



Holy Week

Maundy Thursday Service - March 28, 7:00 PM

Good Friday Service - March 29, 7:30 PM

(More on page 2)

Easter Celebration & Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 23

Fish Fry Dinners

Fridays, through March 29, 4:00-7:00 PM

Worship

Saturday at 5:00 PM & Sunday at 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Live streamed at 9:00 on pendletonchurch.org

Jr. Church (3 years - 6th grade) offered at 9:00 AM



Website

pendletonchurch.org



Phone

716-625-8306



Facebook

[pendletoncenterumc](https://www.facebook.com/pendletoncenterumc)



Email

Pastoral Emergencies

After office hours

716-291-7529



Instagram

[@pendletoncenterumc](https://www.instagram.com/pendletoncenterumc)



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As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"

Mark 16:5-7

Are you a "last word" person? Some folks believe that a discussion or argument is over only if they have the final word. Even if the facts don't support their position or their argument doesn't hold up, having that last word matters to them. Speaking that last sentence gives them a sense of victory in the moment. A lot of folks can't handle not having the final word.






Guess what? The truth is that we don't get the final word on much of our lives. We all deal with situations and issues that are beyond our control. These things come, and we don't get the final say about when they end. However, that's not always a bad thing. Imagine your life if your worst moment spoke for your entire life. In other words, it had the final word. If you see death as having the final word on your life, you would live very differently. It's almost cruel to experience life without hope and grace.

As I am writing this, Lent has just started. By the time you read it, we will already be well into the Holy season, as we look forward to the time when we remember the death and resurrection of Jesus. Having been in the church for a while, it is common to hear leaders say that the end of a person's life is not the end of their story. This is possible because of what Jesus did for us. Sin does not have the final say over us, because Jesus died on the cross for us. Death does not have the final say over us, because He rises again in victory.

Are you currently facing a situation that seems difficult to overcome? As disciples of Jesus, sometimes we may feel hopeless or fearful because of the challenges we encounter. Certain situations are beyond our control. However, when we live as people of the resurrection, knowing that our God has the final say, we can confront any obstacle with unwavering faith. This does not mean that we deny the pain, confusion, anxiety, or anger that we may experience due to our circumstances. We should allow ourselves to feel heartbroken if we lose a relationship, grieve when a loved one passes away, or become angry at injustices we encounter. But, we should also understand that these moments are different when we acknowledge the truth and power of God being with us. The God who raised Jesus from the dead loves us and will guide us through every storm that we face.

Live as a person of resurrection. You are a child of Almighty God. Neither sin, death, or any other problem on earth has real power over you. Be a witness to what Jesus Christ has done. Let your life tell a story of His victory and His love.

Pastor Scott

Holy Week				
				
Palm Sunday Worship	Maundy Thurs. Service	Good Friday Service	Holy Saturday Service	Easter Sunday Worship
March 24 9* & 11 AM	March 28 7:00 PM	March 29 7:30* PM	March 30 5 PM	March 31 9* & 11 AM
* Also live streamed on pendletonchurch.org				



Palm Sunday Worship

March 23 & 24, 5:00 PM on Saturday, 9:00 & 11:00 AM on Sunday

Palm (or Passion) Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. Palm branches are waved exalting Jesus, as we remember His triumphal entry into Jerusalem.



Maundy Thursday Service

March 28, 7:00 PM

We will gather around tables in the sanctuary to share in the story of the disciples gathered in the upper room where Jesus served them, cared for and about them, and prepared to leave them. We will share in Holy Communion, serving one another at the same table, the holy table of gathered people seeking Jesus.



Good Friday Service

March 29, 7:30 PM

People often don't see the good in Good Friday. Can we really understand the resurrection of Jesus if we don't have a sense of the crucifixion? Come listen as we remember together how the disciples were called to follow Jesus, what they saw and how they experienced the journey to the cross, and also the brokenness of watching their beloved friend in the man Jesus and beloved Savior Jesus be treated with cruelty we cannot really understand.



