

WALLACE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

March 2016

**Lent, The Passion and The Resurrection | March 13th -
March 27th |
Theme: Journey to Easter**



Worship for Lent 2016

The Season of Lent continues! Lent is a time for us to consider our commitment of discipleship for the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. It is a time when we remember the Lord's preparation of his disciples for his Passion and to reflect on our response to his gracious sacrifice for our sin that we might glorify him. Throughout the Season of Lent this year we will be celebrating our call to discipleship and consider what it takes to foster discipleship in this age of the church's mission for Jesus the Christ.

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday will provide a bookend to our service from Ash Wednesday. Hence, we will delight in the Taizé style of music with instrumentalists from our congregation, participating and prayerful on this Lenten walk. As we partake of the Heavenly Kingdom through Communion and have a demonstration of Footwashing, we are called to remember the humble acts of Jesus and let this example guide us to do as Jesus would have done, in our daily actions. Come, pray and be moved to action through these simple signs of love at 7:30pm.

We will be celebrating Passion Week beginning with Palm Sunday.

Lent Worship Calendar



March 13th

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Focus:

Psalter Reading: Psalm

126

Liturgy Piece: Philippians 3: 4b – 14

Scripture Lesson: John 12: 1-8

Morning Message

"Extravagant Love"

March 20th

Passion / Palm Sunday

Focus: Observing the Passion of Christ

Psalter Reading: Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29 "His Steadfast love endures forever."

Scripture Lesson: Luke 19: 28-40 / Luke 23: 44-49 (From the Entrance to the Exit)

Morning Message

"All The Way or From a Distance"

March 24th

Maundy Thursday

Sacrament of Communion

Psalter Reading: Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19

Liturgy Piece: 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26 (The Institution of the Lord's Supper)

Scripture Lesson: John 13: 1-17 (Foot Washing) and 31b-35 (A New Commandment)

Evening Message

"Love in Action!"

March 25th

Good Friday / Service of the Cross

Focus: From Betrayal to Burial

Psalter Reading: Psalm 22

Liturgy Piece: Hebrews 4: 14-16

Scripture Lesson: John 18:1 – 19: 42

Evening Message

"Behind, Beside, and Before"

March 27th

Easter Sunday

Focus: A Celebration of the Resurrection

Psalter Reading: Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24

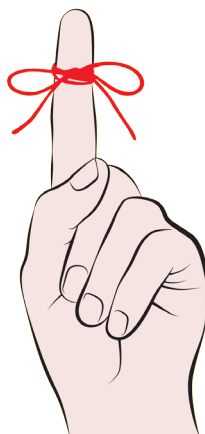
Scripture Lesson

Luke 24: 1-12, John 20: 11-18

Morning Message

"Tears of Joy!"

Don't Forget to Spring Ahead!



Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 13th. Turn your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed or at 12:00am. HOORAY FOR SPRING IS NEAR!

Lent and Easter Events

Sunday, February 21st

Lent J.A.M (Jesus and Me)

There will be a Lenten J.A.M. session preceding the Education Hour through Lent beginning February 21st.

Friday, March 11th

Second Friday Serenades

A Journey Through Lent to Easter - 12:30 pm - Sanctuary

Sunday, March 13th

Annual Hockey Outing

After worship

Friday, March 18th

Interfaith Exploration Event Fish Fry and Stations of the Cross

6:00pm -

SS Simon & Jude

Sunday, March 20th

MOVIE DAY: Pizza Lunch Followed by Going to See RISEN
After worship

Sunday, March 20th

Empty Bowls Dinner

Rodef Shalom

4905 5th Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Tickets \$22

Tickets can be purchased through showclix.com

Sunday, March 27th

Easter Breakfast and Egg

Hunt -9:00am -

Fellowship Hall

Pastor's Corner



Where is Easter?

