



March 16 through March 22, 2025

Beloveds,

Many of you were in worship on Sunday or have seen the news on the prayer list through Flocknote that I have bladder cancer and will be beginning treatment soon. It is absolutely not the announcement I expected to be making just seven months into our ministry together here at OUPC. Yet here we are. The last month and a half have been a rollercoaster that I didn't realize I had gotten in line for, let alone put down the lap bar.

I have known, because of my hereditary condition of Lynch Syndrome (MSH2), that cancer was always a possibility, but I never expected it to be in my bladder. Some of my family who have the missing protein have never had an occurrence of cancer, and that's truly what I was hoping for. And bladder cancer wasn't even on the radar, with various other yearly preventative exams and procedures already a regular part of my care plan. I am fortunate, as the other cancers that I am at a higher risk for are more complex to treat, and this, well, it's straightforward.

I don't know that I would say it's a "God thing" that it isn't colon cancer (my mom's had that three times and no longer has a colon to speak of as a result) but I do count myself fortunate that rather than push through discomfort I sought medical help and it was found so early. A small, non-invasive tumor that had highly abnormal cells - that is to say, it would have spread quickly, that was found before it could, *is* a God thing. I give thanks that I listened to my instincts, that little voice that kept nagging (I do in fact believe that God sometimes nags at us to get us to listen), and kept pursuing answers despite having anxiety around establishing new medical care relationships.

I will have 6 treatments of chemotherapy over 6 weeks, and it will primarily be time consuming. The chemotherapy will be administered directly into my bladder, meaning it will not be circulated through the rest of my body - localized, it will only irritate my bladder, hopefully killing any remaining abnormal cells. I do intend to take those days a bit easier, and once they're scheduled, I will let folks know what that looks like. Probably a "reading day" out of the office rather than visits or being at the church.

Know this: while I am going through this valley, I am still your pastor. Here's the analogy I used recently with a friend who was apologizing for complaining about seemingly trivial concerns while I have my own seemingly bigger concern: There are always bigger fish, but that doesn't mean your fish aren't pulling at your fishing rod or pulling your nets. Yes, I have cancer, but at this moment, it is a big fish resting in my net, not currently pulling, merely resting. Please do share your lives with me - I will maintain and create the boundaries I need where I need them. I may even ask for help with the net sometime.

If you'd like to receive updates, I have created a CaringBridge for the journey.

<https://bit.ly/KalynCancerJourney>

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Kalyn



Worship

- We gather for worship Sundays at 10am
- 70 were in church on March 9

Congregational Care

- Story Time is on Wednesday, March 12 at 9:30 or 10:30 am
- Ruth Circle March 12 at 1 pm
- Youth Group is meeting on Saturday, March 14 instead of March 10.
- Deborah Circle is on Monday, March 17 at 6:30 in the Kitchen. All women are invited.
- SAVE THE DATE: VBS IS GOING TO BE JUNE 9 - JUNE 13!!
- Mark your calendars for the church picnic on August 17

