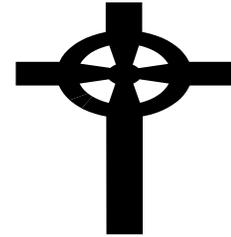
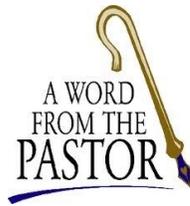


The Fellowship

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Ebensburg Presbyterian Church
March 2021



**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 Douglass

Web page:

www.ebgpresby.org

Facebook page:

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

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2
833971690](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2833971690)

Your love, LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep. You, LORD, preserve both people and animals. How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. Psalm 36:5-9

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we enter the new month, I need to remind us how it was this time last year. We can all recall what happened in March of 2020. America was shut down and Americans were quarantined. The world seemed to come to an end. Everyone turned to survival mode. Everything becomes scarce. Whereas some were able to store up, the poor and the homeless were left with none. Covid-19 had shaken the core of every foundation of this world. Death was lurking around, and people were swallowed up in fear.

In America, we have lost half of million lives: —fellow friends, members of our community and of our church have now made their dwelling with God in eternity. Yet, we have emerged stronger in the face of Coronavirus crisis. It was a miracle that the scientists were able to find a vaccine in this short period of time. God indeed, lies behind any human endeavor. We pray that the vaccine manufacturers are able to produce enough vaccines for America and for the rest of the world.

Now as we look back to those desperate times in the month of March 2020 and beyond, we shout out to nurses, doctors, and first responders who placed their lives in jeopardy to save others. We say thank you to the food banks and pantry workers as well and local volunteers who tirelessly work to give food to the hungry. Thank you too, to you, our church members for doing everything possible to help anyone in need. Thank you for being open to the changes that came because of the shutdown.

During all the chaos, God's presence, and unmeasurable love toward us was revealed in many ways. Zoom was a divine gift in our time of need to worship and remain as a church. We were apart, yet able to come together to worship God on Sundays through

Zoom and Facebook. The church did not back down but continued the ministry the Lord has entrusted us to carry out in the world.

Now as we continue the journey of faith through Lent, let us be reminded of God's priceless love for us and how God preserves us. The psalmist affirms our need for God. We are His, and alive for Him. When we are pressed down and pressed hard by circumstances, we bounce back because God is the fountain of strength and comfort.

This is true with Jesus! In the forty days of temptation, He was tested with hunger, thirst, wealth, and power. Satan wished to find fault in him, but Jesus pressed on and won the victory over Satan's temptations. He claimed that

only with God is abundance and that God is the source of eternal life. For He has come to testify to this truth and to claim many for God (John 18:37).

Now as we imitate Christ, during the experiences of despair, fear, or anxiety, let

us be reminded of God's assurance of presence as we journey through Lent toward Easter. For with God lies the fountain of life; in him we see the light of love and resurrection.

This season let us march triumphally with Jesus Christ on to the Jerusalem of hardships, despair, and uncertainty. During Holy Week, Christ will be observed for five days as the Passover lamb who not only covers but takes away our sins and the sins of the world. He is the Messiah who bore our iniquities that we have life and have it abundantly.

Lastly, the psalmist says the needy *feast on the abundance of God's house*, and we are the house of God. Often the church finds itself with those who are thirsty, hungry, imprisoned and those suffering with illness (Matthew 25). So let us continue our support by considering offering to the Presbyterian Mission OGHS this month to help alleviate the suffering of many here and around the world.

Rev. Owar Ojulu



Lent

Source :Unknown

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen

—in the words of Pope Francis

Updated Online giving categories

We are pleased to see some members have started using the online giving portal in January and into February. The process was outlined in our February 2021 newsletter describing how to use the online giving portal. If you missed that article, please take a moment to review it if you are interested in this new option to make monetary gifts to the Church. We have also added a new category – Deacons. This will allow the ability to make donations to the Deacons like all the other giving categories. The Deacons regularly do a 5th Sunday offering. The Deacons use the funds to assist members including gifts to shut-ins, Silver & Gold banquet to honor members, assisting local families or purchasing items for school age children. If you have already set up online giving, you can add the Deacons as an additional amount to be given as a periodic gift or a one-time gift. Thank you to all who give monetary gifts to the church to continue the work of our local church and to the greater Church.



