

HOGE HERALD

Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church

February 2015

Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2015

Ash Wednesday is an integral part of the Lenten season in many Christian religions including Catholic, Orthodox and some Protestant religions. Lent is a religious time period of 40 days before Easter Sunday focusing on prayer, penance, and a renewal of faith. For the leap year of 2012, the number of days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday total 45. If the year is a non-leap year, the number of days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday total 44. There is a difference of approximately 6 days between the 40 days of the Lenten season and the actual count of 44 days (45 in a leap year). The difference lies in the history of the season of Lent.

History

During the first through third centuries, the Lent season or the season to prepare for Jesus rising from the dead was in controversy. St. Irenaeus (who lived approximately in the second century) wrote a letter to Pope St. Victor I regarding the Lent fasting controversy among different factions of the Church. He stated "The dispute is not only about the day, but also about the actual character of the fast. Some think that they ought to fast for one day, some for two, others for still more; some make their 'day' last 40 hours on end. Such variation in the observance did not originate in our own day, but very much earlier, in the time of our forefathers" (Eusebius, History of the Church, V, 24).¹

The discrepancies tend to cease during the fifth century when St. Leo (Pope from 440 A.D. to 461 A.D.) wrote that those of the Catholic faith should "abstain that they may fulfill with their fasts the Apostolic institution of the forty days."² St. Leo suggests that, in years after the death of Jesus, the Apostles fasted for 40 days before each Easter Sunday (the day Jesus rose from the dead). The 40 day fasting period is similar to the 40 day fasting period Jesus spent in the desert before beginning His ministry as is stated in St. Matthew 4:1-2.³

There are controversies surrounding the exact time period in which the actual forty days of Lent began. It is noted, however, that by the time the Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D. gathered, there is a mention of the word "tessarakonta" or translated from Greek meaning 'forty'. "For the first time in recorded history, we have mention of this period of preparation for Easter as lasting forty days."⁴ The Council of Nicaea also discussed how to derive at the total of 40 days. At that time, it was noted that Lent began on the sixth Sunday before Easter and ended on Holy Thursday which totaled 40 days. However, with the days of Sunday not included in the count, the total fell to 34 days. People wanted the 40 days of fasting, prayer, and penance to emulate the days Jesus spent in the desert. The Church added the days of Good Friday and Holy Saturday back into the season of Lent bringing the total days to 36. During the next centuries, the Church decided to include the four days before the first Sunday of Lent bringing the total of days to 40.

Ashes used on Ash Wednesday

The use of ashes on Ash Wednesday is derived from Biblical history. In Job 42:4-6, Job answers the Lord by saying: "Hear, and I will speak: I will ask thee, and do thou tell me. With the hearing of the ear, I have heard thee, but now my eye seeth thee. Therefore I reprehend myself, and do penance in dust and ashes."⁵ Also, in the Book of Judith 9:1-2, it states "And when they were gone, Judith went into her oratory: and putting on haircloth, laid ashes on her head..."⁶ There are many other references regarding the use of ashes during penance found in the Bible such as Judith 4:15; Isaiah 58:5; and Jeremiah 6:26.⁷

In the Catholic religion, the ashes used on Ash Wednesday are remnants of the palm leaves distributed from the prior year on Palm Sunday. Catholics keep the palm leaves throughout the year and return them to the Church before Ash Wednesday of the next year. The leaves are then turned into ashes for use in the Ash Wednesday services. During the service, the parishioners proceed to the front of the church and the ashes are placed on each person's forehead in the shape of a cross. The ashes are not to be washed off but are to remain on the forehead throughout the day of Ash Wednesday.

Other religions that use ashes on Ash Wednesday include Lutherans and Episcopalians. The use of ashes in the United Methodist services "became part of our official worship resources in 1992 when General Conference adopted *The United Methodist Book of Worship*."⁸

Three Pillars

The focus, beginning on Ash Wednesday, is to seek penance for sins of the past and to renew the relationship with God through the three pillars of the Lenten season. The three pillars are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Prayer is to allow people to focus or meditate on many aspects of their personal lives and to also pray for others.

