

Pastor's *helper*

SALEM EVANGELICAL REFORMED CHURCH, HELLERS | APRIL 2019

JESUS DID THIS FOR YOU

— *A Message from Pastor Bruce Tully*

My Friends:

You and I have had countless conversations about family. We have such loving connections with spouses, children, parents, grandchildren and so on. When one of them hurts, we hurt as well. How would you react to the news that some total stranger had spit on and slapped one of your loved ones? I think I know!

In our yearly Bible reading plan, we have just read the part of Mark's gospel dealing with the last hours of Jesus' life. I don't know about you, but every time I read this account, I get angry, defensive, and even a bit misty-eyed. Listen: "*And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. And they began to salute him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him*

and kneeling down in homage to him, and when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him" (Mark 15:17-20).

Why would anyone treat anyone else like this? Especially, why treat the Son of God in the manner of a despised and common criminal? It makes no sense. It is horrible enough that Jesus will have to undergo the suffering of a painful death on a cross. So why allow this humiliation and pain before the main event?

I cannot answer that question for myself. Scripture alone can speak to these kinds of things. Let Isaiah speak to this, and see if any sense can be made of it: "*He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was*

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despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities...It was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief.” (Isaiah 53: 3-5a; 10).

God’s plan of salvation for his beloved children *had* to include all of this. It was for *our* sake that these things took place. So when you once again read through the passion narrative in the Gospels, know that it is right and good to feel those emotions of anger and sorrow, because Jesus did this for you. Without the suffering Messiah, there would have been no costly price paid for your salvation. God commanded it, and Jesus was obedient to do it.

Think about these things as you come into the beautiful, horrible week that runs from Palm Sunday to Resurrection Sunday. Allow the emotions to wash over you, because if you love the Lord as you do any of your other family members, you will be moved by what you read. And it *should* affect you in a spiritual manner. It prepares your heart for worship—joyful worship of an arriving king; sorrowful worship of a misunderstood and falsely accused man; tearful worship of a crucified Messiah; and inspired, joyful worship of a Risen Savior.

Experience all the ups and downs of the Passion Week. Come and be part of your church family as we worship the Christ who was humbled before his Father, even unto death on a cross. Palm Sunday worship, followed by our Passion Week Cantata; Upper Room Communion; the community Good Friday service; and at the end, Resurrection Sunday service. It is all there for you to celebrate your love for Jesus.

Blessings,



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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Arlene Kofroth..... April 3
- Cheryl Stoltzfus..... April 3
- John Snyder..... April 9
- Lorin Wortel..... April 11
- Doug Rineer..... April 11
- Jared Kreider..... April 11
- Laura Gribble..... April 21
- BJ Groff..... April 27

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



- Larry & Cheryl Stoltzfus.....April 5, 2008
(11 years)
- Levi & Mary Ann King.....April 17, 1966
(53 years)
- Skip & Marlene Reynolds..... April 21, 1979
(40 years)
- Bob & Rosene Burns..... April 26, 1958
(61 years)



A

FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR



The Old Rugged Cross, a cantata with narration written by Pastor Tully and including the All Saints' Children's Choir, is on the horizon for April 14, at 3:00 p.m. There are favorites that are given a fresh new sound that will challenge and inspire you. We anticipate a celebration of the resurrection on April 24 in our morning worship service. And before you know it, the summer has arrived. So what's up, Doc, for the summer?

July 25 is going to be an exciting event that you do not want to miss.

Several years ago, Robbie Sue and I went on a mission trip to Trinidad with the Jubilation Jazz Big Band. You may wonder, what is a Christian big band? If you remember the big bands like the Glenn Miller band, Tommy Dorsey band, or Stan Kenton band, then you will understand the style. A big band usually consists of 5 saxophones, 4 trombones, 5 trumpets, piano, bass, guitar drums, and often a vocalist. The Jubilation Jazz Band uses this instrumentation to play this style of music but typically Christian Music. When I was in the band we played *Amazing Grace*; *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*; *Amen*; *When the Saints Come Marching In*; *I'll Fly Away*; and more all in the big band style.



