

Community Presbyterian Church

1100 College Avenue

March 2024



PALM SUNDAY MARCH 24



**SUNDAY
MARCH 10**



Beverly McQuaig	3/12
Cloia Morris	3/14
Christopher Scott	3/22
Brian Miller	3/26
Dylan Miller	3/26
Sally Grant	3/31

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## **BAZAAR 2023**

Our 42nd Bazaar held on December 1, 2023 was a fabulous day. We met in January to decide how to disperse the funds but were not able to get Session approval in January, because of bad weather cancelling the meeting. On Feb 21 at the next regular Session meeting, the disbursements were approved and we are happy to share the amounts:

\$4,000.00 will go to the Capital Campaign fund to pay for the carpet stretching in library and Sunday school rooms and for the laying of new carpet tiles in the office where copy machines are.



**EASTER SUNDAY**

**MARCH 31**

\$1,000.00 goes to support Operation Christmas Child. Another \$1,000 goes to our Youth Group.

Hope's Haven will receive \$250.00.

The Lighted Cross Fund and Suicide Prevention Action Network will each receive \$150.00.

The Bazaar committee will retain \$561.26 for expenses of our next Bazaar, this fall.

Our expenses were \$75.00 for the chain saw, \$50.00 for printer ink; \$200.00 for newspaper advertising and sales tax was \$230.21.

Our Raffle brought in \$3,212.00. Total tickets printed were 4,626 and 3,657.00 were sold. The top selling item was the 40# of beef donated by Bill and Kay Cowin (754 tickets). The \$100 grocery store gift cards were next highest with 590 and 538 tickets. The chainsaw had 443 tickets; the cord of wood 436; the Ninja cooker had 201; Pie-a-month sold 189; TOPS Basket sold 172 and Weekend in S.M. sold 139.

Our Country Kitchen lunch brought in \$807.00. The Silent Auction total was \$471.00. Christmas Nook total was \$1,355.25. Sweet Shoppe was \$1,071.50 We sold most of what we had left in the RADA knives and got \$162.00.

We also had very generous attendees that gave us \$100.50 in just donations!

It was another hard-working day by some really hard-working helpers and I think everyone had lots of fun too. Looking forward to having another great event in December of 2024!

Penny Carpenter, Bazaar Chairman

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St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, is one of Christianity's most widely known figures. But for all of his prevalence in culture—namely the holiday held on the day of his death that bears his name—his life remains somewhat of a mystery.

Many of the stories traditionally associated with St. Patrick, including the famous account of his banishing all the snakes from

Ireland, are false, the products of hundreds of years of exaggerated storytelling.

St. Patrick was born in Great Britain—not Ireland—to wealthy parents near the end of the fourth century. He is believed to have died on March 17, around 460 A.D.

Although his father was a Christian deacon, it has been suggested that he probably took on the role because of tax incentives and there is no evidence that Patrick came from a particularly religious family.

At the age of 16, Patrick was taken prisoner by a group of Irish raiders who were attacking his family's estate. They transported him to Ireland where he spent six years in captivity. (There is some dispute over where this captivity took place. Although many believe he was taken to live in Mount Slemish in County Antrim, it is more likely that he was held in County Mayo near Killala.)

During this time, he worked as a shepherd, outdoors and away from people. Lonely and afraid, he turned to his religion for solace, becoming a devout Christian. (It is also believed that Patrick first began to dream of converting the Irish people to Christianity during his captivity.)

After more than six years as a prisoner, Patrick escaped. According to his writing, a voice—which he believed to be God's—spoke to him in a dream, telling him it was time to leave Ireland.

To do so, Patrick walked from County Mayo, where it is believed he was held, to the Irish coast. After escaping to Britain, Patrick reported that he experienced a second revelation—an angel in a dream tells him to return to Ireland as a missionary. Soon after, Patrick began religious training, a course of study that lasted more than 15 years.

After his ordination as a priest, he was sent to Ireland with a dual mission: to minister to Christians already living in Ireland and to begin to convert the Irish. (Interestingly, this mission contradicts the widely held notion that Patrick introduced Christianity to Ireland.)

