



The Clifton Messenger

Clifton Presbyterian Church

<https://www.cliftonpresbyterianchurch.com>

Vol. 3: Issue 4

April 2021

Resurrection SUNDAY



Sunday, April 4



Sunrise Service: 6:45am

Easter Worship Celebration: 11:00am

Office Ramblings

April starts with a bang in the church this year. The first day of April is Maundy Thursday, and Easter is the first weekend. What a way to move into a month. Easter is a great time of celebration for the Church and our faith journey. It sure makes the Spring bright with Easter leading the way.



The month of April is always a time of impatience for me. I want to start planting my garden immediately, but I know that it is too early. I can hardly wait until I plant peppers and tomatoes and eat all of that freshness out of those gardens.

Garden planting brings me to my second thought. Under the leadership of **Suzy Meadows**, the Matthew 25 Committee is looking at another way to help the community during the summer. It will possibly involve your and my gardens. Stay tuned for more information.

The Outreach Committee continues to work on the video programming for our church. This new equipment purchased is complex, and there have been glitches getting it working on Facebook. But it is hoped that soon all of that will be corrected, and the services will continue to go on-line for others to watch. Our on-line presence is remarkably high, and we want to do the best job possible making worship with our church available for all. **Kereshmeh** had worked on getting the worship services in many places, and right now we are finding that many people are watching and worshipping with us from around the world. Stay patient with us as we continue to upgrade the service.

Enjoy this month. Enjoy the Easter event. Give to One Great Hour of Sharing greatly. That's all I have for now.-Ron

Prayer Concerns

Mary Alice Beard, Frankie Bostic, Buddy Baker, Natalie Wade, David and Linda Schmidt, the McClintics, Brownie Dunn, Sue Wyman, Becky Hogan, Max Gibson, Margert Hedrick, Charles & Jean Moody, Wilma Reynolds, Mary Elmore, Sue Larson, Jenny McClung, Covid-19 infections, the children and teachers and staff of schools, Our church, and other illnesses and despair and sickness



HOUSTON ARBUCKLE - APRIL 5
JACKSON GILLIAN - APRIL 17
EARL ROTH - APRIL 17
DAVID BOSTIC - APRIL 30

Anniversaries

MELVIN & CAROL HOOVER - APRIL 4
BUDDY & DAWN BAKER - APRIL 4



We are a Matthew 25 Church!!!

Session Report for March 7, 2021 by Houston Arbuckle, Clerk of Session

The Session of Clifton Presbyterian Church, Maxwelton, WV, met for the stated March meeting on Sunday March 7, 2021 at 12: 15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the church. Those present in the Fellowship were moderator, Susan Sharp Campbell; temporary pastor, Ron Miller; session members: Teresa Bostic, Jim Miller, Suzy Meadows, Heather Blake, Heather Gillilan, Shannon Warren, Larry Davis and Houston Arbuckle, Clerk of Session. Session member Lynne Bostic was present by Zoom.

Moderator, **Susan Sharp Campbell**, opened the meeting with prayer and declared a quorum. The minutes of the February 7, 2021 stated session meeting were approved.

The financial report for January 2021 was received: The General fund took in \$6,186.90 and expended \$5,687.88 for an excess income of \$499.02. The General fund has a balance of \$223,216.63

The Memorial fund received \$115. Helping Hands gave \$400 each to Frankford, Lewisburg, and Crichton Elementary Schools. The Memorial also paid out \$255 for Poinsettias. This leaves a balance of \$44,274.47 Cents-Ability offering was \$87.09 Stone Soup has a balance \$1,664.36

The Clerk reported the average worship attendance for December was **14** and the average number of Facebook viewers was **336**. Ash Wednesday viewing was **146**.

Jim Miller, Chair of the Property Committee, reported that the church has received a check form insurance for the roadside caution light which was destroyed in an accident, a fuel line for the sanctuary furnace had to be replaced, and the **Charlie Mackey Park would be ready to be used on April 15, 2021**.

Suzy Meadows, Chair of the Christian Education Committee, reported that children's Sunday school for the summer will begin with an activity in the park with a tentative date of April 18th. The session also approved the purchase of three "boxes" of "camp in a box" from Ferncliff camp and conference center to be used by the children.

