

GREENSTONE GAZETTE

"With God, all things are possible"

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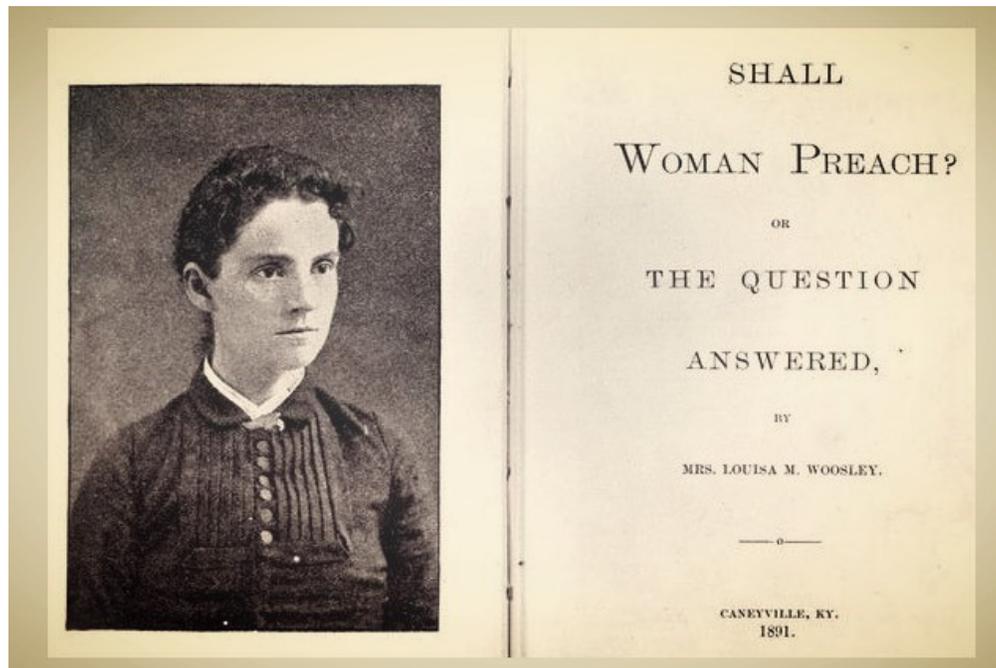
Bringing the love of Jesus to our community by fostering an accepting, nurturing and compassionate environment.

Expanding our missions, infrastructure and worship experiences to meet the community's needs.

Passionately and enthusiastically developing opportunities for personal and spiritual growth.

Seeking partnerships with local organizations in pursuit of God's vision for the greater Nottingham area.

Label



Louisa M. Woosley is the first woman minister of record from an American Presbyterian denomination. Ordained in the late nineteenth century despite the prevailing social norms of that time, she serves today as an inspiration for anyone trying to break through a glass ceiling.

According to her autobiography, Woosley became a successful preacher in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (CPC) denomination. In the next four years, she gave 912 sermons and received 2,000 professions of faith. She also published *Shall Woman Preach?*, which included her autobiography as well as an analysis of the Bible in regards to female ministers. Woosley argued that denying women the right to preach also denied the Holy Spirit.

April Volunteers

Readers:

4/1 Cindy Sudnikovich
4/8 Becky Connor
4/15 Donna Davis
4/22 Dar Gray
4/29 Tenille Dewees

Head Usher:

Gerry Davis

Deacon of the month:

Mark Roney

Communion Servers:

April 1

Nina Hansen
Jim Lewis
Debbie Roney
Mark Roney

May Volunteers

Readers:

5/6 Gerry Davis
5/13 Nina Hansen
5/20 Jim Lewis
5/27 Ruth Ann Sumner

Head Usher:

Jerry Jackson

Deacon of the month:

Alice Witmer

Communion Servers:

May 6:

TBD

From Oxford Chamber of Commerce: Legislative Breakfast May 2, 2018

7:30—9:00am Wyncote
50 Wyncote Dr, Oxford PA

Join local business owners, non-profit groups, residents and students as we learn about issues that will be facing federal, state and county governments over the next year.

