

# The Compass

March-April 2023

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—Portland, Indiana

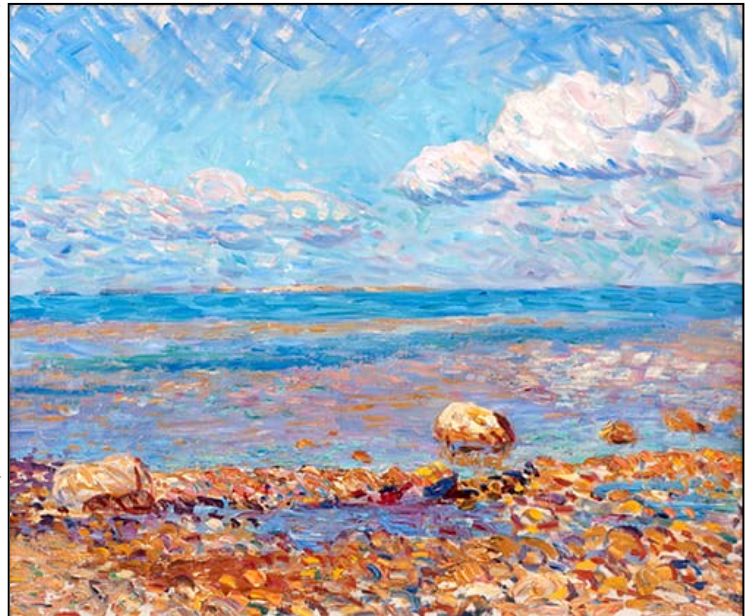
## Pastoral Perspective on Lenten Shores and Beyond

For this season of spring in the week following Easter (2023), a directive excerpt from our sesquicentennial observance by devotional readings through Psalms and Proverbs provides wise guidance through times of refreshing toward contemplative renewal. The Psalter in the 119<sup>th</sup> Psalm gives us words for prayerful petition and mindful consideration in the 35<sup>th</sup> verse as rendered in the New International Version:

*“Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight.” —Psalms 119:35 (NIV)*

I remember once traversing by the ocean looking at tidal pools on the coastal terrain that had then been recently populated by now receding waves. These temporary reservoirs appeared to contain various creatures with different forms of life from the sea naturally captured for brief observation on land. If memory serves, I recall having a sense of leading at the time to explore certain paths and pause at points toward further reflection onsite with renewing insight to bear on increasing awareness of divine direction for the life and times of that transitional season in the journey of faith.

Last month, I was blessed with delightful occasion to gaze upon a piece of museum art that brought the previous pacific memory to mind. The season of Lent for me at times seems to lend itself in thoughtful preparation toward resurrecting life in these latter days awaiting the Lord’s renewed anointing presence. Take a gander with me, if you will, through the collective mind’s eye accompanied by wonderfully artistic coastal imagination alongside captivating color-filled vistas beside assimilated Atlantic waterways. The following curator notes can serve to assist the viewer in this regard.



This painting dates from the summer of 1909, when the Glackens family vacationed in Wickford, Rhode Island, near Narragansett Bay. Like *Cape Cod Pier*, a radical new work completed the year before, *Wickford Low Tide* is another example of the new direction Glackens was pursuing as he experimented with dazzling color effects and richly encrusted surfaces. The simple composition of *Wickford Low Tide* —composed primarily of horizontal bands that describe a rocky beach, shallow pools of water, sand bars, open water, and then distant sky—afforded the artist the opportunity to experiment with the tactile and chromatic qualities of pigment as he layered thick daubs of paint in the foreground beneath thinner cross-hatched strokes at the top of the canvas.

