



The Good News

April 2009

Faith United Methodist Church
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The Lenten season is winding down and we are fast approaching Holy Week. The week begins with our observance of Palm / Passion Sunday on April 5th. On this day we start our worship remembering Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem and end with scriptures that point us toward Christ's suffering to come. We enter in joy and go forth with a much more somber mood.

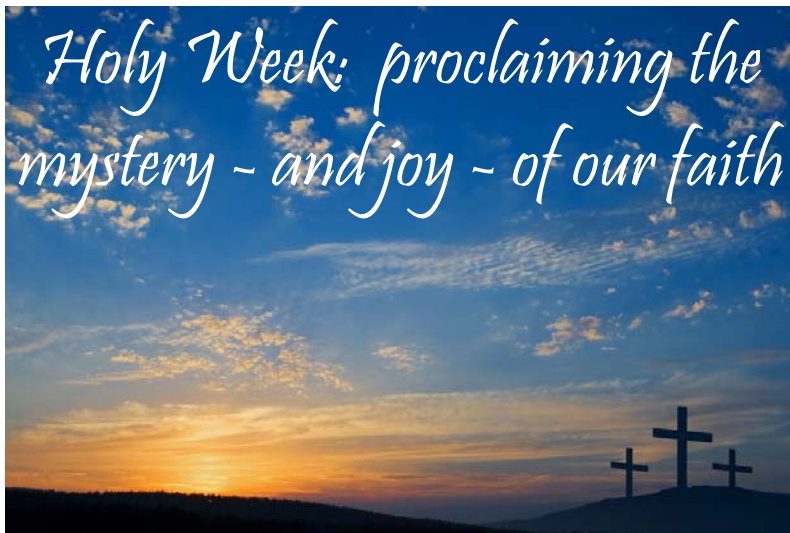
On April 9th, we will gather again for our Holy Thursday service of worship at 7:30 p.m. We will recall Christ's last supper with his disciples, knowing the betrayal that is to come. On Good Friday, April 10th, we gather again at 7:30 p.m. for the most somber service of the year, remembering Christ's abandonment and crucifixion and the three days he lay in the tomb.

Then, on Easter Sunday, April 12th, we return to the Sanctuary to share our joy—with song, music, flowers, and shouts of "He is risen!" celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and gift of new life that is ours in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Why do we do this, year in and year out? The *Handbook of the Christian Year* puts it this way:

"At the heart of the Christian faith is our participation in the life, suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ as Lord. We proclaim that 'the Word became flesh and dwelt among us' (John 1:14). Jesus Christ was born into human history in the fullness of time for our salvation. In time he lived and taught, suffered and was put to death; but God 'raised him from the dead and made him sit at his right hand... Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are delivered from sin and death, and by the Holy Spirit we are born into eternal life with God. This we confess; this we must renew continually in our worship and in our lives.'" (p. 105)

As we remember and contemplate the mystery of our redemption through God's mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we are transformed by the pattern of his death and resurrection. We share in his life-giving Spirit and our Easter faith should spill over into our mission to do God's work in the world.



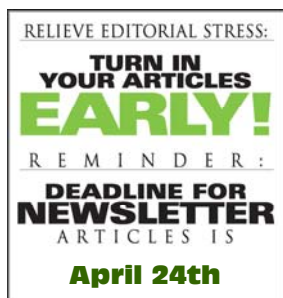
Holy Week: proclaiming the mystery - and joy - of our faith

I encourage you to join us for Holy Week services, including Holy Thursday and Good Friday, as we remember and celebrate what God has done for us in Jesus Christ and the gift of salvation that is ours. You will find details on each of the services on page 2.

Moreover, I hope that you will invite your friends, neighbors, and family to join us as well. As United Methodists, we affirm that our hearts, our minds, and our doors are always open. Extend the gift of *Radical Hospitality* that we have talked about during Lent. Or, if you haven't been to church in awhile yourself, invite yourself back! We miss you and need you; every member of the Body of Christ is valued and has gifts to share.

May you have a blessed Holy Week and a joyous Easter and we hope to see you soon.

