

# The PresbyPost



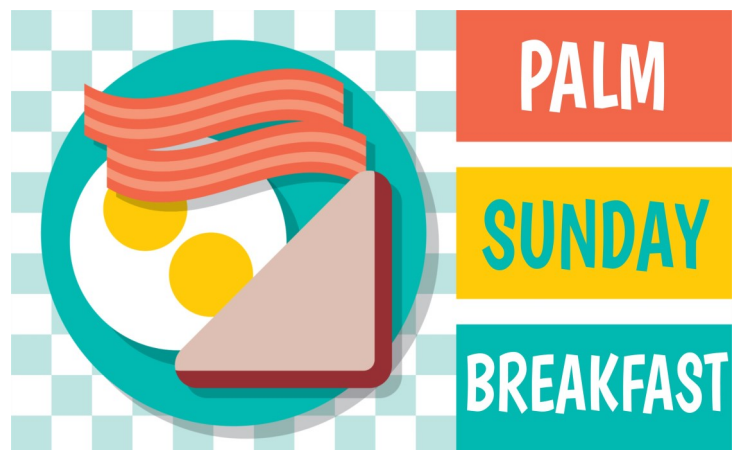
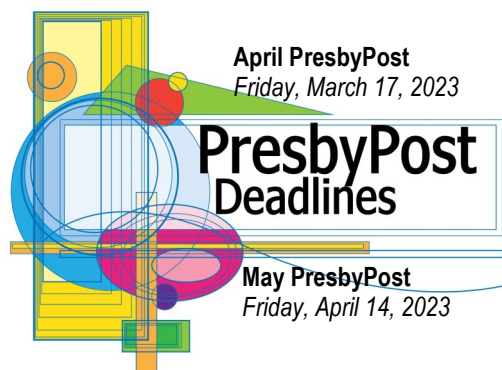
A PUBLICATION OF THE STATE COLLEGE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PENNSYLVANIA



MARCH 2023

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Palm Sunday Breakfast is back! The SCPC Deacons will be serving all of the old favorites, so come and enjoy breakfast and fellowship with your church family.

**Sunday, April 2nd**  
**10:00 - 11:00 AM**  
**in the Social Hall**

Our Palm Sunday Breakfast menu includes: French Toast Strata with Apple Cider Syrup, Sausages, Fresh Fruit and Cinnamon Swirl Coffee Cake.

Come for free breakfast and invite a friend. If you haven't been back to church in a while, we miss you and hope you'll use this as an opportunity to come back.

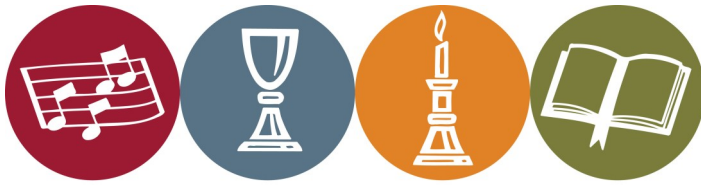


## Spiritual Disciplines - Lenten Study

A 6-week study on Spiritual Disciplines began on Monday, February 27 and will continue through April 3. The Study will meet on **Monday mornings at 11:00 AM in Room 10 and on Zoom.**

Pastor John Porter, Associate Pastor Allison Maus, and Director of Youth Ministry Reed Dressler will lead six individual sessions looking at fasting, study, service and submission, simplicity, meditation and prayer, and solitude. The good news of Jesus Christ is that through him we are liberated from attitudes and ingrained patterns of behavior that degrade and demean the glory of God revealed in all people and every element of creation. Though the gospel message about transformation is simple, our experience of transformation is not. Scripture teaches that we are not capable of transforming ourselves. It is by God that we are transformed and set free from sin.

Spiritual disciplines are practices that help bring us into God's transforming presence. Drawing on a variety of resources including Richard Foster's Celebration of Discipline, our study will consider the nature of these spiritual practices and how we can move deeper and more fully into the life of freedom that we have received through Christ.