Guest speakers include:

Congressman Lloyd Smucker
Senator Andy Dinniman
Representative John Lawrence
Chester County Commissioners: Michelle Kichline,
Kathi Cozzone and Terence Farrell

Tickets: \$25 for OACC members
\$30 for guests

Register at: <http://oxfordpa.org/legislative-breakfast>

PC(USA) members seeking first bachelor's degree encouraged to apply for undergraduate scholarships from Presbyterian Mission

By Paul Seebeck | Presbyterian News Service

LOUISVILLE – In a just released video, Presbyterian Mission is drawing attention to the office of Financial Aid for Service (FAFS) and its undergraduate scholarship program, which has capacity for \$350,000 in awards for 2018-2019.

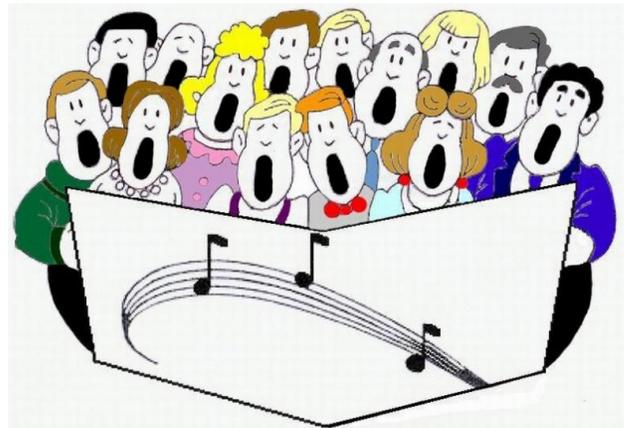
The deadline for applications is May 15. Visit pcusa.org/scholarship and fill out the one-page Getting Started form to apply.

“This is the easiest decision you will make today,” says FAFS coordinator Laura Bryan. “It will take all of five minutes. Do it now, because who in college doesn’t need a little extra cash?”

Once the one-page Getting Started form is filled out, Financial Aid for Service will provide weekly email updates, guiding students step-by-step through completion of the application.

In addition to the potential scholarship, students explore vocation themes in essays and are offered opportunities to apply for book awards and scholarship to national church events.

Financial Aid for Service is a part of *Theology, Formation & Evangelism* ministries in *Presbyterian Mission*.



The Worship Team is asking for help to enhance our music program at NPC. How can you help?

- Consider joining the choir. No long term commitment and short practices before Worship.
- Provide special music for a service
- Ask a friend or family member if they would be willing to add to our music program.

Please contact Worship Elder Donna Davis or organist John Steele to share your ideas.

April 2018

Pastor's Corner

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I am grateful for little yellow flowers that poke their heads through the crusty ground to announce the coming of spring. I am especially grateful for those signs of spring that persist even when covered with snow! This particular Spring seems to have a lot in common with the generations which have followed that first puzzled declaration, "Christ is risen!" The first response to this proclamation was not "Christ is risen indeed!" No, it was more like, "Have you lost your mind?"

As I look out on a dreary, chilly afternoon this day after Easter, I get the feeling that Mother Nature is toying with us. Temperatures had warmed up, the sun was shiny just a few days ago, and this morning – boom – borderline frost and snowflakes lightly dancing in the midst of the rain. So, you thought you were ready for Spring, did you? Just because it is Eastertide? Do you think you can control the weather with a calendar? You must have lost your mind. When we declare that Christ is risen, and that the resurrection of Jesus Christ has transformed the world, even some of our good friends wonder if we have lost our minds. Oh, they will not often say so in so many words. To many the concept of someone, even someone as good as Jesus, rising from the dead is as reasonable as saying you can control the weather with a calendar. And the idea that this event, even if it did happen, has changed the world is ridiculous. They point to the awful events happening in the world today, two thousand years after Jesus lived. Where is the progress? Where is the change?

That's when I remember those little yellow flowers. Sometimes they are easy to miss, especially when they are peeking out from under a blanket of snow. However, they are there. Somewhere I have a picture of a lovely little flower growing out of a rock. Another time I saw a pansy growing through a crack in the pavement at a gas station.