With the emergence of March we move closer to our celebration of the Paschal Mystery of Easter on Sunday, March 27th! Yes, Easter is only a few weeks away. Are you making your preparations for the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus? Throughout the Season of Lent we have been exploring how Jesus prepared his disciples for the unfolding events of Holy Week. Yet they were surprised by his arrest, horrified by his crucifixion, grieved by his death, and shocked by his resurrection. So what preparations are you making to remember and celebrate Easter this year?

For many people preparations will include dying eggs, filling baskets with candy and toys, hiding eggs, preparing a big meal, purchasing spring tulips and daffodils, and buying new clothes for Easter Sunday. Mention Easter to school children and they will think about having a few days off and college students will start thinking about a Spring Break and even awesome trips for partying in the warm weather regions. What images pop in to your mind when the celebration of Easter is mentioned? There will be plenty of images for the new spring collection of cloth-

ing, sale prices on hams and flowers, bags of candy, and even Good Friday sale deals. Just watch your mailbox for these images whether it be email, snail mail, Facebook, or other media. In fact we are using some of the same tools to market our offerings and opportunities to up attendance at events and hoping for a big crowd to celebrate Easter.

We are making preparations for the annual Easter Breakfast, putting Easter Flowers in the sanctuary, and having an Easter Egg Hunt for the children on Easter morning (See separate articles). The Deacons will be taking Easter Baskets to our homebound members and we are expecting big crowds to be in worship on Easter morning. Yet, do we really acknowledge this is the day that changed the world and everything in it? Especially everyone in it?

For the most part, people will focus solely on Easter morning for celebrations, forgetting or downplaying the importance of the unfolding events of Holy Week. Images of waving palm branches sometimes seem silly, the idea of washing feet certainly makes us uncomfortable, and focusing on the details of crucifixion make us squeamish. Echoes of "Hosanna" lighten the soul and "Alleluias" are welcome words, compared to betrayal, denial, and suffering. No wonder it's so hard to market Holy Week to the world. We apparently prefer soft bunny images, sunrises, smiling faces, pastel colors, and

another gift giving opportunity to the reality of the real passion of the week. Yet, it is God's passion for us that calls us to observe and remember the events that bring about the hope of transformation for the world!

So we can either bemoan the reality that ritual has been re-tailed or we can once again try to articulate why Holy Week matters. At the core of our faith we need to remember the journey of Jesus through the streets of Jerusalem and the events that led him to die and be buried in a sealed tomb. It is important for the disciples of the Kingdom to immerse ourselves in the pervasive hurt of humanity that Christ took upon himself to bring forth salvation and the blessings of Easter, because beneath the surface of the multiple images of Easter there is the nudge of the new commandment, "to love one another" from the Last Supper conversation. The week reveals the truth of transformation from darkness to light in the death to new life experience of Jesus, from the cross through the grave. As followers of Jesus let us embrace the events of Holy Week so that when the week is over, whether others acknowledge that this week is like no other or not, we may be blessed and lifted up to the glory of God, and find that Easter is wherever the heart of the Lord has sealed his love!

Blessed Be,
Pastor Dennis Molnar

Events and Announcements



Wallace Memorial Presbyterian Church PRESENTS **Second Friday Serenades**

Friday • March 11th • 12:30pm • Wallace Sanctuary
A Journey Through Lent to Easter

Featuring Sandy Rubright, Organist

"A Journey through Lent to Easter", features the organ and French horn.
Composers to be included on the program are: Sweelinck, Bach, Vogler, Callahan, and Harmon.
The presentation will begin at 12:30 and be approximately 45 minutes.

All are welcome!

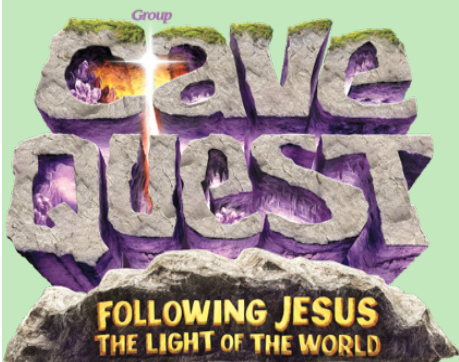
Bring a friend on Friday afternoon to be prayerful in Lenten mysteries and joyous in Easter's pure delight!

