

Heritage Happenings



A Publication of Heritage Church

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www.ligonierheritageme.org

April 2025

From the Pastor's Desk



Wouldn't it be great if we could go back through our lives and delete certain things? The moments we don't like, the embarrassing experiences, the painful memories? If only they could all disappear. Unfortunately, the sad reality is that we can't.

However, there is hope! And that's what Easter is all about—hope. Hope that comes from the empty cross. Jesus isn't there anymore! He's not dead; He's alive. He is our hope!

The empty cross proclaims, "I forgive you." God is saying this to you. One of the deep inner needs we have as human beings is to experience forgiveness and pardon.

A study conducted by the University of Iowa centered around people in therapy and focused on forgiveness. Of more than 1,000 participants, 75% reported a deep need and desire to forgive someone. That speaks truth! In my 30 years as a pastor, through counseling and conversations, I've learned that our deepest need as humans is to be forgiven and to forgive. If we can achieve this, I believe most of our issues will vanish.

I genuinely believe that if you want to experience real, deep, meaningful forgiveness, you first have to receive real, deep, meaningful, and lasting forgiveness. You can't give what you don't have!

You've probably heard the saying, "To err is human; to forgive is divine." Guess what? It's true. If you mess up regularly, welcome to the human race! But to forgive is divine. The empty cross of Jesus, if it conveys anything, is the Creator God saying, "I forgive you. I want you to experience my pardon. I'm ready to offer it to you. All you need to do is receive it."

I hope this Easter is the time when you give and receive the forgiveness you need.

Pastor Ron

"Empty Cross, Full Life"

Pastor Ron's Easter Teaching Series



The cross is the symbol of Christianity. But is it more than a trinket around your neck or a decoration in sanctuary? Jesus shows us that empty cross and the empty tomb are more than a story. Jesus is alive and can give you a full and meaningful life.

April 19 & 20 – The Resurrection is Dangerous!
April 26 & 27 – The Empty Cross: Pardon
May 10 & 11 – The Empty Cross: Power
May 18 – The Empty Cross: Purpose
May 24 & 25 – The Empty Cross: People

Order Your Easter Flowers

Order forms are available on the table in the stairway or have it emailed. \$12/tulips, \$15/lilies. Orders are due by April 6th.



Circle of Ruth Meets April 10th

Circle of Ruth will meet Thursday, April 10th at 6:30 PM in the Heritage church lounge. We will be concluding our Bible Study, *God's Unbreakable Promises*, with session 6, God Always Keeps His Word by Jennie Allen. Sue Hilf will lead the Bible study and Evelyn Lemmon will bring a dessert to share. We will be signing Mother's Day cards. All women are welcome to join us for fellowship, Bible study and dessert!



Holy Week is quickly approaching, and Heritage Church is offering several events and worship experiences to grow your relationship with Jesus.

Palm Sunday (April 13th) The Children's Program will be performed at the 10:45 am service. Practice will be held during Children's Church.
4 pm - Last Supper presentation with music and monologues in the sanctuary. We are hosting this important presentation which will help us keep Holy Week in the right perspective.

Holy Thursday (April 17th) 6:30 pm - 8 pm. You are invited to participate in this unique way to recognize the event of Holy Thursday. We will gather for worship and a meal and then close the evening receiving the sacrament of communion around the table. We will meet in the lounge. Please sign up on the bulletin board and bring a dish to share.

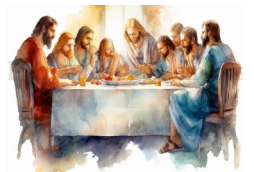
Good Friday (April 18) 12 pm Community Service. Come and worship Jesus who was crucified, died, and was buried to take your sins.

Saturday Night Service (April 19) Led by Pastor Ron at 6 pm.

Easter Sunday (April 20th) Sunrise Service on the Diamond at 6:30 am. Regular worship at 8:30 & 10:45 am. No Sunday School for kids.

The Last Supper Presentation April 13th

The Ligonier Valley Association of Churches will present The Living Last Supper at Heritage Methodist Church (on the Diamond in Ligonier) on Sunday, April 13th at 4:00 pm. This wonderful event will help us to keep Holy Week in the right perspective! If interested in participating as a Disciple or as part of the community choir, please contact Miriam Davies at 724-676-5735. We hope to see you there!





Rummage Sale April 25-26

The Outreach Committee is planning a Spring Rummage Sale and Luncheon to be held on Friday, April 25 from 8 am – 4 pm and Saturday, April 26 from 8 am - noon. All proceeds support local and global mission projects.

