will laugh at things we believe now -- this should give us some humility when we speak!

But the Bible has spoken to every age and every people under the sun. The Holy Spirit has a greater wisdom than our current wisdom, and thanks be to God for that.

So reflect a little on what the age's current wisdom is. It's prudent to pay attention to such things. But let us also rely for true wisdom on what is revealed by God in Scripture. That's timeless.

1 Corinthians 3:5-9 English Standard Version

5 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 7 So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. 8 He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. 9 For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

If you're a farmer, there's a lot of work to be done, but ultimately, you can't make the crops grow. You can't go out into the field and pull crops out of the ground -- you have to keep weeding and watering, but you can only create the best environment possible and hope that things work out like you expect. It's a little like raising children -- some things are beyond your control.

Paul is reminding the Corinthian church that it's the Holy Spirit that makes things grow. The same is true of every church -- pastors and leaders and members can do everything possible to create the best environment, but ultimately, it's the work of the Holy Spirit to lead things forward.

It's a helpful thing to remember. It doesn't free us of responsibility, but it does remind us who is really in charge.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

March

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY			
Beef and Sausage Meat Loaf with Mozzarella - 2 lbs lean ground beef (15% fat), 1 lb coarsely grated whole-milk mozzarel- la cheese, 1 lb sweet Italian sausages, casings removed, meat crumbled, 2 C chopped fresh basil, 2 C fresh bread- crumbs made from crustless French bread, 1 medium onion, chopped, 1 C chopped drained oil-packed sun-dried tomatoes (optional),5 garlic cloves, minced, 1½ Tbsp. dried oregano,2 tsp. salt, 1 tsp. ground black pepper, 1 cup tomato sauce, divided, 3 large eggs, beaten to blend, ½ C dry red wine, Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Combine first 11 ingredients in large bowl. Gently mix in ½ cup tomato sauce, eggs, and wine. Place meat on large rimmed baking sheet, shape into 16x4-inch loaf. Brush with remaining ½ C tomato sauce. Bake meat loaf until cooked through, thermome- ter inserted into center registers 160/170 degrees F, about 1 hour 15 minutes. Montgomery Presby Church, Montgomery, OH.					
 5 8:30am AA 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship w/Tom Billman 11:30am Deacons Meeting 7:00pm AA Meeting 	6 7:00pm AA 7:30pm NA	7 8:00pm NA Meeting			
 12 8:30am AA 10:30am Worship w/Mike Minch 11:30am Donut Fellowship 7:00pm AA Meeting 	13 7:00pm AA 7:30pm NA	14 8:00pm NA Meeting			
 19 8:30am AA 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Worship w/Tom Billman 7:00pm AA Meeting Newsletter Deadline 	20 7:00pm Session 7:000pm AA 7:30pm NA Happy Birthday Marilyn Andrews	21 12:00pm Food Pantry 8:00pm NA Meeting			
 26 7:30am AA 10:30am Worship w/Marion Stenner 7:00pm AA Meeting 	27 7:00pm AA 7:30pm NA	14 12:00pm Food Pantry 8:00pm NA Meeting			

DYI tips.: Fresh Chocolate Chips- Just cut off the top section of a water bottle, thread the bag through it, flip the excess bag over the sides, and finish by twisting the cap on. Magnetic Strip-If you are like me, losing the nail clippers on a weekly basis, then installing a magnetic strip is definitely the way to go. Unique Storage-Sometimes a glass cabinet can perfect addition to a bathroom, providing fantastic storage for towels and decor. Hot Glue Bath Toys- bath toys can grow mold on the inside from excess water. Avoid the problem by sealing that hole shut with hot glue! Staple Pull and Keychain- love this idea of using a staple pull to keep a key chain open long enough to take away or add something. Measuring Cups-Storing measuring cups can be a real hassle, (cont. pg.7)

Bulletin information should be in by Wed. at noon–Please no exception Newsletter information by Sunday March 19 – Please no exception

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 7:00pm Faith Based Recovery Group Bible Study 7:30pm Choir 8:00pm NA Meeting 	2 7:00 pm Outreach/ Worship/ Christian Ed	3 6:00pm AA Meeting	 4 5:00pm HM³–Rpbin/Carla 6:00pm AA Happy Birthday John Martin (Leila's brother) Happy Birthday Janet Mullins
8 7:00pm Faith Based Recovery Group Bible Study 8:00pm NA Meeting	9 7:00pm Girl Scout Leaders <i>Happy Birthday Bill Aiken</i>	10 6:00pm AA Meeting	11 5:00pm HM ³ –Grace 6:00pm AA
15 7:00pm Faith Based Recovery Group Bible Study 7:30pm Choir 8:00pm NA Meeting	16	17 6:00pm AA Meeting	18 5:00pm HM ³ -Covenant 6:00pm AA
 22 12:00pm Food Pantry 7:00pm Faith Based Recovery Group Bible Study 8:00pm NA Meeting 	23	24 9:00am Newsletter prep 6:00pm AA Meeting	25 5:00pm HM ³ - Schieferstein 6:00pm AA
14 12:00pm Food Pantry Happy Birthdays Dan Isel	30	31 6:00pm AA Meeting	"Wherever you go and whatever you do, may the luck of the Irish be there with you."

(cont from pg. 6) especially when they stack up and block the drawer from closing. Add wood strip to drawer with room for the cup handles to slide behind. **Corn in the Microwave-** Wrap in wet paper towel and cook for 5 minutes. **Rubberband on Apple** Trick Apples get brown so fast. To avoid this simply cut your apple, place a rubber band over the apple slices, and when your child takes off the band at lunch it will be fresh! How to **Make Buttermilk-** Try this simple buttermilk recipe using distilled vinegar. 1 cup of whole milk + 1 Tablespoon distilled white vinegar (or lemon juice). **Marshmallow in Brown Sugar** The is nothing worse than finding hard brown sugar when you want to make cookies. Try some marshmallows in your bag and it will stay soft and delicious!

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<u>Hoge Memorial Church Staff</u> Head of Staff: Jesus Christ Sexton, Open Organist, Phil Leston Pastor, Thomas (Tom) A. Billman Various Committee Heads Various Volunteer Office Staff Heads of Various Programs and community service groups Food Pantry, HM3, AA and NA groups, Girl Scouts, Urban Ministries, Members of Out of the Box Community Theatre

Feeding the Community Physically & Spiritually

Inside this issue1Food for Thought2Special Announcements3Mark Your Calendar4Notes and Photos5Financial Update6 & 7Calendar of Events8Staff/Contact Information