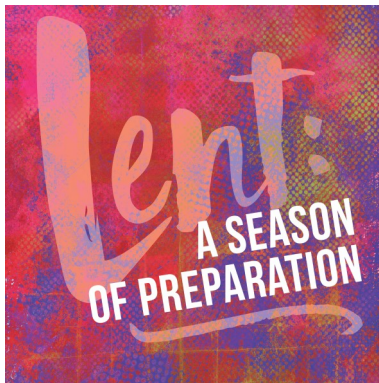
# WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday, March 5, 9:00 AM Second Sunday in Lent  
Communion  
Genesis 12:1-4a; John 3:1-17  
Rev. John Porter, preaching

Sunday, March 12, 9:00 AM Third Sunday in Lent  
Exodus 17:1-7; John 4:5-42  
Rev. John Porter, preaching

Sunday, March 19, 9:00 AM Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Ezekiel 37:1-14; John 11:1-45  
Rev. Allison Maus, preaching

Sunday, March 26, 9:00 AM Fifth Sunday in Lent  
The LOGOS Musical - The Lost Sheep  
Matthew 18:10-14



## February Session Highlights

At its February 19 meeting, the Session:

- Received the Pastor Visioning Team Report, thanking the Team for its efforts in gathering information.
- Called a congregational meeting for March 19 for the congregation to receive the report and to elect a PNC.
- Authorized the reception of the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. Theme "You Shall be called Repairers of the Breach."
- Authorized Social Justice & Mission Team to extend an invitation to Out of the Cold to stay at SCPC sometime this summer.
- Received the report that Chrysalis Coffee House raised \$700 for St. Jude's hospital.
- Learned that FISH will lead Ash Wednesday service



## Worship Schedule for Holy Week

Palm Sunday Worship - April 2, 9:00 AM  
(Deacons' Breakfast)

Maundy Thursday - April 6, 6:00 PM - Communion

Good Friday - April 7, 7:30 PM - Tenebrae

Easter Sunday, - April 9

Sunrise Service at Windswept Farm

Festival Worship, 9:00 AM

## State College Presbyterian Church Staff

### Interim Senior Pastor

Rev. John Porter

pastorjohnporterscpc@gmail.com

### Associate Pastor in Campus and Young Adult Ministries

Rev. Allison Maus

allisonscpc@gmail.com Ext. 209

### Director of Education and Program - Deannine Shipman

deanninescpc@gmail.com Ext. 213

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nedsipc@gmail.com Ext. 208

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marthascpc@gmail.com Ext. 202

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### Stay and Play Director - Laura Seeley

stayandplaysipc@gmail.com Ext. 221

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Reed Dressler

youthministryscpc@gmail.com

### Mission Associate

Cricket Hunter

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### Chrysalis Coordinator (Middle School)

Laura Essinger-Hileman

scpcchrysalis@gmail.com

### Kitchen Coordinators - Mike and Amy Gordon

### Financial Administrator - Michelle Fortin

finadmipc@gmail.com Ext. 207

### Assistant Financial Administrator - Anne Thomas

### Building Manager - Todd Hockenberry

bldgmgrscpc@gmail.com Ext. 210

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Sympathy of the congregation to friends and family on the death of Lavada “Jo” Dixon, February 17, 2023.

## FISH Retreat Report

The FISH retreat was a wonderful success. The weekend was filled with awe, wonder, reflection, discussion and a great deal of joy. We were attentive to the power of God’s creation in the smallest leaf and the largest galaxy. We enjoyed the magic that is Krislund as we participated in hikes, games and campfire singing. The Youth group felt a deep sense of community, and interpersonal caring that strengthened their bonds and reminded them that they are loved in ways grander than they could imagine.



FISH Retreat  
Feb. 17-19, 2023  
Krislund



## Attention College Graduates!

We want to acknowledge our graduating undergraduate and graduate students! If you (or someone you love) is graduating this Spring **please send their name, school, degree, and a photo to Allison ([allisonscpc@gmail.com](mailto:allisonscpc@gmail.com))** so that we can celebrate the hard work our students have put in to cross this momentous finish line. We’ll recognize our graduates during our April 30th worship services (virtually and in-person), so **please send in your info by Monday, April 24th.** Congrats all.

