

Aston Press

Monthly Newsletter



April 2025

April 6th - Communion Sunday - 5th Sunday in Lent
 April 8th - Session Meeting
 April 13th - Palm Sunday -6th Sunday in Lent
 April 17th - Maundy Thursday
 April 20th - Easter Sunday
 April 20th - Easter Brunch/Egg Hunt

Elder of the Month

Erin Schuler
 610-357-5648

Church Office Hours

Erin Schuler Coia
 Administrative Assistant

Wednesdays 10am - 1pm
 Thursdays 10am - 1pm
 Fridays 10am - 1pm
 610-494-2634
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From the Pastor's Desk

Spring is finally here! No more snow. Instead, daffodils, forsythia bushes and magnolia trees are blooming. I love all the colors and I love that all this beauty always reminds me of God's provision and abundance. In Spring it seems the whole earth comes alive again to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Hallelujah!

In the church we are approaching the end of Lent. In two weeks we will celebrate Palm Sunday and then Easter. Throughout Lent the sermons have been on The Seven Last Words from the Cross. These final words of Jesus, spoken while he hung on the cross are important and through them we hear what was on the heart of Jesus in his final moments.

On Palm Sunday we will have palms to commemorate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Palm Sunday is also known as Passion Sunday and focuses more on the coming rejection and suffering Jesus would soon face. We will hear the final word from the cross, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." Too many people go from the triumph of Palm Sunday to the triumph of Easter without going through the crucifixion. We skip over what Jesus endured on the cross and the price he paid so we could be set free from sin and given eternal life.

This year we will have a mid-day Maundy Thursday service. Hopefully, this will allow more people to attend. On Easter, Resurrection Sunday we will have an Easter Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt. Please join us for these coming services.

God's blessings to all,
 Rev. Christine

APC Committees



April Birthdays

- April 6th - Paul Kugelman
- April 9th - Jack Bomhoff
- April 28th - Andrea Sampson
- April 30th - Dotti Canavin
- April 30th - Barbara Krauss




Join us for a potluck
Easter Brunch

9:30am & 11:30am
Heibeck Hall

All are Welcome



Financial Corner

Financial Corner as of April 30, 2025

How are we doing?

	FEB Budget	Feb YTD
Envelope Giving	10,133.33	16,996.50
Loose Offering	141.67	54.00
DC Learning Ctr	2,400.00	2,400.00
DCLCtr (shared exp.)	-	460.15
Building Use	200.00	105.00
Initial Offering	100.00	82.00
Per Capita	300.00	433.00
Invest Fund Div.	583.33	-
Misc. Income	41.67	
Income	13,900.00	20,530.65
Local Expenses	13,773.67	14,714.88
Mission Giving	425.28	-
Operating Exp.	14,198.95	14,714.88
Surplus (Shortfall)	(298.95)	5,815.77
Other Mission & Special Offerings		\$ 1,076.00

Our 2025 surplus at this point of the year is \$5,815.77. This surplus is due to the fact that some members have pre-paid their pledge for the entire year or a partial year, and the Cents-Ability for Jan. and Feb. is combined with Souper Bowl for Chester Eastside to be paid in March. The info as presented above is for the month of January. For informational purposes, over the next few months, the church will be transitioning the financial reporting to Quickbooks.

Malachai 3:10 - "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

Respectfully submitted: Michele Kane



April memories

As we begin the month of April, we continue on in Lent as we look towards Holy Week, beginning with Palm (Passion) Sunday and ending with the Easter celebration of our Lord's resurrection. This month as we look back at previous years in our Church life, we will be covering both March and April.

Five years Ago-2020- March- Pastor Michelle Grunsiech wrote in her column that we should spend time during Lent in meditation as we walk through these forty days with Jesus. On Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, we collected 180 cans of soup for Chester Eastside plus raised \$314.00 for a project that Teacher Jessica (Sampson) Worrillow was doing. Day Care Events for March: Read across America day, Rocking Your Socks Day for Down's Syndrome Awareness, Storyteller Vicky Town. On Blanket Sunday \$220 was collected for blankets. April 2020 there was no Newsletter due to COVID.

