



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



February 28, 2016

3rd Sunday of Lent

WORSHIP HOST: 8:15 – Nellie Wiancko 10:45 - Dawn Capecci

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

8:15 - "Short Partita on 'Ah, Holy Jesus'"

10:45 - "Ah, Holy Jesus" - Cathedral Bells

LENTEN CANDLE CEREMONY

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

L: Come to the waters of grace.

P: Here, our thirst is satisfied.

L: Come to the rivers of love.

P: Here, our parched mouths sing with praise.

L: Come to the tree bearing the fruit of life.

P: Here, our hearts find joy, our spirits reside in deepest love.

L: Come to the waters of grace.

P: Here, our thirst is satisfied.

***OPENING PRAYER**

God of grace and God of glory, pour out your Spirit upon all of us gathered here, that we may be washed in the spirit of your love and fed with the bread of your teachings. Open our hearts, that we may truly accept your abundant grace and steadfast love. As our souls reach to you in this time of worship, embrace us with your love. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen

***HYMN OF PRAISE No. 698**

"God of the Ages"

Children come forward during the last verse.

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

(Our Children's Collection this morning will be used for "Irwin VFD Ambulance Service." Please see the announcement for more details.)

ANTHEM 8:15 - "Moment by Moment" – Connie Bickerstaff

10:45 - "Moment by Moment" - Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 55:1-9

PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "For Me to Live Is Jesus"

***LENTEN DOXOLOGY (tune: "Old 100th)**

**Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise,
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS**

Holy God, you offer abundance to all who are thirsty and hungry. You call out, drawing us near so that we will listen and delight in your ways. Thank you for giving us new life in Christ. Help us to set aside that which is not worthy of our time. May we turn our attention to you and the joy we find in serving our community. Accept the offering of ourselves, our time, talent, and treasure in Jesus' name. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN No. 375 "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

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

***SCRIPTURE (NRSV) 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

MESSAGE

***HYMN OF PARTING No. 555 "Forward Through the Ages"**

MUSIC OF PARTING "Joyful Jig"

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

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday Worship – 26 Sunday 8:15 – 72 10:45 – 101

SERVING YOU SUNDAY, February 28th

GREETERS: 8:15 – Mike, Anne, Charlie & Philip Osborn
10:45 – Mary Reed & Bernie Johnston

USHERS TEAMS: 8:15 – Men's Group 10:45 – Lou Berta

SOUND TEAM: 8:15 – Fritz Runser 10:45 – Josh Burger, Penny Brant

NURSERY: Our Child Care Center (birth through age 5) will be open today during the 10:45 service. The attendants today will be Donna Weber & Stephanie Blissman.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The altar flowers today are presented in memory of our parents by Chuck and Toni Fetter.

Please return the plastic flower vases when you are finished with them.

2016 Community Mid-Week Lenten Services

“Fruits of the Spirit”

Sponsored by the Men’s Prayer Fellowship at
First United Church of Christ, 400 Main Street, Irwin, PA
Hymn singing - 11:30 AM Worship - Noon
Song Leader: Hervey Steiner Pianist: Jimmie Ruth Caughron
Signer: Connie Bridgeman

Wednesday, March 2

Topic: Patience & Gentleness Speaker: Rev. Nick Poole

Wednesday, March 9

Topic: Faithfulness Speaker: Dr. Ronald Wakeman

Wednesday, March 16

Topic: Self-Control Speaker: Rev. Al Kimmel

Wednesday, March 23

Topic: Peace Speaker Rev. Ron Durikz

***Lunch is provided by Colonial Grille at 12:30 for a fee.**

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Today, Sunday, February 28

3rd Sunday in Lent

8:00 Prayer Time
8:15 Worship
9:30 Sunday School for all ages
10:45 Worship
12:15 Sonshiners
2:00 FISH & CHIPS

Monday, February 29

Leap Year Day

7:00 District Meeting
7:00 Dartball - Away

Tuesday, March 1

6:15 TOPS
7:00 Outreach
7:00 Nurture
7:30 NA

Wednesday, March 2

11:30 Mid-week Lenten Service
(United Church of Christ, Main St)
5:30 Gym in use
6:15 C Bells
7:00 Disciple
7:00 Women’s Book Study
7:00 Yoga
7:15 Choir
8:15 LLS Choir

Thursday, March 3

4:00 – 9:00 Chili & Rib Cook-off
Gym in use all day

Friday, March 4

World Day of Prayer

Saturday, March 4

Gym in use
11:00 LLS Full Cast
6:00 Alternative Worship

Next Sunday, March 6

4th Sunday in Lent/Communion

8:00 Prayer Time
8:15 Worship
9:30 Sunday School for all ages
10:45 Worship
12:15 Sonshiners
2:00 FISH & CHIPS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN’S COLLECTIONS: The Children’s Collection today will be given to the Irwin VFD Ambulance Service. This is the ambulance service that responds to our calls to help those who are ill or injured while at our church.

“Disability Awareness:” 2/21 - \$184.50

A Simple Truth:

You Are Loved!