## Adult Opportunities in March

**March 5 - Spiritual Disciplines: Guidance and Celebration, led by John Porter. Westminster Hall.**

Continuing from the previous week, Rev. Porter will lead an Adult Exploration hour covering four classical spiritual disciplines that we practice together as a community. Richard Foster in “Celebration of Discipline” asserts “The classical Disciplines of the spiritual life call us to move beyond the surface of living into the depths... God intends [them] to be for ordinary human beings: people who have jobs, who care for children, who wash dishes and mow lawns. In fact, the Disciplines are best exercised in the midst of our relationships.” In this session we will look at the last two of the twelve spiritual disciplines Foster covers in the text: Guidance, & Celebration. Each session will be accessible to those who don’t attend both.

**March 12 - Reflections on my work as a missionary in Haiti, led by Connie Curilla. Westminster Hall.**

What does it mean to be called to a life of service? Join Connie Curilla as she shares about her lifelong work as a missionary in Haiti, including what led her to this line of work, what was accomplished, what work remains, and some surprises along the way.

**March 19 - Congregational Meeting**

**March 26 - Service Trip to Hekima Place, led by Cheryl Price and Mitch Kirsch. Westminster Hall.**

A group of SCPC members and friends will travel to Hekima Place, Kiserian, Kenya from July 18 – 28. Learn about the group’s plans for the trip, how Hekima is meeting an increased need for services to the girls it serves, and how the congregation can help the group meet its mission.

## Welcome Our New Caregivers

Our childcare room depends so much on our local college students, and we wanted to let everyone know who is staffing our Nursery/Toddler Room these days.

Gabbie Shea, Cole Lener, Caitlin Koehler, and Isabella Lembo all work for us on Sundays and Tuesdays. We recently said goodbye to Kristen Miller, who had worked for us off/on for several years.

Gabbie, Cole, Caitlin, and Bella will be with us until PSU is out, and then back again in the FALL.

Drop by and say hello to them when you can!

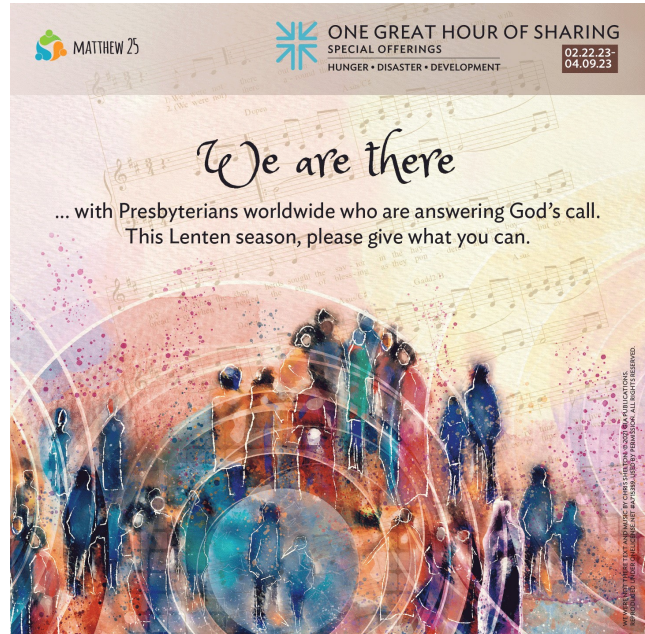


## The Social Justice and Mission Page

The Social Justice and Mission Team invites you to help State College Presbyterian Church support disaster response near and far in two different ways.



The **One Great Hour of Sharing** collection is open during Lent. This PCUSA-wide collection supports three programs, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. Each works in a different way to serve individuals and communities in need, together providing safety, sustenance, and hope. Post-earthquake crisis response in Türkiye and Syria are among the current projects of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Watch for One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes in the pews, or simply use the memo line on your check, or the “other” designation line on your [online donation](#) to SCPC to indicate OGHS.



