

# The Sandpiper

*Middle Sandy  
Evangelical Presbyterian Church*



## *May Worship Schedule*

9:00 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship Service

Child Care available during the Worship Service for  
ages infant through 5 years.

## **The Pastor's Paragraph**

Greetings in the name of our risen and living Savior Jesus Christ!

As I write this, I am preparing to attend the Presbytery of the Alleghenies meeting this Friday and Saturday. This will be only the fourth meeting this new Presbytery. However, we anticipate receiving as many as 10 new congregations into the Presbytery, most of whom are exiting the PCUSA or the New Wineskins transitional status. This means that we will have nearly doubled in size in only one year's time, and that we will already be one of the largest presbyteries in the EPC!

It continues to be a real blessing to attend the Presbytery meetings because literally everyone is on the same page. And that page is covered with "unity in Christ!" When we are with like-minded Christian friends, there is sweetness, an unbreakable unity, a commitment, even an attitude of graceful agreement-to-disagree if necessary that permeates the whole atmosphere. It is truly lovely!

This is in such stark contrast to many other gatherings and denominational affairs from across the American Christian spectrum which I've observed recently. In many places, I see dissensions, factions, infighting, nasty politicking, and evil intentions, to say nothing of terrible theology and willful misuse of polity. They seem to all be working off of entirely different pages and their goals are primarily to disrupt, destroy, and discourage the people of God they are supposed to be serving.

I doubt that any of them would admit to this evaluation. Yet, that is the observable result of their actions. So the Body of Christ, in so many mainline denominations especially, has been splintered, dispirited, and forsaken. Their leaders, who should be the under-

shepherds for Christ, have become the wolves ravaging the flocks under their care.

My purpose for bringing this to your attention is primarily to pray. And to pray fervently! Our nation is headed in a terrible direction – we've spoken about this often enough in our own congregation. And one of the primary reasons is that the Body of Christ, the Church in America, has not understood her calling to righteousness and integrity, and has also not been the reflection of Christ to the community. Instead, the Bride of Christ seems bent on reflecting the fallenness of our culture into the Church.

Taking an example from real life, I'd remind you that most often when the Christian and the non-Believer wed, it is the Christian who seems to fall away into backsliding and ineffective witness to Christ. It is no different here – the backslidden culture is pulling the Believers into its sin and rebellion.

So, this is yet another "wake-up call" to all whom Christ has saved: "You were saved to make a difference in the world, to share with others the Good News you have believed, and to be my Disciples to build up the Kingdom of God on earth!"

Friends, what are we waiting for? Let's make sure that "they" know where we stand and that we want "them" to know the love of God as we have known it. Let us not put off being a blessing to others, for we have certainly been wonderfully blessed in so many ways!

Pastor Tom

**REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED**



**ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL**

## ***In Our Thoughts and Prayers...***

*We encourage you to send a card or letter to one or two each month. Addresses are available in the church directory or in the church office.*

### ***Continuing health needs:***

Colleen Lewis (general health concerns)  
Baby Claire Martin (brain healing)  
Elicia Monasco (healing from surgery)  
Diane Sanor (general health concerns)  
Ken Smith (healing of cancer)  
Olga Steinke (Monika's mother,  
general health)



***Pray for all caregivers – for wisdom, strength, patience, and times of refreshment.***

### ***Military Service:***

Brian & Scott Burbick (Dorothy's sons)  
Randy Kibler (Carolyn's nephew)  
Trevor Mathey (Sharon & Dean Mathey's son, in Afghanistan)  
Samuel Metzger (Socotch's son-in-law, 7 mo. sea duty starting in March)  
Jon Pagnucco (Jane Stryffeler's grandson)  
Loren Shaver (Wallace's son-in-law, deployed to Middle East)  
Jason Snyder (Sharon & Dean Mathey's son)  
Tyler Stryffeler (Jane's grandson, in Germany)

### ***Our Missionaries - for Holy Spirit protection and great perseverance in their work.***

Jeff & Natasha Bain (ministering in Tyumen, Siberia and new baby)  
Abe & Diane Bible (training Russian church planters in Ukraine)  
Carissa Cabassa (at Spanish language school in Guatemala)  
Lucy Lincoln (back in the USA on work assignment)  
Lisa Smith (Campus Crusade – training short-term student missionaries)  
Dave & Diane Spurdle (Church planting in Japan)  
Paul & Reinhild Sydnor (ministry to refugees in Lille, France and Malta)

### ***In Nursing Homes:***

Linda Bandy (Crandall Medical Center)  
Marcy Crawford (Crandall Medical Center)  
Pauline Martin (Crandall Medical Center)

Please turn in your articles for the June Sandpiper to Debbie Socotch by May 27 or e-mail to [debbie.socotch@rrfcs.com](mailto:debbie.socotch@rrfcs.com)

## OPEN STATED SESSION MEETING

April 9, 2012

**Mission:** Sheila Williamson agreed to be responsible for the bulletin board downstairs. The Cabassa's are taking care of the one upstairs that has been dedicated to Carissa. The "Change for Life" (baby bottles) for the Alliance Pregnancy Center will be distributed on Mother's Day (May 13) and received back on Father's Day (June 17).

