

The View

Madison Presbyterian Church
February 2024



WHEN ASH WEDNESDAY FALLS ON VALENTINE'S DAY

Beloved,

A lot of my unchurched friends are saying, "Valentine's Day?! Why on earth did the church decide to set Ash Wednesday on Valentine's Day?! We didn't. "They" didn't. What "they" did, the early church fathers, was to tie the date of Easter to the feast of Passover, as Jesus died after sharing the Passover meal with his disciples. And the date of Passover is set by the phases of the moon. "Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday after the Paschal full moon, which is the first full moon on or after 21 March (a fixed approximation of the March equinox)." https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Date_of_Easter

And if our friends are baffled by the date of Ash Wednesday, wait until they hear that the first Sunday after the Paschal full moon, Easter, falls on the 31st of March, the eve of April 1st this year!!! We will indeed be "fools for Christ's sake (1 Cor. 4:10)!" The equations regarding the date of Easter (Computus Paschal) is the practice on which the term "moveable feast" was based.

To begin our Lent this year we will "Eat, Pray, Love" on February 14th. We will gather for a light supper at 6:00 in the Fellowship Hall, followed by scripture, confession, and the imposition of ashes. We will dismiss no later than 6:50 - in time for the choir to get to practice. I hope you will join us as we usher in the season of Lent, remembering that though we are dust, our souls go to God out of His great love for us.

Blessings,

Pastor Karen

Pastor Karen Contact Information



My cell is 540-414-3193 Saturday through Thursday 9am-7pm.

My Sabbath is Friday. Emergencies only on Fridays, please.



EMERGENCIES call any time. PLEASE call or text directly if you or your loved one goes to the hospital, as soon as possible. Do not assume I know.



Office hours M, W, Th from 9 to Noon AND when you want to see me.

I am HAPPY to make afternoon, evening, or weekend appointments.

My time will flex to accommodate you.

If you want to drop by to see me instead of making an appointment, I will always be glad to see you. Just know you may have to wait if someone else has scheduled



Heidi Piper, Church Administrator

I am in the office 8:00am - 1:00pm Monday through Thursday. Please leave me a message on the phone or send an email if there's anything I can help with. If you have changes to your Address, Phone, or Email please send updated information to office@madisonpresbyterian.com.



*2024 Flower Calendars
are posted in the Narthex.
Send flower dedications for the
bulletin to
office@madisonpresbyterian.com
or call the office at (540)948-6972.*



Madison Presbyterian Church

PIN: 22871 Presbytery: James ([150298](#)) Synod: Mid-Atlantic ([150](#))

LENT 2024



Ash Wednesday

February 14

“Won’t You Be Mine? – God”

Fellowship Hall 6:00-7:00pm
Simple Soup and Bread Supper
Short Service with Ashes

Sundays of Lent

***Sermon Series based on
The Hope of Glory” by John Meacham***

First Lent 2/18

“Father Forgive Them,
They Know Not What They Do.”

Second Lent 2/25

“Assuredly I Say to You,
today you will be with Me in paradise.”

Third Lent 3/3

“Woman, Behold Thy Son!
Behold Thy Mother!”
(Communion Served)

Fourth Lent 3/10

“My God, my God,
Why Hast Thou Forsaken Me?”

Fifth Lent 3/17

“I Thirst”

3/24 Palm Sunday

“It Is Finished.”

Good Friday

Friday, March 29

Sanctuary 6:30

“Father Into Thy Hands
I Commend My Spirit”
communion

Easter Sunday

The Resurrection of the Lord

March 31st, 2024

Communion



Book Study Through Lent

“Hallelujah Anyway:

On Hallowing One’s Diminishments

*5 Sessions Beginning the Wed/Thurs After
Ash Wednesday, 2/21, and continuing until
the Wed/Thurs before Good Friday, 3/28.*

