



The Presbyter

March 2018

The First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT



Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People — all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

(PDA)-- Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters, and offers support for refugees; receives 32% of funds raised.

PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM (PHP)--

Takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed; receives 36% of funds raised.

SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE (SDOP)--

Invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues; receives 32% of funds raised.

On Sunday mornings in Lent, listen for the stories of those whose lives have been changed by assistance received from these programs. One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference in the world.

Our goal this year is \$5,000. Watch the net in the sanctuary fill with fish, representing money received as we move towards our goal. There is still plenty of time to give to this worthy offering. Thank you for your generous, ongoing support of those in need.



Palm Sunday, March 25

- 10:00 AM Worship
- 11:00 AM Holy Week program (CE)

Wednesday in Holy Week, March 28

- 5:30 PM Seder Meal [See page 6 for details]

Maundy Thursday, March 29

- 7:30 PM Communion and Tenebrae

Good Friday, March 30

- 12:00 noon Worship service

Easter Sunday, April 1

- 8:30 and 10 AM Worship with Communion

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Help Yourself.....

To a book from our library.



Did you know that our church library is mostly self-service?

And a bit "old school"! The library is available whenever there is nothing else scheduled for Room 206. Feel free to go in, browse through the books and take one home to read.

There is no computer to scan a bar code, so instead, sign your name and date to the card inside the book and leave it in the wooden box on the third shelf. When you are finished with the book, just return it to the shelf marked for Returns. One of your devoted librarians will replace the card and put the book in its appropriate section, where it will await its next reader!

The Presbyterian deadline for the April issue is March 16, 2018

The Presbyterian is a monthly newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church, 300 School Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411.

All visitors are welcome to worship with us.

Worship services are held on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Child care is available. Communion is observed the first Sunday of every month.

If you do not attend a church in this area, we invite you to any and all of the events, programs, and worship services described in this newsletter. Please call the church office to arrange child care. Our sanctuary and Fellowship Hall are both handicapped accessible.

Church Office	(570) 586-6306
Fax	(570) 587-3784
Web Page	www.fpccs.org
Pastor	William G. Carter
Administrative Assistant	Nancy Owens
Coordinator of Children & Youth	Jana Schillinger
Treasurer	Wayne Griffiths
Editor	
Clerk of Session	Beverly Bright
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Director of Bells	Richard Cochrane
Director of Chapel Choir	Kay Ten Eyck

Board of Deacons

Care Team Ministry **Coordinators** are:

Independent & Assisted Living:	Sara Ann Hosier 587-0371
Deacon Meals:	Donna Kepler 587-2729
Time of Loss:	Anne Rich 587-2802
Emergency Home Repairs And Maintenance:	Joe Waters 586-7233

Please let the Board of Deacons Care Team Coordinators or the church office know if anyone is in need of care.

We're here to care for FPC members and friends and we count on all of you to let us know when help is needed. This is our ministry and our Christian privilege to care for you.

FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2018

REVENUE

Budget	\$ 30,611
Actual Received	<u>42,702</u>
Difference	\$ 12,091

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EXPENSES

Budget	\$ 31,642
Actual Expenses	<u>29,233</u>
Difference	\$ 2,409

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BUDGET VARIANCE \$ 14,500

PLEDGE INCOME

Budget	\$ 26,667
Received	<u>34,491</u>
Difference	\$ 7,824

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From the Pastor March 2018

Lent is a time to reflect on our limitations. Try as we might, we cannot complete life on our own power. We have little recourse but to trust God.

This Lent, I'm reflecting on the loss of a good friend. I met Virginia Miner when I was still a college student. As I recall, it was the day when I was preparing to give my testimony at a presbytery meeting about why I sensed God's call to ministry. She sauntered up after my talk and asked, "Where do you think you're going to seminary?" When I replied, "Princeton," she retorted, "Why in the world would you want to go there?"

Little did I know, she was already enrolled at Princeton Seminary and serving on an internship. And I never dreamed that moment would be the beginning of a friendship that lasted nearly forty years.

