

⁴⁰ Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, you could not stay awake with me one hour? ⁴¹ Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak."

Matthew 26:40-41



The expulsion of Adam and Eve from the Garden

Abington Presbyterian Church

February 26, 2023

10:00 a.m. Celebration Worship

First Sunday in Lent

ORDER OF WORSHIP
First Sunday in Lent February 26, 2023

GATHERING

The people gather wherever they may in response to God's call, offering praise in words of scripture, prayer, and song. The people acknowledge their sinfulness and receive the good news of God's forgiveness.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP *A time for quiet preparation before worship*

O God, during this season of Lent, help us to grow as praying people, sensitive to our needs and the needs of others, earnestly seeking your will for us and for the world. Amen.

PRELUDE Grief "Weeping Angel" *William Grant Still*

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.

God's love endures forever.

God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble.

Therefore, we will not fear.

Though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,
though the waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult,
God's love endures forever.

*** HYMN 412** God, Reveal Your Presence ARNSBERG

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and merciful God,
we confess to you and to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints
in heaven and earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart,
and mind, and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.
Have mercy on us, O God.

We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.
We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness.
For the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,
have mercy on us, O God.

For our self-indulgent appetites and ways
and our exploitation of other people,
have mercy on us, O God.

For our anger at our own frustration
and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,
have mercy on us, O God.

For our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,
and our dishonesty in daily life and work,
have mercy on us, O God.

for our negligence in prayer and worship,
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,
have mercy on us, O God.

Accept our repentance, O God,
for the wrongs we have done.
For our neglect of human need and suffering
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,
have mercy on us, O God.

for all false judgments,
for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,
and for our prejudice and contempt
toward those who differ from us,
have mercy on us, O God.

for our waste and pollution of your creation
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God of our salvation,
and show us your steadfast love.
Turn to us in your mercy and redeem us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*HYMN 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

* THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Greet one another with the sign of peace.

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

WORD

God's Word is read and its message is proclaimed in scripture, music and interpretation.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children are dismissed to Sunday School

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 143:1-8

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 26:36-46

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Grace in the Crux: Staying Awake in Prayer

Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

* HYMN 220

Go to Dark Gethsemane

REDHEAD 76

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from Declaration of Faith

Jesus lived with a constant sense of his Father's presence.
He put God's claim on his life above all else.
He joined others in God's worship and praise.
He drew strength from the Scriptures.
He prayed and taught his disciples to pray.
We believe Christ gives us and demands of us personal lives
that are centered in God and open to God's reality and rule.
Christ teaches us to put obedience to God
above the interests of self, family, race or nation;
to offer God joyously our money, ability, and time.

It is part of our discipline to observe a day of worship and rest,
 setting aside our own working to enjoy God's work,
 celebrating with sisters and brothers the Lord's goodness.
 We need constantly to search out God's way in Scripture,
 not expecting detailed directions for every decision,
 but relying on the Word to tell us who God is,
 to press God's present claim on us,
 and to assure us of God's grace and comfort.
 We are charged to pray for ourselves and others with gratitude, boldness, and persistence,
 confident that God hears and answers our prayers in ways best for us all.
 Life in God's presence issues in life for others,
 for if we do not love sisters and brothers whom we see,
 we cannot love God whom we do not see.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Stay with Me

204

Stay with me; re - main here with me; watch and
 pray. Watch and pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom
 come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day
 our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
 and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine
 is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THANKSGIVING & SENDING

*After the proclamation of God's Word, we respond with gratitude prepared to go
 into the world where we are called to live according to God's will.*

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Ken Medema, arr. Jack Schrader

* DOXOLOGY

Hymn 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, y heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* HYMN 465

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

CONVERSE

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude in E Minor

Mark Fax

Worship Leaders:

Preacher: Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

Liturgist: Nick Allgyer

Children's Message: Ruth Sall

Organ: Erik Meyer

This week's Black History Month Figure



Crystal Bird Fauset (1893-1965) Philadelphia activist who was the first African American state legislator. Social worker and race relations activist.

