

## The Fellowship

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

April 2022

### Ebensburg

**Presbyterian Church**  
200 N. Center Street  
Ebensburg, PA 15931

#### Mission Statement:

*"Ebensburg Presbyterians are  
Christians giving help and hope to all  
by sharing God's love."*

Church Office Hours  
9:am-1: pm

Monday-Thursday  
ebgpsesby@gmail.com  
814-472-6920

#### Worship Service

Sunday Worship 11:00 AM

#### Church Staff

Pastor  
Rev. Owar Ojulu  
ojh3o@yahoo.com

Office Manager  
Sally Kruley

Church Treasurer  
Kristine Segear

Clerk of Session  
Jim Stratton

Custodian  
Don Buterbaugh

Organist  
Melissa Douglas

#### Web page:

[www.ebgpresby.org](http://www.ebgpresby.org)

#### Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/Ebensburg  
PresbyterianChurch](https://www.facebook.com/EbensburgPresbyterianChurch)

*"But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? Luke 24:1-12*

In view of what is taking place in our world now, I need to share with you the story of resurrection again. This is because the story of Luke speaks about resilience, taking a leap of faith in the face of frustration, hopelessness, shame, and destruction, while confronting the tragedy of fear. This story brings a promise of hope to the disciples who were bewildered, overcome by fear, and in a state of disbelief. Yet, the power of resurrection prevails over the sting of death, the weight of the stone, and the obscurity of the grave.

The women in the story were already in a perplexing situation. They worried about the "big stone" at the mouth of the tomb. Then they saw the stone was removed and the body wasn't there. The sudden appearance of two persons in dazzling attire triggered their fear, worsened their situation, and the women were terrified. Yet, their affirmative statement about Jesus' resurrection alleviates the women's desperation. The voice whispered hope, brought light in the midst of darkness, and affirmed new life and a bright future.

Like these women, the world worries, all of us are in despair and waking up every day to the latest disquieting and depressing news. The news we hear about the bombardment of Ukraine, the human tragedy in Yemen etc. and the stubbornness of the Russians' leader have placed us in an emotional valley of hopelessness in the face of a nuclear superpower—Russia.

Like the women, we are filled with personal and corporate questions regarding our current situation. Inflation has increased, gas and food prices have soared, supply chains have crumbled due to the war and the ramifications of the Coronavirus. Many ask whether the world can function normally again. "Who can stop this aggression, and how?" we ask.

However, I want to assure you that as the women passed the season of bewilderment to Easter joy, we too will pass this season with God. Remember our daffodils. They were covered with snow and passed through the severe cold of the winter. Now, they are blossoming and thriving again. They remind us of hope. Hope is a kept faith, trusting God and having confidence in the divine promises.

Considering this, if you have not been able to come to our Holy Week and Easter services since Covid, I invite you to come back. Holy Week and Easter are very special events to our Christian beliefs and our faith. We reflect on the passion and resurrection—defeat and victory! We will conduct the Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 pm on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> and our choir will bring to us sweet sounds of music. You are also invited to observe Good Friday, the prime event of Passion Week, in the Colver church, where our joint choir will sing again.

-See page 2, please-

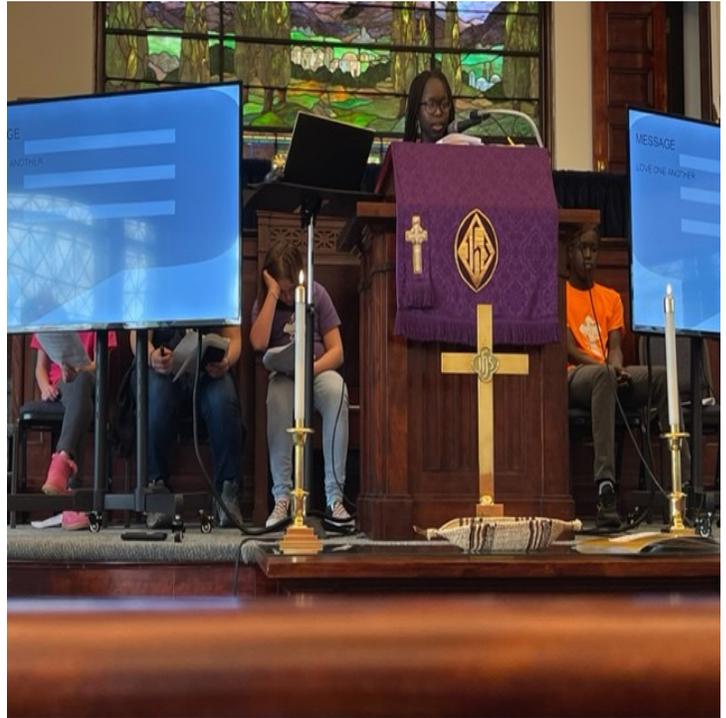
Come join us and pray for the world, encourage each other and hear the story of victory of our circumstances. May God alleviate our desperation, restore our hopes and renew our faith with the news of the resurrection on Easter morning.