Holy Saturday Service

March 30, 5:00 PM

At our Easter Vigil service, we remember our baptism and anticipate the resurrection of our Lord.



Easter Sunday Worship

March 31, 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Christ is Risen, He is risen indeed. Let the flowers bloom, and the colors show - life in Christ is victorious over death, now and forever.

Beginner Pickleball*Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 PM, Gym*

Join in for recreational pickleball! Learn the basic rules, such as how to serve and keep score, in a fun, relaxed environment. For more information, contact [Pam Tavenier](#).

United Women in Faith*Thursday, March 7, 12:30 PM, Fellowship Hall*

Bring a sandwich and join us! Naomi and Kathy will be our hostesses - thank you both.

Also, if anyone has extra yarn, buttons, scissors, or glue guns, please bring them along. We are doing a small craft for the DeGraff shut-in living area. Hope to see everyone, and have an awesome day.

*Connie Clifford***Women's Book Club***Wednesday, March 20, 6p, at the Country Cottage at Beach Ridge & Townline Rd*

Join us for dinner and a discussion about this month's book, *The Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Harmel. If you want to join the book club or have any questions, let [Yvonne Bova](#) know. All women are welcome!

GriefShare*Thursdays Beginning March 7 at 6:30 PM, Connection Room 2*

GriefShare is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Over 13 weeks, you'll find relief and comfort as you learn what to expect in the days ahead and how to navigate your personal grief process. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability - and gain solid support each step of the way.

Topics include how to manage grief-related emotions such as loneliness, anxiety, sadness, anger, and regret; how to cope with the changes in your life and relationships; how to recognize what's normal in grief; and what to do if you feel stuck or hopeless. At a weekly GriefShare meeting, you will view a video featuring respected counselors, teachers, and healthcare professionals on grief-related topics. After that is a small-group discussion for sharing, support, and personal application of what you learned in the video. You will receive a book to take home filled with valuable exercises for navigating your personal grieving process.

Please join us on Thursdays Beginning March 7 at 6:30 PM. Feel free to contact [Pastor Jennifer](#) or [Sue Hiltz](#) or visit griefshare.org, if you have questions or would like more information.



GENESIS MINISTRIES

**GENESIS
Preschool**

It's time to sign up for Fall 2024 Genesis Preschool classes! Registration is currently open to church & preschool families, and as of March 1, registration will be open to the community.

Classes available are:

- 3 year olds, two days a week, morning or afternoon
- 4 year olds, three days a week, morning
- 4 year olds, five days a week, morning

Space is limited, and classes fill up quickly. Be sure to sign your child up now for the class of your choice. Our great staff and curriculum include kindergarten readiness skills, basic Christian concepts, music, arts and crafts, and much more.

For more detailed information, go to our [website](#) or contact our office at 625-8306.

Our annual Easter Candy Fundraiser was a success! Thank you to everyone who supported the fundraiser! The proceeds will benefit the Preschool and Children's Ministries here at PCUMC.



January 2024 Finances**Income:**

Projected Income: \$49,933

Actual Income: \$45,451

Expenses

Budgeted Expenses: \$61,660

Actual Expenses: \$63,711

- January actual income is \$4,482 LOWER than the projected income
- January actual expenses are \$2,051 HIGHER than our budgeted expenses
- **January actual income is \$18,259 below expenses:** We incur several seasonal or non-recurring expenses in January (e.g., town & county taxes, insurance policies, licenses, snow plowing, parking lot salting, fire protection systems, etc.). Our expenses are much higher in the first few months of each year, so this is nothing new. However, we need to generate consistent monthly income to ensure it allows us to support and fund all of our ministries. Hopefully, we will bounce back in February and March when those non-recurring expenses aren't a factor. We will continue to keep a close watch on our spending and income.