Wednesday Evenings 6:00pm or

Thursday mornings 10:00am

See article on page 4 in this newsletter
for more information

**“Hallelujah Anyway: On Hallowing One’s Diminishments”
A Five Week Study for Lent**

**Wednesdays from 6:00 – 7:00pm - February 21, 28, March 6, 13,
and 20**

**or Thursdays from 10:00 – 11:00am - February 22, 29, March 7, 14,
& 21**

Morning Section available on Zoom at:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82697793357?
pwd=akVuRkpBMUY5YmJrV2xreU5hWXV0QT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82697793357?pwd=akVuRkpBMUY5YmJrV2xreU5hWXV0QT09)

Meeting ID: 826 9779 3357 Passcode: 750360

Lent reminds us that we are dust, and to dust we will return. It is the “memento mori” of the church year. Into this space comes a little book called “On Hallowing One’s Diminishments”. It is both intellectually and spiritually satisfying, and will lead us to consider aspects of our mortality that from a faithful and enriching viewpoint.

About the Booklet: “A sensitive discussion about the many forms of diminishment we experience in life including birth defects, illness, natural disasters, unwilled separations, aging, and finally death itself. From the author’s study of Teilhard de Chardin and his experience of contemplative prayer, he invites the reader into practices of mind, body, and soul that may help open us up to God.”

About the Author: Author John Yungblut is a graduate of Harvard College and the Episcopal Divinity School at Cambridge, MA. After serving 20 years in the Episcopal ministry, he joined the Religious Society of Friends, also known as the Quakers. Among others, he has served as the Director of Quaker House in Atlanta, a member of the faculty at Pendle Hill, and Director of Touchstone in Lincoln Virginia.

Please RSVP to PastorKaren@madisonpresbyterian.com so she may be certain to order enough books. Thank you.

CHEERFUL GIVER

This is the theme for Stewardship for 2024. As 2 Corinthians 9:7 says:
“Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” May we all be cheerful givers; to our church, community and world.

There will be more to come from the Stewardship Team about our theme.

~Sharon Weakley

Team Leader



Our new Communion Cloth has been given to the church by new member, Yvonne “Bon” Beatty in memory of her mother, Louise Hopkins Soaker.

It was used at her mother’s church for many years, the Litchfield Presbyterian Church in Botha, VA.

Thank you, Bon.

Annual Meeting and Luncheon



On Sunday, January 28 we held our Annual Meeting and Luncheon immediately following morning worship. It was well attended with over 60 people!

Thank you to all elders, leaders, and contributors to the report packet. If you would like a hard copy, there are some left in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like a pdf copy, please let Heidi in the office know and she can email it to you.

We look forward to seeing everyone again next year, *but don't worry basketball fans, we'll try not to plan it on the 4th Sunday of January!*

Attention Women of the Church!



Join the Presbyterian Women for the 2023-2024 bible study, which meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. The bible study this year is titled Sacred Encounters - The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke - Acts. The study books are on the table outside the church office in the Fellowship Hall. Please pick up your book and either check your name off of the list or add your name to the list. This lets us know who to contact in case of any day or time changes. All are welcome, whether or not you have participated before!! Any questions contact Sharon Weakley.

Thank you!!

Earth Care Pledge

Peace and justice is God's plan for all creation. The earth and all creation are God's. God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect and restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family. As God offers all people the special gift of peace through Jesus Christ, and through Christ reconciles all to God, we are called to deal justly with one another and the earth.

1. Our **worship** and discipleship will celebrate God's grace and glory in creation and declare that God calls us to cherish, protect and restore this earth.
2. In **education**, we will seek learning and teaching opportunities to know and understand the threats to God's creation and the damage already inflicted. We will encourage and support each other in finding ways of keeping and healing the creation in response to God's call to earth-keeping, justice and community.
3. Our **facilities** will be managed, maintained and upgraded in a manner that respects and cherishes all creation, human and non-human, while meeting equitably the needs of all people. In our buildings and on our grounds we will use energy efficiently, conserve resources, and share what we have in abundance so that God's holy creation will be sustainable for all life and future generations.
4. Our **outreach** will encourage public policy and community involvement that protects and restores the vulnerable and degraded earth as well as oppressed and neglected people. We will be mindful that our personal and collective actions can positively or negatively affect our neighborhood, region, nation and world. We will seek to achieve environmental justice through coalitions and ecumenical partnerships.



