

Faith United Methodist Church

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends,

We find ourselves deep into Lent and on the verge of Easter. On April 2, we will celebrate Palm Sunday and turn our thoughts to the Passion of Jesus. We will hold a worship service on Good Friday at 1pm at First UMC with Faith UMC. Remembering the suffering of Jesus can be difficult or even depressing. That is an understandable response. Yet his sacrifice for our sake powerfully conveys his love for us! How can we truly celebrate Easter without first considering the suffering and sacrifice Jesus made for us? I recently had a thoughtful conversation about this with some other clergy. They were discussing their theology of the cross or, as one put it, talking about what God did through the Cross. “What do you believe about the Cross, pastor?” one was asked. “I believe Jesus died on it for the sins of all of us... and that you and I need that forgiveness as much as anyone else. We are all sinners... even me... even you.” It is a hard truth to hear – that we have sinned and are in need of Jesus’ sacrifice for us.

One of our favorite human pastimes is talking about the terrible things in the world and the terrible people who do or cause those terrible things. It can be a shock to our system to hear the message that Jesus actually died for all of us and that you and I need the grace and forgiveness offered through Jesus' suffering and death just as much as the 'terrible' people we discuss. Almost across the board, when I ask someone that has followed Christ for many years about their striving for Christ-likeness, they will say they have a long way yet to go. The reality is that we all sin and need forgiveness. What do you struggle with in your thoughts, words, or actions where you need Jesus' forgiveness? We need reminded of the suffering and sacrifice of Christ so that we can hold fast to the depth of God's love for us, a love so great that it assures us of God's forgiveness. Our need for that grace is not contingent upon where we live or our income level or the amount of education we have or even the people we socialize with or the number of times we attend worship in a year. Because God is so loving and graceful toward us, why wouldn't we want to gather to remember and celebrate the gift of eternal life?

A favorite expression of my daughter's and mine is that 'the shadow proves the sunshine'. The brightness of Easter will not look so bright without recognition of the shadows of Good Friday. It's like that first bright and sunny day after a week of clouds and rain - it's so bright that it hurts your eyes! God's love for us is so great! I hope you will spend time reflecting on the depth of God's love as expressed through the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross. And I look forward to celebrating Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday with you.

In Christ,
Pastor Joy

EASTER BASKETS—This custom originated with Catholics who took food from their Easter dinner to Mass to be blessed.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Aggas Family
Baby Christian & Family
Bernice Osborne
Bev Wolford
Betty Miller
Bradley Adams
Brenda Shepherd
Buck Brackman
David Inman
Dennis Cebulsky
Doug Adams
Dunn Family
Ed McAuley
Ellen Kelton
Fred Cubbison
James Finlay Jr.
Jane Thorne
Janice Moore
Jasmine
Jill Shrock
Jim Tignor
JoAnne Peadon
Juanita Mohler
Judy & Ron Jr.
Junior Pyle

Karen Bay
Karen Norman
Karen Wilson
Kyle & Richard Felton
Laura Peck
Levi Tysinger Family
Marilyn Inman
Marlene Farley
Pastor Joy Wigal
Patty Pavlik
Pear Bradford
Ron Pyle Sr. Family
Sarah Chapman & Family
Saundra Boyd
Steve Cahn
Steve Inman
Suzanne Collins
Terry Pickens
Thea & Mark Crawmer
Tim & Sherry Dickerson
Vicky Wolfe
Zola Duncan & Family
Medical Faith Shut-in:
Kathleen McCutcheon
Peace for the World



LEADERSHIP MEETING

Leadership Board will meet 6:00 pm, April 18



APRIL

BIRTHDAYS

April 7—Amy Wolfe
 April 9—Peg Beitzel
 April 13—Julie Wolfe
 April 13—Greg Beitzel
 April 16—Charlotte Cole
 April 20—Jasmine Martin

