



NORTH POINTE NEWS

APRIL 2024

Pastor Emerita Post (P.E.P. Talk) April, 2024

Happy Spring!

By the time these black and white words go out on the internet, we will have "lifted ourselves up" through Lent, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday, and have celebrated Easter.

Do you have Easter traditions that you observe? ham dinner? egg hunt? hidden baskets filled with candy? If you were present at a family meal, what were your topics of conversation? Economy? Weather? New baby in the family? (spoiler alert) Resurrection?

Actually, I'm not going to explore the word "resurrection" because I already did that in the October, 2023 newsletter. However, I do want to remind us that the Easter story is a story. We rehearse it every year. I assume you've noticed that the plot, scenes always turn out the same. What isn't the same are the personal - and often life changing- experiences each of us has with God. (or the Holy One, or Divine Source, or Mystery, - whatever name works for you.)

So, have you had an experience during which you felt God's presence? Have you told someone about your experience? If so, have you noticed how difficult it is to capture the essence of those moments?

Here's a personal example: About 25 years ago, Jane, a beloved member of this congregation died. She had many gifts and interests that were remembered. Her family emphasized Jane's love of ladybugs and made little ladybug pins to give out at Jane's celebration of life. Before she died, Jane promised her sister that if there was more than this earthly existence, she would let her know. During the service, the Pastor of Spiritual Formation invited Jane's grandchildren to come forward and listen to the story Will It Be OK? The pastor began to read, showing the pictures, and then while turning a page, a ladybug - a real ladybug - landed on the top of the page and began walking along the edge of the book. Wide-eyed, the pastor pointed to the moving insect, whispered "ladybug" into her mic, and the whole congregation kept a wondering silence until the ladybug flew away.

I'm telling the story in this P.E.P. column because I believe we all have experiences we can't explain, and happenings that catch us unaware, astonish us, and evoke questions that prompt us in a search for meaning in our lives. Here's the process:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Experience | Something unusual happens |
| Story | There is an attempt to describe what has happened |
| Meaning | There follows an effort to integrate |

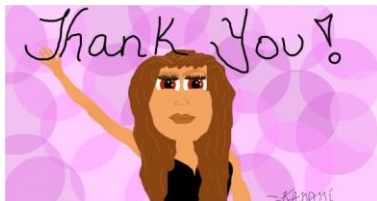
Pastor Emerita Post (P.E.P. Talk) April, 2024 continues

Our human nature seeks meaning and IF the meaning we integrate includes our understandings of God, we're doing theology. We church folk discuss religious doctrine and sometimes argue over theological understandings, but individual experience comes first. Early in my ministry, folks were hesitant to share their experiences for fear of being thought "crazy." Thankfully, we are beginning to feel safe enough to share our stories in our faith community and ask questions that help us search for answers.

Happy Story Telling

NBK

*also a sister, Mary Ann



Thank you to all who helped me celebrate my 75th Birthday on St. Patrick's Day. It was a lovely surprise.

Linda Jackson

Church Office Needs Your Help When Signing For Flowers On The Flower Chart

When signing for Altar Flowers on the Flower Chart, **PLEASE USE THE MARKER ON THE TABLE.** It will be so much easier to ready the names and the occasion.

Thank you.



***"Spring shows what God can do with a drab and dirty world."
- Virgil A. Kraft***

Newsletter Articles for the May Newsletter will be due in the Church Office by Thursday, April 24th



Need Yarn??? We HAVE Yarn!

Baby Yarn and regular knitting yarn is available for you to enjoy. AND the yarn is free. If you are interested, please contact Paula Thorson or Kathy Young.



Welcome

We welcome into membership (by reinstatement) :

Dianne and Elizabeth Belland
Betty Brenneman

Earth Day Is April 22nd



EARTH DAY founders created and organized the very first Earth Day on April 22, 1970. Since then, Earth Day has been mobilizing over 1 billion people annually on Earth Day, and every other day, to protect the planet.

Special Thanks To The Bell Trio

Thanks to the Bell Trio, Martha Jackson Oppeneer, Carol Smith and Tony Roland, for their music, “Rock’a My Soul”.

It was a wonderful tribute in memory of Mae Ellis. Our family appreciates your sharing your talent through music at North Pointe UMC.



From the Ellis and Owens Families

Great Time At The Craft Event!



Special thanks to Dianne Belland and Maureen Ellis for the Women’s Craft Day on Saturday, March 2nd. It was a creative event with six (6) tables set up. The women present enjoyed the communication as well as the craft, especially the beginners (ha, ha) Thanks to Eric and Rommel Ellis for coming at the end to take down the tables and chairs.

We are so grateful that all of us work together. It was a great success and a most ENJOYABLE TIME



We Need Your Graduate's Information

Please give the names of your 2024 graduates from high school, technical, college or university. Please include the following:

Name of School you will be graduating from, the school you plan on attending in the fall, name of your parents, grandparents or guardian.

Please have this information to our secretary, Sue Dennison, by Sunday, May 13th.

Thanking you in advance.