Stewardship Pledge Cards

Happy New Year to our wonderful church family. For 2021, the Budget, Finance and Stewardship Committee has been requested to prepare pledge cards to better estimate our giving by members and regular guests. A “My gift from Blessings Received for 2021” card was put with each set of giving envelopes or distributed to those who have been at our in-person services. If you have not received yours, you may use the form below:

My Gift from Blessings Received for 2021

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

In the spirit of love and service, I/we prayerfully make the following financial estimate to the mission of Ebensburg Presbyterian Church in 2021 as designated into each of the following funds:

General Fund for Operating Expenses: I/We estimate: \$ _____ per: week month year (Please circle one)

Property and Building Fund: I/We estimate: \$ _____ per: week month year (Please circle one)

Mission Fund: I/We estimate: \$ _____ per: week month year (Please circle one)

Per Capita Fund: I/We estimate: \$ _____ (\$42.50 per member annually)

I understand that this estimate may be increased or decreased due to changing circumstances

Signature _____

But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15

Please kindly take a moment and complete your card and return to the church office or place in the offering baskets located near each of the front entrances.

The card is your estimate of your anticipated giving in 2021 but may be increased or decreased due to changes in your personal circumstances. We hope you will prayerfully consider your donation for 2021. Thank you for your continued support of the Ebensburg Presbyterian Church.

From the Deacons

For Valentine's Day we sent flowers to June Fedora, Vicki Askew, Margaret McKenrick and Carolyn Vaugh. We also sent gift cards to Mr. & Mrs. Carisle and Mr. & Mrs. Albright.

Roxanne Lamer, President

From the Mission Committee



PINE SPRINGS CAMP is looking forward to the Summer 2021 Camping Season. If you or your family is interested in participating in these camps please remember the Mission Committee will pay for half of your camp.

Pine Springs camp also has one day programs and a no-cost Winterfest.

Also, Pine Springs is looking for empty inkjet cartridges that it can recycle to help support their mission (inkjet only No laser/toner cartridges).



Easter Memorial Flowers

Once again, Easter flowers will be available for purchase to decorate our sanctuary.

The donation this year will be \$14 per plant.

Please place your **order and payment** in the collection plate or leave at the church office **by Thursday, March 18, 2021.**

Checks can be made out to Ebensburg Presbyterian Church. Put Easter flowers on the memo line.

~~~~~

I would like to order a total of \_\_\_\_\_ flowers at \$14 each

Presented by \_\_\_\_\_ = \$\_\_\_\_\_ Total

~~~~~

In Loving Memory of _____

Or

In Honor of _____

In Loving Memory of _____

Or

In Honor of _____

In Loving Memory of _____

Or

In Honor of _____

(Please use back for additional orders.)

What's Happening . . .



The Session met virtually on February 10, 2021. The meeting opened with prayer and a study on Psalm 23:4, a familiar promise of comfort from God.

Book of Order training was about church membership. Minutes from the Dec. and Jan. Session Meetings and the Congregational Meeting were approved.

The Treasurer's report was received.

Committee reports included the following:

For the Budget, Finance and Stewardship Committee Kris Segear, treasurer gave an update on the new online giving system.

Discipleship reminded session members that clearances will need to be obtained or renewed for those individuals working with children in the church.

Mission reported that the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) collection will be collected on Palm Sunday – March 28th. Fish banks are available at the church and may be dropped off any time before or after Palm Sunday.

A hoagie/pizza sale was approved as a fundraiser for the Organ Restoration Committee.

The Personnel Committee is working on annual reviews of employees.

Property Management commended the snow removal. They discussed some repairs and routine maintenance needed.

Worship reported that a virtual service would be held on Zoom for Ash Wednesday.

In Old Business, the virtual worship technology was discussed. We will work on trying to improve the live streaming of the church services. The date for the Girl Scouts drive-through cookie sale is March 13. They will use the parking lot.

In New Business, a joint meeting with the Colver Session was proposed. This will be revisited after Easter. A display of pictures and information about former pastors of our church was brought up for consideration.

Judy Carl gave a brief report about the most recent Presbytery meeting. Congratulations to Belinda Lambie on her installation as Moderator for the Redstone Presbytery.

Correspondence included a note of thanks from a congregation member and information that Holy Name Elementary received Middle States Accreditation.

In the Moderator's Report Rev. Ojulu told us about preparations being made for Lent and Easter, music for services, phone visits with members and friends of the congregation and attending pastor meetings.

The Clerk of Session discussed the annual report to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA and it was approved.

The Deacons will be chaired by Roxanne Lamar.

The next virtual Session Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 7 pm.