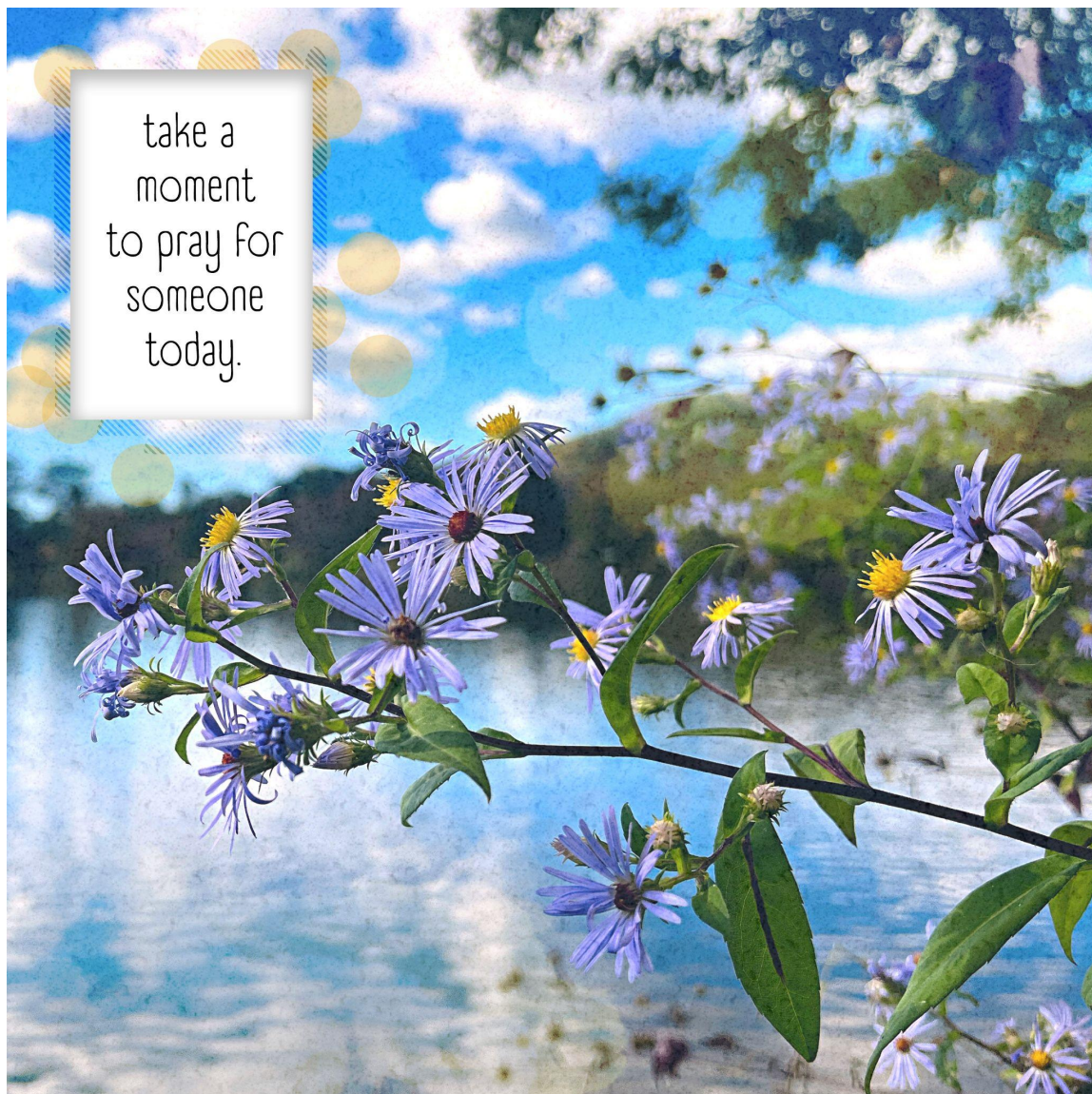
Missions

Lenten Mission Project – Join us in reaching our goal of \$3000 to provide a well and access to clean water for a community abroad, as well as to donate to a water bank in Butler County, providing clean water for more than 40 families without access. You can give during the children's collections (March 9 and April 13), by dropping money in the well or by designating the Lenten Mission Project in your giving.

Operations

Year to date expenses \$38,572
Year to date collections \$29,875

Manna served about 50 clients and workers at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church on Tuesday, February 25. The Mission Committee would like to thank the workers, cooks, and bakers for their contributions.



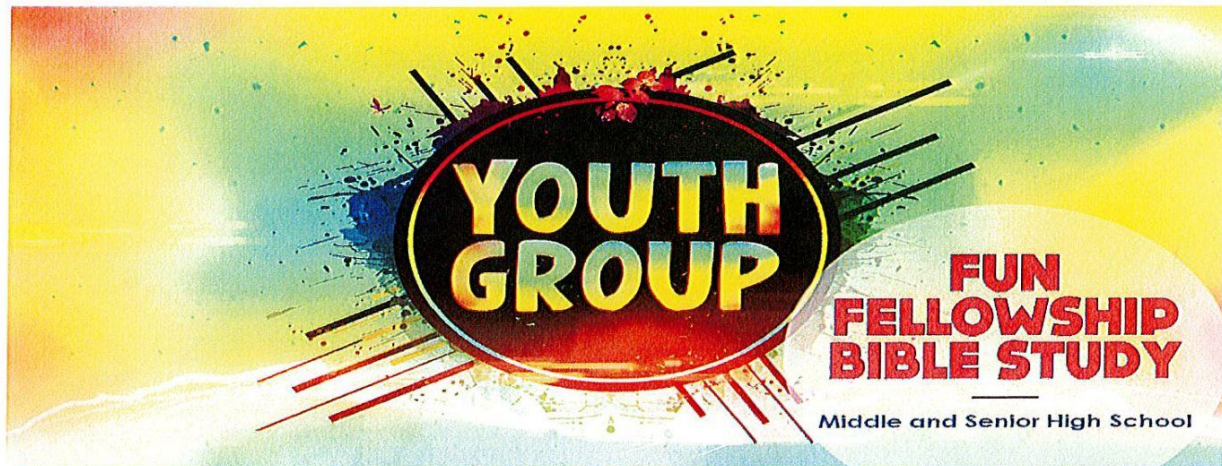
- Jen Davis–Friend, Carole, had skin cancer removed from her head. Wound isn't healing and is now open to the bone. Trying to figure out next move.
- Eleanor Pike–A joy for all who came and helped and ate at the Pancake Dinner.
- Lynn Smith–Joy to have Ashley (DIL), her caregiver Olivia, and Ashley's father in church on Sunday.
- Wendi Rybicki–Friend Laurie is spectacular after her heart transplant
- Chris Otto–Brooke's teammate Marissa tool a pitch off her hand amd may need surgery.
- Diane Gennaro–Cousin Kristin had double hip replacement and is doing well
- Megan Hunsberger–Prayers for Pastor Kalyn as she begins treatment for cancer
- JoAnn Polizotto–Prayers for dear friend's daughter, Kristin, in Presbyterian Hospital in a coma for the past 2 weeks with a brain bleed. She has 2 children and needs all the prayers she can get.



MARCH

birthdays & anniversaries

<u>Anniversaries</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>
Jason & Liz Cagnon 3/05	Mark Muslin 3/01	Logan Gregory 3/14	Betty Solinski 3/25
	Brenlee Knox 3/04	Harper Shaffer 3/14	Evelyn Cagnon 3/27
	Tracy Simmons 3/08	Richard Palmer 3/16	Kasey Hoth 3/27
	Savannah McLinden 3/09	Joshua Kocher 3/20	Debbie Ceccarelli 3/29
	Michael Duganich 3/11	Daniel Fox Sr. 3/21	
	Libby Urick 3/12	Casey Honess 3/23	



March 2 – Youth Group Snow Tubing

March 10 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

March 17 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

March 24 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

March 30 – SUNDAY Time TBD

Elevate Trampoline Park

April 7 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

April 14 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30







Baby Shower Month

March is Baby Shower Month!! Again this year we are collecting donations for Adoption Connection in Beaver. The most needed items are as follows:

New socks
New underwear
Bedding
All hygiene supplies
Diapers
Wipes
Gently used baby gear

Donations can be dropped off in the cry room.