### St. Patrick Incorporated Irish Culture Into Christian Lessons

Familiar with the Irish language and culture, Patrick chose to incorporate traditional rituals into his lessons of Christianity instead of attempting to eradicate native Irish beliefs. For instance, he used bonfires to celebrate Easter since the Irish were used to honoring their gods with fire. He also

superimposed a sun, a powerful Irish symbol, onto the Christian cross to create what is now called a Celtic cross, so that veneration of the symbol would seem more natural to the Irish.

Although there were a small number of Christians on the island when Patrick arrived, most Irish practiced a nature-based pagan religion. The Irish culture centered around a rich tradition of oral legend and myth. When this is considered, it is no surprise that the story of Patrick's life became exaggerated over the centuries—spinning exciting tales to remember history has always been a part of the Irish way of life.

### St. Patrick Was Never Canonized as a Saint

He may be known as the patron saint of Ireland, but Patrick was never actually canonized by the Catholic Church. This is simply due to the era he lived in. During the first millennium, there was no formal canonization process in the Catholic Church. After becoming a priest and helping to spread Christianity throughout Ireland, Patrick was likely proclaimed a saint by popular acclaim.

History.com

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A man was exploring caves by the seashore. In one of the caves, he found a canvas bag with a bunch of hardened clay balls. It was like someone had rolled clay balls and left them out in the sun to bake. They did not look like much, but they intrigued the man, so he took the bag out of the cave with him. As he strolled along the beach, he would throw the clay balls one at a time out into the ocean as far as he could.

He thought little about it, until he dropped one of the clay balls and it cracked open on a rock. Inside was a beautiful, precious stone! Excited, the man started breaking open the remaining clay balls. Each contained a similar treasure. He found thousands of dollars' worth of jewels in the twenty or so clay balls he had left.

Then it struck him. He had been on the beach a long time. He had thrown maybe 50 or 60 clay balls with their hidden treasure into the ocean waves. Instead of thousands of dollars in treasure, he could have taken home tens of thousands, but he had just thrown it away!

It is like that with people. We look at someone, maybe even ourselves, and we see the external clay vessel. It does not look like much from the outside. It is not always beautiful or sparkling, so we discount it.

We see that person as less important than someone more beautiful or stylish or well known or wealthy. But we have not taken the time to find the treasure hidden inside that person.

There is a treasure in each one of us. If we take the time to get to know the other person, seeing that person the way God sees them, then the clay begins to peel away, and the brilliant gem begins to shine forth.

Hopefully, we will not come to the end of our lives and discover that we have thrown away a fortune in friendships because the gems were hidden in bits of clay. Instead, let us make sure that we see the people in our world as God sees them.

Happy to Be a Presbyterian Facebook page

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**NOW MORE  
THAN EVER, WE  
NEED TO BE  
ABLE TO OFFER  
EACH OTHER  
GRACE.**

- Grace for having different opinions.
- Grace for not always knowing the answer.
- Grace for making mistakes.
- Grace as we learn to do better.
- Grace for doing the best we can.

That's how we get through tough times like these – by lifting each other up, forgiving each other's humanness, and loving each other even when it's hard.

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POTLUCK & BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, MARCH 17



Theme: The Luck of the Irish

Wear **green**.

Bring an Irish-inspired dish.

Come, join us for the fellowship!

WORD SEARCH

W R E P R O O F Y H E A L T H
O T U O I S N E V A E H O M H
L M N S D H H I N C R E A S E
F W D S J E S O E K H K A N A
R I E E U N H R N N T A H D R
E S R S S C O S O O U S T P T
V D S S T S T I I W R R G R S
O O T I T C E N T L T O N O T
J M A O F F O L E E B F E F H
E M N N Y A R R B D R A R I G
A B D S S C V U R G I C T T I
L E I N Y E R O I E K F S S L
O V N N A E L E R T C C N I E
U I G O D N I M M S S T E O D
S L P E E K I N D N E S S N C

Acknowledge
Days
Evil
Health
Jealous
Lord
Possessions
Understanding

Bind
Delights
Favor
Heart
Just
Mercy
Profits
Wisdom

Blessed
Discretion
First Fruits
Heavens
Keep
Mind
Reproof
Worship

Confident
Envy
Forsake
Honor
Kindness
Neck
Strength

Corrects
Established
God
Increase
Lean
Overflow
Truth

FEBRUARY WORD SEARCH ANSWER:

CHOIR DIRECTOR