PINE SPRINGS CAMP

SUMMER 2021

www.pinesprings.org

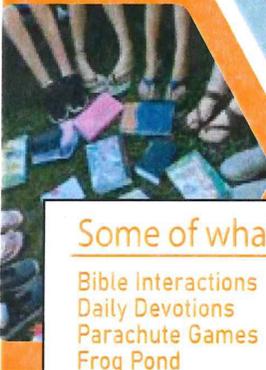


"providing vital encounters with Jesus Christ since 1948"

Camps for ALL ages:
Grandmas, Moms and Tots (ages 3-7/adults)
Discovery (Grades K-2)
Exploration (Grades 3-5)
Journey (Grades 6-8)



Expedition (Grades 9-12)
Family Camp (EVERYONE)
Mission EX (middle school youth groups)



Some of what you can do at PSC this summer:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Bible Interactions | Low Ropes Course Elements* |
| Daily Devotions | High Ropes Course and Giant Swing* |
| Parachute Games | Rock Climbing* |
| Frog Pond | Night Games |
| Electric Trains | Mountain Biking* |
| Confidence Course | Archery* |
| Sports Pavilion Climbing Walls | BB Guns* |
| Awesome Camp Games | Instincts for Survival* |
| Nature Scavenger Hunt | Bouldering |
| Dress-up | Campfires / Sleeping out |
| Skits | Team Initiatives |
| Campfires and Smores | Capture the Flag* |
| Hayride | Kickball |
| Story Time | Adventure Fort |
| Counselor Hunt | Soccer |
| Creek walk | Carpet Ball |
| Bouldering Wall | Geo Caching* |
| Sling Shots | Nature Activities |
| Arts and Crafts | Basketball |
| Swimming | Knock out |
| PSPN (Pine Springs Praise Night) | RC Trucks* |
| Theme dinners | Camps Songs |
| Slip-N-Slide | Ultimate Frisbee |
| Pool Party | Fort building |
| Water Slide | Belay Tree Climbing* |
| Pool Climbing Wall | |
| Mud Pit | |
| GAGA Ball | |
| Orienteering* | |
| Climbing Walls, Tower and Zip Line* | |
| Star gazing | |
| Hiking | |

*activities are restricted by age group



PSC





Winterfest

An Outdoor Family Open
House of Winter Fun!
No Cost!



@ PINE SPRINGS CAMP

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

11:00 AM- 5:00 PM

Please RSVP at

<http://www.pinesprings.org/winterfest>

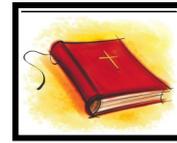


A ONE DAY EXTRAVAGANZA OF OUTDOOR FUN!

**TUBING, WINTER NATURE HIKES, OUTDOOR CAFE
CAMPFIRES, SMORE'S AND MUCH MORE**

JOIN US FOR AN OUTDOOR OPEN FAMILY HOUSE. WE HAVE MISSED THE JOY AND THE NOISE OF OUR CAMPERS , SO WE INVITE YOU TO COME UP FOR A FUN WINTER DAY AT CAMP. WE ARE PLANNING A COMPLETE DAY OF ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES-SNOW, RAIN, SUN OR (MOST LIKELY) CLOUDS!

Sunday Scripture Readings



March 7, 2021

Exodus 20:1–17

Psalms 19

1 Corinthians 1:18–25

John 2:13–22

On Mount Sinai, God gives the Ten Commandments to Moses.

The law of the Lord is perfect; God's commandments are clear.

The message of the cross reveals God's wisdom and strength.

Before Passover, Jesus chases the money changers out of the temple.

March 14, 2021

Numbers 21:4–9

Psalms 107:1–3, 17–22

Ephesians 2:1–10

John 3:14–21

God instructs Moses to use a bronze serpent to save the people.

Give thanks to the Lord, who forgives, heals, and delivers us.

By the gift of God's grace we are saved through faith.

Like Moses' serpent, Jesus will be lifted up as a sign of salvation.

March 21, 2021

Jeremiah 31:31–34

Psalms 51:1–12

Hebrews 5:5–10

John 12:20–33

God says: I will make a new covenant, writing my law in your heart.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new spirit within me.

Jesus Christ, our high priest, is the source of eternal salvation.

Jesus says: Now I will be glorified; I will die and be lifted up.

March 28—Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4–9a

Psalms 31:9–16

Philippians 2:5–11

Mark 14:1—15:47

The Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Be gracious, Lord; my enemies assail me; my life is in your hand.

Seek the mind of Christ, who was humble, but exalted by God.

After the Passover meal, Jesus is betrayed, tried, and crucified.