Counters February 2023 - April 2024

February	March	April
Sue Strahan	Heidi Sage	Dana Edelman
Sam Strahan	Allan McLearn	Art Pearson

The Card Group makes greeting cards for nursing home residents and church members that are home bound, and for other occasions. They meet Fridays, February 2, 9, and 23, in the Fellowship Hall at 10am. All are welcome to join!

The Brown Bag Book Study meets the 1st (2/7) and 3rd (2/23) Wednesdays at 11AM. If you have any questions, please contact Bobbie Carroll at 540-948-9922.

Choir Practice meets every Wednesday at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. Please contact Elizabeth Anne Storey with any questions.

Breakfast Buzz meets on the third Friday, February 16th at 9:00am.

Presbyterian Women meet the 2nd Wednesday each month at 10am in the Fellowship Hall.

Lenten Study will begin February 21 at 6pm in the Tack Room (and February 22 at 10am in the Fellowship Hall). *Please see pages 3 & 4 for more information.*

February Communion Servers and Pew Guides

Cindy Pattie	Tim Woodward
Dudley Pattie	Bettie Berry
Kim Barnes	



On Communion Sundays,
the first Sunday of each month,
**the outside ring is Wine,
the inside is Juice.**

February Liturgists and Greeters

February 4	Dana Edelman	Corrine & Harvey Stanley
February 11	Jeanne Bruton	Beth Kloker
February 18	Ruth Miles	Tom & Holly
February 25	Bettie Berry	Darren & Jan McKinney



Social Services Needs for Families for February



Needs of the Month: Infants & Children

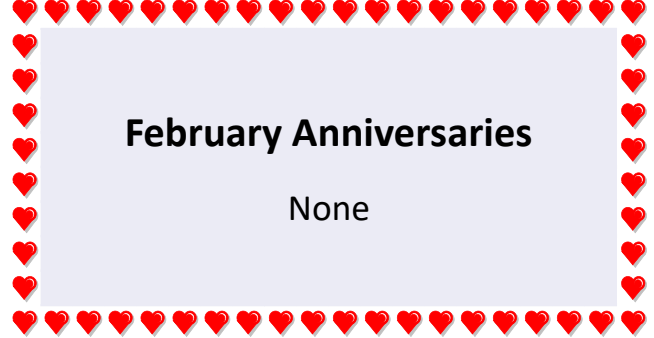
Baby foods, diapers, finger foods, baby cookies, small cans of spaghetti or soup, packages of macaroni and cheese, instant oatmeal, cereal, cream of wheat, peanut butter and jelly, pudding, Jell-O cups, fruit cups, juices, instant dry milk

**Please place your donations in the red container in the Fellowship Hall.
Items will be taken to Madison Social Services to help neighbors in need.**



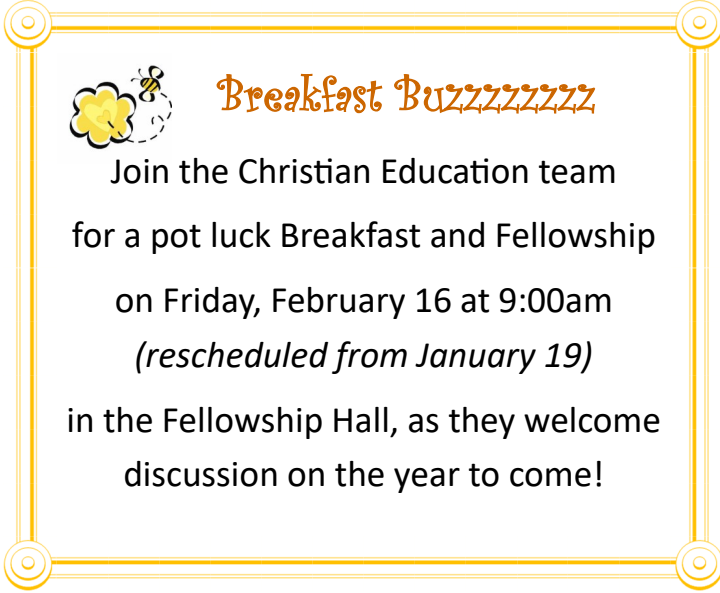
February Birthdays

Rives Wetsel 2/01
Ruth Pearson 2/07
Sam Strahan 2/11
Sharon Carter 2/16
Frank King 2/24
Dudley Pattie 2/27



