



The Flame

First United Methodist Church, Paragould, Arkansas

March 31, 2010 Volume 35 No. 13

Dear Friends,

Holy Week is the best of times and the worst of times. Our attention is turned toward God as we walk with Christ through this week, so this is an opportunity for spiritual growth. But in order to experience the joyous celebration of Resurrection on Easter, we first must endure the grimness of the Passion of the Christ.

We began this week with a very meaningful Palm/Passion Sunday. I want to thank John Michael, who read the Liturgy of the Palms and the Liturgy of the Passion from the Gospel of Luke. His interpretation was dramatic and powerful. John is a teacher of communications at ASU Paragould, and has appeared in numerous dramatic productions at the Collins Theater.

I also want to thank the drummers who so percussively “prepared the way” of the Lord in the 9:00 service: Jimmy Bushong, Logan Bushong, Jeremy Carter, Logan Davis and Travis Finch.

What a powerful way to begin Holy Week!

Please note the opportunities for worship this week at the various churches in Paragould.

Particularly, I urge you to participate in the Good Friday Prayer Vigil. The chapel will be open at 8:00 a.m., and the Prayer Vigil will end at 7:00 p.m. when the Tenebrae service begins in the sanctuary.

Good Friday is for Christians a kind of “Day of Atonement,” an opportunity to confess our sins to God and to give thanks for the atoning sacrifice of Christ.

On this Good Friday I also urge you to be in prayer for the important decisions facing our church. The church is embarking on an ambitious plan to retire our debt; but we are also faced with the opportunity to acquire property that we deem vital to the future vision and growth of our church. We will need all the wisdom and courage that God can offer us.

In Christ,

Tom

Children’s News

Tricia Weaver, Christian Education/Children’s Director

Rotation Sunday School

The next Rotation is “Easter: People” and will run from April 4—May 2. Need teachers for: Games, Arts & Crafts, Storytelling, Music, and Cooking. Please contact Tricia if you would like to teach.

Wonderful Wednesday The Wonderful Wednesday school year is winding down. April 7 will be the last Wonderful Wednesday. Thanks so much for all the volunteers that have helped this year!!! The year-end program “Race to Win” will be on Sunday, April 11, at 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 3 from 9:00—10:30 am for children from birth - 3rd grade. Come join us for a light breakfast of muffins, donut holes, milk and juice. We will have some crafts along with a reading of the Easter story. Pictures with the Easter Bunny will be available for \$2 each and ready for pick-up on Sunday, April 4, at the church.

VBS will be July 26-29 from 5—8 pm.

Children Council—The Children’s Council will meet on Friday, April 2, at 1:30 pm to finish filling eggs and set-up for the Easter Egg hunt.

Confirmation Class—The Confirmation Class will be taking a field trip to St. Mark’s Episcopal Church on Sunday, April 25. Specific times will be mailed to each of you.

Welcome New Members:

Clay and Ashley Bolen who joined Sunday, March 28.

United Methodist Women

Glenna Rose Circle will meet Tuesday, April 13, at 1:30 pm

Jennie Knox Circle will meet Tuesday, April 13, at 2:00 pm

Youth News

Jeff Weaver, Youth Minister

Yard Sale - **April 23 & 24** - If you have items for the yard sale, you may bring them to the church at any time! If you need help with an item or something picked up from your home, contact Jeff.

UMY—Sunday’s at 5:00 pm

Disciple Bible Study—Wednesday’s at 5:30 pm

UMY Praise Band—Sunday’s at 7:00 pm

Remember that our College Sunday School Class meets each week!

Greene County United Methodist Men

HAM AND BEAN LUNCH

11:00 am—1:30 pm

Thursday, April 8

\$5.00

Family Dinner

Don’t forget to sign up for the last Family Dinner of the season, April 7. Wesley Class will host and will serve ham with vegetables.

Wayland Spring Camp Golf Tournament

Saturday, May 1

Shotgun start at 8:00 am

4-person scramble

\$75 per person / \$300 per team

Hole Sponsorship—\$100

Contact Herb Brubaker, 870-219-2501, for more information.