Fasting is to assist in "developing self-control. It is often an aid to prayer, as the pangs of hunger remind us of our hunger for God."⁹ Fasting also assists in the changing of behavior. "The prophet Isaiah insists that fasting without changing our behavior is not pleasing to God."¹⁰ When reading Isaiah 58:5-8, it states "Is this such a fast as I have chosen: for a man to afflict his soul for a day? is this it, to wind his head about like a circle, and to spread sackcloth and ashes? wilt thou call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this rather the fast that I have chosen? loose the bands of wickedness, undo the bundles that oppress, let them that are broken go free, and break asunder every burden. Deal thy bread to the hungry, and bring the needy and the harbourless into thy house: when thou shalt see one naked, cover him, and despise not thy own flesh. Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thy health shall speedily arise, and thy justice shall go before thy face, and the glory of the Lord shall gather thee up."¹¹ Almsgiving is a continuation of prayer and fasting. It is a time to be thankful for all that God has given us. It is also a time to care for others as God cares for us.

Conclusion

Around the world, Christians unite on Ash Wednesday by focusing on the rejection of sin, the renewal of faith to Jesus Christ and the renewal of life with God.¹² Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the Lent season where, in St. Matthew 6:1-34, Jesus talks to all people on how to act when giving alms, when praying and when fasting. The people are to be humble, to show penance, to do these actions for the love of God, not for individual notoriety. The remembrance during this season is to search in each individual's soul, to turn away from self-centeredness, and to become renewed in the relationship each has with the Lord. The beginning of the Lenten season, Ash Wednesday, is the beginning of a fresh start with the Lord through spiritual and religious meditations.

*References online

Special Announcements

A MESSAGE TO ALL HOGE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS FROM REV. SENSENBRENNER:

During the months of January, February, March and April (while Rev. and Mrs. Sensenbrenner are out of town), members who desire Pastoral or Hospital care should call Rev. Phil Ferguson at 614-436-4210. Rev. Ferguson provided pastoral visits last year when Rev. Ed was away and he has agreed to cover those responsibilities again for Hoge's members and friends.

A NOTE FROM REV. ED SENSENBRENNER:

While I am away for the winter, I have scheduled some fine preachers to preach and lead our Worship Services. The schedule of Guest Preachers is as follows:

February 1 and 8	Rev. Francis Nagy
February 15 and 22	Rev. William Letty
March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29	Rev. Phil Ferguson
April 5 EASTER	Rev. Jeannie Harsh
April 12	Rev. David Fleming
April 19 and 26	Rev. Rawley Boone

Sunday, February 1 - Congregational Meeting All are encouraged to attend.

Food Pantry - Feb. 17, 18, 24, 25

February 4 - Choir Practice at 7:30 pm

February 18 - There will be no Ash Wednesday services at Hoge. We are all invited to attend service at Westminster Presbyterian at 222 Schoolhouse Lane at 7:30 p.m.

Soup and Service will take place at 6:00 p.m. in Wold Hall on February 25, March 4, 11, 18, and 25.

Stained Glass Window Tour Books are available!

If you attended the tour of our sanctuary's stained glass windows, you learned that there is more than just physical beauty to them. Joy Rector, Paula Sellers and Ed Sensenbrenner have updated the book which Rev. Hans Klee created years ago with new pictures and expanded explanations of each window. It is a "must have" for those who love and appreciate Hoge's sanctuary. The Outreach committee will make these books available for a fee of \$5.00 to cover the cost of printing. Please contact the church office or any member of the worship/outreach committee to obtain a copy.

Thank you to all who contributed gifts in December to Holy Family Soup Kitchen and Franklin Woods Nursing and Rehab Facility. An email came from Leah Watkins, Activity Director at Franklin Woods which read: "I would like to send a thank you to the group of individuals and/or the church in general that were involved with purchasing the wonderful gifts that were given to our residents. I cannot thank you enough; the gifts were perfect." Also, many thanks for the gifts cards that were purchased and given to HM³ participants. Once again, the generosity of the Hoge community comes shining through! Special thanks to Dorothy Aiken for coordinating the gift-giving to Franklin Woods and Holy Family and to Gail Garman for gathering and distributing the gift cards for HM³.