After returning to Princeton, Virginia began looking for a job. She called the Lackawanna Presbytery office to see if they could connect her to any openings. Lo and behold, the pastor of the Peckville and Olyphant churches had just left on medical leave. So she offered to help out for the Christmas season — and ended up staying thirty-three years. Her congregation knew they had a good thing in Virginia. She, in turn, sensed that God called her to tarry and dig in where she was.

She has been a great friend to our congregation as well, filling our pulpit on occasion and offering wise counsel when we needed her voice. Her leadership has also stabilized Lackawanna Presbytery, first when one of our presbytery executives became terminally ill, and most recently as the financial situation kept us from calling a full-time leader. Virginia always seemed to land in the right place and at the right time, further evidence of God's providence and care for us all.

Breast cancer can be a nasty disease. In her case, the disease came, went, and returned over seventeen years. She fought valiantly and refused to give up. Her tenacity, well formed by her work as a pastor, gave hope to scores of other women, and her persistent love and sense of justice has been a positive force for our entire region. Indeed, in 2015, she was awarded the Gov. Robert P. Casey Medal for a Lifetime of Service by Neighborworks NEPA. This award acknowledges people who have faithfully invested their time and talents to improve our quality of life.

It has been a privilege to share my life with this dear friend and saint of God, and I hope you will join us for her memorial service on Sunday, March 4, at 4:00 p.m. at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Scranton. I will post my sermon for the funeral on my blog after the service. It's about the power of friendship—which I have experienced through Virginia as the power of God.

It's almost enough. Almost. I miss my friend terribly, and I wait for the final day of resurrection. After all, it's Lent.

Faithfully,

Rev. Bill



In loving memory of Virginia Miner, 1958-2018

Christian Education



It's for life!

THE W.A.Y.

The Wednesday Aadults and Youth Christian Education

“I am the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE”

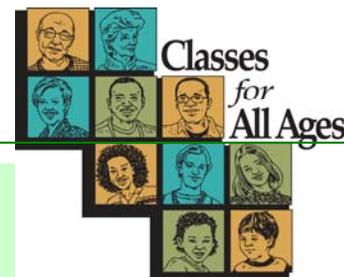
Classes for Children and Youth

Spark (Newborn - 3 year old) enjoy Bible stories, songs and games in the nursery. In March the kids will be learning about Jesus feeding the 5,000, the Greatest Commandment, and Holy Week.

Power Xpress (4 year old - Grade 5) experience Bible stories through interactive rotation classes. March's units will focus on Zacchaeus and Holy Week.

We Believe (Grades 6-8) Using *We Believe: The Story of God's Faithfulness*, the class will spend the year digging deeper into the Old Testament, learning and experiencing how God revealed himself to the Hebrew people. In March we'll learn about judges and kings.

PresbyYouth (Grades 9-12 and college-age adults) are encouraged to either join an adult class or participate in the middle school class.



Wednesday Classes for Adults

For the season of Lent, we offer two series for adults that will continue to the end of March:

- **Bible study on the Cross** - The death of Jesus is a central event in the New Testament. But what does it mean? How do we understand it? Rev. Carter and Charlie Pinches will offer a guided tour of many of the New Testament perspectives, which will coincide with the Sunday sermon series in Lent. Texts to consider are John 3:14-21 and Numbers 21:4-9 (March 7), Hebrews 4:14-5:10 and John 12:20-33 (March 14), and Mark 10:35-45 (March 21). The class will meet in Room 210.
- **Spiritual practices for Lent and Beyond** - Judy Cutler and Nancy Owens will lead a conversation and offer practical experiences of the many ways that we can deepen our faith. Join the conversation in Room 206. We will continue to offer this class as long as there is interest.

Come and grow with us! All are welcome.

Wednesday Supper Reservations

Light Supper is served before The Way classes from 5:00-6:10 for those with **reservations**.

Suggested donation: \$3 per person.