Grace and peace,
Rev. Kathryn T. Woodrow



Submit your articles for the May *Good News* newsletter to Gina Dawson at ginad@faithworkshere.com or drop them in the Office Mailbox, marked "Good News" and Gina's name.

Thank you!

The Good News

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Faith United Methodist Church
6810 Montrose Road
Rockville, Maryland 20852



You are invited to experience the Good News and celebrate Jesus' final week and resurrection, practicing *Passionate* Worship. Practice *Radical* Hospitality by inviting your friends, family, neighbors, and acquaintances to join us.

Palm Sunday

April 5th at 9:30am and 11:00am



This service embodies the sharp contrasts of Holy Week. In the entrance with palms, led by the children, we share the excitement of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem which is reflected in joyful music. As the service continues we move into the reading of portions of the

Passion narrative, transitioning us into the somber period of Holy Week also reflected in the music provided by the Chancel Choir.

Scripture Readings: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Mark 11:1-11; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14-15

Maundy Thursday

April 9th at 7:30pm



On this night Christians commemorate the supper Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion, when Jesus washed the disciples' feet and instituted the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Through the proclamation of the Word, confession and pardon, and Holy

Communion we will share in this powerful event. Our worship will be enhanced by the Chancel Choir's singing of the beautiful *Kleine Orgelmesse* (or "Small Organ Mass") of Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) which will be woven throughout this 90-minute service.

Scripture Readings: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Easter Breakfast

April 11th from 9:00-10:30am

You are invited to our annual Easter Breakfast on Saturday, April 11th. We will dye eggs (bring a dozen hard-boiled eggs), hunt for eggs (bring a basket), eat breakfast, meet Nutty the Squirrel, and puppets! It's fun for the whole family—bring your grandparents. Even if you don't have children, come and enjoy the celebration.



Good Friday

April 10th at 7:30pm



During this powerful service we will recall the crucifixion of Christ through scripture, readings, and music. The Chancel Choir will provide music for this service including "Ah, My Dear Lord," a musical setting of a poem by Henry Vaughan (1621-1695).

Scripture Readings: Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42

Easter Sunday

April 12th at 9:30am and 11:00am



Join us for this joyful celebration of the Good News of Christ's Resurrection. The M Street Brass Quintet, Chancel Choir, and Bells of Faith add fanfare to the celebration of Easter Sunday, with everyone—congregation included—encouraged to join in singing the "Hallelujah" chorus from *Messiah* at the conclusion of each worship service.

Sunday School will be cancelled so that our children and youth can join in the celebration. The Nursery will be open during both services.

Scripture Readings: Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-8

Easter Memories



My earliest memories of Easter were not centered around the church service. It was about fashion. I always got a whole new outfit, including new shoes. I was not allowed to wear this outfit until Easter Day. It certainly made it a special day for me, but for the wrong reasons.

Understanding what Easter really means has been a long and ongoing process. Over the years, I have gone to a number of Bible studies, including *Alpha*, *Christian Believer*, and two *Disciple* courses. With the help of these intensive Bible studies, I have a clearer intellectual idea of what it means to be a Christian and what Easter is really about.

However, it wasn't till a trip to Israel that I really began to understand emotionally, as well as intellectually, what Easter means. Our group walked where Jesus walked and saw places that he saw. We saw the path that he took when he was forced to carry the cross, the place where he hung on the cross, and the tomb where he was laid to rest and from where he arose. These are real places. There may be debates about which are the actual places, but there is no doubt about what happened; and seeing these places made it all very real for me and Bruce.

Virginia McDowell





Join us for a variety of summer camps for all ages—children, youth and adults. More information about these camps, as well as Registration Forms can be found at our website at www.FaithWorksHere.com/summercamp.html.

Invite a Friend!

