

## **WEEKDAY WORDS**

Thursday, February 29, 2024

### **FOR OUR PONDERING...**

Each year God gives us 365 days. 365 chances to laugh, cry, praise, whoop, holler, pray, eat, work, sleep, adventure, reflect, consider, experiment and rest. But this year God has given us 366 chances. As the Solar and Lunar calendars are shuffled together, we are given a bonus day to make up the difference. February 29, 2024 may be just another Thursday, but it could also be a moment to step out of the normal routine of the calendar and look at the rest of the year ahead, offering it humbly to God. It could also be an opportunity to take a few minutes to reflect on the last four years, and to consider how your life has changed - in helpful and, perhaps, not so helpful ways. Through it all, God has walked with us since the last leap year and surely, God will stay with us as we begin these next four years. How will we change? What ministry opportunities will come forth? May we continue to grow deeper in faith and love as we live our faith into the future.

### **THIS SUNDAY**

Bring boxed desserts to donate for our Easter Giveaway Food Bags.

Faith Formation will begin at 9:30 am

Pre-K: Mark & Amanda will teach about 10 people who Jesus healed.

K – 3: Alex & Sheri will teach about Maundy Thursday.

4 – 6: Kathy M. will lead the study of N.T. hero Thomas.

7 – 12: The youth will talk with Stef about the next “most important Bible lesson for Teens”.

Adults: Our *Starting Point* for discussion will be an essay by Jim McKenna.

On this 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent, beginning at 10:30, we will sing ourselves to a quiet place in our hearts, our minds, and our lives. Carrie Scheibner and Russ Pedersen are Deacon and Trustee of the day. This is Communion Sunday, and the carved gourd will remind us of the bread and cup. Alex Faulkenbury and the children will add to their sand-garden and then the kids will be excused for nursery. Stick around afterward for coffee hour, hosted by Susan Wilson. If you cannot attend worship in person, find our worship service live stream on Facebook, YouTube or at [www.homercc.com](http://www.homercc.com)

### **NEXT WEEK**

Monday Staff Meeting at 10 AM.

Tuesday Happy Birthday Anne Wingard!

4:30 In-person discussion of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent - *Poetry of Lent*.

Thursday

12:15 ZOOM discussion of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent from the *Poetry of Lent*.

5 – 7 ALL YOUTH (grades 7-12) are invited to dinner at the manse.

Sunday Bring Easter basket donations for the Easter Give-away.

9:30 Faith Formation for all ages.

10:30 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent – worship; Coffee Hour hosts: our Youth.

## **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Earlier this month, our Deacons spent a Saturday morning on retreat. Last week, our Trustees met and this past Tuesday the Church Council gathered. Here are some of topics discussed and decisions made:

Deacons:

- Welcomed new Deacons: Samantha (Sam) Penoyer & Cindy Stout.
- Elected Lori Schmidt (chair), Joanne Cincotta (vice chair), Julie Freeman (secretary), and Carol Costell Corbin (treasurer).
- Endorsed a three-part proposal for the Harris Estate funds:
  - to support youth ministry,
  - to fund new or existing mission and outreach projects, and
  - to develop a special speaker series that will spiritually feed our congregation and the wider community.
- Concluded the retreat by presenting Sam Penoyer with a Deacon's cross.

Trustees:

- Welcomed new Trustees: Stef Fellows, Lloyd Gmoser, Rev. Barb Wright.
- Elected Paula Harrington (chair) and Shelly Hilts (secretary). Barb Wright agreed to coordinate use of building/green requests.
- Heard updates about asbestos removal (finished on the day we met). The next projects include painting the basement (beginning this weekend) and then installing new flooring.
- Received updates about a lease agreement with the Center for the Arts to acquire the Little White Church. Lawyer John Sidd is providing helpful guidance.
- Narthex bathrooms will be spruced up in May or June. RFR bathrooms are next.
- Agreed that our sign (which has been malfunctioning this winter) needs to either be repaired or replaced. Our vision is to cooperate with other organizations so that the sign can represent the entire community.

Church Council:

- Heard updates from each committee represented.
- Agreed to move forward with the creation of a new pictorial directory. A photo shoot will be scheduled early in October with the directory being published before Christmas.

## **MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

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