

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, April 17th

Palm/Passion Sunday

Thursday, April 21st

7:00 p.m. ~ Maundy Thursday Service
at Federated Church

Friday, April 22nd

7:00 p.m. ~ Good Friday Service at Church of Christ

Sunday, April 24th

Resurrection of our Lord!

8:30 a.m. ~ Easter Breakfast

1:30 p.m. ~ ASTA Care Service

May Newsletter Deadline

Saturday, April 30th

9:00 a.m. ~ UCC Association Meeting in Bloomington

Friday & Saturday, May 13th & 14th

Church Rummage Sale

RUMMAGE SALE!!!

We can use anything clean and usable. Men, women and children clean out your closets, cupboards, workshops & toy chests. There is a NEED of others for your unused belongings. We also need bags and hangers. Give us a call if you need pickup of merchandise.

Pizza & a Movie!

Who: All School Age Children (even those who've never been to W.O.W.)

What: FREE pizza party & a movie

Where: Church of Christ (400 W. Ottawa in Paxton)

When: Friday, April 22 ~ 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The organizers of the Paxton Church of Christ Worship on Wednesday (W. O. W.) program are excited to offer an afternoon of fun featuring pizza and the film "Up" shown on the big screens in the sanctuary.

**Lord, We ask thanksgiving, comfort, healing
and faith for these friends and family members**

Glen Vermette

Vail Moore - recuperating at home

Kitty Anderson - recuperating at home

John Goudy - recuperating at home

Bill Cofel

Homebound or in Nursing Homes

Donald & Dorothy Rhodes

Jani Fraim - Room 219, GC Hospital & Health Center

Wanda Larson - La Canada Care Facility, Tucson, AZ

Marcella Woodworth - Prairie Village, Rantoul

Eloise Shear at Gilman Nursing Home, Gilman

For the month of April, please bring
peanut butter, jelly, cereal & hamburger/tuna helper
for the Food Pantry. *As always, all non-perishable
food items are welcomed.*

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

4th - Vicki Cole

4th - Michelle Shanks

20th - Elizabeth Satterlee

29th - Doug Niewold

30th - Lou Lateer

Pastor Colleen Lawrence, Minister

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Colleen - C (815) 994-0674 • Don - C (815) 994-2262

Rev. Dr. Robert Ross, Pastor Emeritus

April 17th, 2011
Palm/Passion Sunday



The Federated Church of Paxton

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service



Welcome to our guests!

Please take a minute to sign our guest book located at the back of the sanctuary.

Sharing of Joys, News, Concerns

Opening Prayer *(Pastor)*

*Call to Worship

Psalm 118, Matthew 21

Pastor: When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples ahead, saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, “The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.”

All: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

God’s steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

(Gong Sounds)

Reader 1: *(from the back)*

Open the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to God.

Reader 2: *(from the back)*

This is the gate of the Lord through which the righteous may enter.

Readers 1 & 2: I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation.

Anthem *“On the Road to Jerusalem”*

Joseph Martin

*Call to Worship, cont’d

(Gong Sounds)

Reader 3: The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

All Readers: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!

(Gong Sounds)

Reader 4: O Lord, save us; O Lord, grant us success.

**All who are able, PLEASE STAND*

(Acolytes come forward with the light)

Reader 4: The crowds that went ahead of Jesus and that followed him were shouting:

People: Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Reader 5: The Lord is God, and God has given us light.

With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar. When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

All: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. God’s steadfast love endures forever!

All Readers: You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God and I will exalt you.

***Processional Hymn** *“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”*

PH #89

Unison Prayer of Confession

(Matthew 21, Psalm 118)

O God, we stand at the gate, hesitant and uncertain; we are reluctant to answer your invitation; we are slow to embark on the journey toward your reign.

Forgive us, we pray. Grant us the help we need to be your people—the courage to join you in the procession; the selflessness to lay our cloaks before you; the freedom to lift our palms to your glory; and the knowledge that by your grace we are forgiven. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor: Hear this good news! The procession is ever moving forward.

We can join at any moment. The invitation still stands!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen!

Youth Moment

Prayer for Illumination

(Isaiah 50:4)

God of Courage, give us wisdom, that we may sustain the weary with our words. As we speak, help us also to listen. **Amen.**

Lectionary Scripture

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Lord’s Prayer *(in unison)*

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Response **“Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord, And grant us Thy peace. Amen.”**

Investment of Time, Talent, Treasures

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Offering Prayer

(Philippians 2)

All: Name above all names, as you emptied yourself for others, we offer ourselves and these gifts as a sign of our hope in your reign. Where there is death, bring life. Where there is sorrow, bring joy. Where there is injustice, bring courage for change. Amen.

Ritual of Passion

(Matthew 27: 11-54)

(As the Matthew text is read, play meditative music underneath. Invite people to bring their palm branches to the chancel and lay them on the steps or altar where they will wither throughout Holy Week. The invitation to this action should highlight the move from triumphal entry with the waving of palms to a much more somber mood as the week progresses.)

***Hymn** *“Go to Dark Gethsemane”*

PH #97

*Benediction

Matthew 27:54

Pastor: “Truly this man Jesus was God’s Son.”

As disciples of Jesus, truly you are God’s children.

Go into this week with the knowledge that resurrection will come, even when it seems there is no tomorrow.

Be blessed and be a blessing, with the courage to stand with those in need. In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.

Organist - Priscilla Andreae