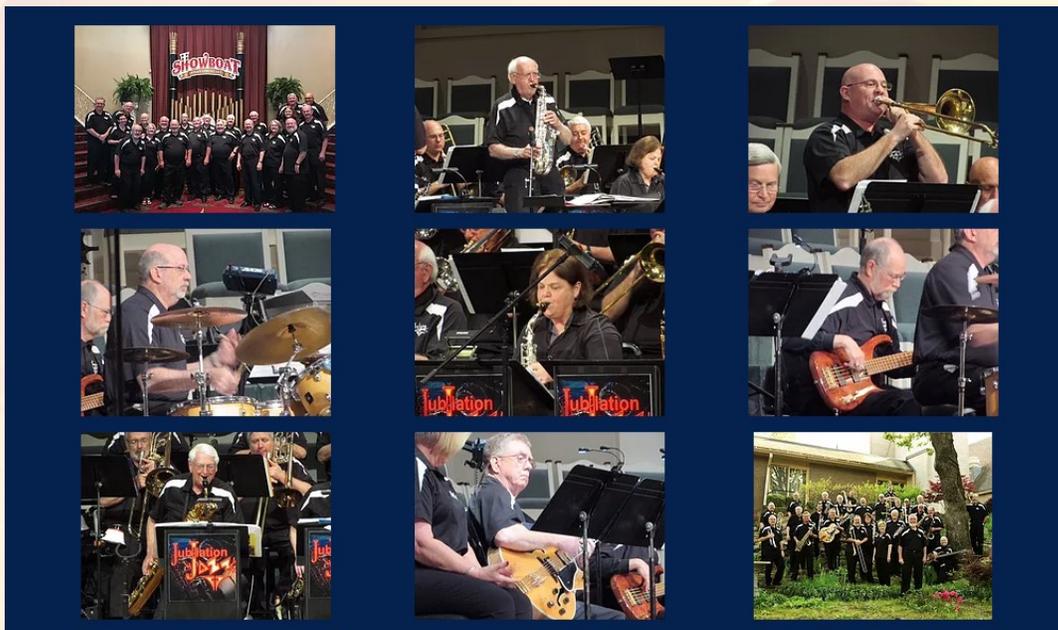
The members of the band are all Christians. They range in occupation from high school band directors, worship leaders, choir directors, to business machine salesperson, and pharmacist. The members give of their time and talents because of their love of music and the ability to share the gospel message through music and song. They are non-profit and pay their own way in order to minister.

Guess what? They will be here at Salem Hellers to play a concert at 7:00 p.m. on July 25, 2019.

Watch here for more details.

Ron

Jubilation Jazz



CONSISTORY MINUTES, MARCH 12, 2019

WITH *God* ALL
things are
Possible

1. Call meeting to order

2. **Devotional** From *Jesus Always* “Do Not Dwell on the Past.” Significant points: Learn to say, “I trust You, Jesus;” Open your eyes to see new opportunities; With Me (Jesus) all things are possible.

3. **Roll call:** Present: Mark Steller, Marie Peazzoni, Ron Nickel, George Cooper, Gene Rogers, Ragen Burns, Harry Teigland, Merv Bare, and Pastor Tully. Larry Stoltzfus absent.

4. **Treasurer’s Report:** The February Financial Statement was approved, unanimously. Also the financial books for 2018 were audited and everything is in order.

5. **President’s Report:** Congregational Meeting: Sunday February 24: Annual Report was approved. Pastor’s Sabbatical was announced and will occur between July 8 and August 18.