Our faith in God reminds us that He is with us and will continue to guide us. As Christians, we consider it part of our discipleship to give an offering to God through the church. We know that we can't be the strong church we have been without your help, and we depend upon your generosity! Your continued support is sincerely appreciated during these challenging times as we proceed with the ministry ahead of us, continuing to reach out to people everywhere in the name of Jesus Christ.

Thank you for all the support you give to God's work at Pendleton Center Church. We need to work hard to provide all the support our dynamic ministries need, and your continued help will make our ministry a powerful witness to Christ.

FISH FRY DINNERS



5 More Fridays during Lent, March 1 through Good Friday, March 29!

Fish Fry Dinners are a community mission.

Pause a moment and consider the fact that hundreds of people from our community will enter our doors again or for the first time. Everything about us is on display. Our smiles, kind words, our wonderful facility, and, of course, the delicious food we serve.

This ministry is huge, and it cannot happen without support from all of you! It takes 100 people to prepare and serve these wonderful meals each week, offer friendship, and connect with those seeking more love and meaning in their lives.

Thank you to everyone involved, and especially to the new helpers.

See the signup sheets in the back of the sanctuary or call the church office for ways to help. If you have questions, talk to Pastor Scott or Louie Bobsein.

God bless you for all you do. We look forward to another month of our church filled with smiling people!

Thank you,
Your Fish Fry Team



The Children and Youth Ministries are having an amazing time together! As we approach March and the season of Lent, we look forward to continuing our journey within these ministries and using this time to be more like Jesus and become closer to Him.

Each month, there are endless opportunities to learn, be together, grow in your personal walk with Jesus, and engage in activities, lessons, family activities, small groups, games, mission projects, and more!

God is working within each of these programs, and He has been incredibly faithful and loving. We are excited to see what else He has in store for us in the coming months.

Make sure to check out all of our children and youth ministries sections to see what we have been up to, what our programs will be doing throughout March, and what some of our future plans will be.

We hope you join us on this journey as we grow in our faith together as the body of Christ.

God bless,

Adrienne Demmin, Email or 716-625-8306



Jr. Church (9 AM service only) is a fun, interactive, and safe place where kids (3 years - 6th grade) can worship God and engage in their very own relationship with Him. Children can be dropped off in the Ark before worship and will return to service after communion.

In February, we started a new series called "Love Like Jesus." This series was an exciting opportunity for kids to learn about the deep love of Jesus Christ. Over the past four weeks, kids have seen Jesus' love through Bible stories and their daily lives. They have had the opportunity to show His love through kind actions, talk about His love to others, and celebrate His love through worship and art.



Our big idea for the month was: Because Jesus loves me, I can share his love with others! And our memory verse for the month was John 13:34: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

Our lessons and Bible stories for each week were:

Week 1: Witness: Seeing Christ's Love (1 John 4:9-11)

Week 2: Works: Demonstrating Christ's Love (Ephesians 4:32)

Week 3: Word: Explaining Christ's Love (Romans 5:8)

Week 4: Worship: Celebration of Christ's Love (Psalm 136:1)

In March, we will be starting a new series about Easter and Holy Week and look forward to celebrating Easter!

Candy Donations

We Need Your Help

When shopping for candy for Easter, please consider picking up an extra bag of individually wrapped candy for our children and youth ministries. You can label it and drop it off in the food collection area in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

Easter Celebration AND EGG HUNT

Save the date - Saturday, March 23

Join us for our Family Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt - discover the true meaning of Easter, and share with our community.

Many volunteers are needed before, during, and after this incredible event!

Before

Stuffing eggs and donating items needed: candy, prizes, baked goods, hot dogs, rolls, chips (signup sheets are in the sanctuary)

During

Craft helper, storyteller, face painter, game helper, assist with parking, helping with hot dog sale, handing out prizes

After

Takedown and cleanup

Here are ways you can help right now...

- ▶ Donate individually wrapped candy & toys that fit inside a plastic egg
- ▶ Take home a bag of eggs to stuff with candy & toys (we will need to stuff over 4,000 eggs!)
- ▶ Donate prizes for children

Watch for the display in the back of the Sanctuary.