Come Join Our Wednesday Bible Study

We are presently completing the Book of Revelations. It has been a great discussion. The studying of the Bible and the Study Guide enhanced us.



We will begin to study the Gospel of John. We will also have a study guide to go with the study.

Our last meeting will be Wednesday, May 22nd. We will begin again in the fall on September 4th. It is one hour of learning. Please come and join, put this day/time on your calendar.

Pray: Thank God for loving the world so much that he lifted up His Son on the cross, giving us the chance to look on him in faith and be healed of all evil that lurks up within us. Pray that we and all those around us may feel the wind of his Spirit and experience the brand new life that he brings.



Women's History Month Award

Georgia Owens will receive an award in the category of *Education Trail Blaser*.

The ceremony will take place on Saturday, March 30th, from 12:00 pm-3:00 pm at Restoration Ministries (inside of 1st Presbyterian Church, 716 College Avenue in Racine) Individual ticket are \$35.00. Reserved table of 8 is \$260. Carriers of the Legacy—\$250 (reserved tickets for 2 guests).

You may make your checks payable and mail to : Restoration Ministries, Inc. 1st Presbyterian Church, 716 College Avenue, Racine, WI 53403.

Tickets for the event can be purchased at: restoring812.wixsite.com.

Email questions to: contact@restoretoempower.com or 262-744-5362

Restoration Ministries is a 501c3 Non-Profit organization. All donations are tax deductible.

Email PDF or jpeg printer-ready ad to : contact@restoretoempower.com OR make checks payable and mail to Restoration Ministries 1st Presbyterian Church, 716 College Avenue, Racine, WI 53403.



Promise me you'll remember

*You're braver than you believe
And stronger than you*

*seem, and
Smarter than you think*

Christopher Robin



From the YOUt.h. T.E.A.M.

First we want to once again try to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to our church family for your encouragement and support. The turn out for our YOUt.h. T.E.A.M. room open house was more than we ever dreamed of. Your enthusiasm and kind words about the room made our work and energy all worth it. We love our room and are so glad you like it too. Come visit anytime.

Also available in the Youth T.E.A.M. room are the resin hearts. This is an ongoing mission and fund-raiser, so feel free to come look at the variety and pick one or more out to give away. The donation jar is right next to them. It is a free will donation – so give what you want to give and help us spread a little love in the world. Thanks!!!

We also appreciate your help and support of our banned book library mission and the donations of books we have already received. We do have books ready for borrowing, so if you'd like to come see what we have and borrow one (or more) to read – please feel free to do so. Come see what we have and see what catches your interest. Just sign them out on our sign out sheet and bring them back when you're done so others may enjoy them too.

We are currently working on updating our library inventory and will be placing a bookmark into each book telling people why the book was banned, as well as when, and where. This is an ongoing project, but we think you'll be surprised to find out why some of the books are banned – we know we're surprised and frustrated.

We are also putting together a list of specific books we'd like for the library in case you have a copy of them that you don't know what to do with, or would like to purchase a book and donate it for this ministry. There are many places to get books, but a good on-line book store is www.Thriftbooks.com They sell new and used books at a good price just for your information.

Last but not least our YOUt.h. T.E.A.M. will be meeting next on Sunday, April 21, 2024; but on this same day we will be celebrating Earth Day by giving you all a tangible thank you gift for believing in us and helping us grow in our faith. We are so grateful to be part of this church family. We truly feel your love, support, encouragement, and acceptance.

APRIL SCRIP NEWS



Spring is here! That means it is time to get out and get your garden cleaned up and some of the flowers and vegetables ready to plant. Now you need to get the mulch, soil and replace those gardening tools you need. The best way to

get these items is using your SCRIP Cards to Menards and Home Depot as well as Target. You can order a VISA Card and use that at your favorite Garden Store. Let's get out and enjoy the spring weather. **April SCRIP date is Sunday, April 10th.**

Cash & Carry (cards that we carry 'in stock') are available for sale in the church office when Sue Dennison is in the office. Cash or checks are accepted. We carry a variety of cards in our Cash and Carry. Questions/help contact: Elinor Offerdahl, or Lillian Brown.



Food Pantry Items for APRIL

Potato Mixes Dish Detergent Bar Soap

Worship Assistants for APRIL

Liturgists

April 7	Jeanne Tyree-Francis
April 14	Lauren Miksa
April 21	Kathy Young
April 28	Don Tyree-Francis

Ushers Team B

Steve Oppeneer
Don & Jeanne Tyree-Francis
Rick Piehler



North Pointe United Methodist Church
3825 Erie Street
Racine, WI 53402

ADDRESS CHANGE REQUESTED



APRIL 2024

North Pointe United Methodist Church

3825 Erie, Racine, WI 53402

262-639-2441

Website: NorthPointeRacine.org

Email: office@northpointeracine.org

Church Office Hours

Tuesday—Friday 9:30 am—2:30 am

***SUNDAYS AT 9:30 AM COMMUNION ON
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH ALL ARE
WELCOME***

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