Donations of good, clean, usable clothing and household items are needed. You may place clothing and smaller items in the Pancake Kitchen any time; however, do not bring any furniture or large items to the church before April 21. [Do not place any donations in Fellowship Hall until after Easter!] No TVs. If you need assistance getting your donations to the church, call Chuck Shaffer at 814-341-5550.

Your help is needed! We will need help moving the rummage into the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday afternoon, arranging the sale items on Wednesday & Thursday beginning at 9 AM, and assisting with the sale and luncheon beginning at 7:45 AM on Friday & Saturday. Additional help is needed at 12:15 PM on Saturday to pack up and cleanup. In addition, donations of sandwiches, desserts, etc. are needed for the luncheon.

Signup sheets will be on the bulletin board at the top of the stairwell soon.

COFFEE HOUSE April 25th 7 pm

The next Ligonier Community Coffee House will be held a week later in April due to Good Friday. Join us on Friday, April 25th, 7 pm, in the upper level of The Barn. You don't want to miss this evening of fun, great desserts, coffee, and music! For more information, call Lynn or Pat Keegan at 724-537-6139, or visit the Ligonier Community Coffee House Facebook page. Thank you to everyone who helped out with baked goods for the March Coffee House.



**The University of the Holy Spirit
"Discovering Heritage Church"**

This is a great next step for anyone who is interested in discovering more about Heritage Church or considering making Heritage their home! This class explores the foundational principles of our church and is the prerequisite for church membership.

**Sunday, April 27, 2025
9:30 am – 10:30 am
Heritage Church Lounge
(RSVP by April 23, 2024)**

Outreach Golf Outing Fundraiser

The Outreach Committee will be hosting a Golf Outing fundraiser at the Ligonier Country Club on Friday, May 16th. Brochures are available with more information on our website and at the church. Golfers and sponsors are needed. Contact DD if you'd like to make a donation or put together a gift basket: dumbaugh@gmail.com.



April S.O.A.P. Readings

Scripture – which passage am I reading?
Observation – what stands out to me in this passage?
Application – how will I apply these truths to my life?
Prayer – what is my prayer as it relates to this?

- April 1 Luke 14:25-27
- April 2 Luke 14:28-35
- April 3 Luke 15:1-7
- April 4 Luke 15:8-10
- April 5 Luke 15:11-32
- April 6 Luke 16:1-9
- April 7 Luke 18:1-8
- April 8 Luke 18:9-14
- April 9 Luke 18:18-30
- April 10 Luke 19:11-27
- April 11 Luke 20:9-19
- April 12 Matthew 18:1-5
- April 13 Matthew 21:1-11
- April 14 Matthew 21:12-17
- April 15 Matthew 21:18-22
- April 16 Matthew 21:23-27
- April 17 Matthew 26:17-30
- April 18 Matthew 27:32-44
- April 19 Matthew 27:45-56
- April 20 Matthew 28:1-10
- April 21 1John 1:5-10
- April 22 Hebrews 8:8-13
- April 23 Matthew 6:14-15
- April 24 Micah 7:16-20
- April 25 Matthew 18:21-22
- April 26 Matthew 26:26-29
- April 27 Psalm 51:1-6
- April 28 Psalm 51:7-13
- April 29 Psalm 51:14-19
- April 30 John 3:16-21



Our clock is set to world time now!

Thank you to Ron Wagner (not pictured but should have been), Steve Schoenig, Jim White, Riley White (of White's Clock and Carillon NE, Inc. of Pulaski, NY) and Kirt Rumbaugh (of Westmoreland Electric) for all of their hard work getting our church clock and bell modernized. We are now set to world time which means no more climbing up to the bell tower to set the clock when we experience power outages or time changes.



MEAL TRAIN FOR CHRISTINA



Christina McCaffrey (our financial secretary) had rotator cuff repair surgery on March 24th. We are hoping to help her out with two meals a week starting March 25th and have only gotten a few signups so far. Please sign up through this link if you can help or contact the office: <https://mealtrain.com/kq9yw2>

Good Samaritan Fund

We are still collecting monetary donations for the Good Samaritan Fund (pastor's discretionary fund). This money is used to help members of Heritage who are going through a financially difficult time. Please make your check payable to the Good Samaritan Fund and put in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office. The money recently collected has already been distributed so any help you can give is appreciated.



National Day of Prayer May 1st

The National Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday, May 1st. This is the 74th year to observe the National Day of Prayer, which was established by Pres. Harry S. Truman and designated by the US Congress, asking people to "Turn to God in Prayer and Meditation." A Prayer Breakfast will be held at The Barn at 7:30 am. Reservations are required so please contact the office for a free ticket and be sure to sign up on the bulletin board by Sunday, April 27th. For more information, go to www.nationaldayofprayer.org.