Sincerely,
Outreach Committee & Deacons

LOOK ing Ahead for Hoge

Layreaders: February-Patti Gorman, March-Beth Ormsby, April-Mike Minch, May-Carolyn Colborn, June-Diana Purcell, July-Bill Aiken, August-Gail Garman, September-Carol Ross, October-Mike Minch, November-David Colborn, December-Donna Swaneck .

IF YOU CANNOT BE THE LAYREADER FOR THE MONTH, CONTACT BETH ORMSBY

Communion Servers - If you are unable to serve, please try to find a replacement and notify the worship committee.

February 1, 2014-Susan Barrett, Jack Neil, Patti Gorman, Fred Mapes, Gary Link, Beth Ormsby

March 1, 2014-Charlotte Smith, Wilbur Smith, Mike Minch, Doug Alter, Carol Ross, Janet Fetherolf

April 5 Easter Sunday-Dave Colborn, Carolyn Colborn, Gail Garman, Kay Moore, Judy Moody, Diane Purcell

Schedule of Ushers:

If you would like to usher, please contact Gail Garman, Beth Ormsby or Carol Colborn.

Usher Team #1 (Jan, April, July, Oct): Gary Link, Jack Neil, Bev Neil

Usher Team #2 (Feb, May, Aug, Nov): Judy Moody, Mike Minch, Bill & Dorothy Aiken

Usher Team #3 (March, June, Sept, Dec): Chris Crane, Jim Cheadle, Diana Purcell

Choir Practice will be the first and third Wednesdays February 4

Martha Circle will meet on February 10

Worship Committee This is the schedule for the fellowship hour on the second Sundays:

September- Outreach Committee; October- Martha Circle; November- Deacons; December- Ushers

January- Finance and Facilities; **February- Session**; March- Outreach Committee; April- Choir

May- Martha Circle; June - Session

No Potlucks on fourth Sunday in November and December

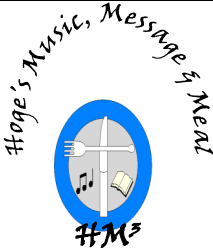
Thanks to everyone in advance for your help with fellowship hour.

Gail Garman, Worship Committee co-chair.

******Directories of Hoge's members and friends are now available!!******

The Upper Room now available!!

Do you read your Bible daily? Do you spend daily time in prayer and meditation? While we all have the opportunity to do this, it can become difficult to put aside time for spiritual devotions. It is important that we do so. To assist and encourage this practice, the congregation of Hoge now has copies of the Upper Room available to them. This book of daily devotions is designed for two months at a time. We are distributing the books to shut-ins via flower deliveries and have copies available in the Narthex of the church for those who can attend Sunday services. Currently, all session members are participating in the devotions and it is our hope that everyone else will do so as well. The devotions are easy to read and understand and can become an integral part of your spiritual development. If you have not yet received the books and are not able to attend services, please contact the church office and request a copy be sent to you.



Every Saturday of the month at 5 pm. If you would like to assist with this mission, please contact Mike Minch.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.hogemempresby.org

Email:

hogemempreschurch@yahoo.com



UPDATES/EVENTS

December 2014 Food Pantry Totals

Day 1, December 9, 31 Families, People served 143, Adults (60+) 14, Adults (18-59) 64, Children 65
Day 2, November 19, 10 Families, People served 33, Adults (60+) 4 Adults (18-59) 16, Children 13
Week 1 Totals, 41 Families, People served 176, Adults (60+) 18, Adults (18-59) 80, Children 78

Day 3, December 16, 14 Families, People served 61, Adults (60+) 4 Adults (18-59) 27, Children 30
Day 4, December 17, 25 Families, People served 83, Adults (60+) 10, Adults (59-18) 35, Children 38
Week 2 Totals, 39 Families, People served 144, Adults (60+) 14, Adults (59-18) 62, Children 68