April 23—Karson Hatfield
 April 26—AJ Harper
 April 28—Joy Wigal
 April 28—Karen Graham
 April 29—Kurt Wolfe

APRIL ANNIVERSARY

April 20—Randy & Jeri Schreiber

APRIL LITURGISTS & GREETERS

Date	Liturgist	Greeters
Apr. 2	Nick	Don, Roberta & Susie
Apr. 9	Marsha	Chris & Heather
Apr. 16	Roberta	Mark, Thea & Vickie
Apr. 23	Mark	Floyd & Pat
Apr. 30	Gail	Jim & Barb

WITH HEARTFELT THANKS



Thank you all so much for all of the calls and cards I received for my 91st birthday! It truly means the world that you all were thinking of me.—Many Thanks—JoAnne Peadon

CROSS—The empty cross is a Protestant symbol that emphasizes the risen and victorious Jesus Christ. There are about 50 different types of symbolic Christian crosses, all representing Jesus' ultimate sacrifice.

HEAD START

Please consider joining us in gathering donations of shelf stable food items to provide to Head Start families at our location. Please keep in mind that we now have 18 students! Even quantities are greatly appreciated. If you have questions, please contact Amanda.



BASEMENT SALE

Mark your calendars! Jim & Barb Tignor will lead the Faith UMC Basement Sale Saturday, May 6th from 8:00am-4:00pm. Bring your items to the church basement: Wednesday, May 3rd 10am-2pm, Thursday, May 4th 10am-2pm, or Friday, May 5th 8am-12pm. Contact the church office at 740.453.7988 if you have questions.



Barb Wolfe and Don & Roberta Covert will run the kitchen during the sale. Monetary donations will be accepted for food. Please give donations directly to Roberta Covert or Barb Wolfe.

COLORED EGGS—These were given as gifts to celebrate the coming of spring in ancient Egypt, Persia, Greece, and Rome. Christians denied eggs during Lent, colored them, and gave them as Easter gifts. In Medieval times, eggs often were colored red to symbolize Christ's blood.

EVENTIDE CIRCLE

Eventide Circle will meet Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 1.p.m.
Program: Barb Tignor
Devotions: Pat Tolle
Response Moment: Marlene Farley
Hostess: Marsha Kelly
We will meet in the Chapel area. All women of the Church are welcome to attend.
*Remember your coins for socks and also the special collection to help with the Easter project for the Head Start.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH READING PROGRAM



We are ready to start our second book of the year! You are welcome to join us as we discuss the book, **Fresh Expressions - A New kind of Methodist Church for People Not in Church** by Kenneth H. Carter and Audrey Warren. We will meet Monday, April 17 at 6:00PM in the church lounge. See Barb Wolfe if you would like to borrow a book.

PHONE IN WORSHIP

Sunday Worship occurs every Sunday
from 10:15 to 11:45 AM
Join by phone: 1-408-418-9388
Access code: 132 203 0362
Password: 7777#

FLOWERS & GRASSES—These springtime symbols stand for our faith that life will regenerate and also remind us of Christ's rebirth.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

We have many opportunities to help our community such as volunteering to help with church movies, the basement sale, etc.
Contact the church office if you would like more info!

CONSUMER CHURCH

Church is seen as a dispenser of religious goods and services. People come to church to be "fed", to have their needs met through quality programs, and to have the professionals teach their children about God.

I GO TO CHURCH

IS DIFFERENT FROM

MISSIONAL CHURCH

A body of people sent on mission who gather in community for worship, community encouragement and teaching from the Word in addition to what they are self-feeding themselves throughout the week.

I AM THE CHURCH

BOILER UPDATE

Hooray! Our new boiler has been delivered and we are scheduled to have it installed this month! The demolition of the old boiler will be the week of April 10th. Once the demo is complete they will begin the install of the new system. Please pray for a smooth demolition and a simple install process.



BUTTERFLIES—These beautiful creatures burst out of cocoons, reminding us of Jesus' death, entombment, and resurrection.