Ten years ago-2015- Pastor Graham Robinson wrote that the leaders of Aston Presbyterian Church were discussing how to extend our witness for Christ to the communities we live and work in. also they were considering how we can better care for each other in our Church family. He said that during our journey through Lent, we should trust that God through the cross will guide our witness. Day Care happenings: Dr. Seuss's Birthday, St. Patrick's Day Celebration. Nathan Tribbett was recognized by Pennell Elementary for reading One Million words, Josh Collins won a Lego contest at the Franklin Institute;

April-2015- Pastor Graham Robinson wrote about upcoming events for Lent happening at Aston Presbyterian in

April. Day Care Events: Music Monday, Taco Tuesday, Segal Puppet Theater presents: "Tooth Buddies."

Fifteen years ago, 2010- March- Rev. Jane Ritterson in her column wrote that we would be holding a serve of Wholeness and Healing as part of our Lenten journey. Day Care News: March 2nd Dr Seuss's Birthday, March 10th Dentist show, March 17th St. Patrick's Day Party, March 18th A Hop-a-thon, March 26th An Easter parade. Our Congregation raised \$503 for the Haitian Relief Fund. On Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday 100 cans of soup were donated and \$315 raised and given to Chester Eastside Food Cupboard. The 2010 One Great Hour of sharing Goal was \$1,500

April-2010- Rev. Jane Ritterson in her column wrote about Holy week. She also noted the only road to Easter morning is through the unrelenting shadows of Good Friday. Day Care events: April 7th Program about car and Bike safety, April 10-APC Daycare Pride Day, April 19-Recycling Program, April 25 - Fairy Tale Day. On Easter Sunday, April 4th an Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt were held. On April 25th, a Mission Luncheon was held with a program in Guatemala.

Twenty years Ago-2005- March- Pastor Pam Cowan in her "From the Pastor's Hat Rack Column" wrote about our lives of faith being a true test of our commitment to follow Jesus the Lamb of God. On March 27th, the choir brought the message in song with the cantata "Christ the crucified under the direction of Jim Sredenschek and Andrea Sampson. Souper Bowl of Caring for March 2005 raised \$550.00 plus 200 cans of soup for Chester Eastside Food Cupboard.

April-2005- Pastor Pam Cowan wrote about the symbols of our faith that we see in our sanctuary: The Cross, the Communion Table, the Baptismal Font, the Good Shepherd Window. Day Care happenings: April 8th- Mr. Yuk Program on poisons, April 12th- Stripes Day, April 20th-Recycling Program, and also a Trip to the circus. The April "Café by the creek" featured "The Shiloh Band." John Schultz, Jr. received the American Citizenship Award at Sun Valley High School.

Twenty-five years Ago- 2000- March-Pastor Pam Cowan wrote in her column about seeking advice from Session leaders when making decisions in life. On March 3rd, a Healing and Wholeness service was held. The Aston Presbyterian singers of the gospel presented the musical "The Family of God" directed by Laura Worrell.

April-2000-Pastor Pam Cowan in her column wrote that Jesus claimed the power of His faith through silence. At our Maundy Thursday Communion /service a reenactment of Leonardo Da Vinci's Last Supper was performed with Tommy Zebley as Jesus and Jeff Czarnik as Judas. On April 13th the DayCare held their Easter Parade.

Thirty years ago-1995- March- Pastor Scott Cupp in his "Ex Cathedra" Column spoke about the mission trip he was leading for Philadelphia Presbytery to Zimbabwe. He asked for prayers for the people who were traveling with him that they would have safe travel and as they share witness with the Presbyterian Church in Zimbabwe. On March 12th, a Mission Supper was held where a program was presented on The Year of Mission Work in Africa. The 50 Day Lenten study was titled: "Facing Down Our Fears".

April-1995- Pastor Scott Cupp's "Ex Cathedra Column" focused on /easter. He noted that to celebrate Easter properly we must go through the darkness of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. The Presbyterian Women held their yearly Birthday Luncheon.



