

TIMBER RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

April 2019

50th Wedding Anniversary

We wish to extend a happy 50th Wedding Anniversary to Tim and Elizabeth Wingfield on April 26th. If you wish to send them a card their address is 808 Fred Oates Rd, High View, WV 26808

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APR 2 -	OWEN SZELMECZKI'S BIRTHDAY
APR 3 -	LUCILLE SELDON'S BIRTHDAY
	LORRIE VANDERLINDEN'S BIRTHDAY
APR 6 -	ORDINATION SERVICE 4 PM (SEE ARTICLE)
APR 7 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
APR 14 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
	PALM SUNDAY
APR 19 -	NANCY PUGH'S BIRTHDAY
	GOOD FRIDAY
APR 21 -	EASTER SUNDAY (SEE ARTICLE)
	SUNRISE SERVICE 7:30 AM
	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
	COMMUNION SERVICE
APR 22 -	RUBY LA FOLLETTE'S BIRTHDAY
APR 26 -	TIM AND ELIZABETH WINGFIELD'S
	50 TH ANNIVERSARY
	GINGER BRILL'S BIRTHDAY
APR 28 -	SUNDAY SCHOOL 10 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE 11 AM
	HOME MISSION OFFERING
APR 29 -	EARL THOMPSON'S BIRTHDAY

Easter Sunday Services

We hope that you will invite friends and family to our Easter Sunday services on April 21st.

<i>Outside Sunrise Service</i>	<i>7:30 am</i>
<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>
<i>Sunday School</i>	<i>10:00 am</i>
<i>Worship Service</i>	<i>11:00 am</i>
<i>(communion)</i>	

If you wish you may also bring a flower to place in the windows to brighten the sanctuary.

HOSPICE BREAKFAST REPORT

We are happy to report that we had another successful breakfast to support Hospice of the Panhandle on March 9th. We received just over \$1,400 in cash donations. With the food donations and additional cash from the Mission Committee, we were able to send them a check for \$1,500! Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way.

We welcome any articles, comments or suggestions.
 Alan & Ginger Brill, abrill@frontiernet.net
 (304) 856-3635

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What to expect at the Ordination service

At first the ordination will look quite familiar. Alan Brill will welcome everyone to Timber Ridge and make any announcements that need to be made. Then he will turn the service over to James Murphy. James is a retired Marine and a ruling elder at Potomac Hills PCA in Leesburg, VA. He will lead us in worship and introduce each person as they are asked to come forward. To allow Ruby and Nancy an opportunity to relax and enjoy the service, Dave Dorst (one of the pastors from Potomac Hills) will be playing the piano and a fellow ruling elder, Tom Gardner, will be playing the violin.

There will be a sermon given by Rev. E. Gary Marshall, *The Cloak of Elijah* 2 Kings 2:1-18. Gary is the pastor who Lorri grew up with. He has been a long-time family friend and mentor (Mike's children call him Uncle Gary). He currently calls Gainesville, FL, home. Although, he still owns the family homestead in southern VA.

The ordination service is actually part of a New River Presbytery called meeting. This means that there will be at least four but probably six commissioners from New River Presbytery attending, and they will convene the called meeting before the service starts (probably over in the Sunday school building ahead of time). The six men who will serve as commissioners are:

Peter Green (pastor with Reformed University Fellowship at WVU, Morgantown, WV), Curt Stapleton (pastor of Mercy PCA, Morgantown, WV), James Alexander (a ruling elder from Mercy PCA in Morgantown), Harold Kelly (a retired pastor), Fred Ottoson (a ruling elder from Trinity PCA, New Martinsville, WV), and hopefully Bob Wildeman (whom you already know).

Pastor Peter Green will explain what ordination is, asks the vows of Mike, and make the pronouncement that Mike is officially your pastor.

Of course, you will recognize Alan Brill when he welcomes everybody at the beginning and he will also be the one to ask the vows of the congregation.

They're pretty straight forward.

1. Do you, the people of this congregation, continue to profess your readiness to receive Michael VanDerLinden, whom you have called to be your pastor?
2. Do you promise to receive the word of truth from his mouth with meekness and love, and to submit to him in the due exercise of discipline?
3. Do you promise to encourage him in his labors, and to assist his endeavors for your instruction and spiritual edification?
4. Do you engage to continue to him, while he is your pastor, that competent worldly maintenance which you have promised, and to furnish him with whatever you may see needful for the honor of religion and for his comfort among you?

Jim Alexander will be the one who prays for God's blessing on Mike's ministry – setting him apart as God's servant while all the elders lay their hands on Mike.

Curt Stapleton is the pastor of Mercy PCA in Morgantown, WV. He will give the 'charge' to Mike and to the congregation. This is basically an exhortation to fulfill your individual responsibilities as everyone ministers in the church together.

It may look like a lot, but everyone is committed to trying to keep things as close to 1 hour as possible. So please come out and help us celebrate the ordination of pastor Mike!

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PASTOR'S PEN

What is Ordination

Well, next weekend will be my ordination service! It's been a long time in the making. Now that it's here, I'm sure that some must wonder...What's the big deal. So, I thought I would take some time to share with everyone what ordination is all about.

In Exodus 18, Moses is overwhelmed by the work of taking care of the people of Israel. Jethro, the father-in-law of Moses, advises him that doing all the work himself "is not good." Instead, Moses should "*look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people* (Exodus 18:21)." Later we have an even clearer demonstration of God anointing a few elders to help Moses further. In Numbers 11:16-17 we read, *Then the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you. ¹⁷ And I will come down and talk with you there. And I will take some of the Spirit that is on you and put it on them, and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, so that you may not bear it yourself alone."* In this way God, delegates His authority to a group of men so that the burden can be carried by many. All were elders. However, some of those elders were set-apart in a separate way.

In the New Testament Jesus often dealt with the 'elders' of Israel. Granted, the elders of Israel didn't often look favorably on Jesus. But nonetheless, the office of elder within the covenant community continued to be well-established. In Matthew 4 Jesus follows this established tradition and calls His first disciples. Twelve of these would be set-apart as Apostles. However, others became shepherds in their respective churches, ministering to God's people. Acts 15 relates that the elders met together to decide how to handle the ingrafting of the Gentiles. When Paul was traveling back to Jerusalem, he called for the Ephesian elders to come to him for instruction and encouragement (Acts 20). Some of these elders were set apart in various churches. Paul reminds Titus in his letter to him (chapter 1), "*This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you.*" In Ephesians 4:11-12 we read that God, "... *gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds [we could translate this as pastors] and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.*" This example, followed today, is rooted in this 'giving' from God the Father. The church continues to ordain men who God is 'giving' to the church. This is done after a time where the church (and the individual) are able to test and verify that a person has the gifts needed to shepherd God's people.

This testing has spiritual significance. Paul states it well when he calls himself a slave to Jesus Christ. Ordination is not about power, or privilege. Ordination is about setting someone apart for service and sacrifice. Ordination is about setting a man apart so that he can give himself fully to the work of caring spiritually for God's people. When the work is hard he will need to know he is qualified. When the work goes well he will need to know he is God's humble workman. Ordination is a reminder to everyone that God has given pastors to the church and given them the gifts to minister to the His people.

Ordination can seem like a very formal obligation. But that's not the point! Ultimately, ordination is a celebration of God's faithfulness to His covenant people. It reminds us that God does not change. He continues to shepherd His people today the same way He shepherded them long ago. I'm excited to experience this celebration with you. I hope you're as excited as I am!

~ Mike