If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact me.

Adrienne Demmin

Email or 716-625-8306





Over the last month, we had two different lessons that we looked at.

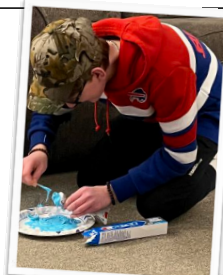
In our first lesson, Misquoted, we looked at Bible verses that are often misunderstood or misquoted. Then, we learned about a few different tools we can use to help us properly understand the scriptures we read. The first one was to read the verse by itself and then read the verses around it. Getting a verse's bigger picture and context can help us understand it. We also discussed how to research and dig deeper into verses by looking at reliable sources. Finally, the youth were challenged to find verses together as a group that are misquoted, and once they found one, they took time together to write the verse down, write down what the verse is commonly known for, and then what it actually means.

March meetings
Sundays 3/3, 3/17 and 3/24
from 6:00-8:30 PM.

In our second lesson, The Power of Words, we talked about how our tongues are powerful. We began our lesson by having a few volunteers squeeze out an entire tube of toothpaste and then asked them to put it back inside the tube. Our words are similar to that toothpaste; it's easy to speak words, but not so easy to take them back. As Christians, we should be careful of what we say to someone and always make sure we think before we speak. The words that we speak can bring death or life to someone. We also discussed how we should always encourage and uplift others with our words, take time to apologize when we have said something mean or hurtful, and watch what goes into our minds because what goes into our minds tends to always find a way back out eventually.

They were challenged to take time to think and evaluate the books, movies, music, social media, and anything else that they fill their hearts and minds with, and to make sure they are keeping God first.

We also worked on a mission project of preparing eggs for the Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt, and, of course, we went on our Winter Youth Retreat! Be sure to check in next month to hear about the Youth Retreat!



HOT CHOCOLATE WITH GOD & S'MORES

Friday, 3/1, 6:00-8:30 PM - PS-3rd grade boys movie night
Friday, 3/8, 6:00-9:00 PM - 4-7th grade movie night
Friday, 3/15, 6:00-8:30 PM - K-3rd grade girls
Friday, 3/22, 6:00-8:30 PM - K-3rd grade boys & all preschool
 In addition to the meetings above, we will have bake sales at the Fish Fry to help support our program. The HCWG girls will be on March 1, and the S'mores boys will be on March 15.

Look for your HCWG and S'mores newsletter in the mail for information and details on the dates listed above.

Hot Chocolate with God and S'mores is the place to be on Friday nights! The doors are open, and you can see the colorful lights glowing through the windows. Children and youth work together, learn about God, worship Him, build relationships, and have fun.

We have been so blessed to share God's word and make an impact not only on our church congregation but throughout the community as well.

This program is an opportunity for all children to gather with friends and build relationships with other Christian kids as they grow in their relationship with God in their very own way.

We will split up our groups a little more during the fish fry season to share the building space with the dinners, and we begin the first few nights with a movie night for each group. Bring your pillow and blankets, wear your pajamas, and get ready to watch a movie together. Don't forget the awesome candy and popcorn bar we will have for a snack!

Hams Needed for Thursday Night Dinners

As you know, we love celebrating special holidays with all our guests attending the Thursday Night Dinner. As we wrap up the beautiful and reflective season of Lent - we look forward to celebrating Easter with a wonderful ham dinner. This is where we can use your help!

We are in need of hams and some of the side dish items to complete our meal. Our dinner will take place on March 28, and if you would like to support this beautiful ministry, we would deeply appreciate it! **Besides ham, we're looking for boxed scalloped potatoes, eggs, butter, frozen peas, and yellow cake mix.** If you can help with purchasing any of these, drop them off in the Fellowship Hall collection area by Monday, March 25. **If you prefer, financial support is always appreciated,** as we have the ability to buy certain items in bulk and stretch our funds further.