## IN THIS ISSUE

Worship & Music Recognition	pg. 2
Youth Sunday School in Song	pg. 2
PW Spring Gathering	pg. 3
Maundy Thursday Service	pg. 3
Good Friday Service	pg. 3
Easter Service	pg. 3
Happy Birthday	pg. 3
One Great Hour of Sharing	pg. 4
Easter Flower Order Form	pg. 4
150th Anniversary Devotional	pg. 5
Daylight Saving Begins	pg. 6
Calendar	pg. 6

Even though Glackens had traveled to Wickford, a seaside locale, with his family, he included no figures shown enjoying the view. This is in contrast to an early sketch, in which a small figure of a clam digger or a wading bathers appeared in the water close to the horizon line. As Glackens was finding his way with his new style, perhaps his innate exuberance was now directed toward his pigments and the newfound qualities of color and surface that they afforded him, rather than toward a representation of the people who so often had filled his pictures in the past.<sup>1</sup>

May surrealistic seasonal shorelines of Lenten longings lead us anew to deeply delight in the Lord’s renewing directions as we continue our journey together in the One who is the resurrection and the life.

Pastor Rex

<sup>1</sup> <https://collection.nsuartmuseum.org/mwebcqj/mweb.exe?request=record;id=8981;type=101>



## WORSHIP & MUSIC RECOGNITION



The first annual Worship & Music Recognition Sunday was held recently to honor those who contribute their service to the church worship experience. Those honored include Greeters, Liturgists, Church Decorators, the Acolyte Coordinator, Coordinators of the Maundy Thursday and Christmas Eve services, Audio/Video Technicians, Keyboardists, and Volunteer Choir Director. The church worship is greatly enhanced by the services of all the volunteers. Thank you! *Photo by Vivian Morehous.*

## YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL SHARES A SONG



The Youth Sunday School class recently shared a praise & worship song they learned as part of their Adventure Island curriculum. The photo above, by Claire Smith, shows the class during rehearsal. The photo below, by Dennis Ford, shows the class sharing their song with the congregation. Thank you, class, for blessing us in song.



## PW SPRING GATHERING PLANNED

Helping Hearts Blanket Ministry of Muncie, IN will be the featured program at the upcoming Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering scheduled for Saturday, April 29 at 10:00am.



The all-volunteer ministry has been in existence for over 30 years giving hand-made blankets to organizations in Delaware and the surrounding counties. In Jay County the ministry donates to the Youth Services Bureau and to the Pregnancy Care Center.

Last year the ministry created over 750 original blankets for distribution. Diana Bartlett will be the guest speaker.



### MARCH

- 01 Emily Goodrich
- Gracelyn Runkle
- 06 Debbie Ford
- Tristan Rodden
- 10 Mark Haggenjos
- 19 Rafael Haggenjos
- Shauna Runkle
- 23 Emma Rodden
- Julia Schwomeyer
- 29 George Hyatt

### APRIL

- 01 Heather Ayers
- 15 Fran Austin
- 17 Trenton Franks
- 18 Julisa Antonia
- Meranda Teeter
- 28 Rachel Benirschke
- 30 Carol Green



*April 7*  
**12:00noon**

*First Presbyterian Church will be hosting this year's service. Pastor Joe Boggs of Asbury United Methodist Church will deliver the Good Friday message.*

*April 9*  
**9:30am**  
**Worship & Communion**



**Editor's Note:** *It is the policy of "The Compass" to refrain from publishing names of children pictured in order to protect their privacy and identity since our newsletter is published on the church website. Adults may be identified in certain circumstances.*



# You shall be called Repairers of the breach

— ISAIAH 58



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

02.22.23 - 04.9.23



Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People—all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. OGHS offering will be collected in our church on Sunday, April 9.

## Easter Flower Order Form



Once again this year, we will be decorating the Sanctuary with flowers for the Easter service.

In addition to lilies, we will also

offer hyacinths and tulips.