**Pastoral Concerns:** A donation of \$67.05 was made for a displaced woman due to fire. The Acts 2 work day in May was discussed. Encouragement cards were sent to a number of people. We will ask the congregation to bring items for Christina House during the first two Sundays of May.

**Property:** Two bids were received for sealing the blacktop of the church parking lot (Vasco and Stephen's Asphalt Paving). The committee is working to get prices for new steps and sidewalk to the pavilion. The lights in the sanctuary have been cleaned.

**Worship:** There are no congregation members that will be graduating this year.

**Old Business:** Discussion was held concerning those members that are at an inactive status and need to be moved to that roll. **By approved motion** Michael Horvath and Carolyn Slingerland (tentatively) will be commissioners to General Assembly in Baton Rouge, June 20-23.

**New Business:** The "Change for Life" (baby bottles) collection was approved. Discussion was held on the overture to the General Assembly from the North Park Church in Wexford, PA, concerning the Stated Clerk's office writing a letter expressing opposition to the recent ruling that all employers, providing health benefits to employees, must provide a plan that includes coverage of contraceptive and abortifacient drugs and services.



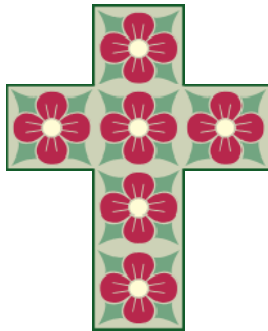
## May Birthdays

Debbie Socotch	1
Dorothy McKinley	3
Susan Schopfer	3
Joyce Cameron	4
Donna Powell	4
Steve Snyder	5
Brian Greco	6
Marjorie Smith	11
Rachel Gimmi	12
Deborah Held	17
Carli McQuilkin	23
Karen Legros	26
Paul Edwin Fisher	26
ViAnne McQuilkin	31



## May Anniversaries

Leonard & Anna Mapes	10
Brian & Michelle Slingerland	20



# General Announcements

### REMEMBER, LADIES

**Remember** to circle 6:00 pm on May 11 on your calendar.

**Remember** – the theme is the 50's for clothes (if possible), for mementos (Monika, don't forget Elvis), for photos (perhaps of you as a baby, teen, new bride, Homeworth).

**Remember** – the committee will decorate the tables, unless you want to do your own. Let PWIM know by May 6 if you're decorating your own table.

**Remember** – to sign up for your karaoke presentation by May 6 (paper on window at the office). Bring your own CD.

**Remember** – "Clementine"? She'll be returning to our stage as part of the program

**Remember** the men will serve our chicken dinner with a yummy dessert. They'll be cleaning up afterwards. The meal is paid for by your donations.

**Remember** – reservations are due to Elaine Wagner (330-525-7658) by after worship on May 6.



### RESURRECTION BUNS (recipe courtesy of Carolyn Slingerland)

- 1 10 oz can refrigerated crescent rolls
- 8 large marshmallows
- ¼ cup melted butter
- 2 T. ground cinnamon
- 2 T sugar

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Lightly grease a baking sheet. Separate crescent rolls into individual triangles. In a small bowl mix cinnamon and sugar. Dip a marshmallow into melted butter, then roll in sugar mixture. Explain that the spices represent the spices used to anoint Jesus' body for burial. Each child places a marshmallow into the center of a dough triangle. It is white because it stands for Jesus' purity and sinless life. Carefully wrap the dough around the marshmallow. Pinch the seams together tightly to seal in the marshmallow as it melts. This forms the "tomb" where Jesus' body was buried. Place on a baking sheet. Bake 15 minutes or until golden brown. When the children bit into their buns they will be surprised to find the center empty, and that it is sweet inside. The marshmallow has melted. We say, He is not here for He is risen!



## ***From Grandma's Rocker....***

It was wonderful watching the children with Palm branches on Palm Sunday. When they grow older, and realize the significance of what they did with those (marching through the sanctuary) I know they will be proud. Even the little ones participated this time - holding hands with the older children. "Blessed are the children".....

