



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

310 Oak Street, Irwin, PA 15642

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Rev. David S. Lake – Pastor

Dianne Runser – Director of Music Ministry

April 10, 2016

Third Sunday of Easter

WORSHIP HOST: 8:15 – Nellie Brown

10:45 – Tracy Hawley

GATHERING & WELCOME

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

L: The Peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Please pass the Peace of Christ to your neighbor.

MOMENTS OF INFORMALITY

THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

MUSIC OF PREPARATION “I Rest In the Lord”

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: Lord, we come before you in joy, clothed in the majesty of your glory.

P: We come to sing your praises.

L: Like the myriad faithful of old, we proclaim the Lamb to be worthy of blessing, honor, and glory.

P: We fall down before you in worship. Amen!

***OPENING PRAYER**

Compassionate, glorious God, you hear our cries, and our pleas for help. We may enter the dark of night with weeping, but we wake in the morning with joy, for you hear our petitions and come in our hour of need. As we gather here in the name of your Son, be with us we pray, that we may know the dawn of your mercy and the sweet taste of your favor. Amen

***HYMN OF PRAISE No. 154**

“All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name”

Children come forward during the last verse.

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

(Our Children's Collection this morning will be used for “Native American Ministries” Please see the announcement for more details.)

ANTHEM 10:45 – “If You Love Me” - Chancel Choir

RESPONSIVE READING No. 762 Psalm 30

PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY “Song of Devotion”

***DOXOLOGY No. 2026 (TFWS) “Halle, Halle, Halleluja!”**

Halle, Halle, Halleluja! (3 times)

Halleluja! Halleluja!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

Our gracious and kind Heavenly Father, we praise you for raising Jesus Christ from the dead. With joy, we witness the miracles that you continue to perform by the power of your Holy Spirit. Help us to listen to the risen Christ, who urges us to feed his lambs and tend his sheep. May we join together as a congregation to faithfully feed people who are hungry and show kindness to those in need. Use our tithes and gifts in miraculous ways for Jesus' sake. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN No. 378 **“Amazing Grace”**
The Altar is open during the hymn.

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. AMEN

***SERMON SCRIPTURE (NRSV) John 21:1-19**

MESSAGE

***HYMN OF PARTING No. 430** **“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”**

MUSIC OF PARTING **“Jesus Has Risen as He Said”**

***Those who are able, please stand**

****** A special thanks to Debbie Yarlett for providing our music for us this morning. ******

We express our Christian sympathy to the families and friends of

Phyllis Brink who passed away on Friday, April 1st.

Joann Pirl who passed away on Wednesday, April 6th. Joann is Sandy Lehner’s mom.

May God comfort and strengthen both of these families.

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday Worship – 20 Sunday 8:15 – 70 10:45 – 60

SERVING YOU SUNDAY, April 10th

GREETERS: 8:15 – Bob & Alice Hubert
10:45 – Cliff & Doris Bressler

USHERS TEAMS: 8:15 – Men’s Group 10:45 – Joel Frye/Bill Hawley

SOUND TEAM: 8:15 - Nellie Wiancko 10:45 - Josh Burger & Penny Brant

NURSERY: Our Child Care Center (birth through age 5) will be open today during the service.

The Attendants today are Jean Halza & Stephanie Blissman.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The altar flowers today are presented in honor of Nellie Wiancko's birthday from her family.

Altar flowers are needed for April 17 & 24. If you are interested in sponsoring flowers for any of these Sundays, or any other Sunday, please fill in an “Altar Flower” order form or contact Alice Hubert at 724-863-3901. Each arrangement is \$25.00 and you may take them with you after the 10:45 worship service.

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Today, Sunday, April 10

Coffee Hour

8:00 Prayer Time
8:15 Worship
9:30 Sunday School for all ages
10:45 Worship
No SonShiners
2:00 FISH & CHIPS

Monday, April 11

10:00 UM Women
6:30 Grief Support

Tuesday, April 12

9:00 Men's Work Team
6:15 TOPS
6:30 Witness
7:00 Trustees
7:30 NA

Wednesday, April 11

7:00 Women's Book Study
7:00 Yoga

Thursday, April 14

6:15 C Bells
7:00 Disciple
7:15 Choir

Saturday, April 16

7:00 AM – 9:00PM Bob Evan's Fundraiser
5:00 New Members Class
6:00 Alternative Worship

Next Sunday, April 17

8:00 Prayer Time
8:15 Worship
9:30 Sunday School for all ages
9:30 New Members Class
10:45 Worship
No SonShiners
2:00 FISH & CHIPS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S COLLECTION: The Children's Collection today will be given to Native American Ministries, one of the eight Western Pennsylvania Conference Special Offerings. Funds will be used for urban ministries with Native Americans, scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist seminaries and annual conference Native American ministries.

"Beverly's Birthdays:" 4/3 - \$111.25

Do you know ...

... what committees in our church are responsible for our music program
and for building maintenance?

(Please see the answer further on in the bulletin.)

BOB EVAN'S FUNDRAISER: Our Dining Out Day at Bob Evans is this **Saturday, April 16th**. You can now eat at the North Huntingdon, Monroeville or Greensburg restaurant that day from 7 AM to 9 PM. You must bring the flyer that was provided to us for our church to get the 15% of your total bill. Flyers are on the table in the narthex.