We also extend our open invitation for folks to come out and help prepare, serve, or clean up after this celebration. We love to share this opportunity with others who would like to help others spread the Gospel and the Good News, while serving a delicious meal. And if you would like to drive up to First Church, 8210 Buffalo Ave in Niagara Falls, on any Thursday evening between 5 and 6, we would be happy to share a meal with you, too!

Please contact [DJ Mahar](#) for more information!

Feeding Hope

A nice warm meal was enjoyed once again last month. Let's try it again! How many of you can guess what we will be serving? Yep, you're right, turkey. And, oh, by the way, **if you haven't done so already, please pick up a frozen turkey(s)** from the church freezers, take it home and roast, debone, and bag it up in freezer bags and bring it back to church and put it in collection freezer in the Fellowship Hall. The cooked turkey will be used for both Feeding Hope and Niagara Falls.

We are also looking for donations of canned veggies, brownies, and oil. We will be serving on Wednesday, March 20. Come to the church kitchen anytime after 3:00 PM to help prep and package up. We leave the church at 6:30 to go downtown Buffalo, where the folks will be waiting.

Sandy Houck, Email

Thank you to all of those who helped with the concession stand for the Bills game! We raised a total of \$9,150 for missions, and we could not have done it without you!



We have another opportunity to raise money for our church by working the concession stand for the Luke Combs concert on Friday, April 19 and Saturday, April 20. Please see Pastor Jennifer if you are interested in volunteering on one or both nights. Come out and have some fun and fellowship!

Intergenerational Angel Wings

Saturday, March 9, 12:00-3:00 PM, Fellowship Hall

Help, I can't get up! This month's message reminds us that everyone needs help sometimes. Whether old, young, wealthy, or in poverty, we all need help in one way or another.

We will have a speaker from Save the Michaels at our next meeting. This is an organization that assists both people and families living with emotional/mental issues and helps those who are homeless find their way.

Dee Mann is providing the devotion (God's house has many rooms), the meal will be spaghetti, and the mission will be making bags of hope.

Please join us! We ask for a suggested donation of \$6 per family or \$3 per person.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to [Ms. Becky](#).

Angel Wings Intergenerational will have its "Sweet Charity Bake Sale" during the Fish Fry on March 22. This bake sale will support the mission work we do during Angel Wings, supporting programs like Save the Michaels of the World, migrants, back-to-school backpacks, personal care needs for immigrants, food pantries, and more.

Come and taste the sweetness of God's love for us and others.

We also accept food donations for the sale.



We have been blessed by the wonderful youth programs of PCUMC for the past 8 years. Our four children have gone to preschool, HCWG, Vacation Bible School, and Parents' Night Out countless times. They look forward to these events so much. From time spent with friends, to thoughtful crafts, yummy meals, and the excellent guidance of the leaders, these programs have been a blessing to our family. Seeing the teen leaders out in the community is also a testament to the value of these programs. They are responsible, kind people who are such excellent role models to our children.



Joey: I'm thankful for HCWG because I get to learn about God while I spend time with friends and have fun.

Caroline: I love how Miss Adrienne and Mr Adrian make HCWG so much fun.

Eloise: Spending time with friends is fun.

Juliette: I love how HCWG is so fun. I love all the teachers.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

