
Alive IN CHRIST

Melissa's Desk

Our Living Hope

As we celebrate Easter and continue in this joyful season, we are reminded of the wonderful hope we have in Jesus Christ. Through His death and resurrection, our Savior won the victory over sin and the grave, and because He lives, we have the promise of new life in Him. Easter is the center of our faith and the reason we rejoice—not only on one Sunday, but every day as God's people.

What a comfort it is to know that the risen Christ is still with us. He meets us in our daily lives with grace, peace, and mercy, and He continues to draw us closer to Himself through His Word and promises. In every season of life, we can look to Him with confidence, knowing that our hope is secure in the One who lives forever.

As a church family, it is a blessing to share in this season together. May the joy of the resurrection fill our hearts, strengthen our faith, and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, our risen Lord.

Blessings.

Melissa Boreman

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Worship Hours:

Sunday - 8:30 am
Sunday - 11:00 am
Monday - 5:30 pm

Pastor Joshua
Obermann

Words from Pastor

Palm Sunday was wonderful! Thank you to our Evangelism and Hospitality team for preparing the food, setting the tables, and cleaning up afterward! We really appreciate you!

There is something special about standing to sing the first hymn and not being able to hear yourself sing over volume of a full congregation. When I stepped up to the altar and turned around to offer the invocation to room full of parishioners, I cannot describe how I felt. Later in the service, I was fearful that I might lose my voice trying to shout the post-communion blessing over the voices of the congregation singing in unison! It is such a wonderful worry to have! Special services like Palm Sunday, allow us to experience the full body of Christ!

Jesus has brought us together to be His body here in Murrysville. He continues to equip us with the mission of going out into our community to increase the body. So many of you commented about how wonderful our worship was for Palm Sunday. Some suggested that we have blended services that unite all three service times together more often. You loved the fullness of the sanctuary just as much as I did. Imagine how full our sanctuary would be if we each brought one friend or neighbor every Sunday! I realize that this vision is easier said than done, but it is the mission that we are called to go and do through our faith in Jesus Christ.

Over the last 5 weeks of lent, we have explored the theme from Isaiah 6, "Here I am, send me." Isaiah spoke these words in a confidence that we may not share. But remember, his confidence did not come from himself, rather it came from God and His forgiveness. When Isaiah first looked on the throne of God, he shouted "Woe is me! For I am a man of unclean lips from a people of unclean lips!" But God quickly sent an angel to atone for his sins. The angel took a burning coal and placed it against Isaiah's lips. Afterward, God announced that he was forgiven. But then God asked again, "Who will go for me?" Now filled with the confidence of God's grace, Isaiah shouted out with joy "Here I am! Send me!"

Our confidence in going out to share God's love does not come from ourselves. It comes from God. He calls us by His grace. Through His calling, He fills us with His Spirit. His Spirit forgives our sins and instills the confidence needed to go on His behalf. We are not sent as sinners being set up to fail; rather we are sent from the Cross of forgiveness and the tomb of resurrection. We are sent with the power and authority of Jesus. Jesus tells us in Matthew 28 "All authority of heaven and earth has been given to me! Therefore go and make disciples!" He gladly and richly shares His divine authority with us!

I love when we get together as a church in one service. It is wonderful to see old friends. It is a joy to hear echoing voices sung in unison. But regardless of the outcome, whether anyone answers our callings or not, we are called to go. We have the greatest message in the world. It is not our secret. It is our privilege to share.

In His Love,

Pastor Josh

Growing in Faith Together

March was full in the best way. There was a lot going on, but even more than that, it felt like one of those months where you could really see our young people connecting—both with each other and with the life of the church.

One of my favorite moments was our confirmation students wrapping up their time in the adult Bible study. Over the past several weeks, they've been learning right alongside the congregation, and it's been really meaningful to watch those connections form. To close out that time, they created banners that will be displayed in the sanctuary. It gave them a chance to take what they've been learning and actually make something with it, which was a great reminder that sometimes faith clicks in a different way when you can see it and touch it, not just hear it.