If you would like to purchase flowers, please fill out this order form and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office by:  
**Monday, March 20 @ 9:00am.**



Name \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Celebration of \_\_\_\_\_

# of **Hyacinths** ordered \_\_\_\_\_ x \$17.50 = \_\_\_\_

# of **Tulips** ordered \_\_\_\_\_ x \$17.50 = \_\_\_\_

# of **Lilies** ordered \_\_\_\_\_ x \$17.50 = \_\_\_\_

*If possible, please pay for your flowers at the time you place your order.*

**Total Amount Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

# 2023MAR•APR»MAY|SESQUICENDEVOTIONAL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
05 Lent (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	06 <i>Proverbs 19</i>	07 <i>Psalm 91</i>	08 <i>Psalm 92</i>	09 <i>Psalm 93</i>	10 <i>Psalm 94</i>	11 <i>Psalm 95</i>
12 Lent (3 <sup>rd</sup> )	13 <i>Proverbs 20</i>	14 <i>Psalm 96</i>	15 <i>Psalm 97</i>	16 <i>Psalm 98</i>	17 <i>Psalm 99</i>	18 <i>Psalm 100</i>
19 Lent (4 <sup>th</sup> )	20 <i>Proverbs 21</i>	21 <i>Psalm 101</i>	22 <i>Psalm 102</i>	23 <i>Psalm 103</i>	24 <i>Psalm 104</i>	25 <i>Psalm 105</i>
26 Lent (5 <sup>th</sup> )	27 <i>Proverbs 22</i>	28 <i>Psalm 106</i>	29 <i>Psalm 107</i>	30 <i>Psalm 108</i>	31 <i>Psalm 109</i>	01 <i>Psalm 110</i>
02 Palm/Passion Sunday	03 <i>Proverbs 23</i>	04 <i>Psalm 111</i>	05 <i>Psalm 112</i>	06 Maundy Thursday <i>Psalm 113</i>	07 Good Friday <i>Psalm 114</i>	08 <i>Psalm 115</i>
09 Resurrection of the Lord/Easter Sunday	10 <i>Proverbs 24</i>	11 <i>Psalm 116</i>	12 <i>Psalm 117</i>	13 <i>Psalm 118</i>	14 <i>Psalm 119</i>	15 <i>Psalm 120</i>
16 Easter (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	17 <i>Proverbs 25</i>	18 <i>Psalm 121</i>	19 <i>Psalm 122</i>	20 <i>Psalm 123</i>	21 <i>Psalm 124</i>	22 <i>Psalm 125</i>
23 Easter (3 <sup>rd</sup> )	24 <i>Proverbs 26</i>	25 <i>Psalm 126</i>	26 <i>Psalm 127</i>	27 <i>Psalm 128</i>	28 <i>Psalm 129</i>	29 <i>Psalm 130</i>
30 Easter (4 <sup>th</sup> )	01 <i>Proverbs 27</i>	02 <i>Psalm 131</i>	03 <i>Psalm 132</i>	04 <i>Psalm 133</i>	05 <i>Psalm 134</i>	06 <i>Psalm 135</i>



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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<http://www.firstpcportland.org>

### Our Vision Statement

"To provide a ministry which will lead people to strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ and reach out with God's love."



## CALENDAR



### March

- 05 2nd Sunday in Lent/Communion  
Knuth Baby Shower
- 09 4:15pm Worship & Music Committee Mtg.  
5:30pm Choir Practice
- 12 3rd Sunday in Lent / Daylight Saving Time  
Begins/Choir Sings
- 14 6:30pm Deacons Meeting  
6:45pm Session Meeting
- 19 4th Sunday in Lent
- 26 5th Sunday in Lent

### April

- 02 Palm Sunday/Communion/  
Cookies, Coffee & Conversation
- 06 5:30pm Choir Practice  
7:30pm Maundy Thursday Service
- 07 12:00noon Good Friday Service
- 09 Easter Sunday/Communion/Choir Sings/  
One Great Hour of Sharing Offering collected
- 10 9:00am Newsletter Deadline
- 11 6:30pm Session Meeting
- 29 10:00am PW Spring Gathering

**Sunday Morning Worship 9:30am**  
in person & via Facebook  
**Sunday School 10:45am**

**Church Office hours:**  
**Monday-Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm**  
**Closed on Friday**

**Daylight Saving Time**  
**Begins**  
**Sunday,**  
**March 12**

Remember to set your  
clocks **forward one hour**  
before retiring Saturday  
night.