The Social Justice and Mission team is also sponsoring a Church World Service Disaster Relief Bucket assembly. The assembly party will happen in the Social Hall after Education/Exploration Hour on April 23, Earth Day Sunday. We will collect items for the buckets from now through April 15th. Our goal will be to fill 50 buckets to be sent to [Church World Service to help people clean up after disasters of all kinds](#). Won't you be a part of this project?

We want this to be an intergenerational activity from start to finish. FISH will be involved in assembly or checking and sealing the buckets, and one member is creating the Signup Genius for us. Would you like to help organize materials before that Sunday, or perhaps staff a station on the bucket-filling assembly line, where there will be opportunities for seated volunteers? Or would your small group like to provide snacks or music? Please [let Cricket know](#), and she will get word to our Bucket Project team.

You may remember that the list of things that goes in a bucket is very specific, so we will have a Signup Genius list to make sure we have everything we need, in the right amounts, for all 50 buckets. Items can be shopped for locally, or ordered to be delivered right to the church office. The processing fee for each bucket is \$3. Monetary donations to cover that cost can be made to SCPC memo: buckets.

Watch for links and QR codes in the Weekly Update, and in your Bulletin. Once the Signup Genius is open, you can also call the office to sign up (just as you might have for Christmas Dinner).

Please prayerfully consider how you can help.



## Calling a Senior Pastor: Confidentiality and Candidates

When the Pastor Visioning Team finishes its work and submits its report to the Session and the Committee on Ministry, the Session will call a congregational meeting. At this meeting the team will present its report and ask the congregation to endorse it as the vision which will guide the selection of a Senior Pastor. And at this meeting the Congregational Nominating Committee will present a slate of members for election as a Pastor Nominating Committee to conduct the search. Like all leaders in the Presbyterian system they are not elected to simply represent the congregation, but to earnestly apply the vision statement endorsed as they seek a candidate who they believe is called by God to fill office of Senior Pastor at this time.

The PNC will consider candidates who will be matched with our congregation through a nationwide system that includes information about positions to be filled and ministers who are seeking a new call. For each candidate they will receive a Personal Information Form. This PIF is the denominational equivalent of a minister's resume. They may consider candidates who request consideration by submitting their PIF to the committee directly. The committee will review these PIF's, observe candidates leading worship, conduct interviews, and ultimately host on site visits as they narrow down their selection. They are required to practice confidentiality concerning the identity of the candidates under consideration. They will refrain from discussing specific details about the candidates that they are considering until they are ready to present a final candidate. Only after a final candidate has accepted the invitation to come before the congregation will the committee share the candidate's name, a summary of their qualifications, and a short biographical statement. These details will be shared with the congregation shortly before a worship service at which the candidate will be presented and deliver a sermon. Immediately following worship the congregation will then have an opportunity to elect the candidate to the office and approve the terms of call.

The PNC will be engaged in conversation with multiple candidates at one time. Many of these conversations may end with candidates withdrawing themselves from consideration for a variety of reasons. As a result it will not be possible to confidently project a particular timeline for when they will have a candidate to present to the congregation. They will need our prayerful support and patience to do a thorough search for the best possible candidate. As the active search is conducted you can anticipate more information about the process. It should be evident in our activities and programs that the ministry of State College Presbyterian Church has and will continue during the search, though with the anticipation of and preparations for receiving a new Senior Pastor.



## Welcome New Members!

**Cyril Chu Fubin Kumachang** joins us by Reaffirmation of Faith. He is from Cameroon where he did his undergraduate studies in Physics at the University of Buea. He holds an M.Sc. in Materials Science and Engineering from the African University of Science and Technology, Abuja-Nigeria (a neighboring country to Cameroon). Currently, he is a Ph.D. student in Materials Science and Engineering at Penn State. Back home, he was a member of the Molyko congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Cameroon. He is the oldest of 7 (with 6 step-siblings). He came to SCPC because the worship style is similar to that of his home congregation and to have a family away from home. Cyril's hobbies include music (drums), story-telling, playing football, and cooking.