March Birthdays

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 - Tom Finiki
Drusilla Harris
Jane Routt | 11 - Allison Hahn
Jade King
Kayla Weber | 21 - Emma Eisenhardt
Lilly Eisenhardt
Diane Lenhard |
| 2 - Donald Weber | 12 - Bob Glosser
Tony Licata
Andrew Machaby | Marlene Morrison
Jackie Parks
Lori Rivers |
| 3 - Evan Lemma
Donald Schloerb | 14 - Julia Lukasik
Timmy Lukasik
Vi Nelson | Nicole Valentine |
| 4 - Sarah Rivera | 15 - Sandy Teeter | 23 - Victoria Fitch
Penny Leidenfrost
Michelle Lorenz |
| 5 - Paul Dannebrock
Brian Dick
Hannah Tanalski | 16 - Janet Semsel | 24 - Bridgette Weller |
| 6 - Lindsay Hocking
Sheri Lemma
Tucker Smith | 18 - Ben Walck | 25 - Debbie Jamieson |
| 7 - Michael Borner
Wayne Forrest
Victoria Jaynes-Fuller | 19 - April Boudreault
Ethan DeVantier | 26 - Renee Haniszewski |
| Cassie Mangan
Bonnie Reed
Sue Stout
Dana Thompson | 20 - Dave Bazinet
Jane Diedrich
David Haniszewski
Delilah Wolcott | 28 - Fawn Jones |
| 10 - Jennifer Grimmer | | 29 - Thomas Bush
Brian Clapsadle
Erin Fisher
Emily Riexinger |
| | | 30 - Emily Lambe
Mary Rose |
| | | 31 - Michelle Bullock
Caspian Gustafson
Tim Lorenz
Joe Mattina |

March Anniversaries

- 6 - Brett & Sarah Johnson - '04
14 - Robert & Linda Zanke - '20
26 - Brian & Kathy Dick - '94



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MARCH 2024					1 4-7p - Fish Fry 6p - HCWG/S'mores (K-3rd grade boys & PS)	2 6p - HCWG/S'mores Leaders
					8 4-7p - Fish Fry 6p - HCWG/S'mores (4-7th grade)	9 12p - Intergenerational Angel Wings
3 6p - Youth Group	4 6p - Easter Choir Rehearsal	5	6 1p - Loyal Ladies Bible Study 6:30p - Beginner Pickleball	7 12:30p - United Women in Faith 6:30p - GriefShare	15 4-7p - Fish Fry 6p - HCWG/S'mores (K-3rd grade girls)	16 9a - Men's Breakfast
10 Mission Moment: Camp Scholarships	11 6p - Easter Choir Rehearsal 7p - Trustee Meeting	12 7p - Leadership Team Meeting	13 April Newsletter Deadline 6:30p - Beginner Pickleball	14 1p - Loyal Ladies Bible Study 6:30p - GriefShare	22 4-7p - Fish Fry 6p - HCWG/S'mores (K-3rd grade boys & PS)	23
17 6p - Youth Group	18 6p - Easter Choir Rehearsal	19 10a - Newsletter Assembly 7p - Finance Team Meeting	20 3p - Feeding Hope 6p - Women's Book Club 6:30p - Beginner Pickleball	21 1p - Loyal Ladies Bible Study 6:30p - GriefShare		
24 Palm Sunday Mission Moment: FUMC Thursday Night Dinner 6p - Youth Group	25 6p - Easter Choir Rehearsal	26	27 6:30p - Beginner Pickleball	28 Maundy Thursday 1p - Loyal Ladies Bible Study 7p - Maundy Thursday Service	29 Good Friday 4-7p - Fish Fry 7:30p - Good Friday Service	30 Holy Saturday
31 Easter Sunday	<div>Weekly Schedule</div> <p>For detailed info, check out the rest of the newsletter, visit pendletonchurch.org/calendar, or call the office at 716-625-8306.</p>					

Sundays

9:00 AM - Worship
 - Jr. Church - 3 yrs.-6th grade
 - Nursery Care - 0-2 yrs.
 10:00 AM - Sunday Morning Bible Study
 11:00 AM - Worship

Mondays

10:00 AM - Niagara County Senior Lunch
 5:30 PM - Girl Scouts
 7:00 PM - Monday Night Small Group

Tuesdays

1:00 PM - Watercolor Class

Wednesdays

6:00 PM - Pendletones
 7:00 PM - Men of Hymn

Thursdays

5:00 PM - Community Dinner at First UMC
 7:00 PM - Boy Scouts

Saturdays

10:00 AM - Watercolor Class
 5:00 PM - Worship