Please return reservation slips no later than **Monday**. Slips can be placed in the **basket near the phone in the kitchen** or in the **offering plate**. You may also **call the church office** to make reservations.

Our Wednesday Evening Schedule

5:00-6:10 pm	Light supper begins
5:30-6:10	Chapel Choir Rehearsal
6:15-7:10	Christian Education classes for All Ages
7:15-8:25	Adult Choir
8:30-9:15	Bell Choir

IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday, March 25 - Palm Sunday - following worship, join us downstairs for a special Holy Week program for all ages. Refreshments will be provided.

Wednesday, March 28 - 5:30 to 7:10pm - we welcome all to a Seder dinner in place of regular WAY programming.

Adventures in the Bible



We have begun the journey through the Lenten season and would welcome newcomers to this adventure. Join us as we study God's love and the many ways he has demonstrated his love to his people throughout the Bible.

Children ages 2 to 7 and parent(s) meet at 9:00 a.m. in room 110 to hear a story from the Bible and participate in activities that will reinforce the story.

Please feel free to contact Karis Naeher at klnaeher@outlook.com or Tabbi Miller-Scandle at tabbi.miller-scandle@scranton.edu

Youth Fellowship

All youth grades 4-12 are invited to join us

Sunday, March 11

12:00-2:00pm

and

Friday, March 23

8:00-10:00pm



Bring a friend!

New faces are always welcome.

VBS 2018

will be held

July 16-20, 9AM-12PM



Calling all volunteers! If you'd like to help bring ancient Babylon to life by teaching, leading, or preparing, let us know!

Please contact Jana Schillinger or Nancy Dennen, or send an email to fpccs.vbs@gmail.com

Stay tuned: youth registration coming in April!



**Church Women United
World Day of Prayer
Friday, March 2**

First Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall

9:30	Registration
10:00	Bible Study
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Worship

Come. Bring Friends.



Holy Week

On **Sunday, March 25**, the CE committee welcomes all to participate in an intergenerational program held after worship. Join us as we learn, remember, and reflect on the most important week in the Christian calendar. Refreshments will be provided.

Wednesday, March 28

5:30-7:10pm



All church seder — the Passover Seder is a time for us to celebrate God freeing the Israelites from Egyptian slavery. This meal also reminds us of Jesus' last supper, shared with his disciples before his arrest, death, and resurrection. A light supper will be served during the program. This is a family event for all ages. **Please make reservations by Sunday, March 25.**

State Hospital Luncheon

April 3rd at Noon

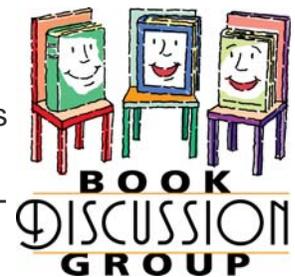
Join us in Fellowship Hall for lunch and entertainment with our guests. We would like to send them back with new socks (Male/female) and candy. The sweets will be distributed once they return home **NO NUTS OR PEANUT BUTTER, PLEASE!** If unable to attend, donations could be left in the office.

All are welcome.

My Cousin Rachel

by Daphne du Maurier

Philip Ashley's older cousin Ambrose, who raised the orphaned Philip as his own son, has died in Rome. Philip, the heir to Ambrose's beautiful English estate, is crushed that the man he loved died far from home. He is also suspicious. While in Italy, Ambrose fell in love with Rachel, a beautiful English and Italian woman. But the final, brief letters Ambrose wrote hint that his love had turned to paranoia and fear. Now Rachel has arrived at Philip's newly inherited estate. Could this exquisite woman, who seems to genuinely share Philip's grief at Ambrose's death, really be as cruel as Philip imagined? Or is she the kind, passionate woman with whom Ambrose fell in love? Philip struggles to answer this question, knowing Ambrose's estate, and his own future, will be destroyed if his answer is wrong.



March 22, 7:00 p.m. Location to be determined.