Cyril Kumachang  
1335 Dreilbebis St., Apt.409  
State College, PA 16801



**Kelly Nguyen** joins us by Letter of Transfer from First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit, in Clarks Summit, PA. Kelly grew up in Clarks Summit, and received a bachelor's degree from Lafayette College and then her master's degree from Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Communications. She currently holds a position in Fundraising/Development at Penn State. Prior to moving to the area, she and her husband, Rob, lived in New York City for more than 10 years. They came here for Rob to pursue his Ph.D. in English, which he will complete in August. Kelly came to SCPC because she wanted to join a bell choir and meet new people, and she has played in SCPC's bell choir for 5 years. With 2 children, Aiden, age 2, and Margot, 9 months, Kelly and Rob are ready to put down roots in Happy Valley. Kelly's hobbies include baking, walking, reading, and cooking.

Kelly Nguyen  
124 S. Main St.  
Pleasant Gap, PA 16823







## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 1	Jennifer Cruden
March 2	Elijah Snyder
March 3	Scott Cole
	Joselyn Fontanella
March 4	Mike Laskowski
March 5	Shawn Detrich
March 6	Patrick Bachman
March 7	Jenni Bamer
	Scott Sesler
March 8	Diana Brenizer
	Mike Sanzotti
March 9	Gina Ikenberry
March 10	Elizabeth Richardson
March 11	Allison Heinemann
	Owen Perry
	Bob Schuster
March 13	Alan Jones
	Jenny Kenyon
March 14	Nancy Mitchell
March 15	Matt Wagner
March 16	Jane Butler
	Judy Killam
	Kinga Toth
March 17	Meg Meloy
March 18	Scott Banfield
	Peggy Campbell
	Tom Wheeler
March 20	Dette Witzig
March 21	Anne Layng
March 22	Liz Ladriddo
March 23	Nancy Rockey
	Tom Sallade
	Barbara Spencer
March 24	Brent Ambrose
March 25	Chip Powers
March 26	Brita Petrich
	Jason Stimmel
March 27	Casey Marsden
	Karen Neff
March 28	Ellen Malcom
March 29	Jeff Miller

## African Tradition to African American Art

Many people wanted to learn more about the artists featured in Heather McCune Bruhn's Adult Education presentation "African Tradition to African American Art" — and many who weren't able to be there will enjoy connecting with the images, too. Use the links below (and your own Internet explorations) to explore and learn more! Many thanks to Heather for sharing her presentation and these links.

South Carolina artist and [storyteller](#) **Natalie Daise** has a presence on instagram ([@gullahmama](#)), as well as a [website](#) with a [blog](#), a place to [view and buy her art](#), or book her as a speaker or storyteller. Some of her wonderful collard green art shows in both places. The extraordinary paintings and sculpture that Heather shared with us at Adult Ed appear in the Myrtle Beach Museum press release about her exhibit there. See both the top of the page, and the scrolling slideshow at the bottom. This website has lots of information about active, living [foodways](#) ([food+culture](#)) that stolen peoples brought with them across the Atlantic (there are recipes).

Painter and sculptor Kehinde Wiley's website opens with a photo of him in the studio that is a wonderful reference to his portraiture references to Old Masters' works. Use the Menu to go to Works, where you can find thematic slideshows with a short introduction at the front of each group. Under Projects, you will find some sculpture. His [shop](#) supports [Black Rock Senegal](#), an artist in residence program founded by Wiley. Both Black Rock Senegal and Kehinde Wiley are on Instagram ([@blackrocksenegal](#), [@kehindewiley](#)). Heather was at the Virginia Museum of Art in Richmond for a Kehinde Wiley show, and her slides showed one work that they had acquired that is now hung in a gallery with historical art that Wiley references, where we can more easily see the conversation across time and culture, instead of in a contemporary art gallery. His [artist's talk](#) from that show was recorded and can be viewed. This [15 minute interview with the artist in the galleries](#) highlights those conversations between his work and the art that was typical of an art history class covering European masters. His sculpture [Rumors of War](#) — and its context in Richmond with other large, bronze sculptures of men on horses along Monument Ave. — is pictured and discussed in [this](#) NPR article. The title "Rumors of War," is drawn from Matthew 24:6 "You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come."

