



The Chimes

March / April 2024

203 Years Strong
doing Christ's ministry

Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church

March / April Birthdays!

March 1—Nolan Kuhn
2—Mary Lou Van Eman
10—John Bantjes
13—Cole Abbott
17—Sharon Kidd
17—Lucille Willis
23—Bill Porter
24—Amy Tansey

April 6—Marcie Bantjes
7—Regina Bajorek, Sean Gibson
Lawson
8—Morgan Kuhn
9—Mary Campbell
15—Larry Annett
16—Rick Carnes
24—Chris Torrey
28—Jim Bianchi

March / April Anniversaries!

April 7—Howard & Ruth Saylor
April 20—Larry & Jan Annett

Let Jackie Nelson know if we can add your name(s) to the lists!

Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church



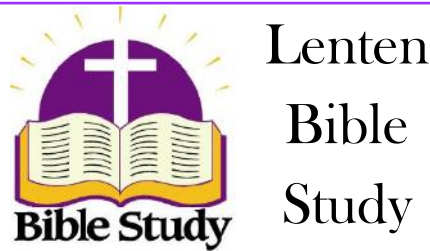
Who's Preaching?

March 3—David Annett (Communion)
March 10—Chris Torrey
March 17—David Annett
March 24—David Fisher (Palm Sunday)



Maunder Thursday, March 28—David Annett
Easter Sunday, March 31—David Annett

April 7—David Annett (Communion)
April 14—David Fisher
April 21—Chris Torrey
April 28—David Fisher



Lenten Bible Study

Tuesdays, 2:00 pm

Pastor David Annett is leading a Lenten Bible Study on Tuesday afternoons open to everyone! Inspired by "The Desert of Compassion: Devotions for the Lenten Journey", the class meets each week from Feb. 20 through March 26. Purchase books online (details from Pastor David).



Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church is a member of the **Presbytery of Cincinnati**

Learn more here:

<https://presbyteryofcincinnati.org/>

- ✓ Stay in touch with Presbytery reading the weekly Sampler.
- ✓ Consider attending the Ruling Elder Preaching Institute to be offered in June and July this year. More information soon!
- ✓ Get involved! Ask David Annett or Greg Roberts how!



Ken Ellis leading the *Four Chaplains* service in February



The service was well attended by people from the County and area churches. In this picture Mary Lou Van Eman and D. Marie Pence are helping lead "Eternal Father Strong to Save".



The Chimes Interview: Steven Van Eman

What was the source of "warmth" in your early life?

I grew up in the small (200 people) Welsh community of Venedocia in NW Ohio. My grandparents, most aunts, uncles and cousins lived either in the small village or on nearby farms. Perhaps like the New Richmond community, there was a feeling of "family" even if you were not related. The joy of riding on my bike, playing ball with my village friends and exploring the woods and streams gave me a sense of safety and warmth.

How have you grown in your faith throughout your life?

Faith has always been a part of my life. Our home was across the street from the church so going to church and youth fellowship was just a given and the guidance of the Rev. Ellis Lloyd and the Sunday school teachers grew that faith. One of the times when my faith in a living and listening God grew happened on Fathers' Day in 1986. I was in a group of guys white water rafting on the New River. The raft guide told all of us to get out of the raft and enjoy some body surfing in the quickly moving water. Not being a fan of deep water but wearing a life vest, I jumped in. After a short time and without any warning, I was caught in down pull of a hydraulic current and ended up on the bottom of the river. I don't recall being in a panic or holding my breath but the feeling of peace was all around me. In my thoughts, I 'heard' very clearly "It's time for you to go up." I pushed off and re-surfaced. I wasn't gasping for air and I wasn't scared. I'm convinced on that day I had 'heard' the voice of God and I'm convinced God saved my life that day.

When you think of God, and what God is doing in your life, how would you describe that?

I taught life sciences – biology, botany, and zoology – to high school students at Aiken and SCPA in Cincinnati. A very wise and influential engineer, John Wiseman, at Calvin Presbyterian Church taught an adult Sunday school class I attended. In his teaching he suggested science and religion didn't compete but complemented each other in the merging of two separate but joined realms of physical and religious realms. God does know each of us. God does exist. We are created in His image. The physical world we live in follows the laws of science.



We're taking a winter break but will resume meeting soon! Watch for details at church!

New Richmond Area Ministries

- ◇ Lenten Friday Fish Fries are underway at St. Peter's Church from 5:00-7:00 pm.
- ◇ The ecumenical Good Friday Service will be at Franklin Chapel at 7 pm Feb. 29th. The Interfaith River Valley Choir will be singing: check with Greg for rehearsal times.
- ◇ The Community Easter Dinner will be Thursday, April 4th, 6 pm at the VFW Hall.
- ◇ A Seder Meal planned by local ministers working with a rabbi will be Saturday, April 21 at First Baptist Church.

-Greg Roberts

Session Highlights

Pastor David Annett, Moderator
Greg Roberts, Clerk of Session

Here are some items Session discussed at recent meetings:

- ✓ The Annual Meeting is now on April 7th, after worship.
- ✓ We approved a budget for 2024.
- ✓ We reviewed Mission Committee expenditures.
- ✓ We made plans for the Maundy Thursday service. A light supper preceding the service is planned.
- ✓ We received Don Kissinger's request to resign from Session and approved with thanks for his years of service!
- ✓ We're working on a church directory with photos. Listen for upcoming announcements in church.
- ✓ A Bible Study on Tuesdays during Lent will be led by Pastor David Annett.

A word from the editor:

What an inspiration it is to have so many present for worship each Sunday! Most notably the presence of children in our worship service brings energy and vitality to our experience of hearing the Word of the Lord.

Especially during Lent, and with Easter approaching, have you thought of inviting someone to come to church with you? The world around demonstrates how much we need church, especially the fellowship of worship and the coffee hour we share each week after church.

Special thanks to all who contributed to this issue of the CHIMES. God bless you all!



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**