*Rev. Owar Ojulu*



# Youth Service

February 27, 2022



## **An Interfaith Prayer for Immigrants**

Source of Life who is known by many names;  
Over-turner and illuminator of hearts;  
We gather with gratitude for the earth and all who journey in it.  
We give thanks for the interconnectedness of all creation.

Support for those without support;  
Stronghold of those without protection;  
We declare openly the times we have fallen short  
From living out the call to justice our sacred stories place upon us;  
From recognizing the whole of creation as an extension of our being;  
From hearing the plight of the creation yearning for justice;  
From seeing the harm our way of life and our policies inflict upon the creation.

Source of Wisdom who is known by many names;  
The Prophet Mohammed asks: What actions are most excellent?  
To gladden the heart of a human being;  
To feed the hungry;  
To help the afflicted;  
To lighten the sorrow of the sorrowful;  
To remove the wrongs of the injured;  
Let us not forget.

The Psalmist asks: Who is fit to hold power and worthy to act in God's place?  
Those with a passion for the truth, who are horrified by injustice;  
Who act with mercy to the poor and take up the cause of the helpless;  
Who have let go of selfish concerns and see the whole creation as sacred.  
Let us not forget.

Jesus, carpenter of Nazareth, asks: What is the greatest commandment?  
To love your creator;  
To love your neighbor;  
To undermine oppressive powers with life-giving actions;  
To be in solidarity with all who suffer;  
To act for justice;  
And to teach others to act for justice  
Let us not forget.

Source of Justice who is known by many names;  
Let us not swerve from the path of righteousness that leads to just and equitable relationship.  
Open our eyes that we may see the immigrant and undocumented;  
Whose labor enables and sustains our living;  
The farm worker, the hotel maid, the line cook, the childcare provider; the healthcare worker;

*- continued, see next page -*

Give us the courage to stand with those crossing our borders;  
Escaping economic oppression and political persecution;  
Seeking work to support their families;  
Aspiring to participate in the bounty of the creation;  
Give us the strength to confront the prejudice and intolerance of those who are fearful;  
And respond by closing our borders to those who sojourn seeking life and opportunity;  
Give us the will to leave behind the safety of our sanctuaries and temples;  
And claim our place in the movement to transform the creation;  
That our voice, our heart, our spirit will join the voice, heart and spirit of all who  
demand to live with respect, justice and peace.

Source of Direction who is known by many names;  
In our daily living let us be guided;  
By the highest estimate of the worth and dignity of every person regardless of their legal status;  
And let us not forget;  
That the creation is founded on justice;  
And that we have the moral responsibility to bring forth justice into these times.  
Amen

*--Jessica Vazquez Torres, for Interfaith Worker Justice*

## Cross of Hope





## **KID'S EASTER EGGSTRAVGANZA**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2022**

**10 AM—NOON**

**KIDS FROM AGES 1—11 WELCOME!!**

**Please reserve your space by contacting the  
Church Office (472-6920 or e-mail  
ebgpresby@gmail.com) by Mon., April 11.**

**Please invite family and friends to join the fun  
including: Crafts, Games and concluding with an  
Easter Egg Hunt**

**\*\* We are accepting monetary donations and  
donations of small wrapped candy that will fit in  
plastic eggs. Please bring to the church by  
Sunday, April 10th.**



## What's Happening...



The Session meeting on March 9 started with prayer and a study based on Ecclesiastes 11:1-6. The main point of the passage is trust in God and work diligently. Book of Order training was about worship. After approving the February minutes as amended, the treasurer's report was received.

Committee reports included the following.

Budget, Finance and Stewardship reported that \$2,031 has been raised so far for the handbell refurbishment.

Discipleship Committee- Thanks to the youth group for conducting the February 25<sup>th</sup> worship service. They did a great job. A resolution passed to hold the Easter Eggstravaganza in person this year. It is scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup> 10-noon at the church. If you wish to donate individually wrapped candies they can be dropped off at the church.

Family Life reported on the Ash Wednesday Service and Breakfast. We had people attending from the Ebensburg, Colver, Revloc, and Patton Presbyterian churches. They will also be working on a Silver and Gold recognition of church members.

The Mission committee is collecting monetary donations for Ukraine Relief and One Great Hour of Sharing. Again, this year, the committee is providing ½ camperships to Pine Springs for youth from the church.

Property Management has an appointment for a second bid on the windowsill and painting project.

Worship Committee is preparing the cross project for Lent and Easter.

It was voted to receive all reports.

In New Business, three items were discussed.

Following discussion, most of the restrictions in place for the pandemic have been eased. Individuals are still asked to avoid attending if they are having any symptoms or a positive test for Covid-19. Masks can be worn at the discretion of the individual. Cleaning of the Sanctuary and ventilation are still required.

