



Orting United Methodist Church

# The Messenger



*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 by caring and sharing God's Love.*

March 2008

## THE CONTINUING STORY OF LOVE

***Last Sunday in worship we sang the hymn, "Lord of the Dance," and I could hear you really getting into it. This is a wonderful hymn that takes us from Creation through Jesus' ministry and death, and finally to his resurrection. We see life with Jesus as a dance. So, when I came across this article from one of my internet friends, I asked him if I could share it with you.***

Dancing With God

When I meditated on the word Guidance, I kept seeing "dance" at the end of the word. I remember reading that doing God's will is a lot like dancing. When two people try to lead, nothing feels right. The movement doesn't flow with the music, and everything is quite uncomfortable and jerky. When one person realizes that, and lets the other lead, both bodies begin to flow with the music. One gives gentle cues, perhaps with a nudge to the back or by pressing

lightly in one direction or another. It's as if two become one body, moving beautifully. The dance takes surrender, willingness, and attentiveness from one person and gentle guidance and skill from the other.

My eyes drew back to the word Guidance. When I saw "G": I thought of God, followed by "u" and "i". "God, "u" and "i" dance." God, you, and I dance. As I lowered my head, I became willing to trust that I would get guidance about my life. Once again, I became willing to let God lead.

***My prayer for you today is that God's blessings and mercies are upon you on this day and everyday. May you abide in God, as God abides in you. Dance together with God, trusting God to lead and to guide you through each season of your life.***

***Shalom,  
Carol***

## EASTER SCHEDULE

***Cheryl Dyson and Pastor Carol are working on some special additions to this year's Maundy Thursday Service. Be sure to plan on coming, March 20, 7:00 pm.***

***The Children's Choir will sing on Palm Sunday, there will be a procession with Palms, and after the service we will have a Seder Meal.***

***Easter is March 23 this year. We will have an Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 am, followed by breakfast and then our regular worship service at 11:00 am.***

## **SEDER MEAL**

This year we are having the Seder Meal on Palm Sunday following worship. It will replace the mission dinner. We do a shortened version of the Seder Meal because it reminds us of our Jewish heritage and the role it played in the life of Jesus.

The Seder meal is a remembrance of the Exodus and the freeing of the Hebrews from slavery. It is a feast celebrated by Jewish people in their families to remember the Passover, and much symbolism is incorporated into the meal. Everyone is invited to come and experience the Seder Meal in our church March 16.

## **A MAUNDY THURSDAY**

WE NEED 12 PEOPLE TO RE-ENACT THE LAST SUPPER IN THE UPPER ROOM ON THURSDAY, MARCH 20. THIS IS A DRAMATIC AND MOVING SERVICE WITH SPECIAL MUSIC AND THE LIGHTING AND EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES. COSTUMES WILL BE PROVIDED. PLEASE LET PASTOR CAROL KNOW IF YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO PLAY THE PART OF ONE OF JESUS' DISCIPLES.

## **EASTER COOKIES**

Large decorated, personalized Easter cookies will be again be available this year. Watch for order forms in the weekly bulletin.

## **EASTER LILIES**

YOU ARE WELCOME TO BRING EASTER LILLIES TO CHURCH FOR THE EASTER SERVICE. TALK TO ROSALIE GRONKA ABOUT PLACEMENT IN THE CHANCEL.

## **A BIG THANK YOU:**

- Markus Dennis for leading the interfaith study. We had some great discussions together!
- Keith Dyson for preaching February 24, when Pastor Carol was away at the Spiritual Academy.
- Dave Lillie for doing yard work.
- Rosalie Gronka for supplemental church cleaning.
- Muriel Doolittle for preparing Communion.
- Denise Mabry, Mike Bettis, Stacey Nagy and Cheryl Dyson-- worship leaders in February.
- Stacey Straughn for office help.
- Liz Larkins, Lyla Lee and Cheryl Riehl for newsletter mailing. Emma Ford for preparing labels. Sharon Starr for putting together the newsletter.

## Lectionary

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41 1-9

**March 9<sup>th</sup>**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

**March 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Palm/Passion Sunday**

Matthew 21:1-11/saiah 50:4-9a

Ps 118:1-2, 19-29/Ps 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Matt 6:14-27:66 or Matt 27:11-54

**March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Easter Day**

Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Colossians 3:1-4

John 20: 1-18 or

Matthew 28:1-10

**March 30<sup>th</sup>**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Psalm 16

1 Peter 1:3-98-14

John 20: 9-31



## March Birthdays

9 Nancy Lillie

13 Stacey Nagy

15 Monique Barteaux  
Mickelsen



## Volunteer Opportunities

Where will your talents and interests take you today?



Scripture Reading



Coffee House helper



Church Cleaning



Yard Work



Office Assistance



Special Music

Please call the church office to express your interest in any of these areas.

360-893-2740

Do you have an idea that is not listed?

Great let us know.



## THERE'S SOMETHING BETTER COMING

The season of Easter is a special time for us to celebrate the ultimate reason for our hope: Christ is risen, and invites us to rise with him to new life.

- Easter is an invitation to try again with God's hope to break that addiction we had given up all hope of ever breaking. There's something better coming....
- Easter is a chance to work at renewing the marriage we had given up all hope of ever saving. There's something better coming....
- Easter is an opportunity to reach out to our neighbors who, in our busyness, we neglect. There's something better coming....
- Easter is an invitation to look at our lack of love and seek God for compassion. There's something better coming....
- Easter is a chance for all no-hopers to regain their vision of what can be! There's something better coming....
- Easter is an opportunity to renew our faith. There's something better coming....
- Easter is a chance to "renew our strength and mount up with wings as eagles; to run and not faint." There's something better coming....

*--Homiletics*

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