



April 20 through April 26, 2025

Beloved,

I owe you all an apology. Last week's newsletter went out by mistake - I had realized I hadn't given Nancy a newsletter, so I opened a google doc and began to type, only for the words that came out to be cause for concern for several of you. The intent was not for you all to see those words, as it was my own word-vomit of things that had been pressing on my heart and mind, but I take responsibility for creating the document in the shared folder.

Those words I wrote last week were "inside thoughts," using one of the practices I've had since high school: writing out what circumstances and thoughts, no matter what they are or how accurate they may be so that it gets me out of the spiral and into reflection. Putting the words on paper allows for room in my heart and mind to explore "what is up with that?!" regarding a reaction or thought. I know many of you can relate to saying or writing something you regret, and I ask your grace to be extended in this toward me.

One reason for such a technological error was in part because of my immunotherapy treatments impacting me more than I was led to believe they would. My body is not my own, acting in unpredictable ways, and it has left me a little less anchored in the storm and waves that come simply from living in a world where the kingdom of God is but is not yet. I felt particularly awful after last Friday's treatment which led to me missing Palm Sunday. I know that when my actions and words seem to call people out in a way that lacks love, kindness, and compassion is disruptive and harmful, and though unintentional (as I've shared about my resting tone being a bit naturally harsh) have missed the mark when it comes to showing how much I truly do love you all. Several of you have shared times when this was true for you as well, and I am sure you can intimately relate to the restraint and struggle of trying to keep from being short with those around you as you feel tired and unwell, anxious about the day before you.

Beloved, I take it hard when someone doesn't agree with me, or tells me I'm "doing something wrong" because the last thing I want to be for people is a burden or a problem. Even if I "know" in my head that it isn't personal, sometimes my "heart" takes it personally, and that happened this past week. I have been compromised with the complications of feeling out of control of my own body, unable to plan because I have no idea how my body will respond day-to-day as it does the hard work immunotherapy tricks it into doing. I have a hard time giving myself grace in that lack of dependability and in turn it comes out in ways that are less than charitable. Again, several of you have told me stories that tell me you can relate.

I'll share here what I told session:

I am grateful to those who have come forward. Perhaps not immediately after worship when I am unable to give due time to respond, but I was and am grateful for their willingness to do so. I do want people to continue coming forward. I do not want to be continually caught off guard in circumstances that compromise my ability to truly respond and engage in the curious, get-to-understand folks better way that I wish to engage with folks.

I know OUPC is a faithful community, filled with love, compassion, grace, and hope. I am truly grateful that people have come forward to voice their concerns about the direction of our congregation. I am continually amazed at the grace and compassion and love that I witness being shared with one another and with me. Over the weekend, two members shared perfect faith-filled messages with me that spoke into the space my mind has been occupying. Those messages reminded me to take a deep breath and let God. I know that together we can work through our differences, our hurt, and move toward being the body of Christ together.

We are all concerned and worried and hopeful for this beautiful church community here at OUPC. Beloved, I do not want lines of communication to be broken. I hear you, I love you. We as the body of Christ are one that is committed to the work of reconciliation, loving God, and loving neighbor so that as we continue forward in partnership together our community may be part of the great witness so that all may come to know God's love and grace. Because the Good News is this: Christ has died, Christ is risen, and Christ will come again. Through Christ's death and resurrection we are given a gift of grace that surpasses anything we can imagine, a wild hope that we are made for and called to be so much more, loved without conditions, invited into the beautiful and hard work that Christ is already doing in us and around us and through us. May it be so.

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Kalyn

Join us!

Good Friday: April 18, 2025 at 7pm
at Ohio United Presbyterian Church

Easter Sunday April 20, 2025

Concord: 9 am

NSPC 10 am

OUPC 10 am

New Sewickley
101 Big Knob Road
Rochester, PA 15074

Concord
2832 Conway Wallrose Rd.
Baden, PA 15005



Worship

- We gather for worship Sundays at 10am
- 102 in church on April 13
- Children's Sunday School meets during worship following Children's Chat
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Congregational Care

- Deborah Circle is on Monday, April 21 at 6:30pm
- Story Time will meet April 23, 2025 at 9:30 or 10:30 am
- **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. (see last page of newsletter for more information)

Operations

Year to date expenses \$57,823
Year to date collections \$48,495



- Nancy Hribar–Thankful for feeling no pain and relief for leg and back due to injection.
- Karen Keller –Tom Owczarzak is back in hospital with pneumonia.
- Bev Abate–In rehab for her foot
- Simon Hunsberger–Uncle Ed passed away this week
- Kathy Lee Tolfa–Cousin Jamie diagnosed with brain cancer 5 years ago. Was in remission; now back again
- Sharon Neville–Lynn Smith is having back issues and she is in arm pain
- Diane Gennaro–Prayers for pastor Kalynn and her treatment