A free-will offering is taken to continue the Wallace music series.

Mark Your Calendar...

Summer Kids Week / Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be the week of July 11th - 15th: 9:00am - 12:00pm.

This is a free event!



It is time for our Annual Hockey Outing. On Sunday, March 13, the Wheeling Nailers {farm team of the Penguins} will host the Norfolk Admirals {farm team of the Edmonton Oilers}. The game starts at 4:00 p.m., and tickets are 10 dollars each. This is always a fun event. If you are interested in joining us, see Roy or Joan Humphrey after our worship service.

The Wallace Food Pantry is seeking donations of \$15 Giant Eagle gift cards to distribute to client families to enable them to purchase meat for their Easter dinners. Other current needs are for canned tuna and chicken, dry cereal, and canned soups. Thank you for your on-going support of our ministry to our neighbors in need.



Events and Announcements



EASTER BREAKFAST and Egg Hunt

Plan now to be part of the Easter Breakfast at Wallace on March 27, 2016 @ 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. There will be plenty of food for all. A free-will offering will be received to help cover the cost. A brief devotional time and prayer will precede the breakfast. The breakfast will then be followed by the Celebration of the Resurrection at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Please place the reservation form in the offering plate on a Sunday morning, or mail it into the Church Office. Thank-you!

Name _____

Number Attending _____

We are currently seeking donations for our Easter Egg Hunt...

We will conduct an Easter Egg Hunt for young members of Wallace. The eggs will be the standard, plastic kind that open in the middle. Small candy items or other trinkets are needed to place inside the eggs. The hunt will commence around 9:45am.

If you can donate these items, please contact Nancy Schultz, nschultz@wallacememorial.org



The Sanctuary will be decorated this Easter with Lilies, Tulips and Daffodils. To help defray the cost of the flowers, you may either make a donation, or purchase a plant. If you are buying a plant to take home, it can be removed from the Sanctuary following worship on Easter. All remaining plants will be considered as donations. All envelopes and checks, payable to Wallace Memorial Presbyterian Church, should be clearly marked for Easter flowers. Orders will be accepted through Saturday, March 19, 2016. Please complete the form below, attach your check, and place it in the offering plate, or mail it to the Church Office.

_____ Lilies @ \$7.00 each

_____ Daffodils @ \$7.00 each

_____ Tulips @ \$7.00 each {NOTE: Assorted Colors Only Available.
(Specific Colors Cannot be Guaranteed per the Florist.)}

Name _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

The flowers have been given by:

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Faith-Based Films Are Getting Big!

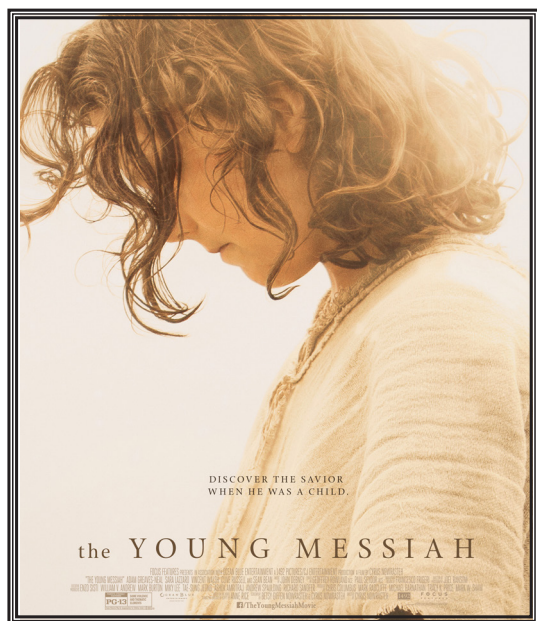


Movie Day Event - Lunch Followed by Attending **RISEN** SUNDAY - MARCH 20th, After Worship