6. Pastor’s Report:

- ◆ As God’s grace would have it, a couple of us were able to visit with Dave Hill on Friday, Feb. 22. The following morning we received notice that Dave had died. His funeral was held the following Saturday, on March 2.
- ◆ The Missions committee held their Annual Lasagna Dinner on the 23rd. I was present for the setup during the week, the meal itself, and cleanup following.
- ◆ Feb 24—Congregational Meeting
- ◆ Feb 26—Spiritual Council. We prayed and then entered into the second discussion based on the Doctrinal Statement in our Bylaws. In this one, we talked about the humanity and the divinity of Jesus Christ and how that was so important to our understanding of God; through the incarnation to His ministry, and His death on the cross, Jesus was every bit human and God.
- ◆ Our prayer meetings on Wed. evenings is taking on a new approach. I am bringing an outline of five things that we should focus on as we pray for the church.
- ◆ The Gathering continued with discussion on “honoring your mother and father.”
- ◆ March 4—Inclement weather forced a postponement of a breakfast meeting I was scheduled to be part of. That then took place on Wed, the 6th.
- ◆ Gave devotions at the Agape meeting on the 5th.
- ◆ In the evening on the 6th we held our annual Ash Wednesday Service. About 25 or so were in attendance at this service of repentance that kicks off the Lenten Season.
- ◆ March 7—Cantata Choir rehearsal began for the presentation scheduled for Palm Sunday afternoon.
- ◆ March 11—Met with a group from the CVM to have discussions on unity and action. We will move forward with a Good Friday service this year as well as holding six Lenten dinners. They will all be served at Zion Lutheran this year, but hosted by different churches. Later that evening was our Missions Committee meeting
- ◆ March 12—Met with Ron G. to work out spring worship/music concerns. Also discussed the cantata, along with Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday music issues.

7. Reports of Ministries

A. **Lay Life/Fellowship:** No Report.

B. **Worship:** No meeting. Will meet at end of March.





C. Property:

Reroofing Project

The project is 90% complete. We will not be able to complete the rubber roof over Cowan Hall. It will have to be done in warmer weather. The current projected cost is \$131,913.74 and \$13,656.22 for Cowan Hall in the future.

Roof Fund Raising

As of January 25, 2019 we have amassed \$70,100.00 (**Latest figure \$86,769.66**) and have \$69,000.00 to go. An Indoor Garage Sale for March 29 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. and March 30 from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. We are gathering items in our basement. We now need help in pricing, cleaning and organizing the items. We will be working every Wednesday night starting at 6:30 pm. We will be accepting items for sale until March 15, 2019. The day of the event we plan on selling hot dogs and donated baked goods.

Finished Projects

- 1) The first three upstairs Sunday School rooms were cleaned out. The nursery will remain in the green room until the ceiling and lights have been fixed or replaced.
- 2) Iddings Electric was asked to remove the two steeple lights temporarily for the roofers to raise them by 6" so they do not rest on the metal roofing. MR roofing re-fastened one mounting pipe higher and more securely.
- 3) While up in the sanctuary attic, Skip replaced the insulation on the high wall by the front facing video screen.

Current projects

- 1) Gene is working with Miller and Sons to develop a thermostat system for church boiler.
- 2) Premier Tree Service is waiting on the weather to do the work at the 2575 property.
- 3) New lighting fixtures will be installed in the library by Scott Dearolf.
- 4) Skip met with Mahlon of MR Roofing regarding working around the rooftop HVAC unit over the foyer . We will ask him and Ressler & Mateer to schedule the times to remove and replace the ductwork over the rubber. The unit itself will not have to be touched.
- 5) All Saints has started sharing our facilities as of March 3.

Old Business

- 1) The light bulbs will be replaced in the north parking lot when the weather improves.
- 2) The tombstone repair work is delayed due to weather.
- 3) We are having Mahoney replace the faucet in the upstairs janitor closet.

New Business

- 1) Jennie Simmons requested that we trash the deteriorating ping pong table. It will be done.
- 2) Walt Peazzoni has mentioned that he is not sure how much longer he can take care of the tractor and mow the rear field.
- 3) Sandi Moffett asked that we review the proposed duties for housekeeping. We found it to be very well done and thought it should be used.
- 4) We discussed installing 3 handicapped signs directing users as to where they are located. We decided to do it.
- 5) Merv and Skip will meet with Ron Nickel on Friday March 11 to discuss the church finances and the possibility of consolidating some accounts.
- 6) We are considering cutting through the masonry wall in the attic between the rear of the sanctuary and the trapdoor in the narthex for easier access.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2019.