We also had our Easter Egg Hunt, and it was cold. Our poor teenagers were stuck hiding eggs on an icy playground. And still, we had around 50 kids come out, which was amazing. A huge thank you to the Evangelism Team for providing all of the eggs. It was such a blessing to have so many, and it made the whole event possible. Even with the weather, it ended up being such a fun morning.

Palm Sunday was especially fun this year. The youth put together a video and had a great time working on it, and it showed. They also jumped right into the service—joining the processional, helping with readings, and handing out palms. It was one of those Sundays where you couldn't miss how much they're a part of what's happening here.

Because of that, we're continuing something new this year. Every fifth Sunday, we'll be inviting our youth to participate in worship in a more intentional way. The goal is simple: to keep reminding ourselves that they aren't off to the side somewhere as a separate ministry. They are part of this congregation, right now, just as they are and just as much as anyone else.

Thank you for the ways you continue to support and encourage them. It really does make a difference. Be on the lookout for information about our next big project—Vacation Bible School is coming! Mark your calendar for June 8th-12th.

In Christ,

-Hannah Obermann

Youth & Family

Middle School Bible Study

Sunday, April 12th & 26th 6:30PM-8PM

Calling all 5th–8th graders! Join us for a new Middle School Bible Study where we'll dig into God's Word, grow in faith, hang out with friends, and enjoy pizza! Come hungry for truth and a great time!

We meet the 2nd & 4th Sunday!

Elementary Gathering

Sunday, April 26th at Noon

Join us for our new Elementary Bible Study for K–5th grade! A great time to learn about Jesus, build friendships, and enjoy pizza together. All are welcome!

We meet the 4th Sunday!

High School Bible Study

Sunday, April 19th 6:30PM-7:30PM

Designed for 9th grade and up, with games, snacks, and conversations on how faith connects to real life.

We meet the 1st and 3rd Sunday!

Circle of Moms Returns!

Circle of Moms is back and we'd love for you to join us! A great time for moms to connect, support one another, and grow in faith together.

See the bulletin board for dates or contact Shannon Getkin for more information.

Young Adult Bible Study

Wednesday April 22nd 5:30PM

Let's dive into the Bible with other young adults, alike! Fellowship, friendships, and great conversations!

Elder's Corner

The Promise of Love and Light and Resurrection!

O Death, where is your sting. O grave, where is your victory. **(1 Cor 15:55)**. Our victory will be in our resurrection!

The disciple John, a witness to Jesus's wonders and life, included the following verses in his Gospel telling us about Jesus:

"In [Jesus] was life and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it" (John 1:4-5).

"The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world" (v 9).

"To all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children not born of natural descent, ..., but born of God" (v 12-13).

Jesus brought his life and his light into a world of darkness. Into people's deepest troubles he entered in. He healed the blind, the lame, the leper, and the deaf **(Matthew 11:5, Luke 7:22)**. Could we possibly imagine what it would be like to see or walk or hear again? And yes, he even raised the dead. While he healed and cured people's physical maladies, he also sought to cure and heal their hearts.

As Jesus walked among the people, he spoke words of truth and light. He proclaimed "the Kingdom of Heaven" is near. He taught great truths and words of guidance for us to live by; all he said were from the Father. Jesus showed great love and compassion to all he met and gave a firm voice of truth to those who opposed him. And to some who he healed, he told them to sin no more for it was the sickness of sin in the human heart that he longed to cure and that prevented people from knowing and receiving God.

And so, to bring us back into Jesus's embrace and to save us, Jesus went to the cross. This was his journey but in part it was ours also because he took with him our sin. In a love so amazing and so divine, he took on the consequences of our sin, suffered and died for you and me, to forgive, heal, and restore us, to give us his life and light, and to bring us home.