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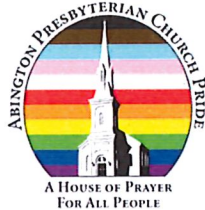
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In need of special prayers this week: Doris Boerner, Helen Porter (mother of Joe Porter), Suzy Paravla (daughter of Susan Davis), Linda Maisenhelder, Will Pompilli (son of Teresa Pompilli), Wayne Gibbons, Jr., Judy Meissner, Susan Johnson, John and Phyllis Frazier, Robin Cupo, Laura Lafferty, Emil Kupper, Joseph May, Victor Johnson III (Pete Johnson’s nephew), Laurie Betts, Sally Hardy, Katie Link, Kevin Alexander (Betsy Alexander’s son), Jennifer Edward (friend of Nick Cupo), Karen Dirks, Marilyn DeBacco (mother of Barb Foy), Ted Hyczko, Peter Mason (John Waters’ nephew), Shawn London (William Coles’ daughter), Rusty Thurlow (Jackie Thurlow’s husband), Bill Kostik (Shelia Jackson’s brother), Gordy Hawkinson (Nick Cupo’s Uncle), Jen Klauder (friend of Cindi Willis), Valerie Steigerwalt (niece of Marlyn Whyte), Peggy Savage, John Connelly (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Jim Holman (friend of Joanne and Jeff Bates), Paul Costello Family, Mary Ann Wherry.

For Pastoral Care: To notify the church of an illness, hospitalization, death, or to request prayer, contact a minister or call your Deacon or the Church Office at (215) 887-4530.



Abington Presbyterian Church celebrates God’s infinite love and believes all people are equal in the eyes of God. We welcome all to worship and serve with us. We seek to work together to oppose intolerance, racism, and injustice that threaten the unity of humankind.

ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Founded 1714

1082 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001

Phone: (215) 887-4530 Fax: (215) 887-5988 E-mail: klhill@apcusa.org

Web Site: www.apcusa.org

The Reverend Dr. Kirby Lawrence Hill, *Head of Staff*

Ruth Ideen-Sall, B.M., *Interim Director of Christian Education*

John Sall, M.M., *Director of Music Ministries*

Eric Meyer, *Organist*

The Rev. Ashley Rossi & Justin Feil, *Youth Fellowship Coordinators*

ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN LIFE

February 26, 2023

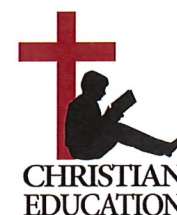
10:00 AM				
AGE/GRADE	ROOM	TEACHER	TOPIC	Pick Up
Birth– 2 year olds	110-112	Childcare	Childcare	110-112
Preschool	221	Sue Parsons	Jesus feeds 5,000	221
K—2nd Grades	Parish Hall	Ruth Sall	Prayer Centers	Parish Hall
3rd—5th Grades	Parish Hall	Ruth Sall	Prayer Centers	Parish Hall

Children ages 30 months through 5th grade attend Sunday School during the 10am service. Preschool classes start at 10am and are listed in the grid. Kindergarten through 5th graders start the worship service with their families and proceed to their classrooms after the Children's Moment. All children are welcome to attend Sunday School. If you are a visitor today, please feel free to accompany your child to his or her classroom.

Christian Education Offerings

8:45am

- Middle School Sunday School at 8:45am in the Parish Hall basement. All 6th - 8th graders are welcome to join us.
- Confirmation class led by Bill Stock and Karen Hoyle.
- Senior High Dialogue at 8:45am in the Parish Hall basement. All 10th-12th graders are welcome to join us.
- Adult Education at 8:45am in the Parlor.



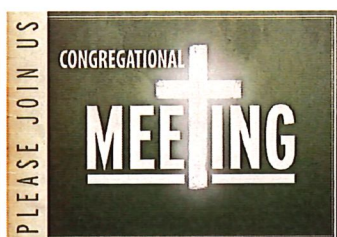
Nursery Care— is offered for children birth through toddler in the nursery and the toddler rooms (110 and 112)

All nursery volunteers will be vaccinated and wearing masks.
Our limit per room is 4 children.