Calendar of Events

| | |
|--|---|
| Sunday, April 4 <i>Easter</i> 8:00 am Early Service *9:00 am Contemporary Service 10:00 am Sunday School *11:00 am Traditional Service 1:00 pm Hispanic Service | Saturday, April 17 10:00 am Donaldson Shower |
| Monday, April 5 4:15 pm Musical practice 5:00 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Church Council 6:00 pm Scouts | Sunday, April 18 8:00 am Early Service *9:00 am Contemporary Service 10:00 am Sunday School *11:00 am Traditional Service Noon—Spaghetti Lunch 1:00 pm Church Conference 1:00 pm Hispanic Service 4:00 pm Bodacious Bells 5:00 pm UMYF / Mercy Refine 5:30 pm ABCD Group |
| Tuesday, April 6 6:00 pm Scouts | Monday, April 19 6:00 pm Scouts |
| Wednesday, April 7 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Beth Moore 3:30 pm Wonderful Wednesday 5:00 pm Family Dinner 5:15 pm Radical Ringers 6:00 pm ABCD Group *6:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Praise Team | Tuesday, April 20 5:15 pm Trustees 6:00 pm Scouts |
| Thursday, April 8 9:00 am Prayer Ministry 10:15 am ABCD Group 11:00 am Ham and Bean Lunch 7:00 pm Hispanic 7:00 pm Scout Roundtable | Wednesday, April 21 6:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Beth Moore 6:00 pm ABCD Group 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Praise Team |
| Saturday, April 10 2:00 pm Musical Practice | Thursday, April 22 9:00 am Prayer Ministry 10:15 am ABCD Group 6:00 pm Mission Outreach Mtg 7:00 pm Hispanic |
| Sunday, April 11 8:00 am Early Service *9:00 am Contemporary Service 10:00 am Sunday School *11:00 am Traditional Service 2:00 pm Children's Musical 4:00 pm Bodacious Bells 5:00 pm Hispanic Service 5:00 pm UMY / Mercy Refined 5:30 pm ABCD Group | Friday, April 23 Yard Sale |
| Monday, April 12 6:00 pm Scouts | Saturday, April 24 Yard Sale |
| Tuesday, April 13 1:30 pm Glenna Rose UMW 2:00 pm Jennie Knox UMW 6:00 pm Scouts | Sunday, April 25 8:00 am Early Service *9:00 am Contemporary Service 10:00 am Sunday School *11:00 am Traditional Service 1:00 pm Hispanic Service 5:00 pm UMYF / Mercy Refine 5:30 pm ABCD Group |
| Wednesday, April 14 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Beth Moore 6:00 pm ABCD Group 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Praise Team | Monday, April 26 6:00 pm Scouts |
| Thursday, April 15 9:00 am Prayer Ministry 10:15 am ABCD Group Noon—Silver and Gold Potluck 7:00 pm Hispanic | Tuesday, April 27 6:00 pm Scouts |
| | Wednesday, April 28 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Beth Moore 6:00 pm ABCD Group 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Praise Team |
| | Thursday, April 29 9:00 am Prayer Ministry 10:15 am ABCD Group 7:00 pm Hispanic Service <i>*Nursery Provided</i> |

Volunteers

NURSERY

April 4: Janice Wilcox (9-10)
Pat Fulkerson (9-10)
Frankie Arant (10-12)
Denise Chipman (10-12)
April 11: Debbie Brown (9-10)
Louise Woods (9-10)
Donna Jones (10-12)
Mary Ann Allen (10-12)
April 18: Julie Rowe (9-10)
Janie Harris (9-10)
Tori Thompson (10-12)
Christie Dollar (10-12)
April 25: Elizabeth Sheldon (9-10)
Jamie McIlvoy (9-10)
Susan Blossom (11-12)
Natalie Bland (10-12)

ACOLYTES

April 4: Jenna Rawls, Hannah Risker,
Kirby Weaver
April 11: Walt Reynolds, John Brengard,
Sara Giguere
April 18: Alyssa Reece, Anna Clara May,
Lily McDaniel
April 25: Kyleigh Horner, Abby Rogers
Holly Blair Benson