Suzy Meadows also reported about the **Matthew 25 Committee** the events held for Black History month and the emphasis given to the "Matthew 25" initiative at the February 20, 2021 Presbyter of West Virginia meeting. She also indicated that Clifton's Matthew 25 committee's plans for the summer and fall include: the "Blessing Box", a fresh food giveaway (farmer's market style), and a possible "garnering in the park" for all "Matthew 25" churches.

Heather Blake, Chair of the Worship Committee, reported that the Worship Committee met on Sunday, February 28, 2021 following worship. Present were: Heather Blake, Venetta Wright, Terrie King, Ann Davis, Jim Miller, Carol Hoover, and Rev. Ron Miller. The committee planned the following services for Holy Week:

- **Maundy Thursday, April 1, 2021:** Service to take place in sanctuary with readings and communion, using the stacked plastic cup method.
- **Good Friday, April 2, 2021:** Service will take place in sanctuary.
- **Easter Sunrise service, April 4, 2021: in cemetery** by church due to proximity to sanctuary in case of bad weather. **No breakfast.**
- **Easter Sunday 11:00 service, April 4, 2021:** in sanctuary. **Easter lilies orders will be taken until March 21.**

The Worship Committee is considering plans for summer use of park for Worship and/or Vespers and congregational visiting. **The park will be reserved for the first Sunday of each month** to be used by Worship Committee. Gifts of Women Day will be celebrated during worship on March 7. The next Worship Committee meeting will be held on Sunday, March 28, 2021.

Larry Davis, Chair of the Mission Committee reported that the Mission Committee met on March 5th and authorized the following donations: \$300 for the Family refuge Center; \$200 for Communities in Schools of Greenbrier County and \$500 to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to go along with the **Great Hour of Sharing** offering that will be made on Easter.

(Session-Con't. on Page 4)

Heather Gillilan and Shannon Warren, chairs of the Fellowship Committee, reported the Fellowship Committee hoped to have a “no contact” event each month until normal fellowship can resume.

Pastor, Ron Miller reported that the “Souper Bowl” event to raise money for the Stone Soup fund had been very successful. He also reminded everyone that he has developed a Lenten Devotional Guide which is available at church or on line for each week of Lent.

The next regular session meeting was set for **April 11, 2021** at 12:00.

Ron Miller adjourned the meeting with the prayer.



EASTER 2021 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

6:45am Easter Sunrise Service

(Held at the Church Cemetery this year. In case of bad weather it will be moved inside fellowship Hall.)

7:15am Easter Snacks to Go

(These will be a “get & go” wrapped Easter Snack. It will be done Covid-19 safe.)

11:00am Morning Worship

(A service of reading and special music and worshipping in Celebration)



April 1-Maundy Thursday

April 2-Good Friday Service

April 4-EASTER SUNDAY

April 18-Children’s Sunday School Event in Park

International Day of Farmers’ Struggle

April 22-Earth Day

May 9-Mother’s Day

May 23-Pentecost

Presbyterian Heritage Sunday

Usually the Easter week is full, and it is that again this year. Much taking place, but the church year does not end after Easter Day celebration. We continue to be working ahead with activities and learning and growing and serving. Lots of things are in the planning stages right now. It just takes you to remember them and to be involved in them.

*Worship with Us—
In-Person or On-line*



(Services on Facebook Live and in-person. Safe Covid-19 protocols are practiced in all live events.)

(Session Con’t. from Page 3) Heather Gillilan and Shannon Warren, chairs of the Fellowship Committee,

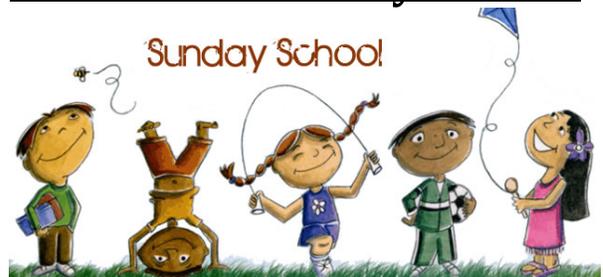
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Children’s Sunday School