April memories

Continued on next page

April memories

Thirty-five years Ago-1990 -March-Pastor Scott Cupp in his Ex-Cathedra Column wrote about the breakup of the Soviet Union. He remarked that it was an end that was gained without a single shot being fired. The /deacons /Who's Who /column was about Susanna Stevenson Wolfe who in 1990 was our oldest member. On March 7th, the Presbyterian /women held their Lenten Breakfast with Martha Tignor, a well known Bible Teacher as the speaker.

April-1990- Pastor Scott Cupp's Ex Cathedra "Column was about Easter. He said that Easter is the focal point of our Christian faith. He also noted that we should let Easter transform our lives as it did the first Christians. The Deacons Who's Who Column featured Frieda Hatton, Doris Zebley's mother. The 1990 One Great Hour of Sharing goal was \$2,000.

Forty years ago-1985- March-Pastor Bob Boell wrote that we should be sharing Christ's warmth and love with everyone who comes to share in Worship with us. The One Great Hour Sharing goal for 1985 was \$,2400. On March 6th, the Presbyterian. women held their Lenten Breakfast with Liz Anton as the speaker. On March 24th, a Lenten supper was held that featured the Bell Choir from St, James Episcopal Church. Bob Sampson was recognized for completing 45 years of service with Boeing, During March an Intergenerational study was held called: "Peacemaking in the Family" by Mr. Rogers.

April-1985-Pastor Bob Boell wrote that the message of /easter is filled with mystery and magnificence. On April 28th we shared in a pulpit exchange where Rev. Stephen Gutridge, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Chester led our worship, and our Pastor Bob Boell led worship at First Presbyterian Church. On April 14th, the Choir presented the cantata "Resurrection" by Bryan Jeffrey Leech under the direction of Ed Paffett.

Forty-five years ago - 1980 -March-Pastor Bob Boell wrote about making Lent a period of positive spiritual growth through Bible study and prayer. On March 23rd, a Lenten Communion supper was held in the evening. Our One Great Hour of /sharing Goal for 1980 was \$1,800..

April-1980-Pastor Bob Boel wrote in the newsletter that we in the church must wear the face of a believer who knows the Risen Christ so that anyone visiting can see His presence in our faces. At the Palm Sunday service and the Maundy Thursday Service the Choir offered messages in song with the cantata "The Last Week" directed by Ed Paffett with Olive Beiswenger at the organ. Bill David participated in a Martial arts demonstration at Cabrini College. Pam Zebley was named to the Dean's List at Brigham Young University. Former Pastor Bob Seaman was named Interim Pastor at the Dutch Neck Presbyterian Church in New Jersey. Michael Neale's "Meadow Brook Nursery" won a prize at the Philadelphia Flower Show.

Fifty years ago-1975-March- Pastor Bob Boell wrote that we as a congregation should think about giving more towards world disaster relief through One Great Hour of Sharing. Following our Lenten Communion Supper a choir made up of members from various congregations in the Aston area presented a cantata "Olivet to Calvary." The Adult Class was studying the books of I & II Timothy and Titus.

April-1975- Pastor Bob Boell in his column talked about everyday being resurrection day. He complimented our congregation for trying to be Easter people day by day. On April m13th the Sr.High Youth led us in worship with the theme of "Were You There."

Now as we prepare for the end of this 2025 Lenten Season and look towards Holy week and its culmination of Christ's Triumph over sin and death. Let us show the world that as followers of Jesus Christ as Easter people every day. May each of us show Jesus love for all people as we live, move and share life in our communities.

Happy Easter and God's Blessings to everyone.
Bill Schuler



Recipes Wanted:

Years ago, Aston Presbyterian Church put out two cookbooks with recipes from our church members and friends. We would like to put together a cookbook for our 160th Anniversary (coming in Feb. 2026). We all know we love Ruth's tomato soup, or Pat's black bean salsa, Bonnie's macaroni salad, and Donna's deviled eggs.. We would love to see these recipes and many more put together in a book. Please submit your favorite recipes from yourself and from former Church members.

