

NEWS IN THE PEWS



THE EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE will be held at 6:00 AM at Jesse Greg Park above Cheshire and Linwood. You can pick up a map in the church office.

A SPECIAL EASTER COFFEE HOUR will be celebrated next Sunday between services and after second service. If you have a special Easter treat you would like to share, please bring it. Children's Sunday School will still meet.

KATIE HARTMAN has compiled a cookbook with wonderful Federated Church recipes. It will be for sale between services in Rees Hall and in the church office during weekdays. The cost for 1 book is \$20.00, but if you purchase 3 or more the cost is \$15.00 per copy. The proceeds from sales will help Katie with expenses for her trip to Australia with the *People to People* program. Be sure to drop by and check out the cookbook. Remember Christmas is only 9 months away!

THE COFFEE SHOP IS OPEN TODAY between services and for a short time after second service. There are new supplies of fairly traded Equal Exchange products for sale! The shop keepers will be Misty Clark and Nita Paden.

THE SIGN-UP SHEET FOR THE EASTER PRAYER VIGIL is available in Rees Hall. Everyone is welcome to participate in a personal prayer vigil from 10:00 pm, Good Friday, April 10th, until sunrise Easter morning. The objective is to have continuous prayer, with individuals responsible for 30 minute segments throughout this period. Each person can choose their own prayer location, home, church sanctuary, or any convenient place.

WANTED: A van driver for the Peaks, one Sunday per month. Please contact the church office for details.

NAOMI CIRCLE MEETS AT 1:30 P.M. in Room 14. Thursday, April 9th. The circle ladies voted to meet in the afternoon this month. They are currently studying Luke's Gospel for the Poor called JUBILEE!, a Horizon Bible Study. Renee Henry will lead lesson two. All ladies of the church are invited to join in this exciting Bible study.

THE MARCH DIRECTORY UPDATE is available in the church office. Look for the light green copies on the table, under the window. Please notify the church office if a correction needs to be made.

THE CHURCH WEB SITE is an important source for church information. Just key in: www.flagstafffederatedchurch.org You will find information about our church, the groups who use our facilities, and the activities the church offers!

DO YOU HAVE A GREEN THUMB? The Buildings and Grounds Team is looking for some help with the planter beds around the church. If you can help, please contact Mick or Renee Henry at 774-5892.

THE DIARRASSOUBA'S have a new address: 1844 Wilmont Drive SE, Kentwood, MI 49508.

THE CHURCH NURSERY: For the safety of small children, we request that children over the age of 7 please stay in worship. We also believe that children, at the age of 7, should be learning the joy of the worship service. Please share with your children about the worship service and the mystery of our faith community in time with God. If you need resources or help, please speak to Karen Appleby.

OUR CHURCH WEEK

Sunday, April 5th

PALM SUNDAY

HUNGER AWARENESS SUNDAY

COFFEE SHOP OPEN

- 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services
9:45 am Coffee Hour & Fellowship Rees Hall
9:45 am Sunday School Various Locations
5:30 pm Youth Group Rm. 24

Monday, April 6th

- 4:00 pm Disciple Class Rm. 14
7:00 pm Church Promotion Ministry Team

Tuesday, April 7th

- 6:30 am Emmaus Men Macy's
1:30 pm Strategic Planning Group Meeting Rm. 14
7:00 pm Boy Scouts Rees Hall, B1, B3

Wednesday, April 8th

- 7:00 am Ladies of the Round Table Cracker Barrel
11:45 am Christian Feminist Perspectives Rm. 14
3:00 pm Open Sanctuary Sanctuary

Thursday, April 9th

MAUNDY THURSDAY

- 6:00 am Emmaus Women Rm. 14
7:00 am Men's Group Rees Hall
9:00 am Emmaus Women Shirley's
11:45 am Emmaus Women Coco's
1:30 pm Naomi Circle Meeting Rm. 14
3:00 pm Open Sanctuary Sanctuary
7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Communion Service

Friday, April 10th

GOOD FRIDAY

- 9:00 am PB&J Group Rees Hall

Saturday, April 11th

- 7:00 am Emmaus Men Call 774-9048

Sunday, April 12th

EASTER SUNDAY

- 6:00 AM EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE**
8:30 & 11:00 AM EASTER WORSHIP
9:30 am Coffee Hour & Fellowship Rees Hall
9:45 am Sunday School Various Locations

Youth Group will not meet tonight.



THIN PLACES ART FOR LENT

The Celtic metaphor "thin places," has its home in a particular way of thinking about God. Deeply rooted in the Bible and the Christian tradition, this way of thinking sees God, "the More," as the encompassing spirit in which everything is. God is not somewhere else, but "right here."

This way of thinking affirms that there are minimally two layers or dimensions of reality, the visible world or our ordinary experience and God, the sacred, Spirit. Worship is about creating a sense of the sacred, a thin place. - Marcus Borg "The Heart of Christianity"

Give us pure hearts, that we may see you;

Humble hearts, that we may hear you;

Hearts of love, that we may serve you;

Hearts of faith, that we may abide in you. - Dag Hammarskjold

Life is this simple. We are living in a world that is absolutely transparent, and God is shining through it all the time. If we abandon ourselves to God and forget ourselves, we see it sometimes.

- Thomas Merton

The Strategic Planning Team met with the Board of Trustees and spouses, Tuesday evening, at the home of Warren & Carmen Johnson. The group is the first to fill out the planning survey. Sometime after Easter, the congregation will have the same opportunity.

Many thanks to Warren & Carmen for Their gracious hospitality!

RUMMAGE SALE NEWS

The youth are having a rummage sale on Saturday, May 16th. Please hang on to all your rummage sale treasures if you want to donate them to the youth rummage sale. If you are interested in volunteering, call Karen Appleby at the church. The "departments" we will have at the rummage sale are: Holiday Table, Green House (plants*, pots, garden items), Arts and Crafts, Small Furniture (can be lifted by one person), Accessories and Jewelry, Small Appliances and Electronics, The Kitchen Cupboard, Bed and Bath, Home Décor, Games, Toys, Sports and Books, The Tool Shed, and The Junk Drawer (everything else).

No clothes or large furniture.

THIS WEEK'S SUGGESTION

Jewelry and accessories....

Check your shelves, drawers and jewelry boxes. If you have pieces you just don't ever wear, it may be treasures for others.

Please donate them to the sale.