If you would like more information about the group or upcoming titles, contact Judy Cutler at 570-446-9310 or jdragonflyc@hotmail.com

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BIBLE STUDY CIRCLES

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“In Community with the Hope of the Future”



This will be our third lesson in Hebrews in the trilogy “The Tradition of the Past” and “The Reality of the Present.”

In the letter to the Hebrews, Melissa Sevier says “**hope** includes avoiding the mistakes of the past and looking forward to a future of Sabbath rest.” Hebrews 11:1 says that “faith gives assurance to our **hope**; it is what gives us conviction about things we can’t see” (translation by N. T. Wright, *Hebrews for Everyone*).

Please join one of our Women’s Bible Study Circles on Tuesday, March 20 at 10:00 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. at the church. We enjoy a time of refreshments, Bible Study, sending cards to others and praying for one another. What a great way to celebrate the first day of Spring. **Hope** to see you this month!



My Brothers' Keeper Quilting Group

In spite of holidays, illness and bad weather, My Brothers' Keeper Quilting Group was able to deliver 15 sleeping bags to the Wheatleys, Founders of the MBK movement, in February. Each one was made from donated materials (sheets, blankets, comforters, etc.) and packed with warm items for the new user (hat, gloves, scarf, socks, sweatshirt or jacket) as well as toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, lotion, comb, soap - including towel & washcloth) and an inspirational book (The Guide Post or The Upper Room) with our prayer:

Lord, take the work of our hands and bless it; and in Thy name let the person who receives this gift know that he or she is loved.

Everything has been donated - that’s impressive! And it is thanks to you, our Church Family, helping us do this ministry.



We will have our annual Sewing Workshop on March 27, from 10:00 AM to 2 PM in Fellowship Hall. Bring a sandwich and join us, tie a few knots, stitch along the edges to turn flat material into a sleeping bag, pack it full of goodies, pray over it, and know that someone will be helped by what you have done. Contact Marie Cochrane, or any of our group with questions. Hope to see you there!



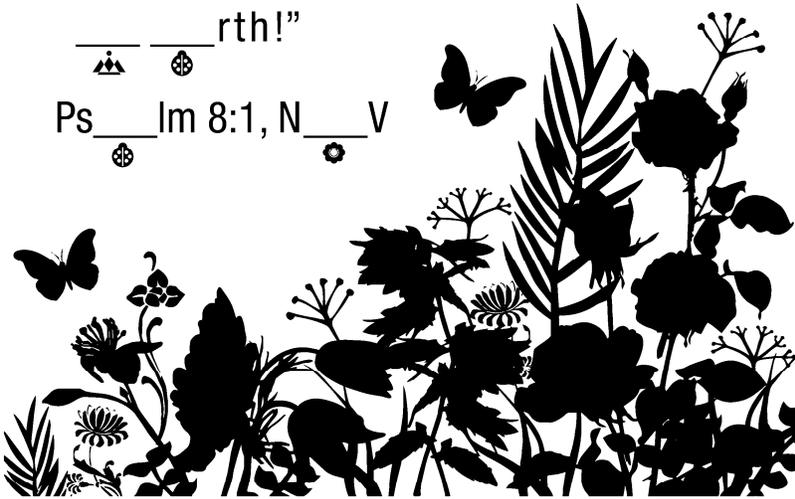
Spring's Beauty

During springtime, the beauty of God's creation emerges in many ways.

Directions: Use the vowel code below to complete Psalm 8:1, NIV.

A = E = I = O = U =

"L__RD, __ __ r L__rd, h__ w
 m__ j__ st__ c __ s y__ r
 n__ m__ __ n __ ll th__
 __ __ rth!"
 Ps__lm 8:1, N__V



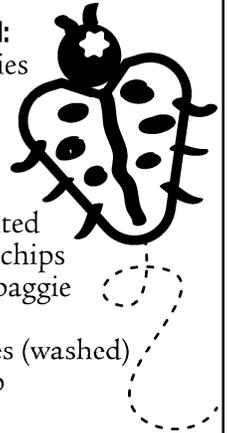
Answer: "LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"

FRUIT LADYBUGS

Get creative in the kitchen with this sweet springtime snack.