<u>Anniversaries</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>
Michael & Crystal Saxon 4/13	Holly Diccico 4/1	Evelyn Lawson 4/9	James Williams 4/20
John & Bonnie Martin 4/14	Ivonne Holsinger 4/1	Doug Murdoch 4/11	Jason Arzberger 4/21
Denise & Chris Mathias 4/25	Jeff Davis 4/2	Denise Mathias 4/16	Nathan Burak 4/24
Kenneth & Patti Strominger 4/30	Jason Cagnon 4/9	Donna Olexick 4/18	Paul Magee 4/27
	Logan Palochak 4/9	Hannah Lanctot 4/20	



IRENE GIANIODIS GARTLEY

Irene Gianiodis Gartley, 93, of Hopewell Twp, passed away on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at Heritage Valley, Beaver, PA.

Irene was born on July 1, 1931 in Aliquippa PA the youngest of three daughters (Mary Stakisa, Alice Valiga) born to James and Afrodite Gianiodis who immigrated to the US at the turn of the 20th century from Chios Island, Greece.

As a young child she attended Greek school on Baker Street in Aliquippa. She spoke fluent Greek which she used to converse with her parents, sisters and acquaintances. As children we always knew when she started speaking Greek with her mom or especially her sisters it was about something that us kids didn't need to know about. It was an upbringing that we'll cherish forever.

She was a graduate of Aliquippa High School, class of 1949. Worked the counter at the Cozy Corner in Aliquippa and National Electric in Ambridge. Most of all she was a loving housewife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and a great cook.

Irene was a member of the Ohio United Presbyterian Church, Hopewell.

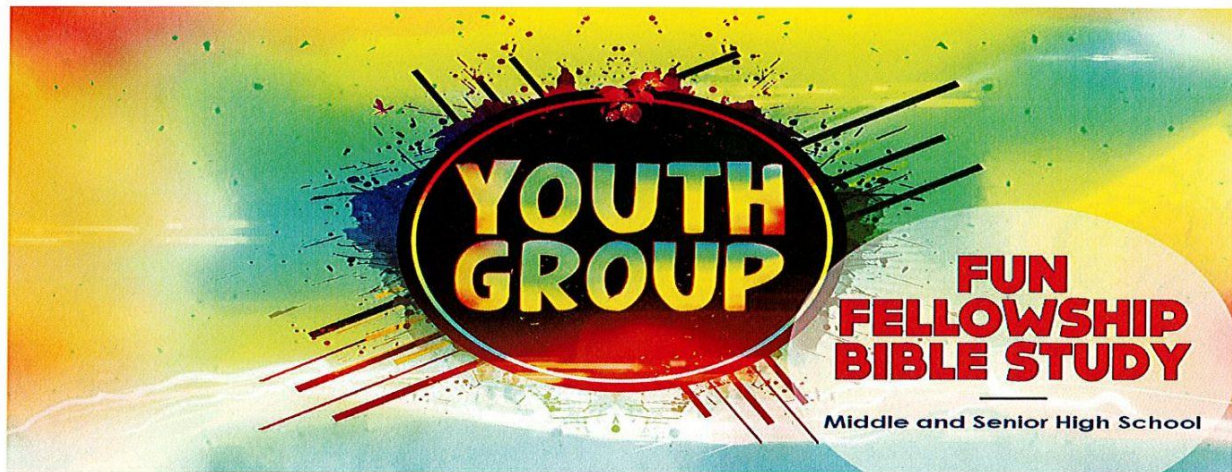
She is survived by three children: Carl (Lynn) Gartley, Karen Gartley and William (Amy) Gartley all of Hopewell. Six grandchildren: Amanda (Chris) Colbe, Kasey (Nick) Hoth, Carolyn (Zack) Iorio, Jake, Grace and Faith Gartley. Nine great grandchildren: Easton and Tanner Coble, Parker, Camden, Breysen, Penelope and Calliope Hoth, Collins and Jay Iorio. A special nephew Richard (Michelle) Valiga and nephew Jim Valiga.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 70 years Carl T. Gartley.

Our mom, grandmother and GiGi will be sorely missed.

A special thank you to her daughter Karen and granddaughters Kasey and Carolyn and the rest of the family for their love and support. Many thanks to all the staff at Concordia Villa St. Joseph and Vitas for their compassionate care and hard work.

All services are private. Interment took place at Woodlawn Cemetery, Aliquippa



Youth Group is on **SUNDAYS**

April 6 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

April 13 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

April 17 – 21 Spring Break – no school

April 21 – Movie Minecraft 11:00 Monaca

April 27 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

May 4 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

**May 9 - Elevate Trampoline Park
Cranberry – Fridays Teen Night 7-10**

May 18 – Youth Group 7:00-8:30

Last Day of School May 29

All services are private. Interment took place at Woodlawn Cemetery, Aliquippa