You are invited to hear the story of God's great love for you, followed by our annual Egg Hunt on Palm Sun., Mar. 20th, 9:30-10:30 am, starting in the Elementary Dept. Remember the wonderful story of Holy Week/Easter & talk about Christian symbols. The egg hunt follows in the gym with terrific treasures that relate to the story. All ages welcome!

Teens/Preteens, we need your help hiding the eggs! Of course, you will receive treats for helping & you should also meet at 9:30 in the Elementary room to assist. (Tiny tots meet in Mrs. Weber's toddler room across from the nursery for a mini-hunt.)

Friends are always welcome!

Kick off Holy Week by hearing the story of our Christian faith in one exciting session!

Hope to see you on March 20th!

Lent/Easter Quiz

(Monday – Friday during Lent)

http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/lent-quiz-test-your-knowledge-of-the-season?_ga=1.201395857.1823834676.1454675431



February 22

Why are eggs associated with Easter?

February 23

Why does Lent last 40 days?

February 24

What do some United Methodists not sing at Lent?

February 25

What in nature is used as a symbol of Easter?

February 26

What group was not typically crucified in Rome?

THE LIVING LAST SUPPER: The *Living Last Supper* is ON! We have all the actors. Now we need your help. If you would like to sing in the choir, please come to rehearsals on Thursdays at 8:15 PM beginning February 18 (next week). Yard signs are in the assembly room near the Pastor's office. Please be sure to ask permission before posting on someone else's property. Placement near stop signs or lights are best, since people have time to read the information. Pocket posters and large posters will be available soon.

Race For Grace

The ninth annual *Race For Grace* will be held Saturday, April 2nd. Our church is a silver sponsor and with that sponsorship, free race registrations are available. We still have a few sponsorships available. Please contact Anne Osborn at 724-744-7278 or annegiannetti@gmail.com if you are interested in the free registrations. Race details can be found at their website www.reflectionsofgrace.org – hope to see you there.

Upper Room: The March/April issue of the Upper Room is now available in the narthex. Holy Week devotions are in this issue. This small devotional helps us gain a deeper spiritual experience. Pick one up today.

Easter Baskets: Check out the poster in the Narthex and take a few post-it notes to help us fill Easter baskets for local families. In addition to providing food for an Easter meal, we will be providing baskets for the children of the family with fun treats! This holiday we are supporting both Sheridan Terrace backpack families and the neediest of the food bank clients. Donations are due back to church on Palm Sunday (3/20). Any questions and/or concerns, please contact Anne Osborn at 724-744-7278 or annegiannetti@gmail.com. Thank you for your support of these local families.

NURTURE: Change of date for "Camp Sunday"! Our Camp Sunday will be on Sunday, March 13th! Remember to wear "camp clothes" that week to church. Join us after each service in the parlor for smore's and hot chocolate and pick up a 2016 camp brochure. If you've ever camped at Jumonville, Camp Allegheny or Wesley Woods and would like to share a camp story with me, or if you have any questions regarding camp registration, please call or e-mail Laurie Saporito (Camp Steward) at 724-864-5649 or cts72@hotmail.com.

Lent/Easter Quiz Answers

- Feb 22:** They symbolize new life; they have a shell around the body inside, just as the tomb was around Jesus' body and then was cracked open; they can be dyed pretty colors to represent joy, just as we have joy that Jesus has risen.
- Feb. 23:** To represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, tempted by Satan. (Matthew 4:2). Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter.
- Feb. 24:** Some United Methodist churches refrain from singing "Alleluia" and/or "Gloria" during Lent. This practice, sometimes called "Burying the Alleluia," is a way of recognizing the solemnity of the season and anticipating the glorious praise we will get to sing as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday!
- Feb. 25:** Lilies, which have a bulb that is buried in the earth and emerge as beautiful flowers in Spring, as well as delicate butterflies which emerge from a hard cocoon, are examples of new life after being "entombed" or underground. Eggs, which also have a hard shell, are "life-giving" and are great teaching tools for children to explain Christ's Resurrection. The lamb is mentioned in the Bible (John 1:29, Revelation 5:6-14) as representing Jesus and his sacrifice as well as Jesus as a shepherd caring for His flocks.
- Feb. 26:** Crucifixion was a punishment reserved for foreigners, slaves, and those of the lower classes. Roman citizens were typically exempt from this form of punishment. Crucifixion was not only an effective means of execution; it also served to publicly humiliate offenders and their families. It was supposed to deter others from committing similar crimes. Jesus, who was not a Roman citizen and from a poor family, was a candidate for crucifixion. Remarkably, after his resurrection Jesus' followers talked freely about his crucifixion. That which was intended to quash a movement, became the symbol for Christians everywhere.

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE: Our Easter Candy Sale is now underway. This year we are ordering from *McFeelys Gourmet Chocolates* located across the street from our church. Order forms were included in your February newsletter or there are extra ones available on the table in the narthex. Please place all orders and checks (payable to FUMC) in the office door slot by **Sunday, March 6th**