What you need:

- Strawberries (washed)
- Knife
- Plate or wax paper
- ½ cup melted chocolate chips
- Zippered baggie
- Scissors
- Blueberries (washed)
- Adult help



What you do:

1. De-stem the strawberries. Cut in half and then cut a small V atop each half to make the ladybug body. Set them on a plate or wax paper.
2. Place the melted chocolate in a baggie and cut off the tip of a bottom corner.
3. Pipe a dividing line and "spots" on each strawberry. Also use the chocolate to attach a blueberry "head" by the V shape.
4. Pipe chocolate antennas and legs onto ladybugs.
5. Let harden. Enjoy!

Coming after Easter - The Immerse Bible study. Ever want to read the Bible and discuss it in the company of friends? That's the plan. More news coming soon!

Chapel and Alleluia Choir Notes from Kay Ten Eyck

The fact that children can make beautiful music is less significant than the fact that music can make beautiful children. - Cheryl Lavender



Our choirs for young people enjoyed an exceptional weekend in February. We were delighted to sing and play the piano for the Chile Café during the Ice Festival. Thank you to our wonderful parents and to Judy Cutler for their support and help. We had an amazing time sharing our music!

February also gave us the opportunity to sing with guest musician Mark Woodyatt. We appreciated having Mark play while we sang our anthems and also enjoyed listening to him play during the service.

Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! We hope to see you as we wave our palm branches and process on Palm Sunday, March 25th!

We will not rehearse on Wednesday, March 28th so that our families can participate in the Seder dinner that evening. When we meet on April 4th, 11th, and 18th, we will rehearse from 5:30pm to 6:25 pm to prepare to sing for worship on April 22nd.



Summer camp at Camp Lackawanna is the adventure your camper is looking for. We've got a variety of programs, such as Wet 'n Wild, Sports Camp,

Art and Drama, and our popular Night Owls Camp. There are options for campers from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Older teens can combine leadership and fun in our Staff-In-Training program. Campers all enjoy swimming, crafts, canoeing, games, learning about God, and making new friends.

Go to www.camplackawannafirst.com to register before March 31st for a \$25.00 discount. Camperships are available through the Christian Education and Growth Committee.

If you are jealous that your camper gets to come to camp this summer, why not join them? **We are offering a Family Camp Weekend from July 6th – 8th for all ages.** You can stay in tents, cabins, or a lodge. Our staff will run a selection of your favorite camp activities and we will enjoy spending time with God, our families, and relaxing in God's creation. Registration is online.

Summer Programs at Camp Lackawanna

June 24th – 29th

Wet 'N Wild (grades 2-4, 5-8)

Leader-In-Training (ages 14 and 15)

July 1st – 3rd

You and Me (grades K-2)

July 1st – 4th

Explorers (grades 1-3)

July 6th – 8th

Family Camp Weekend (all ages!)

July 1st – 13th

Staff In Training (ages 16 and 17)

July 8th – 13th

Mad Scientist (grades 2-4)

Craft Camp (grades 3-5)

Discovery Camp (grades 2-4)

July 15th – 20th

Night Owls (grades 4-6, 7-9, 9-12)

July 22nd – 27th

Music, Art, and Drama (grades 6-9, 9-12)

Sports Camp, (grades 3-5, 6-8)

Joys

Sorrows

Thank You Notes



- March 1 Sarah Fulton
- March 3 Maisy Earl
- March 7 Nina Schillinger
- March 16 Candy Ferrese
- March 22 Jack Spory's 90th!
- March 23 Jacob Gilbert
- March 25 Kay Rudis
- March 27 Bonnie Plantholt

Lectionary Readings

March 4
Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19:1;
Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

March 11
Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22;
Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

March 18
Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12;
Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

March 25
Palms: Mark 11:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29;
Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16;
Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47

