

WEEKDAY WORDS

Thursday, February 23, 2023

LAST SUNDAY WRAP-UP

It was a rare opportunity to hear Jesus' Sermon on the Mount as recorded in Matthew's gospel. Our service included new lyrics to familiar hymn tunes, penned by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Thanks to Belinda Burtson, Carol Costell Corbin, Ellie Corbin, Gary Harrington, Stef Fellows, Kathy McKenna, Bry Meyka, Mary Musson, Lori & Kurt Schmidt, and Anne Wingard for reading. Anelia and Ellie Corbin, David Ford and Pastor Vicki considered what it means when Jesus tells us to be salt and light. Potato chips *with* salt had more pizzazz than those without and even a very small light helped us find our way in a very dark closet.

THIS SUNDAY

Our Outreach Team is coordinating another Easter Basket Give-Away for Saturday, April 1. Each week, they invite us to bring donations. This Sunday, please bring donations of boxed scalloped potatoes.

Faith Formation classes resume at 9:30. Ellen Paterson will lead our adults in their discussion. The *Starting Point* is a portion of writing from *Wintering*. If you need a copy, call the office.

During worship, Julie Freeman is the Deacon and Rev. Laurel Harte-Westover will preside. Laurel's scripture focus is from Matthew 4:1-11 – Jesus' temptations in the wilderness. Nursery care is available. Find our live-stream service on Facebook, YouTube or at www.homercc.com.

At 2:00, the Cortland Interfaith Council will host a Choir Festival at United Presbyterian Churches. Under the umbrella title of *New Beginnings*, at least five choirs will participate, including our own choir. We hope to see you there.

A GIFT FOR LENT

The Board of Deacons voted to gift each family in the congregation with a copy of John Pavlovitz's *RISE: An Authentic Lenten Devotional*. And so, we will travel the days of Lent together as we share 40 days of fasting and feasting and watching for hope that surrounds us. Copies of the book are available.

SPECIAL OFFERING

The impact of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria is incomprehensible. Our Mission Committee assures us that we can help! Make checks payable to Homer Congregational Church, putting "Earthquake Relief" in the memo. Soon, we will send one check through the UCC for earthquake relief.

Pastor Vicki will be in California visiting family from February 23 – March 3. In the event of emergencies, please call:

Monday – Thursday from 9 – noon the office at 607.749.2604

All other times, contact Lori Schmidt at 607.745.5377

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Wednesday Faith Formation Zoom at 6:30

NEXT SUNDAY IS THE 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT

Our Outreach Team is coordinating another Easter Basket Give-Away for Saturday, April 1. Each week, they invite us to bring donations. On Sunday, March 5, please bring donations of canned vegetables.

9:30 Faith Formation classes meet. No *Starting Point* conversation on March 3.

10:30 Pastor Vicki will be back and it is Communion Sunday.

11:45 Outreach Team meets

3:00 **SPUD FEST!** It's not just for kids! Come and join us for an inter-generational winter "festival". We will gather at 3:00. While the spuds are baking, we'll play various board games. At about 5:00, the spuds should be ready to eat – complete with topping bar. The church will provide butter and sour cream. You can bring a baked potato topping or a dessert to share. So we have enough potatoes, please sign up at the Resource Table in the RFR. If you have a favorite game, bring it. We'll have dominoes, Yahtzee, Skip-bo and more. We definitely need some shared family fun, so come and join us!

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

If you are interested in purchasing Easter flowers in honor or in memory of loved ones, and order form will be available this Sunday. Prices are:

Tulips (red, pink, white, purple or yellow)	\$12.
Daffodils	\$12.
Iris (purple)	\$12.
Hydrangea (pink or blue)	\$25.

Please make checks payable to Homer Congregational Church and in the memo note **Easter flowers**.

Our Church Council meeting, scheduled for February 28 has been rescheduled for March 28. Thanks for your flexibility.

A sign up is available on the Resource Table in the RFR for hosting coffee hour.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

5	Phyllis Adams, Carl Applegate, Anne Wingard
10	Kelly McKenna
11	Terre Dennis
13	Stan Nielson
14	Laurel Harte-Westover
15	Terry Howell
18	Janice Bacon
21	Carrie Gumaer
22	James McKenna
25	Pat Buchholz, Shelly Hilts
27	Gail Benedict
29	Ashley Cornwell, Andrea Herzog, Stephen Hoffmann