Camp	Dates/Times	Who Can Participate?		
		Children	Youth	Adults
Preschool, Exploring Animals A to Z	Six one week sessions from June 1st to July 10th, 9am-1pm	Completed a 3-year old or 4-year old Preschool Program		
KidServe Camp, Serving God by Serving Others	Two one-week sessions June 22-26 or August 24-28, 9am-12:30pm	Children completing 1st to 4th grade in Spring 2009		
Middle School Camp, Who is Your Neighbor?	June 22-26, 9am-4pm		Youth completing 5th to 7th grade in Spring 2009	
Choir Camp	June 29-July 3 9am-1pm	Children completing 1st to 4th grade in Spring 2009		
Vacation Bible School, Wildwood Forest	Five Tuesday Evenings, July 14, 21, 28, and August 4, and 11, 6-8pm Choose any date.	Nursery Room, Preschool program, Elementary aged children	Middle School and Senior High	All Adults



Radical Hospitality

As a church, we have been studying and reading the book, "Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations." We are gathering to discuss the book in groups at church, at Asbury Methodist Village,

and at the home of several generous members. Before each week, Kathryn, Corey, or a guest pastor, gives a sermon related to that week's chapter.

The first chapter was on radical hospitality. Our group had an energetic and enthusiastic discussion. We determined that there were a number of things that we as individuals could begin to do. The first thing would be to make sure to welcome and greet visitors. Unfortunately, because of bad memories, etc., we don't always know who is a visitor or not. How embarrassing to greet a member as though she or he is a visitor. The easy solution, then, is to greet everyone in a warm, open and friendly manner, even if you can't remember their name.

An example of this behavior is right before our eyes each Sunday, our new Music Director, Michael Wu. Right from the first day, he went all over Faith Church, even to the balcony, introducing himself and greeting everyone. His energy and joy is contagious. We may not all be as outgoing and energetic as Michael, but we can make a point of greeting as many as possible before the service starts and continuing to greet everyone at coffee hour. This practice by all of us will create an atmosphere of energy and caring.

Several of the groups participating in the study have decided to switch where they normally sit in church in order to get to know and greet everyone. It has been a fun and energizing experience. I would encourage everyone to give it a try.

Virginia McDowell



Men's Prayer Breakfast

Thirty nine years ago, in March 1970, three men began gathering around the altar of Faith Church for prayer every Tuesday morning at six thirty. Bruce Schrier initiated the idea, and Joe DiBlazio and Ken Jones, then Senior Minister, joined Bruce. This was the beginning of what has become the Men's Prayer Breakfast group. For the first three years there was no breakfast—just prayer.

Every week since then, a group of men have met on Tuesday morning at 6:30am for breakfast, several hymns, a short devotion, and prayer.

On a rare occasion a snow storm may cause a cancellation and when, as in 2007, Christmas and New Year fell on Tuesday. When you do the math that comes to over 1,872 meetings for prayer and fellowship by a group of men whose number varied from twenty or more, to as few as two (during a snow storm). You know what happens when two or three gather in His name. Compelling? It is for me. Join us and see what it does for you.

Harold E. Matter

What does it mean for us to be in mission to the world? In what ways does God send us and how does God prepare us? What needs of our local, national, and international community are we passionate about? How do we share the love of God with the world?



Faith In Mission to the World

These are just some of the questions we, as a church, ask ourselves as we seek to be a congregation that cares about and reaches out to the needs of our local, national and international community. A subset of the Church Council met in January to tackle this very issue and came up with an experiment. What if we took a period of time...say anywhere from two to four months...and focused on a particular need? What if instead of this just being a Missions project, it was a cross-ministry project, involving Education, Worship, Hospitality, and more? What would it look like and where do we start?

The Missions Team is choosing the focus area. A short-term task force will get together, plan out the activities, and implement the project. The team consists of members from different ministry teams, plus anyone else who has a passion for the project and wants to be involved. For each focus area, there will be a new task force, with leadership rotating.

Each project will have three components, all of which have opportunities for our congregation to get involved and be in mission to the world.

KNOW—What can we learn about the need? How are we shaped by God to reach out to those in need?

SERVE—What short-term opportunities can we be involved in, as a group, to serve community needs?

LIVE—How can we encourage the congregation to live out a life of growth and service in mission to the world?

Our first project is Hunger, which kicks off on May 1st. Stay tuned for more information on this growing need in our local community and for opportunities for you to KNOW, SERVE, and LIVE in mission to the world.