Keystone College Press

cordially invites
you and your children to
a special event
celebrating the release of
Springtime Birds in My Backyard
a children's book by
Karen Kern Yarrish, Author
David W. Porter, Illustrator

on
Tuesday, March 20, 2018
at 4 p.m.
in Evans Hall, Hibbard Campus Center

Please RSVP by
March 16, 2018
to (570) 945-8600 or kcpress@keystone.edu

March Ushers

Steve Selige and Hadley Gilbert

Greeters

- March 4 Jay Clymer
- March 11 John Conklin
- March 18 Barbara and Jack Pittman
- March 25 Myrna and John Diven

March 4

Communion Servers

David Naehar (Captain), John Conklin, Meg Hatch,
Bill Davis, Lee Wirth



- Nancy Wheaton January 18, 2018
- Dayle Elkins February 17, 2018
- Rev. Virginia Miner February 19, 2018

Our love and deepest sympathy

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 2018						
				1	2	3
				7am-AA 8:30-Men's Breakfast 7pm-Building & Grounds 7pm-Christian Ed.	7am-AA 9:30-World Day of Prayer	7am-AA
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 3pm-OA	7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers 7pm-Mission & Justice	7am-AA 10am-PW Board Meeting 6pm-OA 7pm-Big Book	7am-AA 10am-Welcoming 11am-Prayer/Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Chapel Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8:00-AIAnon 8:30-Bell Choir	7am-AA 4:30-Staff 6 pm-Alleluia Ch. 7pm-Finance	7am-AA	7am-AA
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
 7am-AA 9am-Adventures 10am-Worship 11:15-Worship, Music, Arts 12:00-Youth Fellowship 3pm-OA	7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers	7am-AA 10am-MBK Quilts 6pm-OA 7pm-Big Book	7am-AA 11am-Prayer/Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Chapel Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8:00-AIAnon 8:30-Bell Choir	7am-AA 8:30-Men's Breakfast	7am-AA Presbyter Deadline	7am-AA
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 11am-Fellowship time 11:15-Fellowship Comm 3pm-OA	7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers	7am-AA 10am-Morning Circle 4pm-Book release at Keystone 6pm-OA 7pm-Session 7pm-Eunice Circle 7pm-Big Book	7am-AA 11am-Prayer/Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Chapel Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8:00-AIAnon 8:30-Bell Choir	7am-AA 6 pm-Alleluia Ch. 7pm-Book Group	7am-AA 8pm-Youth Fellowship	7am-AA
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
7am-AA 9am-Adventures in the Bible 10am-Worship 11am-Holy Week Program 3pm-OA Palm Sunday	7am-AA 6pm-Weight Watchers	7am-AA 10am-PW Sewing Workshop 6pm-OA 6pm-Choral Society 6:30-Deacons 7pm-Big Book	7am-AA 9am-Presbyter 11am-Prayer/Share 5pm-The W.A.Y. Light supper 5:30-Chapel Ch. 6:15-Christian Ed. 7:15-Adult Choir 8:00-AIAnon 8:30-Bell Choir	7am-AA 7:30pm-Maundy Thursday Service Maundy Thursday	7am-AA 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm Good Friday Service Church Office closes at noon.	7am-AA SAVE \$25! Register for Camp Lackawanna by <u>today!</u>



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
300 School Street
Clarks Summit, PA 18411-1536

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
Permit No. 30
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Clarks Summit PA

DATED MATERIAL

Return Service Requested



Easter Flower Order Form

We are ordering lilies, tulips, and mums. Each plant will cost \$8.00.
Please complete the following information.



Flowers are given by _____

(as it should appear in the flower insert)

In _____ memory _____ honor (select one)
of _____

What flowers would you like to order? How many?
_____ Lily _____ Mums _____ Tulips

Will you take your plant(s) home on Easter Sunday? _____ yes _____ no

Should we give the plant(s) to someone on your behalf? _____



Please enclose cash or check for flowers at \$8.00 each;
Checks are payable to First Presbyterian Church.