Adult Education

The 8:45am Adult Education class with Suzin Weber is held in the Parlor. Suzin leads us through the Book of James and takes a deep dive into the entire epistle. Come join this thought-provoking bible study that links the person of James to his writings.

The Session has called for our annual congregational/corporate meeting to be held in the Sanctuary TODAY following the 10am Worship Service. At the meeting, there will be a financial report for 2022, presentation of the 2023 budget adopted by the Session, a report on staffing plans, a vote on terms of call for the pastor, and a report of the Nominating Committee with the election of church officers. Please plan to attend this important meeting.



Lent



Beginning Ash Wednesday and continuing through the season of Lent, the Chapel will be available for meditation and prayer. Times to visit include before and after Sunday worship, events on weekday evenings, or when the office is open during the day. There will be guided prayer stations, as well as open space for contemplation and quiet.

The Chapel is located off the North Transept in the Sanctuary, to the right of the pulpit.

Theology on Tap

When:

7:30pm on Wednesday, March 1st

Where:

Human Robot
208 York Rd, Jenkintown, PA



Overview:

Theology on Tap is calling on all those interested in enjoying local brews and engaging in hearty conversation. Over the coming months, we will reflect on the Apostles' Creed after listening to conversations between Dr. A.J. Swoboda (professor at Bushnell University) and Dr. Nijay Gupta (professor at Northern Seminary) on the podcast *Slow Theology: Simple Faith for Chaotic Times* (available wherever you get your podcasts). For our March session, listen to the following episodes:

1. Dec. 6th, 2022 – ST7: Slow Creed – I Believe in Jesus Christ (Atonement) (25 min)
2. Dec. 14th, 2022—ST8: Slow Creed—I Believe in the Holy Spirit (20 min)

Want to RSVP or Get More Info?

Contact Nick Allgyer at nta107@gmail.com

There is no youth programming today due to the February retreat.

Youth programming resumes March 5. Please spend some of your time off considering any acts you would do for the Talent Show!

Plan to attend the 2023 Youth Talent Show on Saturday, March 18!

All are invited to attend the annual Talent Show.

Doors open at 6 p.m. for desserts and to bid on raffle baskets (please see additional note about donating a basket*)

Show starts at 7 p.m.

Suggested admission is \$15/adult, \$7/child, \$40 family cap

Raffle basket tickets are \$2/ticket or \$10/6 tickets

Proceeds benefit the scholarships for the youth summer trips



*If you would like to donate a raffle basket or have an item to donate for a raffle basket, please visit this sign up genius.....<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044fa8aa22a1fd0-youth#/>

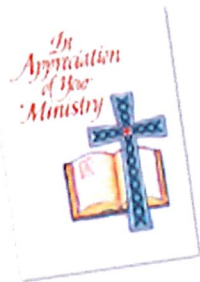
One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS): Hunger, Disaster, Development.



For over 70 years, OGHS has partnered with other organizations to respond to God's love and take action to share bread with the hungry, restore hope out of disaster, and loose the bonds of injustice through the self-development of people. **OGHS is a first responder when disaster strikes.** It is gratifying to know that OGHS teams are already assessing the needs and making available the funds to respond to the loss of lives, homes and livelihoods of

those suffering after the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.

As partners in ministry, we are part of that response team. Through your gifts to OGHS, you can join with Presbyterians worldwide to share God's love with our neighbors in their times of need.



Save the Date

for a Special Reception to

Honor Kirby Lawrence Hill's Ministry at APC

Sunday, April 2nd following 10 a.m. worship service.

Assist us in making this a special event by contributing in any of the following ways.

1. Scrapbook of Memories and Appreciation – Cards, letters, pictures, and memories are being combined into a scrapbook. Twelve by twelve pages are available in the church office for you to design or drop off your items and we will assemble them. Questions can be addressed to Cindy Miller crmiller56@gmail.com. Please submit items to the church office by March 26th.
2. Assisting with the "finger food" menu by contacting Anne-Marie Constable by emailing her at sweets.amc@gmail.com or by calling 267-800-3737. We are wanting appetizers and mini desserts/cookies.
3. Simply by joining us at the reception!