Risen was made by **Affirm Films** - the same Sony Pictures company that brought you such films as War Room, Heaven is For Real, and Soul Surfer - and is being called the *"unofficial sequel to the Passion of the Christ"*. It speaks to all audiences as it's told through the point of view of "Clavius", a powerful Roman Centurion and non-believer. He was commissioned by Pontius Pilate to oversee the Crucifixion of Christ, but then also winds up trying to quell the uprising in Jerusalem after the Resurrection. Clavius is to track down the missing body of "Yeshua" and further investigate rumors of a risen Jewish messiah.

Rich Peluso, Senior Vice-President of Affirm Films, states their mission is "to create compelling entertainment that points people towards God." Risen is visually spectacular with a moving soundtrack that is guaranteed to touch people of the Christian faith, yet still be impactful to non-believers.

**...And Don't Miss the Young Messiah!
In Theatres Friday, March 11th**



Saint Simon and Jude has also invited Wallace members to their viewing of Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ* on Wednesday, March 23rd at 7:00pm - 9:00pm. The powerful movie can be difficult to watch, yet is deeply moving on a spiritual level.

Events and Announcements



Plan to join us on **Friday, March 18, 2016 at SS Simon and Jude Parish (SSJ)** for our first official Interfaith Exploration event! **Wallace members will be meeting at 6:00pm that evening at SSJ for their weekly fish fry, and will then participate in the Stations of the Cross--one of the most ancient Christian Lenten devotions--at 7:30pm.** This is a wonderful opportunity to meet more of our SSJ neighbors at dinner and then to join together in this powerful time of prayer and meditation on Christ's sacrifice for us.

The fish fry is held in the SSJ gymnasium, located in the school building. The Stations of the Cross will be held in the SSJ sanctuary, which is up the hill from the school. Parking down near the entrance to the gym is often limited. Persons with mobility problems may want to arrange to be dropped off down at the school for the fish fry and then picked up to go to the Stations of the Cross. Otherwise, you may find it more convenient to park up by the sanctuary, then walk down the steps to the school for the dinner (at the bottom of the steps, turn left and go all the

Interfaith Exploration Group Event

Fish Fry and Stations of the Cross

Friday, March 18th, 6:00 pm
SS Simon and Jude •

way around to the other side of the school. The entrance to the gym is off of the large, covered patio).

People attending the fish fry are asked to call in their orders at 3:30pm on Friday, March 18 (412-563-1353). Menus can be viewed online at <http://ssjpittsburgh.org/events/event-2/>; copies of the menu are also available in the church office. When you arrive at the fish fry, enter through the gym doors and then bear left, where you will see the pre-ordered food and to-go orders ready for pickup. Once you have paid for your food, look for the joint Wallace/SSJ tables and join us for sharing and fellowship while enjoying your dinner. **So that we can reserve adequate seating for our group, please let Pam Frost or Marilyn in the church office know that you will be attending (you can either call the office at 412-561-2431, or email Pam at pfrost@wallacememorial.org or Marilyn at mhetzel@wallacememorial.org).**

Of course, you are welcome to attend the Stations of the Cross even if you are not participating

in the fish fry! Plan to come early, since parking fills up fast.

Looking forward to seeing you there!



Stewardship and Staff Updates



The Wallace Memorial Nursery School is starting our annual scholarship fund drive!



As a mission of the church, you have an opportunity to make a donation to help families afford nursery school tuition. You can donate all year, but giving now will help us know how much money we will have to distribute by September when school starts. Please make checks payable to: Wallace Nursery School or cash in envelopes marked for Nursery School Scholarship.

Thank You!