Monthly Totals, 80 Families, People served 320, Adults (60+) 32, Adults (59-18) 142, Children 146

HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN BREAKDOWN PER DAY (new count requested by Mid-Ohio)

Day 1- 20 Families with Children in Household
11 Families without Children in Household
Total 31 Families

Day 2 - 05 Families with Children in Household
05 Families without Children in Household
Total 10 Families

Day 3- 10 Families with Children in Household
04 Families without Children in Household
Total 14 Families

Day 4- 13 Families with Children in Household
12 Families without Children in Household
Total 25 Families

48 Families with Children
32 Families without Children
80 Total Families



Out of the Box Community Theatre (OOTBCT)
www.facebook.com/ootbct

Out of the Box Community Theatre (OOTBCT)
Presents: "Radio Mystery Theatre": February 20-28, 2015 (Fridays & Saturdays at 8 pm; Sunday at 4 pm) – Come and enjoy listening to mystery stories of Agatha Christy, Ellery Queen, and The Thin Man being broadcast over the air in an old fashioned radio station setting!

OOTBCT presents: "The Studio"

Consider attending classes and learn dances such as the Cha Cha, East Coast Swing, Foxtrot, Hustle, Merengue, Rumba, Salsa, Tango, Waltz and more! Dance classes are held in Wold Hall on Friday evenings from 7:00 pm -8:00 pm. Beginner dance lessons were held in October, November and December. Additional beginner and advanced classes are now being held for 2015 (normally in 4 week sessions) along with a couple of dance parties. Come join the fun!

Costs for independent sessions are: \$10/person; \$16/couple. If all sessions are paid for at the same time, an

KEEP IN DAILY PRAYER



-JoAnn Swaneck - Donna's Mother-in-law is at Mt. Carmel West Hospital
-Nancy Loik - fractured Arm recovering at her daughter's house
-Dennis Crane, Chris Crane's father - at First Community Rehabilitation Care Center
-Andy Adair - at home recuperating from burns on feet
-Wilbur Miller, Chris Crane's grandfather - at First Community Rehabilitation Care Center
-Lois Duey - recovering from pneumonia
-Troy Eastwood - recovering from a broken leg
-Angela Eastwood - various health concerns
-Terri Esterling - at First Community Rehabilitation Care Center

-Others:

David Loik, Tim Crane, Vicki Ammon, Howard Hicks, Altha Martin, Andy Martin, Bertie McCann, Ardath Nelson, Pat Newman, Emma Vetter, Robbie McGraw, Andrea Leddy, Johnna Murphy, Doris Barnett, Doug Alter, Marge Kennedy, Pat Borrer, Marianne Black, Mike Hofmann, Lois Duey, Barbara Mapes.

-Hoge Church: continued support for community-based ministries.

-Our city, nation, and world leaders. Our schools, teachers and children.

Please help keep this list current. Provide the church office with prayer requests for inclusion of "Keep in Daily Prayer" sections of the weekly bulletins and monthly newsletters.

Financial Update – December 31, 2014

The following is a summary of Hoge's current year financial activity through December 2014. Detailed financial reports are available by request to the church office through Paula Sellers, our secretary.

Balances as of December 31, 2014:

Unrestricted cash	\$ 26,948.68
Restricted cash	10,626.01
Payroll Liabilities	(0.00)
Net liquid assets	\$ 37,574.69

Operating Income:

Contributions	\$ 91,259.30
Interest	195.34
Other income (building use)	3,053.00
Other income (other support)	9,218.77
Other income (flower dedications)	1,020.00
Total Operating Income	\$104,746.41

Operating Expenses:

Admin & Other Expenses	\$ 12,714.00
Building & Maintenance Exp	6,117.90
Committee Expenses	9,001.72 (includes Outreach activities)
Office Expenses	4,752.55
Non-Pastoral salaries	49,453.31
Pastoral Expenses	10,931.12
Utilities and Phone	19,695.65
Total Operating Expenses	\$112,666.25