Welcome to Our Newest Members



Trent, Rita, Caroline, and Ryan Cornish live in Potomac. They joined Faith because of the friendliness of the Church, the friendships being developed, and the children's & youth ministry.



Jong Park, Young Mi Yun, and Hee Su Park live in Rockville and came to us from Korea Mission Church. Not pictured is son, Chris. They joined Faith because of everything!



Gertrude Ryan lives in Rockville. She joined Faith because of her friendship with Bob & Flo Lockman.



Charles, Barbara Grimsley, Charlie, and Emily reaffirmed their faith with Faith Church. After an absence they found that their community of friends, and family, were at Faith Church. They feel that it is wonderful to be home again with people they love. Also pictured are Sara and the dogs Toby and Elton.



Jim, Sue, and Kassidy Meck live in North Potomac. They joined Faith to be a part of the music program and their friendship with Michael Wu.

Also joining Faith Church on May 15th was Bruce Risser, husband of Carol Bridgers (picture not available).



Happy Birthday

- Apr 1—Lizzie Hower, Bill Luckey
- Apr 2—Ryan Cornish, Colin Stief
- Apr 3—Joey Eicher, Owen Frisby, Millie Marx, Ann Whisenhunt
- Apr 4—Joseph Henley, Elizabeth Peterson, Ruth Prillaman
- Apr 5—Travis Llewellyn, Karen Marie Stakes
- Apr 7—Linda St. Clair, Daniel Sullivan
- Apr 8—Suzanne Ayres, John Bloomer, Andrew Bryant, Jim Johnston
- Apr 9—Melissa Price
- Apr 10—Marsy Shattuck, Stefan Stokes
- Apr 11—Joanne Fluke, John Lindsay, Ginny Otterson, John Sever, Daphne Vasquez
- Apr 12—Karen Gaske, Sandy Larkin, Chuck Spencer
- Apr 13—Kaitlyn Hillard, Johanna Marshall, Karen Stakes, Richard Stolz
- Apr 14—Ashley Burke, Aimee Ramsperger, Larry Wootten

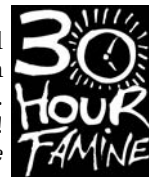
- Apr 15—Angela Bautista, Mckenzie Burke, Ginger Ferrel, Kathy Graves
- Apr 18—John Fuscoe, Robert Mullinax, Bradley West
- Apr 19—Emily Kuhn, Steve Peterson
- Apr 20—Chris Mahoney
- Apr 21—Paula MacCormack
- Apr 23—Grant Boss, Mac McCullough, Nancy Salamandra
- Apr 24—Patsy O'Connell, Walt O'Connell
- Apr 25—Ralph Avery, Bob Dahlstrom, Alice Liu
- Apr 26—Luke Federhen, Annika Riviello
- Apr 27—Paul Alsmeyer, Carol Dismukes, Betty Lauder, Jimmy Virts, Lisa Wise
- Apr 28—Catherine Fore, Kelly Galloway, Sue Howard, Madeline Mavrogordato
- Apr 29—Jerry Cann, Jane Rall, Aubrie St. Clair
- Apr 30—Jonathan Segars, Colin Woodrow



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You! There are not enough words in our language to express all the thanks for the phone calls, food, books, cards, visits, flowers, and other thoughtful items. My recovery time was filled with caring people from Faith Church. You are a gift and I treasure you all so very much. Thank you again and again for your support, encouragement, and thoughtfulness.

Marjorie Taylor

Thank you to all who sponsored the youth who participated in World Vision's 30 Hour Famine. We raised a total of \$3,745!
Rev. Corey Sharpe



Happy Anniversary

- Apr 1—Bill & Carol Benson
- Apr 3—Russ & Linda Kirkman
- Apr 8—Guy & Nancy Harper
- Apr 9—Steve & Linda Peterson
- Apr 13—Don & Lynn Logan
- Apr 18—Bill & Julie Oldach
- Apr 21—Charles & Barbara Grimsley
- Apr 26—Joe & Karen Dipeppe
- Apr 27—Morgan & Catherine Fore; Brian & Kathy Ramsperger