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING

Through this longstanding ecumenical effort, Presbyterians give to those in need throughout the world. Funds are used for disasters, hunger, and community development.

- 32% Restoring Hope {Presbyterian Disaster Assistance}
- Working alongside communities as they recover and find hope after disruption from natural or human-caused disasters.
- 36% Reducing Hunger {Presbyterian Hunger Program}
- Initiatives to alleviate hunger and its systemic causes, and strengthen alternatives to produce and share healthy food.
- 32% Investing in People {Self-Development of People}

Partnerships with people struggling to alleviate poverty, oppression, and injustice in their communities.

Special offering envelopes have been provided in the pew racks. Please make all checks payable to Wallace Memorial Presbyterian Church, ear-marked for One Great Hour of Sharing. Please include your name and amount on the envelope. This offering will be received during the month of March.

Please Welcome Pam Frost! Coordinator of Ministry and Mission



The Wallace Church Council is pleased to announce the hiring of **Pam Frost as the new Coordinator of Ministry and Mission**. She will manage the office operations and provide connections between staff, council, committees, teams, groups, and the congregation as we seek to fulfill our mission statement. You can contact her by calling the Church Office at 412-561-2431, or by e-mail at pfrost@wallacememorial.org. We look forward to the blend of gifts that she brings to this new position.

**We are happy to offer
Online Giving through our
website!**

Visit wallacememorial.org today, and see for yourself how easy it is to give online!

Christian Education



Project Featured Teacher

The high school class has begun a project call "Featured Teacher". Each student is interviewing the Education Hour teachers and writing articles that will be featured in the bulletin and newsletter throughout the spring.



**Sunday School Teacher,
Lynne Wallis (Grades 2-5)**
Feature Story by Olivia Dewick

Lynne Wallis is one of the Sunday school teachers here at Wallace. She teaches the intermediate class (grades 2-5). There might be some things you didn't know about Lynne. I was given the opportunity to sit down with Lynne one day after Sunday school. She is originally from Brooklyn, New York and moved to Maryland and stayed for about 4 years. She then moved to Pittsburgh which has been her home for the past 28 years. Mrs. Wallis lives with her husband, whom she married shortly after graduating High school, and their daughter Jamie. Her other family members can be found in Florida and a few are back in New York. She works 60 hours a week at 2 part time jobs. She knew as soon as she started babysitting that she wanted to work with kids. Shortly after her confirmation at the age of 16, she began helping out with a Sunday school class.

One of her proudest moments when she first started teaching was when one of her students told his dad about something he wanted to do because his teacher assigned it to him. From that moment forward her favorite part of teaching has been the moment that the students get into the lesson. Lynne Wallis is the definition of passionate; she loves what she is doing and her work and dedication truly shows that. She has been teaching here at Wallace for the past 17 years! Lynne spends some of her week planning and reading her lesson, then spends a few hours Saturday night getting her classroom set up for Sunday's class. From experience I can truly say that Lynne is a wonderful teacher and she even said it herself, "Not only are the kids learning, but I myself am learning a lot too". Lynne Wallis is a great teacher and she is happy to be relaying the message of God to today's youth.