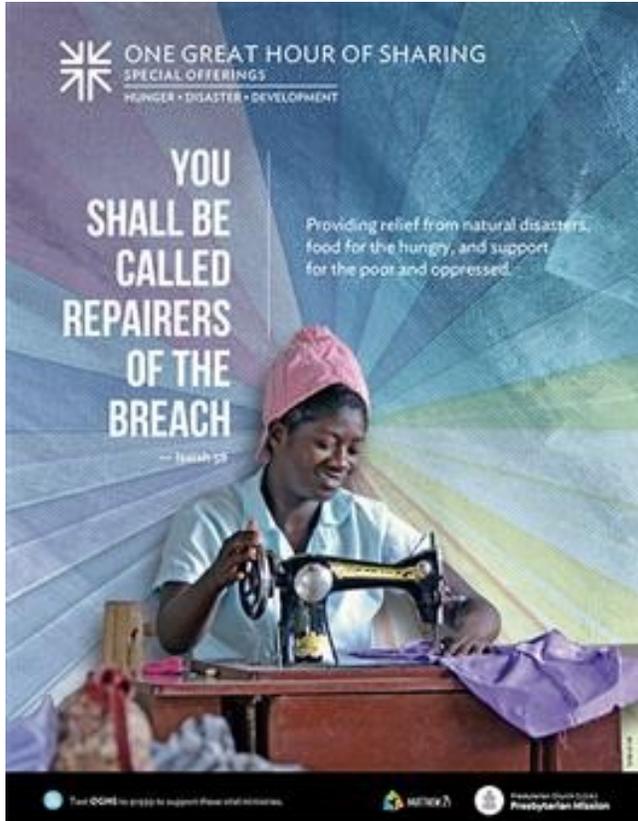


The children’s Sunday School class will have a gathering at the Charlie Mackey park for a special activity on April 18th at 10am. **Any questions, please contact Suzy Meadows.**

One Great Hour of Sharing 2021

Repairers of the Breach

(- by Dr. Larry Davis, Chair of Mission Committee)



This year’s slogan for the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering is “You shall be called repairers of the breach”. That comes from Isaiah Chapter 28 which implores us to feed the hungry and give clothes to those with nothing to wear. The word “breach” in that statement from Isaiah specifically referred to the walls of actual structures in Jerusalem, but can also be applied to the broken, ruptured, and torn lives of people affected by natural disasters, oppression, and poverty.

It’s not surprising that the poster and brochures promoting this special offering have the Matthew 25 Church logo on them. It’s easy to see the similarities between the messages in Isaiah 28 and Matthew 25. Giving this annual Lent and Easter time special offering reinforces Clifton Presbyterian

Church’s enhanced efforts to fulfill the mission of Matthew 25 Churches of which we are one.

Typically received during the season of Lent and Easter, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

The official “one great hour” for Clifton Presbyterian Church will be during the Easter Sunday worship service, but for convenience, donations will be received via mailings to the church at PO Box 200, Maxwelton WV 24957.



**By Theresa Bostic, Executive Director
Shepherd's Center Greenbrier Valley**

2021 Community Service Award Shepherd's Center of Greenbrier Valley is pleased to announce the 2021 Community Service Award Recipients - Dave and Mary Lou Lumsden from Crawley, WV.

They moved to Greenbrier County following a 27 year career in the Marine Corps. They loved the beauty of the area, but more than that, they loved the wonderful people who live here. They both felt the need to volunteer after completing their home. Both have been very active in the United Way, their church, the Greater Greenbrier Long Term Recovery Committee, and so much more.

They represent the mission of the Shepherd's Center serving and taking care on those in need in our area.

“Don’t Forget Adventures in Learning will take place on Zoom until April 22. Register and Zoom on in to learn.”

Meet A Church Family

(Developed by Lynne Bostic of Congregational Care Committee)

This Month:

The Davis & Andrade Family



Photo Caption left to right: **John, Ann, Larry, and Mary Davis with Mary's husband, Brian Andrade**

Ann's parents were Louis and Mary Lichlyter of Springdale, Arkansas. Larry's were Steele and Jean Davis of Versailles, Kentucky. Ann's father was a department store owner in the Ozarks while Larry's was a farmer in the Bluegrass, and both were very active in their communities and Presbyterian churches.