The Parisian exhibit about Mardi Gras culture and costume in New Orleans that Heather shared, *Black Indians de la Nouvelle-Orléans*, is [discussed and pictured in this blog](#), and at [the museum site](#). There is more discussion of the [traditions and the nomenclature in this article](#) from the major New Orleans newspaper, *The Times Picayune*. Learn more about the extraordinary [Josephine Baker](#) from the online collection of the [National Museum of African American History & Culture](#), or read or listen to [two](#) (quite [different](#)) NPR articles from November 2021, reporting her induction into the Panthéon Mausoleum in Paris.

march						Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Ongoing Weekly Events</b>  <b>Sunday</b> 9:00 Worship 10:00 Coffee Hour 10:00 Pathways 10:15 The Oasis 10:15 Adult Opportunities 10:30 YoPro Bible Study  <b>Monday</b> 7:00 Scouts 7:00 Virtual Centering Prayer  <b>Tuesday</b> 10:00 Staff Meeting 12:00 Congregational Prayer Meeting 4:00 LOGOS Geckos* 5:00 LOGOS Chrysalis* 7:30 Handbell Choir*  <b>Wednesday</b> 6:00 FISH* 8:00 POLO Women's Bible Study  <b>Thursday</b> 6:00 Presbyterian Student Fellowship* 7:00 Chancel Choir						5 Communion 11:00 Deacons' Meeting	6 11:00 Lenten Study	7 7:00 Personnel Ministry Unit	8	9 7:00 Adult Education Committee 7:00 Men's Covenant Group	10 11:30 GIFT Book Club	11 3:00 Judy Lysaker Memorial Service
						12 10:15 Invitation to Join 11:30 Session	13 11:00 Lenten Study 7:00 Men's Bible Study	14 7:00 Personnel Ministry Unit	15	16	17	18
						19 Congregational Meeting 11:30 Session	20 11:00 Lenten Study 5:30 SJMT (Zoom) 5:30 Worship Ministry 6:00 Stay & Play Advisory Team (Zoom)	21 8:00 Building and Property 9:00 SMART Work Day	22	23	24	25 11:00 Scout Court of Honor
						26 11:00 Deacons 6:00 Watch Party	27 11:00 Lenten Study 7:00 Education Ministry (Zoom) 7:00 Men's Bible Study	28 7:00 Stewardship (Zoom)	29	30	31	
* - will NOT meet during Spring Break (March 5-12)												



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### Ministry Assignments of Session Members - 2023

Clerk of Session - Ginny Rainey

#### **Building and Property**

*Scott Sesler, Chair*  
*Carolyn Bryant*  
*Tom Wheeler*

#### **Membership**

*John Marsden, Chair*  
*Jim DeWolfe*  
*Tom Wheeler*

#### **Personnel**

*Barbara Cox, Chair*  
*Dick Bundy*  
*Laura Robinson*  
*Scott Sesler*

#### **Worship**

*Anne Layng, Chair*  
*Dick Bundy*

#### **Financial Affairs**

*Jason Stimmel, Chair*  
*Bob Igo*  
*Meg Moose*

#### **Spiritual Life**

*Rob Huffard, Chair*  
*Linda Edvar*  
*Diana Malcom*

#### **Christian Education**

*Mary D'Ambrosia, Chair*  
*Bob Igo*  
*Amy Frank*  
*Scott Cole*

#### **Adult Education**

*Jenny Van Hook, Chair*

#### **Youth Ministry Advisory Committee**

*Diana Malcom, Chair*  
*Scott Cole*

#### **Social Justice & Mission Team**

*Jim DeWolfe*  
*Bizz Maser*  
*Kim Phillips, Chair*

#### **Nominating**

*Anne Layng*  
*Jenny Van Hook*

#### **College Age and Young Adult Ministry**

*Laura Robinson, Chair*  
*Barbara Cox*  
*Jamey Perry*