RECEPTION OF MEW MEMBERS: Several people have expressed interest in joining our church. Pastor David will be holding New Member classes for Saturday services on Saturdays, April 16th & 23rd at 5:00 PM with Reception of Members on Saturday, April 23rd. New Member classes for Sunday services will be on Sundays, April 17th, and 24th at 9:30 AM with Reception of Members on Sunday, April 24th. Anyone interested in joining our church is urged to contact Pastor David or the office.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

The 2016 VBS is now being planned!!!! Our theme this year is *Surf Shack*. VBS will be the week of July 11 - 15 from 6:30 PM - 8:30PM. If you are interested in helping with VBS please contact Penny Brant at 412-225-1069.

Watch for updates on VBS in future bulletins and newsletters.



“Do you know” Answer

The Witness Committee shall give attention to developing and strengthening evangelistic efforts of sharing of personal and congregational stories of Christian experience, faith, and service; communications; lay speaking ministries; and other means that give expressions of witness for Jesus Christ. The Witness Committee responsibilities are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Bulletin Ministry | 7. Sound Techs |
| 2. Eucharistic Ministry | 8. Acolytes |
| 3. Altar Guild | 9. Communion |
| 4. Flowers | 10. Liturgical Dance |
| 5. Music Ministry | 11. Greeters |
| 6. Ushers | |

The Witness Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 12th at 6:30 PM.

The Trustee Committee is responsible for supervising and maintaining all property belonging to the congregation so that the ministries of the congregation can be effective. They work closely with the church to respond to God’s call. The Trustee Committee responsibilities are:

1. To oversee, maintain, and supervise all local church property.
2. To report annually to the charge conference on the state of the church’s property, equipment, investments, and resources.
3. To receive and administer all gifts made to the congregation.
4. To make certain that all trust funds of the congregation are invested properly.
5. To ensure that the Articles of Incorporation of the congregation are kept up-to-date.
6. To be responsible, in conjunction with the pastor, for all use of the church buildings and grounds.
7. To maintain adequate insurance coverage on all church property and to develop appropriate risk-management policies.
8. To submit to the Committee on Finance annual budget requests for insurance, property maintenance and improvement, and new property purchases.
9. To be accountable to the Charge Conference and to the Church Council (Administrative Council or Administrative Board).

So ... if you have a question, comment, or a complaint about any of the church property make plans to attend a Trustee meeting. While, if you are not an elected committee member you will not be permitted to vote on any issues, you can let your voice be heard.

The Trustee Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 12th at 7:00 PM.

Please remember that these are committees - made up of multiple members, not just one person. It is unfair to confront individual committee members about issues with the church, especially when they are here to worship our Lord and to fellowship with other Christians.

Birds, Bees, Flowers, and Faith

By the Rev. Mark Price*

When the weather turns warmer and the grass grows greener, it’s easier to understand the promise of new life and renewed hope that Christians proclaim as “Easter people.”

As we celebrate the Easter season, the 50 days after the Resurrection, we see reminders all around us. So be sure to keep an eye out on your next spring stroll.



Birds

The robin, a very common bird in the U.S., has a red breast and a legend to explain it. Seems that once a gray robin flew to Christ’s crown of thorns to draw out a thorn, and when it did, a drop of Christ’s blood fell on its breast, leaving a stain forevermore.

Bees

It takes lots of buzzing bees to spread the pollen and make flowers grow. The honey these creatures create is a biblical symbol of God's favor. The Torah agrees, for it describes God's promised land again and again as "flowing with milk and honey."

WESLEY'S WORDS



I believe in my heart that faith in Jesus Christ can and will lead us beyond an exclusive concern for the well-being of other human beings, to a broader concern for the well-being of the birds in our backyards, the fish in our rivers, and every living creature on the face of the earth.

—John Wesley



Flowers

Long considered a symbol of hope and new life, the daffodil is one of the blooms most often connected to the Resurrection. Tradition says that giving a gift of daffodils will ensure happiness for the receiver—but always give a bunch: a single bloom signals doom.

The flowering shrub known as the forsythia is what I call the Easter tree, because when its spidery branches are moving with the wind, they seem to be arms waving in praise of the season. According to tradition, forsythia means anticipation—an appropriate companion word for Resurrection.

It is said the dogwood tree used to grow straight and tall, but after it was used as a crucifix for Christ, God made it short and twisted with a thin trunk so it could never be used as a cross again. The dogwood bloom has four parts, each with a rusty red color on the end and a small hole, a reminder of where the nails were driven into the cross. The center stamens look like the crown of thorns.



Faith

The traditions that developed around these spring symbols helped explain the concept that God in the flesh took on death and came back to tell us there is life on the other side. What fantastic news!

This spring, be a witness to the good news that Christ is risen:

- Learn about the symbols and notice them when you are outdoors this season. Even better: plant some dogwoods and flowers in your yard and on the grounds of your church.
- Fashion a cross from cuttings of spring flowers. Invite others to help. Set it out in front of your church, or even your house, for all to see.
- Make (don't buy) a gift for someone who needs to be reminded of the love of God made known in the Risen Christ.
- Play. Not a video game or a phone app. Physically play. Move. Dance. Interestingly, the Irish jig and tap dancing have their roots in an early Saxon tradition called the "hop-egg." The purpose was to step among a dozen eggs as if walking the Stations of the Cross. This egg dance is likely the distant relative of hopscotch.



The Council at Nicaea in 325 AD gave the Church a revised creed. The last line reads: "We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come."

As Easter people, we don't have to look further than spring for an exclamation point to that affirmation.

*Price is Minister of Spiritual Formation and Facilities Manager at Christ United Methodist Church in Franklin, TN. This story was originally published on May 14, 2014.