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

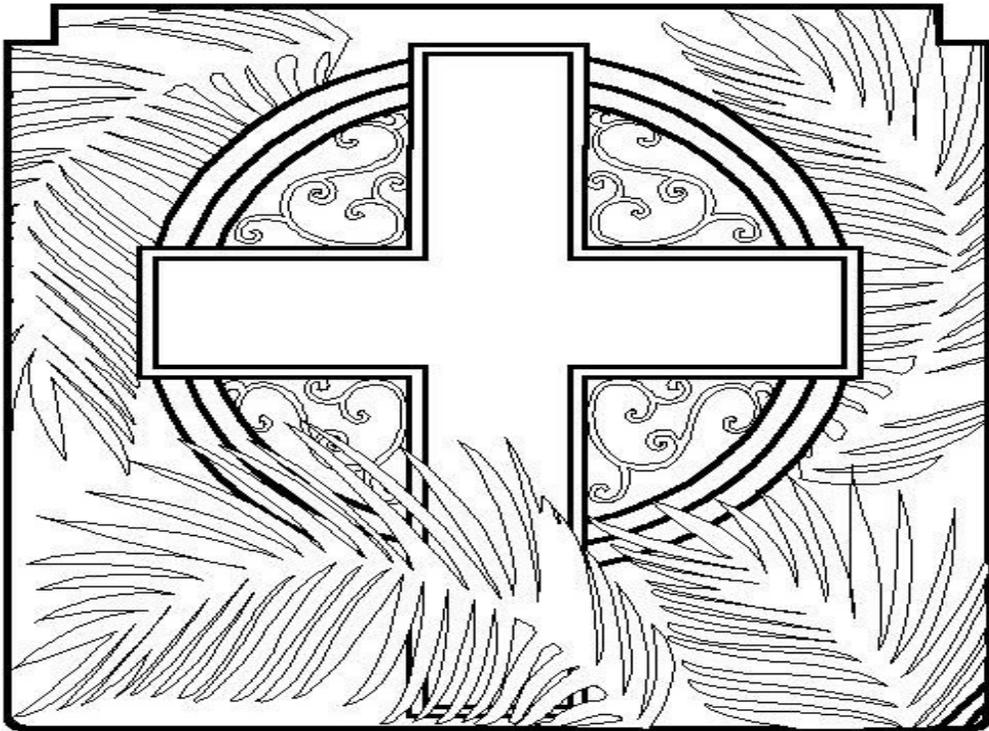
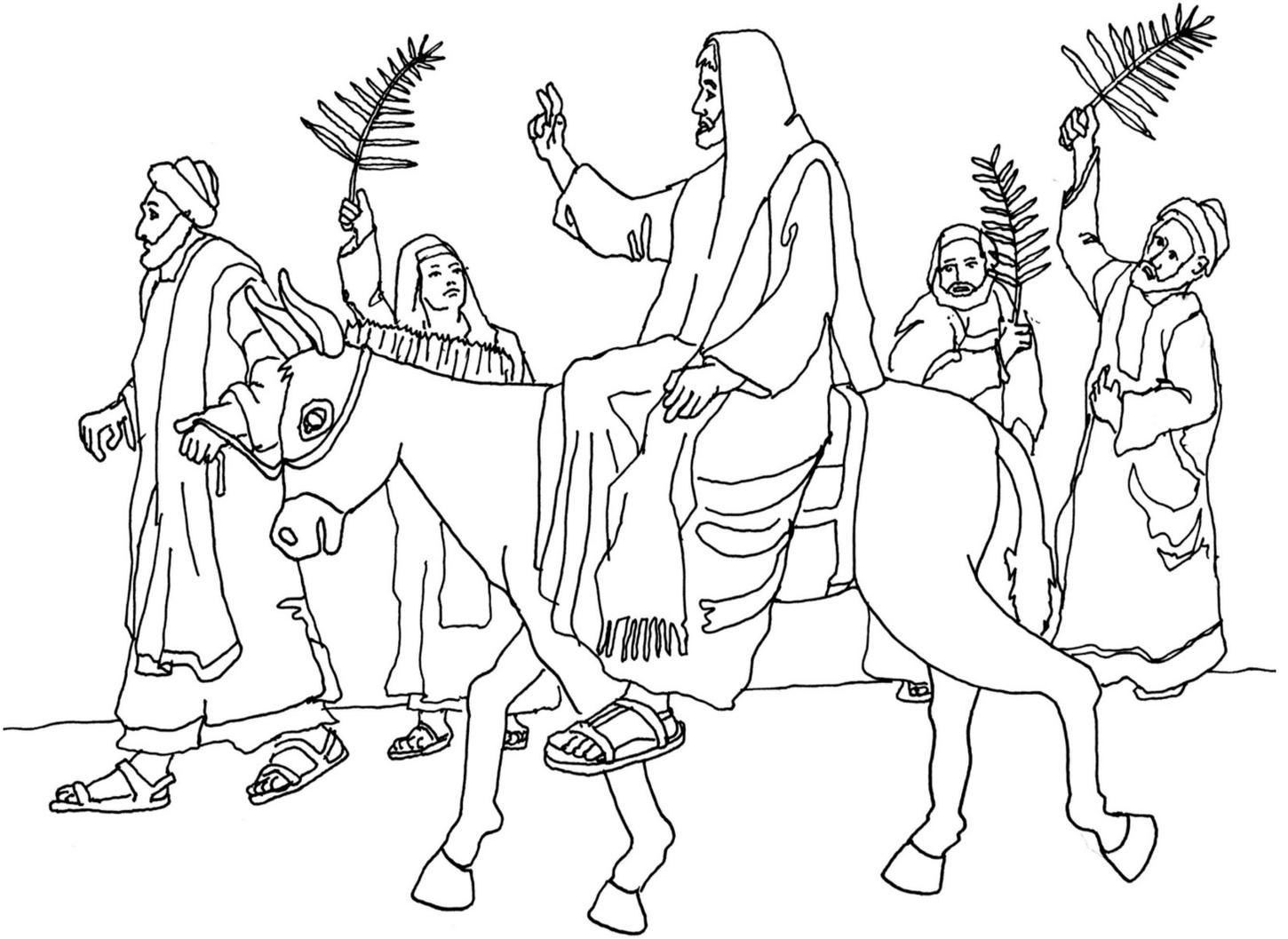
Year to Date as of January, 2021