"Christ is risen!" is not a victory dance that says that all is as it should be, or will be. "Christ is risen!" is the Godly promise that our efforts, directed and empowered by the grace of God, are worth it. Even if the way is difficult, the ground hard and full of rocks, the water less than plentiful, we are encouraged and emboldened to follow Christ's way of love. We have confidence that God is working in and through God's people, even if a cold blanket of snow sometimes covers up the progress. This proclamation of God's power over sin and death opens our eyes to see the wonders of God working in the most unlikely of places – even in our own hearts.

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Believe...and live!

In Christ's love, Pastor Merritt



Celtic Concert

Featuring Charlie Zahm Friday, April 20 at

7:30pm Octorara Covenant
Presbyterian Church
1188 Valley Rd., Quarryville,
PA www.oldcovchurch.com



The Octorara Covenant Presbyterian Foundation is pleased to announce a concert featuring Charlie Zahm on April 20. Charlie is one of the most popular Celtic soloists and musicians east of the Mississippi. He will be joined by harpist Kendrah Tozzo, a member of the Brandywine Harp Orchestra and bagpiper Thompson McConnell, a member of the Ulster Scottish Pipe Band. These three talented musicians will entertain the audience with delightful Scottish and Irish music. This event will benefit the foundation's September 8 Scottish Covenanter Festival. Refreshments will be served at intermission. Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$15 for adults and \$8 for 12 year olds and younger. [Discounted tickets can be found here at Eventbrite](#). Plan to attend this concert filled with wonderful Celtic music!

Rider or Elephant

From the Donegal Presbytery Leadership training: The RIDER: Thinks clearly, is a visionary, can analyze situations, can ID key problems, can plan BUT THE RIDER ALSO: Can become paralyzed by change, can spin his/her wheels, can have relentless focus on problems rather than solutions. The ELEPHANT: Loyal, energetic, compassionate, inspired, loves a good story, motivated by feelings. BUT THE ELEPHANT CAN ALSO be fearful and resistant, become demoralized and quit, can be easily derailed and goes for short term satisfaction.

To accomplish the job, you need both!
REMEMBER—if the Elephant isn't attended to, it doesn't matter what the Rider does!



Upcoming Meetings/Events:

Sunday April 1	EASTER SUNDAY worship 10am
Monday April 2	Scouts 6pm
Tuesday April 3	AA 7pm
Wednesday April 4	Ministerium 12noon
Thursday April 5	NA 7pm
Sunday April 8	Worship 10am
Monday April 9	Scouts 6pm
Tuesday April 10	AA 7pm
Wednesday April 11	Deacons 6:30pm
Thursday April 12	NA 7pm
Sunday April 15	Worship 10am Pot Luck Luncheon after Worship
Monday April 16	Scouts 6pm
Tuesday April 17	AA 7pm
Thursday April 19	Worship Team 1pm Stewardship Team 7pm NA 7pm
Saturday April 21	Men's Breakfast Post House 8:30am Session/Deacon retreat 9:30-2:30
Sunday April 22	Worship 10am
Monday April 23	Scouts 6pm
Tuesday April 24	Stewardship Workshop 2pm Presbytery Meeting 4pm AA 7pm
Wednesday April 25	Session Meeting 7pm
Thursday April 26	NA 7pm
Sunday April 29	Worship 10am

Child/youth clearances needed

The State of Pennsylvania requires all volunteers who have contact with children/youth to have clearances. Valid for 5 years, NPC needs to ensure all volunteers have up to date clearances.

If you have lived in Pennsylvania for the past 10 years, you can complete an Affidavit (waiver) in place of the FBI Criminal History. You can find the forms and information on the Donegal Presbytery website: Donegalpby.org Click on **Doc and Forms** (top right) then under **Policies and Procedures** (left side bar) Click on **Child/Youth Policies, Mandatory Reporting & Clearances**

Please print your results and return a copy to Becky Reiber ASAP. Keep a copy for yourself. Your clearances will be locked up in a file cabinet.

Any difficulties or problems, please see Becky Reiber.