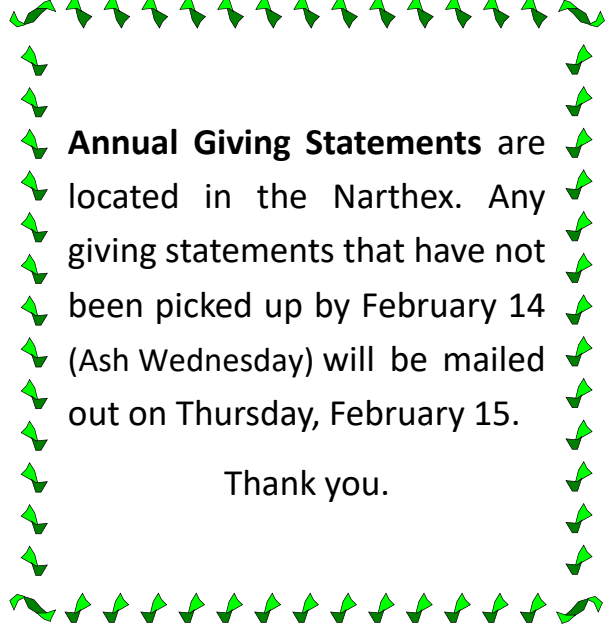
February Anniversaries

None



Breakfast Buzzzzzzzzzz

Join the Christian Education team for a pot luck Breakfast and Fellowship on Friday, February 16 at 9:00am (*rescheduled from January 19*) in the Fellowship Hall, as they welcome discussion on the year to come!



Annual Giving Statements are located in the Narthex. Any giving statements that have not been picked up by February 14 (Ash Wednesday) will be mailed out on Thursday, February 15.

Thank you.



If you have any questions, please contact Frank King.

	Madison Presbyterian Church	Pastor: Karen Allamon Church
	PO Box 297, 1236 Fishback Road	pastorkaren@madisonpresbyterian.com
	Madison, VA 22727	Administrator: Heidi Piper
	540.948.6972	office@madisonpresbyterian.com
	www.madisonpresbyterian.com	Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:00 – 1:00



FEBRUARY 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
January 28, 2024		29 Worship Mtg 10am	30 Choir 7pm	31 Heidi Out of Office	1 Card Group 10am	2 3
4 Communion Worship 10am	5	6 Session 6:30pm	7 Book Club 11am Choir 7pm	8	9 Card Group 10am	10 Friends of Appalachia 8am - 2pm
11 Worship 10am AA 5:30pm	12 Quilt Guild 6:30pm	13 Shrove Tuesday FEAST FAST Session 6:30pm	14 Ash Wednesday Presbyterian Women 10am Woman's Club 11am Ash Wed Worship 6pm Choir 7pm	15 Garden Club 11am	16 Breakfast Buzz 9am	17
18 Worship 10am AA 5:30pm	19 Presidents' Day 	20	21 Readiness Team 10am Book Club 11am Lenten Study 6pm Choir 7pm Woman's Club	22 Lenten Study 10am	23 Card Group 10am	24 Friends of Appalachia 8am - 2pm
25 Worship 10am AA 5:30pm	26 Quilt Guild 6:30pm	27	28 Lenten Study 6pm Choir 7pm	29 Lenten Study 10am	March 1 Card Group 10am	2

Year B - February 4: Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

Sunday, February 11: 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

Ash Wednesday - Wednesday, February 14: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isa. 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21

First Sunday of Lent - February 18: Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

Second Sunday in Lent - February 25: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38