The migration route for Ann and Larry as a couple involved six college towns in this order: Danville KY, Chapel Hill NC, Corvallis OR, Berea KY, Stillwater OK, and Lewisburg WV. Their daughter Mary C. Davis' moves were from Lewisburg WV to Washington DC to Providence RI to New York City, and to Montgomery County MD. Her time in Rhode Island was for earning an MFA in Acting at Brown University and falling in love with Brian Andrade who was on the staff of Trinity Repertory Theatre, a partner with Brown University in her graduate program.

Ann and Larry were both members of Presbyterian churches as youths in Arkansas and Kentucky. They graduated from the same Presbyterian-affiliated college where they met. Once in West Virginia they spent 26 years with Old Stone Presbyterian Church and 18 years with Clifton Presbyterian Church (so far). They treasure their association with Clifton Presbyterian Church

because of the good learning and worship time with amiable and caring people. Singing in the choir and picnicking in the absence of pandemics have added a lot.

Larry's brother, John Steele Davis, is a perpetual Clerk of the Session, organizer of the communal church garden, etc., etc. with Midway Presbyterian Church in Kentucky, and his son John lives in Tennessee.

Ann, Mary, Brian, and Larry's shared interests include theatre, nature, music, civil rights, art, and reading. However their primary focus at present is Mary's pregnancy and motherhood-to-be in mid-April. And then there's fatherhood and grandparenthood too!

What is your family's favorite food?

The Chicken Marbella that Brian cooked for Christmas dinner is. Incidentally, Larry likes liver and onions.

Special Family Information:

Mary Davis' husband, Brian Andrade, has done wonders for this previously small family with the inclusion of his parents, 6 brothers, 2 sisters, 2 brothers-in-law, 3 sisters-in-law, and 12 nieces & nephews. The Andrades live predominately in New England and are proud of their Cape Verdean heritage.

Where does your family like to vacation?

How about the island of Møn, Denmark for a 1994 visit with the family of our foreign exchange student, Jonas Holmegaard?

What is your favorite family tradition?

There's the customary drive around town to view the Christmas Eve lights. That recurring event went awry in 2020 because of the loss of power in Lewisburg shortly after it began because a windy storm had blown in.

What are your pets?

There have been five dogs and three cats over five decades.

What movie depicts the family?

Larry picks **Father of the Bride** because in 2019 his daughter was also a bride, and he thinks that Steve Martin so funny.

(ed. note)-After reading this story it sounds as if Chicken Marbella might be something that must be tried soon. Looked up the recipe and it made me hungry just looking at it.

Church Hospitality Committee St. Patrick Gift



A Special Thanks to Heather Gillilan and Shannon Warren of the Hospitality Committee for the wonderful St. Patrick Day Covid-19 safe, "Grab & Go" Fellowship gifts for the Church after worship. Those cookies were delicious!



Photos by Larry Davis

The PC(USA) has the third Saturday of April (April 17) as a day to honor the struggles of farmers in the world. As stated in mission material,



"Farmers feed the planet but are among the poorest and hungriest people in the world."

While American farmers as a whole do much better in income and food supplies from the rest of the world, we often forget the struggle of being a farmer in this nation. We want cheap and plentiful food when we go to the store, and we forget the work and the people who provide that to us with their hard work and their investment of time and money. It is good to take a day to remember the farmer's contribution to our society and to our world.

This church was built in a farming community, but today there are very few farmers able to survive on the farm only in this area. Most are working elsewhere, or a family member works someplace else. Let us honor the work of the farmer on the 17th, and we shall remember their efforts in Church on the 18th.



The Worship Committee is starting to discuss the activities for the Church in Mackey Park for this summer. While we still will not be having Sunday Morning Worship in the park due to Covid-19, we will be having some events on the first Sunday evenings of each month. We are also talking of doing again the once a month Vesper Services on a Wednesday night through the summer.

What would you like to see on Sunday evenings that are Covid-19 safe? What are your ideas for the "Setting of the Sun" Vespers Services on a Wednesday night? See Ron or Heather Blake of the Worship Committee with ideas and thoughts.

International Day of Farmers' Struggles

Next Issue May 2021



Friday, May 6-National Day of Prayer

Sunday, May 13-Mother's Day

Thursday, May 13-Ascension of the Lord

Sunday, May 23-Pentecost Sunday

Presbyterian Heritage Sunday

Monday, May 31-Memorial Day

See you at the Church (or On-line)



**Clifton Presbyterian Church
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16512 Seneca Trail North
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