Jesus is the light of our world **(John 8:12)**. All those who receive Jesus become his dearly loved children. As his children, we experience fully the heart and love of our heavenly Father and receive so many blessings and sure promises. No matter what we experience in this life, our heavenly Father's faithfulness to us will always be more than we can imagine. Our Lord promises to be with us always caring for us and loving us always. Nothing, no nothing, will ever be able to separate us from his love. He gives us his Holy Spirit as our counselor, our guide, and our teacher throughout this life. When our tears flow and we can hardly utter a word, the Holy Spirit helps us to pray, gives us the words to pray, and reminds us of Jesus's words and promises to us. In Jesus we have our greatest and closest friend who we can speak with at any moment, who will give us his light, his life, his peace, and who will carry us to the very end.

And one day, the Lord will come and bring us to our eternal home. We will be resurrected with him and live in joy with him in Heaven forever (John 14:3). May all honor and praise and glory be His forever.

May you have a glorious Eastertide, full of love for our Lord. May you ever grow in knowing how much He dearly loves you!

Living in His Love Always,

Bill Zachar

Evangelism/Hospitality & Fellowship Committees

The Evangelism Board would like to Thank all of you for your never ending desire to donate whatever is needed! We just completed filling about 1400 Easter eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. The pre-filled eggs were a big help! Made it somewhat easier preparing and counting! Great big thank you to all!!!

Palm Sunday Breakfast- Hopefully you had time to sit and relax and enjoy conversation with friends and family while enjoying a delicious breakfast! Thanks to all for your preparation of food, set up and clean up! Without everyone pitching in it would be a big task! I do hope it was a time enjoyed by all!

BLACKBURN CENTER- GIFT CARD EXTRAVAGANZA!!

We are trying something new. We will be collecting gift cards for the month of April. Gift cards is something that the center uses year round for their clients and residents!

So here we go!! These are the cards they suggested:

1. Sunoco
2. Giant Eagle, Walmart, Shop n' Save, Target, and Amazon

The amount is up to you, but we are suggesting- \$10.00- \$25.00 cards

Please give your gift cards to :

EARLY SERVICE ATTENDEES- Lori Gulaskey or Rose Shirer

LATE SERVICE ATTENDEES- Tracy Fasnacht or Peg Kibel

LOAVES AND FISHES- keep filling the grocery cart! It is so needed in our area!

MOTHER OF SORROWS- collecting KLEENEX TISSUES AND SOAP! Goal is 100 of each!

Summer is fast approaching- Would love it if you would think about joining our team. New faces, new ideas! But most of all- SERVING OUR LORD WITH GLADNESS!

Blessings,

Tracy & Peg

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Maundy Thursday 7PM Elders Meeting 6:30	3 Good Friday 7PM	4
5 Easter Services 8:30 & 11AM	6 Church Offices Closed No Services	7 Church Offices Closed Ladies Bible Study 10AM	8	9 Circle of Moms 6:30	10	11 Men's Bible Study 8:30AM
12 MS Bible Study 6:30-8PM	13	14 Ladies Bible Study 10AM	15 Newsletter Deadline 12PM	16 Council Meeting 6:30	17	18
19 HS Bible Study 6:30-7:30PM	20	21 Ladies Bible Study 10AM	22 YA Bible Study 5:30AM	23 Circle of Moms 6:30	24	25 Men's Bible Study 8:30AM
26 Elem. Gathering 12PM MS Bible Study 6:30-8PM	27	28 Ladies Bible Study 10AM	29	30		

April Birthdays

- 1- Barbara Henry
Paul Jackson
- 2- John Sakony
- 6- Priscilla Miller
- 7- Kristine Demko
- 8 - Addison Kuehn
- 11- Sandy Denholm
- 12- Fred Reimer
- 14- Flo Nelms
- 17- Diane Laurito
Kathleen Himes
Tim Greer
- 18- Steve Wutzke
Mark Shirer
- 19- Rhett Obermann
- 21- Kelly Duez
James Hoyt
- 25- Andrew Schifino

April Anniversaries

- 12- Libby & Joe Gulaskey, V
- 18- Pat & Dave Jackson
- 22- Benita & Robert Horger
- 24- Cathy & Randy Glasser

Donation Station

Shoebox Project

Cutlery Sets (small kit of plastic knife, fork and spoon.
Can be found at Aldi for \$2.99

Loaves + Fishes

Always accepting donations!