D. Personnel

Church cleaning options - work by personnel committee ongoing.

8. Committee Reports

A. Memorial: No report.

B. Missions:

Lasagna Dinner netted about \$2,217. To be distributed to Susquehanna Pregnancy Center, Potter's House, and CV Assistance Fund.

C. Membership Care/Shut-in: Agape group prepared gift bags for shut-ins.

D. Nominations: No report.

9. Old Business

A. Sharing space/facility with All Saints Church

1. Coffee hour sharing time has been good.
2. Some issues surfaced to be discussed with ASC committee.

B. Sign Project - no change to date; still have electrical problem for lights.

C. Pastor's Sabbatical - from July 8 through August 18. Five of these Sundays will be covered by Sam Harbin.

D. Garden Plots idea - on hold until next year.

10. New Business - None

11. Motion to adjourn

Closed with prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by George Cooper, Secretary

Christ
is
Risen!

Heavenly
Humor



A little boy opened the big and old family Bible with fascination, and looked at the old pages as he turned them. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible, and he picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed between the pages.

'Momma, look what I found,' the boy called out.

'What have you got there, dear?' his mother asked.

With astonishment in the young boy's voice,

he answered: 'I think it's Adam's suit!'

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Agape's program for Tuesday, April 2, will feature well-known local speaker Rev. Alan Ruby. His subject will be, "The Amish, Then and Now." Please join us at 10:00 a.m. in Cowan Hall on Tuesday, April 2. Everyone is welcome to attend. Lunch will follow at Rosario's in Leola. (Make a note to join us when we go to the Sr. Expo at Shady Maple on Tuesday, April 30. Details later).



If you would like to order Easter flowers in honor or memory of someone special, please fill out the order slip and put it with your payment in Gail's box in the office by no later than Sunday, April 7. Thank you.



Easter Baskets to be filled for DVS (Domestic Violence Services) are available to be picked up now in the Berean Classroom. This has always been a very worthwhile project that our church as done for many years. It's always great to fill a basket for a child who has been uprooted from his/her home and many times has not been able to bring many personal items along. Please pick up a basket to fill and return back to our church by Palm Sunday, April 14!



The Personnel Committee could use some assistance. We usually meet only a few times per year. If you are interested in helping, please see Sandi Moffett.

Thanks!

CVCCS is now accepting volunteer applications for the summer Lunch Program that feeds children over summer vacation at various sites in the Conestoga Valley School District. For more information, contact Deb at 717-208-3711, ext. 103.



Just a reminder...please take special care to reserve the handicapped parking spaces for those who need them and to be sure to park only between the parking lines so as not to take up more than one space. Thank you.



EASTER EVENTS

April 14: *The Old Rugged Cross Cantata*-3:00 p.m.



When evangelist George Bennard composed *The Old Rugged Cross* in the year 1912, he never dreamed that it would be the theme of a cantata about the cross. This all time favorite has a fresh new treatment as the theme of our Palm Sunday Cantata. We welcome the Children's Choir from All Saints Church to join us for this musical Celebration of Christ's love for all. Please make plans to attend.

April 18: Upper Room Communion from 5:30 p.m. —7:00 p.m.

Upper Room Communion



Come to our meaningful candle-light communion in one of our various locations in the church between 5:30-7:00.



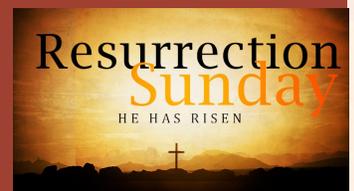
April 19: Community Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m. at Breakout Ministries.

So that you may have a fuller experience of the final week of our Lord's life, the CV Ministerium has scheduled a community Good Friday service. It will be held at Breakout Ministries, on Anita Court (behind Lancaster Labs) at 7 PM on April 15. This will immediately follow the community meal that evening.