On Good Friday eve we listened to the extended choir from all the churches in the West Branch Ministerial Association lead us in a beautiful worship service, entitled "In His Own Words". The Ministers from this area read scripture in between the songs. It was so meaningful!! We do appreciate Linda and Connie leading us in this. The church was full, and I couldn't help thinking that it would be so wonderful to have it the same on Sunday a.m. These days, in this world, Don and I talk about this a lot....we really do need church and all it's wonderful people and programs.

If you saw plain white crosses in some of our congregation's yards, it was a special event this year. Individuals could purchase these and put them out, and then on Easter Sunday they were turned around to say "He Is Risen". The profits from this project went to Carissa Cabassa missionary fund. She is in Guatemala, as you probably know.

Pauline Martin has moved to Crandall Medical Center in Sebring. Her room number is 158 - in "E" Hall - across from Linda Bandy. If you are in the area, please stop and say Hello - also to Marcy (Crawford) Lamb who is in another Hall, with her Room #118. I know they, all of them, appreciate even short visits!! I think Pauline might be in the same room as my Mother was when she was there until 2003.

Pastor Tom and Monika have been having a trying time lately. Monika's mother, Olga, has in the past few months had 2 heart attacks, and two small strokes (TIA's). This keeps them wondering what the next day will bring. But they have been there for her, doing their best. Bet some of you are thinking - well he should be, he is a Pastor for goodness sakes. As I thought of this today I remembered what I heard a few years back, about another Pastor and his parents - and then again yesterday, about still another Pastor and his parents!! In each case, these Pastor's demonstrated their "bad" side - treating their parents in a deplorable manner. One of them even told his parents that he didn't have time for their health problems; he had his congregation to take care of!! By the way - Mom who had dementia, died just recently.... (Her sister is one of my rug hooking friends.) When told of this I mentioned that I thought the Pastor was really a hypocrite. And I felt that way about the Lutheran Pastor years earlier, whose parents have both passed away since that time. Anyway - we are very fortunate to have a Pastor who cares for his family, I am sure you know. It seems to be easy for some people to turn away....even when they profess to be Christian leaders of their "flock"!

Elicia Manasco had her brain surgery last week at a hospital in Cleveland. They think it was successful, and her mother Daryl Holt said she was very encouraged by her progress. Elicia mentioned to the Congregation that she was very frightened by the prospects of this surgery, but also was very tired of having uncontrolled seizures.

We certainly pray that all of these are now behind her. Her son, Robert, needs his Mother to be there for him also. Let's keep her in our prayers, as she asked.

Larry Barnhart was ecstatic on Sunday morning recently about being able to hear again. We did not realize how bad it was for him. He shared that he had a recent visit to the V.A. Clinic in Cleveland and they were able to help him with some new state of the art hearing aids. How wonderful for him!! Now if Bob Wagner could be helped in the same way.... I am sure that not hearing what is going on around you can not only be frustrating, but depressing as well. We will be praying about this also.

Loren Shaver, Peggy Wallace Shaver's husband is now in Afghanistan - flying his helicopter missions at night. He mentioned to Linda (Mother-in-law) that the Pilots there were gathering stuff to drop to the soldiers in the field. They drop the soldiers off, and of course they are unable to bathe, etc. so need personal supplies badly. She gave me a personal list which I will give to the Presbyterian Women. Meanwhile - be thinking about what we can do for them also.

Trevor Mathey, (Dean & Sharon's son) should be in the states the end of May with his tour of duty in Afghanistan finished. They will go to Ft. Hood, TX where they started this tour a year ago. Then the 1484th Transportation Unit, 3rd Plt., will be free to go back to life as usual but continue to be members of their Ohio National Guard units. I think Trevor has 2 more years to serve. He will be going back to school in August he said. Good thing about computers - he took his laptop with him, so was able to take care of his business stuff! This modern day electronic stuff boggles our minds of course. Please pray for safe travels for Trev and the other soldiers. Can't help thinking how excited the families of two of the soldiers we saw at Christmas time will be - the soldiers were women. One had a two year old, brought to the Airport by Grandma - the other had two children (young) that Dad brought with him. We had to fight back tears when we saw them running to their soldier Mother's sides. Trev said they were both in his Unit.

I will close this now...doesn't seem to be anymore news. Come on members, and let me know about what is happening with your families. We really are interested!!

I will close with one of my post-it notes - "THE TASK AHEAD OF US IS NEVER AS GREAT AS THE POWER BEHIND US."  
Keep asking God - HE will help!

Until the next time I have some news.....