When submitting, please submit ingredients, instructions, a picture and a name of whose recipe it is. Any questions or to submit a recipe please contact Erin Schuler at the church office by November 2025.



Cents Ability for the Month of April



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Join with Aston Presbyterian Church in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need both at home and around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

With as little as 2 pennies per person per meal you can help sustain these important ministries and programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing. Please consider using the fish banks on your table from Sunday, March 2nd through April 20th. Also, any monies collected in our Wishing Well will be donated to One Great Hour of Sharing.

Thank you in advance for your help. - Mission Committee

Buildings & Grounds/St. Andrews

Buildings & Grounds - We are planning a Clean Up Day for Saturday, April 12th (Rain Date April 19th) 11:00am - 3:00pm - Please see James on Sundays to show your interest.

St. Andrew's - Come join the free coffee hour on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 am around the "Round Table" in the boiler room of the Church. Be prepared to solve the world's problems. Contact Bill G. for more information.

Recipe of the Month Easter Eggs

Ingredients:

1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese
 ¼ pound margarine, softened
 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
 2 pounds confectioners' sugar
 12 ounces peanut butter
 12 ounces flaked coconut
 4 cups semisweet chocolate chips
 2 tablespoons shortening

Instructions:

1. Beat together cream cheese, margarine, and vanilla in a large bowl with an electric mixer until well combined. Add confectioners' sugar in batches, beating well after each addition. Dough will be very stiff.
2. Divide dough equally into 2 bowls. Stir peanut butter into one bowl and coconut into the other until incorporated.
3. Using your hands, mold dough into egg shapes and arrange them on cookie sheets. Place molded eggs in the freezer until frozen, 1 to 2 hours.
4. Melt together chocolate chips and shortening on top of a double boiler until smooth. Allow to cool slightly at room temperature.
5. Dip frozen eggs into melted chocolate mixture until completely coated. Place dipped eggs on wax paper-lined cookie sheets and return to the freezer to harden. Store eggs in the refrigerator.



Aston Pres. Learning Center



April 2025 Learning Center Events

April 2nd - Favorite Children's Book Day
 April 7-11 - Grand-friends Week and
 Week of the Young Child
 April 11th - Easter Bunny Visit
 April 12-21 - Spring Break - LC Closed
 April 13th - Palm Sunday

April 14th - Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser
 April 20th - Easter Sunday
 April 22nd - Earth Day/PJ Day
 April 23rd - Eagles Autism
 Challenge/Bubble Party
 April 29th - Superhero/Princess Day



APC Learning Center

Happy April! This year is flying by! This month we have a lot going on starting our month off with "Week of the Young Child" helping our young children to grow and explore with fun themed days. Monday, we have Music Monday as we include musical instruments in our plans as often as we can. Tuesday is Tasty Tuesday as we enjoy putting together a fun snack. Wednesday is Work Together Wednesday as we provide opportunities for our classes to work together to create something new. Thursday we will show our creativity off with a fun creative art project for Artsy Thursday. Lastly, for Family Friday we provide note cards for families to write a note for their child that the teachers will read at lunchtime. The students and staff are really looking forward to this week. Our center will be closed for spring break from April 14th to the 21st. Before then we have the joy of experiencing Easter with our little ones from Easter egg hunts, Easter parties, Bunny visits, spring crafts and so much more. We have brought back another favorite week for our students, "Grand-Friends Week" as our little ones get to bring a grandparent, parent, or special adult to school to do a little gardening together and share a snack. As for our special days, we have to look forward to this month is Favorite Children's Book Day as we wear a shirt with our favorite character from our favorite books. April is Autism Awareness Month and we are once again selling bubbles to raise money towards the Eagles Autism Foundation leading up to our Eagles/Green Day as we raise awareness with a bubble party on April 23rd! Another popular day coming up is Superhero Princess Day as we choose between dressing up as a favorite superhero or princess. Outside of the school we are looking forward to our next fundraiser at Texas Roadhouse on Monday April 14th from 4-10pm Aston Pres. will receive 10% of every food purchase. All are welcome and appreciated! We would love to see you there!