Several pastors from the area will be participating in this look at Jesus' Last Words. A few churches will present musical numbers. Hellers' Church choir will be contributing two songs, taken directly from our cantata pieces. After the service there will be refreshments and a time to mingle with our neighbors from other local churches.

April 21: Easter Sunday Morning at 9:30 a.m.

On Easter Sunday morning, celebrate with us the Good News that Jesus rose from the dead. He is risen! He is risen indeed!



ATTENDANCE & TREASURER'S REPORT

FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE— WORSHIP

FEB. 3 67
 FEB. 10 67
 FEB. 17 62
 FEB. 24 68

Average worship
attendance for
February is 66.

FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE— SUNDAY SCHOOL

FEB. 3 18
 FEB. 10 21
 FEB. 17 22
 FEB. 24 16

Average Sunday
School attendance for
February is 19.

FEBRUARY TREASURER'S REPORT*

Current\$12,814.96
 Missions.....\$1,052.00
 Improvement.....\$7,772.00
 Cemetery Fund.....\$358.40

*For more information, please see the Treasurer's
Report on the Community Bulletin Board in Cowan Hall.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

GREETERS

APR 7: Bob & Rosene Burns
 APR 14: Judy Wenger and
 Kathy Hinerdeer
 APR 21: Mary Lichty and
 Betsy Lichty
 APR 28: Kim Kreider and
 Pat Cornette

FLOWER DISTRIBUTORS

APR 7: OPEN
 APR 14: Judy Wenger
 APR 21: Mary Lichty and Betsy Lichty
 APR 28: Marie Peazzoni

USHERS

Scott Gribble (Head), Mary Lichty,
 Betsy Lichty, Merv Bare,
 and Bob Geist

OFFERING BAGGERS

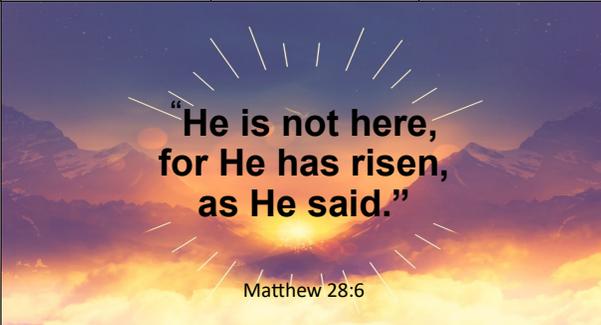
Merv Bare and
 George Cooper

WORSHIP LEADERS

APR. 7: George Cooper; APR. 14: Linda Ranck ; APR. 21: Mark Steller;
 APR. 28: Lisa Tully



April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 10:00 am- Agape 7:00 pm- Property	3 6:15 p.m.— Evening Prayer 7:00 The Gathering	4 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:15 Cantata Choir	5 Lenten Meal 5:55 p.m. at Zion Lutheran	6
7 - 9:30 a.m. WORSHIP; 10:45 Sunday School Easter flower order due.	8 6:30 p.m. Missions	9 7:00 p.m. Consistory	10 6:15 p.m.— Evening Prayer 7:00 The Gathering	11 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:15 Cantata Choir	12 Lenten Meal 5:55 p.m. at Zion Lutheran at Zion Lutheran	13
14 9:30 a.m. WORSHIP; 10:45 Sunday School 3:00 p.m. Cantata 	15 <i>Pastor's Helper Deadline</i>	16 6:30 p.m.— Choir	17 6:15 p.m.— Evening Prayer	18 5:30-7:00 p.m.—Upper Room Communion	19 Lenten Meal 5:55 p.m. at Zion 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service @ Breakout	20
21 - 9:30 a.m. WORSHIP; 10:45 Sunday School 	22	23 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Council	24 - 6:15 p.m.— Evening Prayer	25 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:15 pm Cantata Choir	26	27
28 9:30 a.m. WORSHIP; 10:45 Sunday School	29 7:00 p.m. Worship Mtg.	30	31 6:15 p.m.— Evening Prayer	 "He is not here, for He has risen, as He said." Matthew 28:6		