Difference - Operating Activity \$ (7,919.84)

Designated Offerings / Donations during 2014:

Deacon's Funds: \$10,762.74 (includes donations from Worthington Presbyterian, Glenwood UM Church & Cypress Wesleyan)
Parking Lot/Building Maintenance Fund: \$22,070.00 plus \$76.17 (interest earned from designated savings account)
One Great Hour of Sharing: \$1,984.08
Peace Making Offering: \$455.00 (1/3 of this remains at Hoge and 2/3 is sent to Presbytery for Peace Making mission support)
Christmas Joy Offering: \$623.47
General Building Improvements Funds: \$5,954.83 (spent on plaster/stucco repair work, painting, exhaust fan & installation)
HM3 – Meal & Personal Care Pantry Support: \$1,100.00
Urban Ministry Center: \$100.00 (from Worthington Presbyterian Women)

Financial notes:

Our plans for technology upgrades to the building are underway. Chris Colborn and Lee Ninde are coordinating and leading this effort for Hoge. Maintaining our building and property is always a challenge and we are most grateful for several designated gifts over the past couple of years allowing many areas of critical maintenance to be addressed. We continue to evaluate each of our administrative and operating expenses and making attempts to cut where possible. Expanded details of Hoge's financial status will be provided and discussed at the Congregational meeting on February 1 following the worship service. Please plan on attending and ask any question you may have.

For those who returned their 2015 pledge cards, we thank you. The ministry and outreach occurring at Hoge can at times, feel overwhelming but in a wonderful sense of spiritual challenge and renewal. If you are not currently participating in any of the activities at Hoge, please prayerfully consider your willingness to do so. We have unique mission and outreach occurring here which is not happening just anywhere. You have to experience it to understand it!

God is calling each of us to do our part to keep Hoge alive, providing mission and outreach to our community. Please consider your prayerful, physical, and financial support during 2015 and for Hoge's future.

Patti Gorman, Treasurer

Reminder: Please have all information in to the secretary by the 3rd Sunday to be placed in the next month's newsletter. Thank You!

February

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
January - March Sunday services will take place in Wold Hall.		
01 10:30am Worship & Communion w/Rev. Francis Nagy 11:30am Congregational Meeting 7:00pm AA Meeting	02 6:00pm Brownies	03 7:00pm Worship/Outreach Mtg
08 10:30am Worship w/Rev. Francis Nagy 11:30am Fellowship Hour 7:00pm AA Meeting	09 6:00pm Brownies	10 7:00pm Martha Circle
15 10:30am Worship w/Rev. William Letty 7:00pm AA Meeting	16 6:00pm Brownies 7:00pm Session Meeting	17 12:00pm Food Pantry
22 10:30am Worship w/Rev. William Letty 11:30am Potluck Fellowship 3:00pm OOTBCT 7:00pm AA Meeting	23 6:00pm Brownies	24 12:00pm Food Pantry

2015

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
04 7:30pm NA Meeting 7:30pm Choir Practice	05 2:00pm Medical Bus	06 6:30pm OOTBCT	07 5:00pm HM ³ 7:00pm AA Meeting
11 7:30pm NA Meeting	12 2:00pm Medical Bus	13 6:30pm OOTBCT	14 5:00pm HM ³ 7:00pm AA Meeting
18 12:00pm Food Pantry 7:30pm NA Meeting 7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service at Westminster	19 2:00pm Medical Bus 7:00pm G.S. Leader Mtg.	20 8:00pm OOTBCT	21 5:00pm HM ³ 7:00pm AA Meeting 8:00pm OOTBCT
25 12:00pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Soup/Service 7:30pm NA Meeting	26 2:00pm Medical Bus	27 8:00pm OOTBCT	28 5:00pm HM ³ 7:00pm AA Meeting 8:00pm OOTBCT

HOGE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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*Feeding the Community
Physically & Spiritually!!*

February 2015

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GOT MAIL ??

- Elders and Deacons -

If you have a folder in the roll-away mailbox near the office upstairs, please be sure to check it each Sunday for new mail and announcements.

