

ORTING UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



THE MESSENGER



March
2005

A neighborhood church in the heart of the community

Our mission is to serve God, the Church and the Community by raising the Christian awareness of every individual in caring and sharing God's Love

FROM THE PASTOR

At our Lenten Event last week the project was to decorate small wooden boxes with symbols of faith. Inside the boxes were slips of paper with things written on them for us to do during Lent. We were directed to draw a paper out each day and do what it said on it. The one I drew today says, "Discuss or write what it means to keep the Sabbath holy." So, here goes. . .

Holiness is about experiencing the presence of God, and it usually comes out of prayer. The more we pray, the more we are able to see holiness around us and to enter into that holiness in our own spirit as we place ourselves in God's hands. During the six weeks of Lent I am preaching on prayer each Sunday, lifting up different aspects of prayer and ways of drawing near to God.

Prayer can be as simple as a cry for help in times of need—a realization

that all our hope comes from God. Or it can be as complex as seeking to "pray constantly," as written in 1 Thessalonians 5:17, or praying the Psalms, or Lectio Divina—that is, praying meditatively immersed in Scripture. It can be praying with our eyes wide open to see the needs around us and bring them to God, or with our hands wide open so that we become instruments of answered prayer and channels of God's grace in the world.

The more we pray, the more ways we pray, the more we are able to experience the holy. Every day becomes a Sabbath of being renewed and strengthened in God's grace. "Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy," says the fourth commandment. Remember to pray, for prayer is our holy bond in THE CONTINUING STORY OF LOVE which is the church.

Shalom,

Mission Corner

Mission 2005: Blackfeet Reservation, Montana

The sign up sheet is posted and the names are starting to appear. We have six signed up and six more committed. The planning is going ahead smoothly and communications with the site are making progress. This year we will be working on a garage, turning it into an apartment for visitors to the reservation, such as the bishop, district superintendent or a visiting missionary. We also are doing Vacation Bible School for the kids on the reservation, and planning is underway. Stacy is planning crafts for the kids and I am making stools for the kids to put together and paint. I am also making heart puzzles for the kids to decorate. There will be plenty of work for all who want to come. There will be lots of opportunity to do yard work for the elderly, and also minor home repairs. Shirley is making up the menu for the trip since we have to do our own cooking. Pastor Carol is overseeing the entire operation and planning for our spiritual needs. There will be opportunity for some horseback riding and sightseeing. In addition, there is a Plains Indian museum close by we will want to visit. Individual cost of the trip is only \$100, not much at all. Come join us for a once in a lifetime adventure, and expand your knowledge of Blackfeet culture as well.

Yours in Christ, Roger

EDUCATION

We have been keeping busy in the education department. Our Sunday School kids are getting ready to sing in church on Palm Sunday. We hope everyone will join us and enjoy what our children are doing.

CHOIR

Easter is coming! The choir will be singing on Palm Sunday. There will also be a special number sung by the children. On Easter Sunday the choir will be singing an anthem, and also Handel's Hallelujah Chorus. We're hoping to be wearing our new choir robes Easter Sunday. Come and celebrate with us.

The Season of Easter

The Season of Easter is a glorious celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead on Easter morning following his crucifixion and death on Good Friday. During this season, we light the paschal candle and as many other candles as possible, as we sing Alleluia, (praise God) as many times as we can.

The Easter greeting is, "Christ is risen." The response is, "Christ is risen indeed."

Easter Season continues through the fifty days until Pentecost. The major festival during this season is the Ascension of Jesus Christ into heaven, which takes place forty days after Easter.

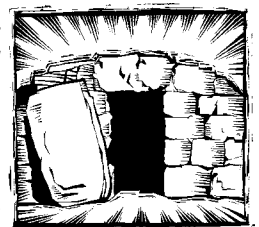
The resurrection of Jesus, who died that all people might live, shows the world that he triumphed over sin, death, and the power of the devil. By rising from the dead, he freed all people from their sins, so that they could have rich and full lives now on earth and through eternity with God in heaven.

On the fourth Sunday of Easter we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday, as we remember how carefully Jesus looks after us.

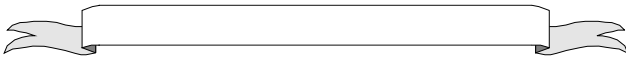
Christians make the Easter season their major season of celebration during the church year. They light the paschal candle - and as many candles as possible - during the worship service. Easter hymns are songs of praise to God for the miracle of Christ's resurrection, as Christians sing *alleluia* (a Hebrew phrase meaning *praise God*) in almost every hymn during Easter.

Easter season is a time for special emphasis on Holy Communion, as Christians receive the body and blood of their risen Lord, sharing the miracle of new birth through him.