A request to baptize BeenyJwok on April 17<sup>th</sup> was approved.

A vacation request for our secretary from March 14-24<sup>th</sup> was approved.

In Communications from the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly, the Presbytery will hold a regular meeting March 22. Judy Carl was appointed as representative.

In the Moderator's Report, Pastor Owar is now chairing the Presbytery Mission Committee. They have planned a mission trip to W. Virginia this month and a possible trip to Sudan in 2023. Also, he reported that he has continued visits with ill members of the congregation. He has completed his dissertation.

The next Session Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.



April 1

Aubrey Jean Baker

April 8

Eva Tomb

April 11

Tina Taylor

April 13

Clifton J. Harris

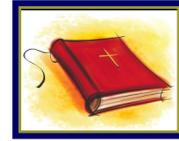
April 22

Dan Orr

April 29

Ralph T. Shuey

# Sunday Scripture Readings



## April 3

Isaiah 43:16-21	I am about to do a new thing, says the Lord; do you perceive it?
Psalms 126	When the Lord restored our fortunes, we shouted with joy.
Philippians 3:4b-14	Knowing Christ Jesus as Lord, I regard everything else as loss.
John 12:1-8	At the home of Lazarus, Mary anoints Jesus' feet with perfume.

## April 10

### Liturgy of the Palms

Luke 19:28-40	Jesus enters Jerusalem on colt; the disciples praise God with joy.
Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29	Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

### Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9 a	The Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty?
Psalms 31: 9-16	Be gracious, Lord; my enemies assail me; my life is in your hand.
Philippians 2:5-11	Seek the mind of Christ, who was humble, but exalted by God.
Luke 22:14-23:56	After the Passover meal, Jesus is betrayed, tried, and crucified.

## April 17

Acts 10:34-43	Peter testifies to Jesus' death and resurrection; Jesus is Lord of all.
Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24	I will not die, I will live; this is the day that the Lord has made.
1 Corinthians 15:19-26	As death came through Adam, resurrection comes through Christ.
John 20:1-18	At the empty tomb, the risen Lord appears to Mary Magdalene.

## April 24

Acts 5:27-32	Peter stands trial before the council; we must obey God.
Psalms 118: 14-29	The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
Revelation 1:4-8	Jesus is coming; I am the Alpha and Omega, says the Lord.
John 20:19-31	Jesus shares the Holy Spirit; a week later, he appears to Thomas.

If you need to contact Rev. Owar Ojulu for any pastoral needs below is his contact information:

Email: ojh3o@yahoo.com

Phone: 507-304-5958 (cell phone)

Ebensburg Presbyterian Church: 814-472-6920



#### EBENSBURG FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Year to Date as of February, 2022

Actual Operating Income:	\$9,975.11
Actual Operating Expenses:	\$13,636.73
Gain/Loss:	(\$3,661.62)



#### 2022 Per Capita

**2022 Per Capita** - Our Per Capita offering, which supports the work of the presbytery, synod and general assembly, has been set at **\$43.00**. We are a connectional church, and we encourage you to submit your per capita as soon as possible! Just mark your envelope or the memo line on your check. We are then responsible for sending this full amount to the Redstone Presbytery. Thank you!

# Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

## April 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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					<b>1</b> <i>Happy Birthday, Aubrey Jean Baker</i>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> <i>5th Sunday of Lent</i>  <i>Worship 11:00 AM &amp; Facebook</i>  <b>Communion</b>  <i>Boy Scouts 6 –8 PM</i>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>  <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  <i>Happy Birthday, Eva Tomb</i>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> <i>Palm/Passion Sun- day</i>  <i>Worship 11:00 AM &amp; Facebook</i>  <i>Boy Scouts 6—8 PM</i>  <b>One Great Hour of Sharing Offering</b>	<b>11</b>  <i>Happy Birthday, Tina Taylor</i>	<b>12</b>  <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	<b>13</b>  <i>Happy Birthday, Clifton J. Harris</i>	<b>14</b>  <i>Maundy Thursday Services at Ebensburg 7:00 PM</i>	<b>15</b>  <i>Good Friday</i>	<b>16</b>  <i>Kid’s Easter Eggstravaganza 10:00 AM - Noon</i>
<b>17</b> <i>Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Sunday</i>  <i>Worship 11:00 AM &amp; Facebook</i>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	<b>20</b>  <b>Session— 7:00 PM</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  <i>Happy Birthday, Dan Orr</i>  <i>Earth Day</i>	<b>23</b>  <i>NA Business Mtg. 9:45 AM</i>
<b>24</b> <i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i>  <i>Worship 11:00 AM &amp; Facebook</i>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  <i>Happy Birthday, Ralph T. Shuey</i>	<b>30</b>

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