COMMITTEE FOR OLDER ADULT MINISTRY

"Happiness is being surrounded by the young".
(From "The Swedish Art of Aging Exuberantly").

APC members and friends are invited to share in some happiness as our nursery school children present a special program on Wednesday, March 8, at 10 a. m., in the Parish Hall. The children will sing songs for our enjoyment. We will share a snack and make a craft together.

Afterwards, guests will meet in the Parlor for a light lunch. Please RSVP to the church office-215-887-4530- by Monday, March 6. Come and enjoy this program with our nursery school children.

The next Women's Gathering will be Lunch at noon on Friday, March 10th at Bonnet Lane Restaurant, 1720 Old York Road, Abington.



Please RSVP to Sheila Jackson at dljskj@gmail.com if you plan on attending.



The Property Committee and Tuesday Group volunteers are always looking for a few more volunteers to assist with project management, hands-on help, or to simply hold a flashlight on various maintenance, landscaping, and improvement projects in and around the church buildings. For more information, please reach out to Michael Palumbo, John Dwyer, John Miller, or any Tuesday group volunteer.

The APC Pandemic team has these updated safety protocols to match community conditions:

Masks are optional in church facilities.

You are encouraged to maintain some social distancing in where you choose to sit.

There is a full-time mask section in the front three rows on the lectern-side rear portion of the sanctuary (section where the video equipment is) for whoever wants to use it.

Thanks to all for your cooperation. We show our love for God and neighbor by being sensitive to the needs of others.

The Pandemic Work Team consists of the following people:

Medical Professionals: Frank Sandstrom, MD; Michelle Feil, MSN, RN

Church Council Representatives: Suzin Weber, Carolyn Koch, Don Brooks

Church Facility Expertise: John Miller

From the Staff: John Sall, Ruth Sall, Barb Foy, Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill

February Organ Recitals
each Tuesday at 12:00 noon

AGO Organ Recitals

February 7 **Erik Meyer**
February 14 **Luke Staisiunas**
February 21 **Andrew Monath**
February 28 **Rae Ann and Eric Anderson** (organ and baritone horn)



Abington Presbyterian Church
Old York and Susquehanna Roads • Abington, PA • fully accessible
215-887-4530 www.apcusa.org/MusicAtAbington

AGO This project was supported in part by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency

APC Deacons Community Blood Drive

Saturday, March 18, 2023
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM ~ Parish Hall

**Please visit the church's Facebook page
to make an appointment to give blood.**



**American
Red Cross**

The second annual **Interfaith Multicultural Awareness Week** sponsored by our area Ministerium is in the first full week in March.

On **Monday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m.** we are invited to a Persian Feast and Purim (the story of Esther) festival at Old York Road Temple Beth-Am. There will be homemade Persian food, drinks, and even belly dancing. No cost for APC members, but you must RSVP to the synagogue office by Monday, February 27. 215-886-8000 (tell them you are from the church).

Tuesday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. we are invited to visit the Samarpan Hindu Temple in Bensalem for a tour, Q and A. 2746 Mechanicsville Road, Bensalem, PA

Wednesday, March 8 at 7:00 p.m. will be a Zoom meeting on food insecurity presented by an organization called Why Hunger. Meeting ID: 827 4249 4378, passcode: Hunger

Thursday, March 9 at 7:00 p.m. we are invited to visit the Won Buddhist Temple in Warminster for an opportunity to participate in meditation and Tai Chi. 800 Jacksonville Rd. Warminster, PA

Sunday, March 12, we are invited to a worship service at Salem Baptist Church at 8:45 or to a 2:00 p.m. panel discussion by area clergy on how to address religious and racial bigotry. 2741 Woodland Rd, Abington, PA

This QR Code takes you to the donation
page on our APC website



SCAN ME