Easter symbols include the peacock, the sun, in honor of Jesus, the light of the world; and flowers and butterflies, symbols of the risen Lord. The colors of Easter are white and gold.



E A S T E R



THANK YOU

Cheryl Dyson for putting together the crafts and activities for our Lenten Events, and to those who cooked in February—Janet Bjork, Mary Lou and Vern Lewis, David and Nancy Lillie

Mission Dinner cooks Roger and Janet Downing, Shirley Olson, Mardell Bauman. We raised \$100 toward our mission project.

Worship Leaders in February—Denise Mabry, Roger Downing, Keith Dyson.

Church Cleaning—George and Mardell Bauman, Phil Fabel, Roger Downing.

Pruning trees at the parsonage—Arnie Olson, George Bauman, Brian Kolar, John Downs, Sulmo Mariano

Visitation Group—Mardell Bauman, John Downs, Lyla Lee

Youth Coffee House Workers—George and Mardell Bauman, John Downs, Patty Chouery, Brian Wells, Roger Downing, Pastor Carol

Phil Fabel for pushing wheelchairs at the Soldiers Home

Frank Shride and Billie Braddock for helping with the food bank

Jeff Straughn for updating the email in the church office to DSL. Please note the new email address: revmariano@centurytel.net.

Stacey Straughn for volunteering in the office, typing the bulletin

Shirley Olson for keeping up the church calendar and newsletter mailing.

Emma Ford for the great job she does as church treasurer.



BIBLE READINGS FOR MARCH

- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
- MARCH BIRTHDAYS**
- 7 Mike Perzel
 - 9 Nancy Lillie
 - 15 Monique Barteaux Michelsen
 - 31 Greg Zircle
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

- 6 4th Sunday in Lent—Purple
Psalm 23 (UMH 754 or 137)
1 Samuel 16:1-13
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41
- 13 One Great Hour of Sharing (offering)
5th Sunday in Lent—Purple
Psalm 1:30 (UMH 848)
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45
- 20 PASSION/PALM SUNDAY
—Purple or Red
Liturgy of the Palms
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (UMH 839)
Matthew 21:1-11
Liturgy of the Passion
Psalm 31:9-16 (UMH 764)
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Phillippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14-27 or 27:11-54
- 21 Psalm 36:5-11 (UMH 771)
Isaiah 42:1-9
Hebrews 9:11-15
John 12:1-11
- 22 Psalm 71:1-14 (UMH 794)
Isaiah 49:1-7
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
John 12:20-36
- 23 Psalm 70 (UMH 793)
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Hebrews 12:1-3
John 13:21-32
- 24 Holy Thursday—Purple or Red
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (UMH 837)
Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10) 11-14
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35
- 25 Good Friday—no color
Psalm 22 (UMH 752)
Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Hebrews 10:16-25
John 18:1-19:42
- 26 Holy Saturday—no color
- 27 EASTER DAY—White or Gold
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (UMH 839)
Acts 10:34-43
Colossians 3:1-4
John 20:1-18
or Matthew 28:1-10

FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF JANUARY 31, 2005

Budget for year	\$68,165
Needed monthly (1/12 of budget)	5,680
January Receipts	5,718
January Disbursements	4,394

LENTEN SCHEDULE

THURSDAY EVENING LENTEN EVENTS

March 3 and 10:

- Dinner at 6:00 (donation)
- Craft or Activity at 6:45
- Prayer and Praise at 7:45

SEDER MEAL, March 17.

6:00 pm

A taste of the Jewish celebration of Passover. A full meal with ritual is included. Call Sharon Starr if you would like to help provide the meal.

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY, March 20

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE March 24, 7:00 pm

SUNRISE SERVICE March 27.

6:30 am

Begin in church yard and progress into sanctuary

EASTER BREAKFAST March 27, 8:00-9:30 am

Donation for Missions

PRAYERS

Mary Jo Walker—lung cancer

Jo Perzel—lung and esophageal cancer

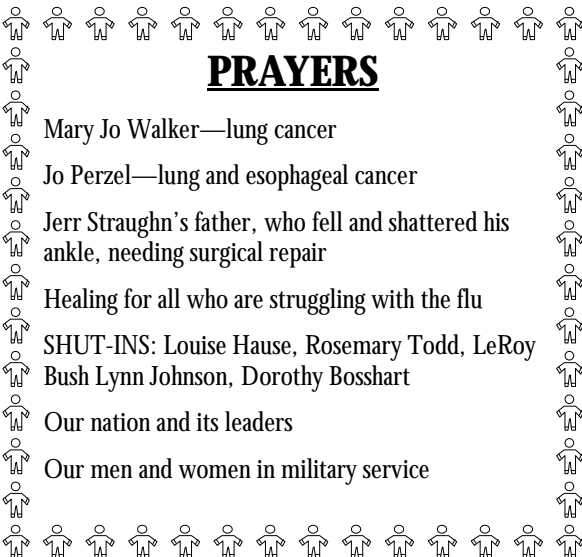
Jerr Straughn's father, who fell and shattered his ankle, needing surgical repair

Healing for all who are struggling with the flu

SHUT-INS: Louise Hause, Rosemary Todd, LeRoy Bush Lynn Johnson, Dorothy Bosshart

Our nation and its leaders

Our men and women in military service





Resurrection Day

Orting United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 537
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Carol Mariano, Pastor
Phone: 360-893-2740
Church website: <http://gbgm-umc.org/ortingumc>
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To stand up to any challenge,
spend time on your knees.

