

Pass It On – The Sunday Newsletter

March 22, 2009

Holy Week Schedule.

April 5 11:00 Palm/Passion Sunday

Everyone will gather in the Fellowship Room, where the service will begin. This service embodies the sharp contrasts of Holy Week. In the Entrance with the Palms, we experience the joyous demonstration of loyalty to Jesus as he enters Jerusalem, including festive Palm Sunday music. Then we confront and respond to the story of Jesus' passion as told in the Gospel of Mark. Going directly from the lesser joy of the entry into Jerusalem to the joy of Easter, without being addressed by the passion and the cross of our Lord, misrepresents the gospel. There is no triumph without suffering, no crown without a cross. This day and all of Holy Week are preliminary to the supreme joy of Easter.

April 12 6:30 Sunrise Service at Covenant Shores Retirement Community. Indoors overlooking the water. Breakfast is served by Covenant Shores following.

9:00 MIUMC Easter Breakfast, then Easter Egg Hunt

If your last name begins with A-K, please bring fruit.

L-Z, bring coffee cake, or other bread. Main dish will be provided.

11:00 Easter Celebration Service. Bring flowers for the Resurrection Cross.

Worship Ensemble. How about singing in the Worship Ensemble? Rehearsal begins 9:30 Easter Sunday morning. Visiting family members or friends who like to sing will be most welcome.

Council Votes to Use a Consultant. The Administrative Council has decided to use a consultant to help us move ahead, and is inviting consultant Gail Grossman to come for an initial consultation. She will meet with some of our core people before we make a commitment. The proposed process would involve the full congregation, and we would meet with her about four times a year. It will cost about \$3,000 per year, and we would plan on a 3-year commitment. Bill Parker is working on putting funding in place. No time has been set yet for the exploring conversation.

Worship Time Preference Survey: Thank you for your responses. I have kept them in a file for future reference, and we will return to them and gather any other responses which come. Initial responses indicate a preference for change to an earlier time year round. We will follow our usual summer schedule of shifting to 10 a.m., and will postpone the Sunday schedule decisions for fall. -- LAK

Anne Lamotte, Writer and Speaker, Coming to Mercer Island. Her humor, honesty and passion shines through her work and this evening promises to be lively and engaging. 7:30 Friday, April 17, MI Presbyterian Church. Tickets are \$15.

Atlantic Street Center's 99th Birthday. Save Thursday, May 14, 6:30-8:30 for a big celebration. Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1634 19th Avenue, Seattle. ascinfo@atlanticstreet.org for more information.

In Our Prayers. Continued healing and strength: Christine Weiser. Bob Hughes (recovering from pancreatitis). Melissa Finch's son Grayson has returned to school following hospitalization for pancreatitis. Jim Maners (down with flu). Jim Ogilvie's brother, in his course of radiation. Vic Bode's brother, preparing for surgery to remove a mass on the brain March 30.

Strong covenant God, save us from being self-centered in our prayers,
and teach us to remember to pray for others.

May we be so bound up in love with those for whom we pray
that we may feel their needs as acutely as our own,
and intercede for them with sensitiveness,
with understanding, and with imagination.

This we ask in Christ's name. Amen.

(UM Book of Worship, 518. Based on words from John Calvin,
Switzerland, 16th century.)

Spiritual Growth. Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. Men's Study. Isaiah. Library.

10:00 a.m. Women's Study and Prayer, Irene Fleming's home.

Thursday: 6:30 a.m. Men's Study. Devotional Classics. Library

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Starting a new book which focuses on how young adults perceive church. Library

These groups are open, and newcomers are invited. For more information on the men's groups, talk with Chick Hodge. For the women's circle at Irene Fleming's, talk with Linda Hodge. 232-8078.

Upper Room Devotionals. The March/April Upper Rooms are available in the pews, and in the brochure holder by the east entry. May/June is also out to be picked up. Guests are welcome to this devotional as well as regulars, and there is no cost.

March Birthdays:

March 6 – Chick Hodge; 7 – Bailey Lake; 8 – Dick Dudley; 9 – Chandler Neames; 11 – Toni Baullinger; 13 – Sue Ogilvie; 14 – Clay Dudley; 15 – Ben Shoemaker, Ann Iwano, Imani Ambers; 22 – Fred Dowdy; 23 – Bill Parker; 26 – Mary Furer, Mac Dudley. **April** 3—Kristin Numata; 13 – Tommie Ernest; 15 – Anne Luckman; 19 – Bryan Maruhashi; 22 – Dick Decker; 25 – Karen Ressmeyer

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