POSSIBLE SIGHT & SOUND TRIP



If interested in a day trip to see Noah at the Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster in May, please sign up on the bulletin board. More info to come.

Camp Allegheny Spring Volunteer Days

Volunteers are needed for painting, landscaping, summer set up, construction, road work and more on April 12th and 26th. Contact the camp at 814-754-5122 or info@campallegheny.org. Thank you for any help you might be able to give.

It's Time to Register for Summer Camp!



All children affiliated with Heritage can go to Camps Allegheny, Wesley Woods or Jumonville. Heritage will pay 75% of the cost of camp.

Please be sure to let the church office know that your child is registered.

Children's Church Servants Needed

Hey Church Family! I am looking for servants that can give ONE Sunday to teach children's church starting in May. This will be at the 10:45 service. Please pray about how God wants



to use you to reach the children of our church to "know, follow and share Jesus." A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board with the dates needed. Give me a call at 724-454-4650 or email evelynredcross@gmail.com for questions.

Evelyn Lemmon, Director of Kid's Ministry

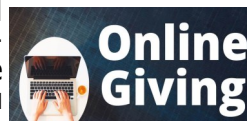
CALLING ALL GRADUATES!

If you are affiliated with Heritage and are graduating from high school, college or graduate school this year, please let the office know by May 15th. We'd love to share with the congregation what your future plans are and celebrate your accomplishments.



Don't forget you can give online!

Thank you for your financial offering to support the ministry and mission of Heritage Church. Don't forget that you can give online at:



www.ligonierheritageme.org/online-giving/

LVAC Rep Needed

The Ligonier Valley Association of Churches meets the first Monday of the month at 7 pm at various local churches. They would like to have one or two representatives from each church at these meetings to share what's happening with their congregations. If this is something you might be able to commit to, please let the office know.



Thank you to everyone who donated jelly for the LV Food Bank! At press time we have a total of 62 jars. Our goal is 75 so we still have a few days to collect.

Did you find the mistake?

Although there may be other mistakes that I didn't mean to make in this newsletter, I did purposely put one in. If you can find it (or even another unintentional one, let me know and you'll win a major award. Very exciting.



April 2025

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2 12 pm Lenten Service at Covenant 4:15 pm Christian Adventure	3 9 am Bible Study at LV Sr. Center	4	5 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Rich Ziegenfus w/music by Amy Clarke
6 Holy Communion	7 6:00 pm Cadre Men's Small Group	8	9 12 pm Lenten Service at Covenant 4:15 pm Christian Adventure	10 9 am Final Bible Study at LV Sr. Center 6:30 pm Circle of Ruth Mtg. in Lounge	11	12 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Adam Sweigart w/music by Kasey Kisner
13 10:45 am Kids' Easter Program 4 pm The Last Supper Presentation 	14 6:00 pm Cadre Men's Small Group	15	16	17 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship 	18 12 pm Good Friday Community Service in sanctuary 	19 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Pastor Ron w/music by Scott Schmitt
20 6:30 am Sunrise Service 8:30 & 10:45 am Easter Worship 	21 Office Closed	22	23	24 1 pm Newsletter Deadline	25 Office Closed 8 am—4 pm Rummage Sale 7 pm Coffeehouse at The Barn	26 8 am—12 pm Rummage Sale 6 pm Saturday Night Service: Pastor Ron
27 9:45-10:30 am Discovering Heritage Church Mtg. in the Lounge	28	29	30 5 pm Trustees Mtg. in Lounge			

Regular and Weekly Meetings

Sunday 8:30 & 10:45 am Worship Services
9:40 am Sunday School
Monday 6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study
7:00 pm Men's Garrison Small Group
Tuesday 6:00 pm Cub Scouts in Fellowship Hall
Weds 8:00 pm AA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall
Friday 8:00 pm AA Mtg. in Fellowship Hall
Saturday 6:00 pm Saturday Night Service

Anniversary wishes to

Chuck & Sharon Shaffer, April 3rd
Bill & Pam Stablein, April 4th
Jim & Rasi Douglas, April 6th

April Birthdays

1st Cathy Vanderhoff
2nd Dawn Gilbert
3rd Bill Hixson
4th Alec Bloom
7th Jacob Cramer
Cole Brunton
9th LJ Neiderhiser
10th Marjorie McCarty
11th Morgan Glista
13th Megan Glista
16th Nate Hockenberry
Nancy Rising
20th Betsy Kelly
22nd Sadie Hockenberry
22nd Chase Weaver
25th Henry Fisher
Hazel Barth
26th Hattie Barth
29th Bethanie Orban