

# **Words from Woodforest**

### **April 2022 Newsletter**

### A Word From the Pastor

'Tis the Season! I know that sounds a bit Christmassy for April, but it is true. Easter, like Christmas is too important to be just one day. It has a whole season. Once Easter gets here on April 17<sup>th</sup> we will be in the Easter season until June 4th (the day before Pentecost.) So what does that mean? Part of me hopes that it means that they will continue to have chocolate eggs and bunnies for the next forty days. (But my diet probably wouldn't approve.)

But I think the real reason we have forty days to celebrate Easter is the same reason that we have forty days of Lent to prepare for it. The fact that Jesus died to pay for our sins is amazing, but it is only half the story. Jesus was raised from the dead so that death would have no power over us. God loved us so much that God never wanted to be without us. That is the most incredible thing ever! Jesus not only suffered and died. Jesus was risen. Jesus is risen! Alleluia!

So, like we contemplated our sinful nature and our need for a savior during Lent, we are called to remember the other half of that coin. Our sins are forgiven and washed away! We have been made righteous by our savior. That is one reason that the liturgical color of Easter is white, for being made pure through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. We have been redeemed and God has made a place for us. As Jesus was raised, so we will be raised to spend eternity surrounded by the loving presence of God. Alleluia! Amen!

# **Special Lent and Easter Services**

**Easter Choir Practice:** COVID willing we will resume choir practice on Sunday, April 3 to get ready to sing on Palm Sunday and Easter. Come join us at 9:00 am!

Palm Sunday is Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Maundy Thursday is April 14<sup>th</sup>.** Come join us for a Soup supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by worship and communion around the table like they did at the Last Supper.

**Good Friday is April 15<sup>th</sup>.** We will have a Tenebrae Service (Service of Shadows) at 7:00 p.m. to remember Jesus' suffering and death on the cross. This service helps prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter morning.

**Easter Sunday is April 17<sup>th</sup>.** Come celebrate the joy of Jesus' resurrection and God's great love for us. Add flowers to the flowering cross and join us for worship and communion at 10:00 a.m.

# **Presbyterian Women's Study**

'In April the Presbyterian Women study on the women in Jesus' genealogy we will look at how Mary was seen in the church traditions! We will meet at 10:30 a.m. on April 20<sup>th</sup> for our study followed by a pot luck lunch at noon. You can participate either in person or join us on the livestream on our Facebook page, facebook.com/Woodforestpc



### **Easter Lilies**

If you would like to donate an Easter Lily for Resurrection Sunday the cost is \$10. There are forms at the church or you can mail a check in with a note that it is for an Easter Lily

### **Christian Education**



Vacation Bible School Food Truck Party Third week in June

Adult Sunday School Class will continue the study of 1st Peter..



# April 24th

# **Property**

Saturday, April 9th beginning at 9 AM we will have a Church work day. We will be sprucing things up inside and out in preparation of Easter Sunday. If you are able come lend a hand or even just moral support.

### Mission

# In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression

Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The three programs supported by **One Great Hour of Sharing** - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. We will be receiving this special offering on Easter Sunday. If you wish to donate but are not attending in person you can send it to the church office marked One Great Hour of Sharing

### **Updating the Photo Directory**

Our photo directory is a wonderful way for us to stay connected. Both the phone app and our printed copies are a great way to keep in touch. But have you noticed that some of the pictures are ten years old or older. It can make it harder for new members to learn names and faces.

So, Easter Sunday we will be taking new directory photos! We will all be in our Easter best and what better back drop than the flowering cross! So, make sure to take a moment to get a new family photo made for the directory.

If you are unable to come to in person worship this Easter, you can submit a recent photo by emailing it to <a href="mailto:info@woodforestpc.org">info@woodforestpc.org</a> or mailing it to the church office. Or hey, give Pastor Karen a call and she will come take a photo of you at home!



Choir rehearsals are Sunday at 9 AM

# **Lectionary Readings for April**

### April 3

Joshua:5: 9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-22; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

# April 10

Luke 19:28-42; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31; Philippians 2:5-11

### April 17

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; Luke 24:1-12

### April 24

Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29; Revelation 1:2-8; John 20:19-31



### **Keep in Prayer**

Healing and comfort for Sandra Horton, Darlienne Powell, Shar Baker, Krista Bartel, Billie Vickery, Kathleen Watson, JoAnn Nichols, Johnny Powell, Alice Drennon, the Mendosa family, Anna Marshall, Darlene McAlexander and Alice Morgan.

# **Last Word**