In Christian Love,  
Grandma Carole



# May

## MSPC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		<b>1</b> 6:30 pm Property 6:30 pm Pastoral Concerns * No Music Lessons *	<b>2</b> 6:30 pm Prism Weight Loss Group	<b>3</b> No more Adult Choir  <b>National Day of Prayer</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 12:00 Christian Ed 12:00 Worship Comm 12:00 Confirmation Class	<b>7</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Monday Prayer 6:30 pm Missions	<b>8</b> Music Lessons	<b>9</b> 6:30 pm Prism Weight Loss Group	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 6:00 pm Ladies Night Out	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Collection for Christina House Piano Recital <b>Mother's Day</b>	<b>14</b> 6:30 pm Session	<b>15</b> Music Lessons	<b>16</b> 6:30 pm Prism Weight Loss Group	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Confirmands join the church  Soup Lunch	<b>21</b> 6:30 pm Finance 6:30 pm Lion's Club	<b>22</b> Music Lessons	<b>23</b> 6:30 pm Prism Weight Loss Group	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Communion  <b>Day of Pentecost</b>	<b>28</b>  <b>Memorial Day</b>	<b>29</b> * No Music Lessons *	<b>30</b> 6:30 pm Prism Weight Loss Group	<b>31</b>		

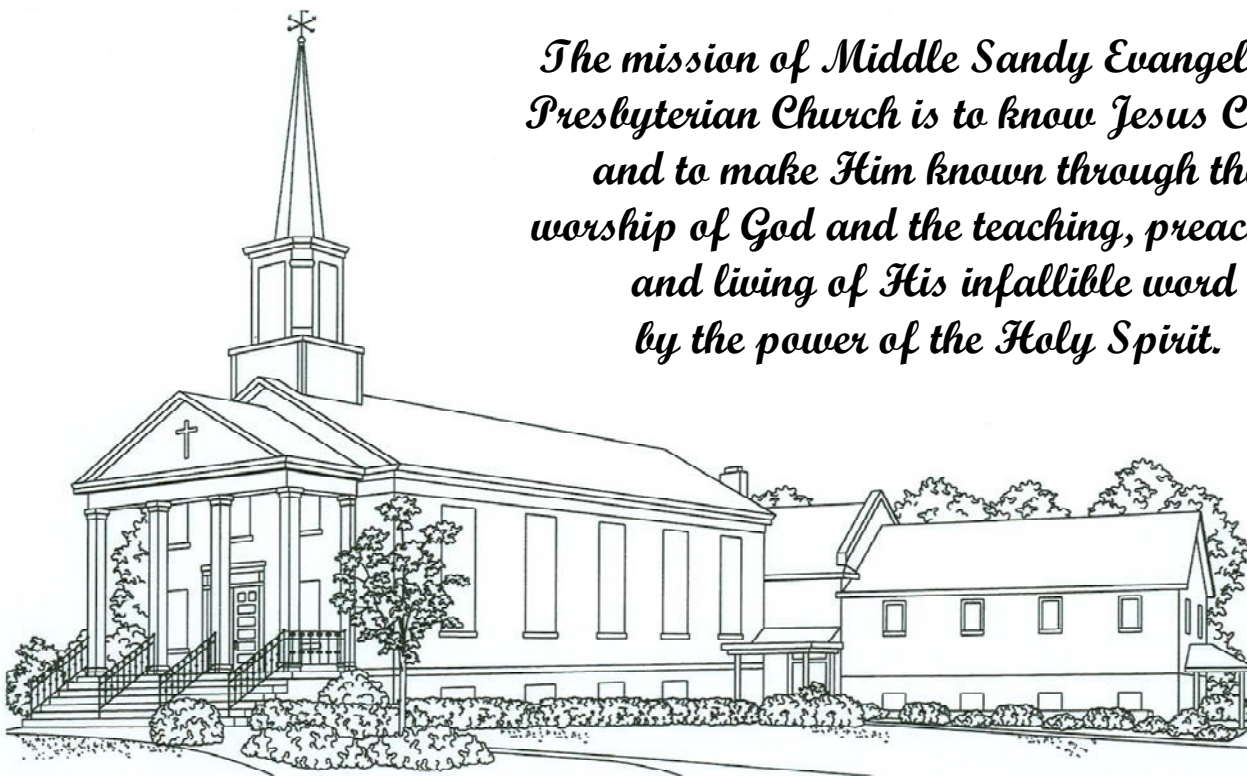
# 2012

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Pastor Tom Sawyer  
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**MAY 2012**



*The mission of Middle Sandy Evangelical  
Presbyterian Church is to know Jesus Christ  
and to make Him known through the  
worship of God and the teaching, preaching  
and living of His infallible word  
by the power of the Holy Spirit.*