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

April 4: Tricia Weaver
April 11: Kelly Colbert & Kristie Ford
April 18: Randy & Leigh Jackson
April 25: Tonya Hill & Linda Bartlett

BLUE JEAN USHERS

April 4: Charlie & Crete Rhodes,
Melissa Tarry, Sally Martin
April 11: Shay Nanke, Jeremy Willis,
Melissa Tarry, Susan Nanke
April 18: Erik, Kerry & Jakob Eliason
Trey Dortch
April 25: Shane & Liz May
Tom & Jamie Carter

Mugging Ministry

April 4: Kay Bland
April 11: Laura & Brock Wooldridge
April 18: Mike & Shelia Ragsdale
April 25: Kat Block

Prayers / Presence / Gifts

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Weekly Budget Needs | 13,460.56 |
| Weekly Contributions | 13,030.75 |
| YTD Contributions | 137,475.69 |
| YTD Budget | 174,987.28 |
| 2010 Budget | 699,494.00 |

Attendance

| | March 28 | Last Year |
|--------------|------------|------------|
| 8:00 | 33 | 37 |
| 9:00 | 187 | 164 |
| 11:00 | 173 | 139 |
| Total | 393 | 340 |

Hospital

Parker Kocsis

Prayer Requests

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| SPC Andrew Goodwin | 875th |
| Johnny Townsley | Bette Brewer |
| Randy Boyd | Jerry Yates |
| Sara MacDonald | Kristi Millard |
| Bill Burnett | Jackson Shepherd |
| Jorden Davidson | Berneice Howard |
| Don Hudson | Candi Crosno |
| Nichole Babcock | Keith Bean |
| Keith Willis | Ronnie Reeves |
| Joyce Vallentine | Gayle Eden |
| Mary Stark | Lori Thompson |
| Jane McKenzie | Brian Noland |
| April Smith | Claude Martin |
| Noah Crowe | Keith Griffith |
| Ryan Hobson | Kenyon Huggins |
| Melissa Becton | Tyler Smith |
| James Rashke | Alice Jones |
| Tim McCarty | Maleta Scudder |
| Marti Refkin | Glenda Kaminer |
| Roella Williams | Royce Williams |
| Robin Williams | Jeanie Mockewich |
| Harry Bazzell | Joan Ratten |
| Hope Espinoza | Joey Barr |
| Jill Cooper | Jerry Clifford |
| Velma Clifford | Bekah Eno Bateman |
| Will & Tasha Tarry | Dalton Lane |
| Joann Allison | |

Please inform the church office if a name can be removed from this list. Thank you

Memorials

In Memory of

Emmy Witt by Virginia Biggs, Fred & Janice Wilcox, Alton & Dana Speer, Iris Wheelis, Phillip & Paige Wooldridge, Dick & Martha Chiles, Jim & Mary Beth Weidman, Danny & Linda Davis, Ann Cathey Gregg, Brent & Family, Bruce Higgins
Monra Riggs by Fred & Janice Wilcox
Lou Loving (*mother of Carrie Cook*) by Fred & Janice Wilcox, John & Ann Honeycutt, Darrin & Kelly Malone
Dan Keeton by Bruce Higgins

In Honor of

Roberta Crawford by the T.T. McNeal Circle
Jackson Robb Branch by Eva Hopkins, J & LaDonna Gilbert

First United Methodist Church
P O Box 667
Paragould, AR 72450

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Sympathy to:

Mozelle and Harold Dortch and family on the death of Mozelle's brother, Max Lovelady.

Congratulations to:

† Audri & Heath Kocsis on the birth of their son, William Parker. Grandparents are Jim & Guyla Jackson and great-grandparents are Wallace & Laura Jackson
† Joe & Neely Branch on the birth of their son, Jackson Robb. Grandparents are: Bill & Diane Brewer and Keith & Alantha Branch and great-grandmothers are Eva Hopkins and Joan Ratten.

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