MOS Food Bank

Kleenex tissues and bar soap
Goal is 100/each

Blackburn Center

Gift Cards such as:
Giant Eagle,
Shop n Save, Target, Amazon,
and Sunoco.

Prayer Requests

Name:	Reason:	Submitted by:
Melissa Crouse	Cancer	The Kuehn's
Jules Yancy	Cancer	The Kuehn's
Bob & George	Cancer	Patti Orlic
Bradley Bowers	Cancer	The Kuehn's
Michele Hunter	Cancer	Rose Shirer
Lynn Simeoni	Cancer	Peggy Waybright
Mike Opina	Cancer	Rich Hrivnak
Kevin	Lymphoma	Jean Orth
Sarah	Unspoken	The Wertz's
Chad Hensler	Unspoken	Kelly Stivason
Jerry Wilford	Cancer	
Lorri Nixon	Cancer/Surgery	
Ken		Lori Gulaskey
Dave Thomas	Mouth Cancer & Health	Audrey McVeigh
Lanny Pilardi	Dementia	Charlene Hrivnak
Samantha Boreman	Snowmobile accident	Carolyn Harbaugh
Jenny Hosaflook	Recovering from surgery	Sharon Hosaflook
Darlene Pritt	Pneumonia & Surgery	Sharon Hosaflook
Benita Horger	Breast Cancer	Horger Family
Scott Traverso	Cancer	The Hrivnak's
Maelynn Tribendis		The Hrivnak's
Ava Bowers	Childhood Leukemia	Terry & Wanda Kuehn
John	Health Concerns	Paula Schade
Lisa Folts		Kathy Folts
Becky	MS Progressing	Rose Shirer

Prayer Requests

Myron	Cancer	Carolyn Harbaugh
Rudy & Kelly	Health Concerns	Sharon Hosaflook
Jeff	Health Concerns	Sharon Hosaflook
Andy & MJ Schifino	Health Concerns	
Dawn Claar	Stage IV Cancer	Sharon Hosaflook
Tom Phillips		
Dave Alsing		
Sue Kemper	Upcoming Surgeries	Bob Kemper
Frank DiEugenio		
Steve Wutzke		
Priscilla Miller		
Denise Roberts		
Lynn Martin	Cancer	Darren Kuehn
Keith Dorfield	Health issues	Sharon Hosaflook
Karen	Upcoming surgery	Sharon Hosaflook
Anthony	Paralyzed, dirt bike accident	Sue Kemper
Judy Hess	Healing-rare auto Immune disorder	The Harbaugh's
Annie	Childhood Cancer	Pat Jackson
Paul Obermann	Cancer	The Obermann Family
Robert DeCecco	Brain Tumor	Wanda & Terry Kuehn
Paula Jackson	Healing from surgery	Pat Jackson
Gary	Alcoholism	Carolyn Harbaugh

The Unemployed, Caregivers, Military, Personnel & First Responders, Mission Partners - Shiprock, NM – Navajo Reservation, Joel & Jenn Shibata - CRU, Sonshine Kitchen, Loaves & Fishes, Veteran's Place, Blackburn Center, Concordia Lutheran Ministries, Community Center Taskforce

Our Shut-Ins: Kitty Skaritka, Gloria Batcher, George & Donna Campagne, Peg Schultz, Rheita Fisher, Norma Hite