

The Messenger

April 2020

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

COMMUNION

We will celebrate Holy Communion during our worship service on April 5. Keeping in line with social distancing, I will be there to administer Holy Communion while you are in your car! This was vice president Lisa Caesar's idea! Thankfully, I am surrounded by intelligent people. This sounds to me like a wonderful way to continue worship while we are apart.

PALM SUNDAY

Holy Week begins on April 5, Palm Sunday. Due to this challenging time we are unable to gather together in person for a worship service, but Palms will be available. A basket of palms will be left outside the fellowship hall entrance, on the Audrey memorial bench for pickup on Sunday.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

MAUNDY THURSDAY SUPPER AND SERVICE

Maundy Thursday, April 9, supper and service have been cancelled due to the current coronavirus pandemic.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12 (TENTATIVE)

EASTER!

Pastor Lou is still hoping to have an Easter Sunrise service celebration begins at 6:30 am under the pavilion. Watch the bulletin on Facebook for more info as it becomes available. Come -sing hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

CHRIST IS RISEN!!



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From the Pastor's Desk

To our dismay, we have missed worship on some of the most important Holy days of the year, Palm Sunday, Maunday Thursday and Easter Sunday. Even though we gathered in our own homes and watched telecasts on our webpage or You tube, it can't replace the love we share in times of worship.

Perhaps this pandemic called Coronavirus or COVID 19 will remind us of how much we hold God and His Son Jesus in our hearts. Psalm 73: 21-28 tells us, "When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you. Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory. Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you. But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign LORD my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds.

This Psalm is a beautiful reflection of how we must feel about God, and how God feels about us. Please know during this time of isolation, you are not alone. The church is alive and functioning (albeit in a different way). We continue to hold God in our heart, and God continues to hold us in His. The Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, our conference minister, reaches out to all of the pastor's in the Penn Northeast Conference daily. Her message of life, love and encouragement in a trying time gives us the strength needed to continue our work within the church.

You also can be encouraged! In this time, it's a good idea to meditate and pray daily for an end to this plight, and visit the Bible regularly. You will be amazed at the amount of subject matter that relates to us in this troubling time.

Also, remember that I am always available if you need someone to talk to should fear overtake you or you feel anxious or lonely. We are surrounded by love and caring from each other, our Father in heaven, and the church.

God Bless You, Pastor Lou



PICTURE PERFECT

Check the front entrance bulletin board for the following pictures:

Pastor Lou Aita is shown celebrating Scout Sunday with scout members of Pack 433. The Scouts provided the scripture readings, took up collection and participated in a coffee hour reception after service.

Joan Rinehimer is shown participating in a Holy Yoga class with certified yoga instructor Mary Martin. Mary leads 20 plus individuals of all levels in prayer, meditation, yoga and guidance during the March 8th class held at Stairville UMC.

Pastor Lou Aita enjoys a bowl of soup on the first Lenten supper held during this Lenten season.

UPCOMING DATES

Put these dates on your calendar for future fun and fellowship.

- April 4 Church Spring Clean (cancelled)**
- April 5 Palm Sunday (cancelled)**
- April 9 Maundy Thursday (cancelled)**
- April 10 Good Friday (cancelled)**
- April 12 Easter**
- April 19 Road Clean Up (Raindate 4/26)**
- May 16 Spring Turkey Supper**
- June 20 300 Club**
- Oct. 24 Fall Turkey Supper**

CONSISTORY MEETING

CONSISTORY

The next **Consistory** meeting will be on **Sunday, April 26** following **10:30 worship service/counting**.

KITCHEN COMMITTEE

The next **Kitchen committee** meeting will be on **Friday, May 8th**, at 9:00 am.

300 CLUB and SILENT AUCTION - June 20th

Hurry up and get your tickets for our annual 300 Club fundraiser!

Mark your calendars and get ready for a great day of fun, food and prizes. On Saturday, June 20, we will hold our annual 300 Club from 12 to 6 pm. For tickets or to help out, please see Allen Dennis or any Consistory member.

Youth Group Fundraiser



Remember to get your Weis and Carone's cards!

This is a great way to support the Youth Group without spending anything extra. You're just going to spend that money at the grocery store anyway so why not give the Youth Group some help with their finances? For every \$1,000 worth of cards they sell, they make \$50. There are forms on the table in the narthex if you wish to purchase any cards.

ALBERDEEN ROAD CLEAN-UP

On Sunday, April 19, (Raindate 4/26) members from Emmanuel will again confirm our commitment to being good stewards by giving our time to clean up the junk and debris on Alberdeen Road. We will gather at the church after worship. For more information, see Allen Dennis.

EMMANUEL GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER

In addition to the Youth Group's Weis and Carones Card Fundraisers, we have a Gift Card Fundraiser which is a great way to help our church. The Fundraiser Sheets are on the table in the narthex. Just look over the list (and there's a lot to choose from) and mark how many cards you want. As with the Youth Group's fundraiser, this is essentially a "no cost" fundraiser. You are just purchasing gift cards in the amount that you would normally spend at that store or restaurant. The fundraising part is that Emmanuel purchases them at a discount which helps our bottom line. Orders are placed after the 1st Sunday of each month. Please see Lisa Ceaser with any questions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER PARTY (TENTATIVE)

Our Sunday School Easter Party was scheduled to be on Sunday, April 5, at 10 am. This event has been postponed for now. Once we are able to gather together again Lisa Rinehimer would like to still celebrate this with the children of Emmanuel. Each child should bring a basket or bag for the egg hunt. The Sunday School will provide the candy eggs. We will have a brunch with cereals, fruits and juices. Come out for a fun time, Siblings are welcome or bring a friend!