**Nursery School Teacher,
Ardie Vernacchio**
Written By Vanya Middleton and
Annali Criswell

Ardie is the teacher for the nursery during Sunday service here at Wallace, and also teaches at Wallace Nursery School to children learning English as a second language during the week. We were given a chance to find out some more things you may not know about Mrs. Ardie. She grew up here going to church at Wallace, but moved away between then and coming into her current teaching position. She went to Bethany College in West Virginia, where she majored in Elementary Education. After moving back to Pittsburgh, she taught kindergarten for one year at Keystone Oaks, before marrying and moving to Lancaster, where she taught kindergarten, Reading, Math, and was a substitute for all grades. However, she eventually felt that it was God's will she come back to Wallace, where she has been since March 2012. This is her 35th year of teaching overall, and her favorite children to teach are preschool and kindergarten—she says that she enjoys the "wide-eyed wonder of the little ones!" Her favorite part of teaching is the art and storytelling involved. Mrs. Ardie says that she has gained patience and a sense of empathy since becoming a teacher. She also says that she became a better teacher when she had kids! Her own children, Emily and Rob, are now grown; Emily is getting her Masters in social work, and Rob is teaching English in Madrid. Mrs. Ardie is very conscientious—she hates being unprepared for her lessons, and spends hours at home after school creating plans for her students. Mrs. Ardie says that teaching here at Wallace is like "coming home." She is a wonderful, devoted teacher, and the children here at Wallace are lucky to have a teacher like her!



Angels Among Us



Mother Angelica, a Franciscan Nun, Meditates on Heaven

Mother Angelica was born Rita Antoinette Rizzo on April 20, 1923. Neither of her parents were particularly religious or spiritual, but she always felt an acute awareness and connection with God. Rita suffered from severe stomach and intestinal abnormalities. She prayed a novena, asking for relief from the unbearable pain caused by her condition. She became inspired to dedicate her life to God when the condition miraculously healed entirely within a few days. Rita says it was the catalyst for her ever deepening love of God.

Rita became known as Sister Mary Angelica of the Annunciation, after joining a Franciscan order in Cleveland. She went on to found her own order, the Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal Word, which spawned its' own television network.

The following are Mother Angelica's reflections on what Heaven will be like for us. Reflections she says came to her in deep prayer.

- In addition to the great grace of beholding God face to face, whereas God is the fulfillment of all our desires:
- We will learn why God permitted the trials and illnesses and heartaches of this life.
- We will see the justice and mercy of God, as the disadvantages of this life are rewarded by high status in heaven.
- We will see all our faults and weaknesses fall away from our souls.
- We will understand the mysteries of nature and the universe.
- We will be able to comprehend great truths with ease. Nothing will be difficult.
- We will see the mysteries of God as they continue to unfold.
- We will love and be loved by everyone and never have any aversion or antipathy toward anyone.
- We will always have something new to do and learn in heaven, something different to be joyful about.
- We will never feel worthless, lonely, slighted, discouraged, depressed or stupid.
- We will never feel anger, resentment, hatred, jealousy or ambition.
- Never experience hunger, thirst or poverty.
- Never again be afraid.
- Can you imagine a perfect you? No sin exists or could exist in heaven. Although you will help God in his battle against evil, everyone around you and everything within you will be pure.
- There will be no hatred, no jealousy, no lust, no sloth, and no pride.
- You and I will have no evil inclinations or weaknesses. We will never vacillate from the will of God, and we will never be tempted or tested again, nor will we be tormented any longer by the memory of our sins. Our memories will be totally free of anger, fear, guilt, hurt, regret and resentment.
- In their place will be love, compassion and mercy and all our frailties will have melted away. We will be who we always longed to be.



"Mother Mary Angelica of the Annunciation, PCPA is an American Franciscan nun, best known as a television personality and the founder of the Eternal Word Television Network."

Gifts can be submitted on Sundays, using the blue envelopes located in the sanctuary pews (please indicate "Birthday Fund" on your check or envelope), or submitted at any time in person or through the mail - simply complete the form below with your info, and return it to the church office.

3/17	Carrie Kaplack Benjamin Gery
3/18	Ryan Badzgon Lillian Laurin
3/20	Jacqueline Bushman
3/21	Jennifer Nolte James Speros
3/22	George Nelson Michael Harris
3/23	Dale Lutton
3/24	Sydney Slater
3/25	Barbara Johnston Nancy Schultz
3/27	Evelyn Bartlett
3/28	Nancy Osmianski Matthew Ehrhart Mary Louise Regan
3/29	Charlotte Collman Helen Church
3/30	Tiffany Darling

Wallace Newsletter
"Serving God, loving all."

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