Actual Operating Income:	\$4,677.92
Actual Operating Expenses:	\$6,806.12
Gain/Loss:	(\$2,128.20)



2021 Per Capita

2021 Per Capita - Our Per Capita offering, which supports the work of the presbytery, synod and general assembly, has been set at \$42.50. 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!





Holy Week

February 17—April 4, 2021 (Lent)

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

For over 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world.

In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression

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.

Your impact

Restoring Hope, Feeding the Hungry, Empowering the Oppressed

Typically received during the season of Lent, 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.

FISH BANKS will be available at church or you can just make a donation to the church and indicate that it is for **One Great Hour of Sharing**.

We will COLLECT the FISH BANKS on PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021

Ebensburg Presbyterian Church

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Lenten Devotions—Zoom 12:00 Noon (2/19 to 3/26)	2 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	3 <i>Bible Study - 7 PM</i>	4	5 World Day of Prayer <i>Happy Birthday, Jeff Vietmeier</i>	6
7 <i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i> <i>Worship 11:00 AM Facebook</i> <i>Cub Scouts 5—7 PM</i>	8	9 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	10 SESSION—7 PM	11 <i>Happy Birthday, Pat Magley Albright</i>	12	13 <i>Happy Birthday, James Estep, Jr.</i>
14 <i>4th Sunday in Lent</i> <i>Worship 11:00 AM Facebook</i> Daylight saving time begins <i>Cub Scouts 5—7 PM</i>	15 <i>Happy Anniv. Scott & Sandy Magley</i> <i>Happy Birthday, Leif Vietmeir</i>	16 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>  <i>Bible Study - 7 PM</i>	18	19	20 <i>NA Business Mtg.—9:45 AM</i> <i>Happy Birthday, Debra Shamble</i> Spring Begins
21 <i>5th Sunday in Lent</i> <i>Communion Worship 11:00 AM Facebook</i> <i>Happy Birthday, Mara Vermillion</i> <i>Cub Scouts 5—7 PM</i>	22	23 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	24 <i>Bible Study—7 PM</i>	25 <i>Happy Birthday, Samuel Wheeler</i>	26	27 <i>Happy Birthday, J. Gregory Stratton</i>
28 <i>Palm/Passion Sunday</i> <i>Holy Week Begins</i> <i>Worship 11:00 AM Facebook</i> One Great Hour of Sharing Offering	29	30 <i>Point of Freedom NA Group—6 PM</i>	31 <i>Bible Study—7 PM</i>	APRIL 1 <i>Maundy Thursday - Communion 7:00 PM</i> <i>In-person and Facebook live</i>	APRIL 2 <i>Good Friday Services at Colver</i>	APRIL 3

Ebensburg Presbyterian Church
200 North Center Street
PO Box 327
Ebensburg, PA 15931