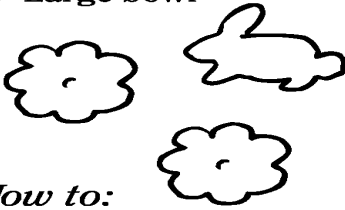
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Make a celebration snack!



You need:

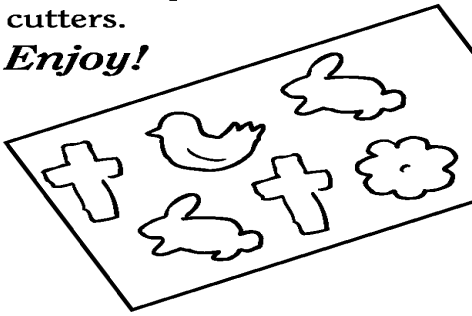
- ✿ 4 boxes of gelatin dessert in any flavor (4-serving size)
- ✿ Boiling water
- ✿ 9" x 13" pan
- ✿ Cookie cutters
- ✿ Measuring cups
- ✿ Spoon
- ✿ Large bowl



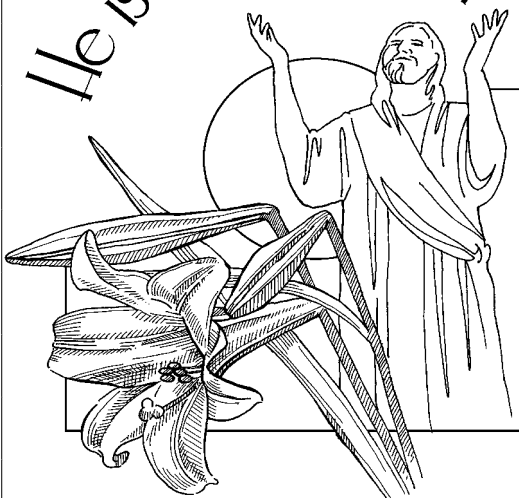
How to:

Put dry gelatin in large bowl. Mix in 2½ cups of boiling water. Stir until dissolved completely. Pour into a pan. Refrigerate until firm (at least 3 hours). Cut spring & Easter shapes with cookie cutters.

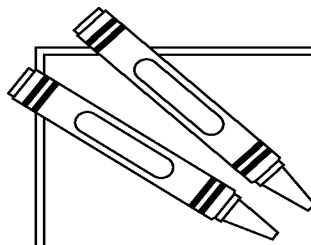
Enjoy!



He is risen indeed



At the Henry Street Hebrew School, Goldblatt, the new teacher, finished the day's lesson. It was now time for the usual question period. "Mr. Goldblatt," announced little Joey, "there's somethin' I can't figure out." "What's that Joey?" asked Goldblatt. "Well accordin' to the Bible, the Children of Israel crossed the Red Sea, right?" "Right." "An' the Children of Israel beat up the Phillistines, right?" "Er-right." "An' the Children of Israel built the Temple, right?" "Again you're right." "An' the Children of Israel fought the 'gyptians, an' the Children of Israel fought the Romans, an' the Children of Israel wuz always doin' somethin' important, right?" "All that is right, too," agreed Goldblatt. "So what's your question?" "What I wanna know is this," demanded Joey. "What wuz all the grown-ups doin' all that time?"



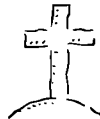
Just for KIDS

Easter

Easter is a special day for Christians. The days before are dark and sad, but on that special day – we celebrate! Why do we celebrate?

Write the word to fit each definition. Transfer the numbered letters to the corresponding boxes. Read the answer.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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14	15	16
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17	18	19	20
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great happiness

a place where plants grow

opposite of evening

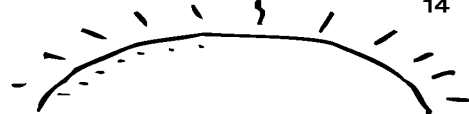
a shape that means love

it rises every morning

a close companion

Jesus was nailed to it

it blocked the door of Jesus' tomb



Jesus rose from the dead!

joy, garden, morning, heart, sun, friend, cross, stone