**Weekday Words**

Thursday, April 24, 2025

**THIS SATURDAY**

After living here in Homer for over 60 years, Jean Cadwallader is moving to Minnesota. Her children invite all of us to a Farewell Open House in the RFR, this Saturday from 1 – 4. At 2:30, there will be a short program. We hope you can join the Cadwallader family in celebrating their parents’ impact on our area. Come and share your stories with Jean as we wish her Godspeed.

**THIS SUNDAY**

Faith Formation begins at 9:30.

Our children will hear about Thomas, who had some faith questions.

Shannon and Sam will work with pre-K.

Sheri and Xavier have K-5.

Our Youth have a special movie morning (napkins provided by PV).

Our adults will enter into some discussions based on the writing of historian Heather Cox Richardson.

When we gather for worship at 10:30, the Easter celebration continues. Frederick Buechner has said that *doubts are the ants in the pants of faith. They keep it awake and moving*. Our scripture lesson is all about that doubter named Thomas described in the Gospel of John 20:19-31. Jan Bertram has the Children’s Time and then Jack Carr and Bry Meyka will provide nursery care. Andrea Herzog will offer music from the organ. We hope you can stick around for coffee hour, hosted by Bev Berry, Kate Toole, and Anne Wingard. If you cannot attend worship in person, find our service live stream on Facebook, YouTube or at [www.homercc.com](http://www.homercc.com)

Following worship this Sunday, we invite you to take a flower home to brighten your home.

The Outreach Team will meet following worship this Sunday.

**May Birthdays**

1 Logan Schmidt

2 Belinda Burtson, Cindy Stout

3 Harper Andersen, Phil Rumsey

4 Nancy Richards

5 Deb Pelowski

11 Carol DeShane

16 Lori Schmidt

20 Sylvia Hammond

22 Bill Hopkins

23 Andrew Leach

24 Alex & Luke Bertram, Nancy Sandstrom, Jeff Andersen 26 Mary Reif

27 Luca Kostuk, Susan Wilson

29 Matthew Pelowski

30 Landon Kostuk

**Coming in May**

Next Sunday, May 4, Rev. Ryan Henderson will join us for worship. Ryan is our Associate Conference Minister and he’ll be a key person to help us prepare for the transitions that begin as Pastor Vicki prepares to retire in the end of July. Worship will be shortened and then we’ll take a break for coffee hour snacks. We will reconvene in the sanctuary where Ryan will offer a power point presentation about the **Search and Call** system in the United Church of Christ.

May 11 is **Mother’s Day**. If you have not already done so, we invite you to email Pastor Vicki a photo of your mother. During the service, we will give thanks for mothers, including those who may not be biological mothers, but have nurtured and loved us like a mother.

If you are interested in officially joining our Church, please see Pastor Vicki. We will hold a Membership Class after church on May 18. We will welcome new members on Sunday, June 1.

**Messy Church SUCCESS!**

Last night (Wednesday), we held our first Messy Church event. The weather allowed us to gather in the Memorial Garden where people from all generations joined in a special Earth Day song (clap, clap, snap, snap, nanner nanner, whoop, whoop). Kate Toole led everyone in creating a paper collage while our Youth grilled burgers and dogs for supper. After we ate, small groups completed the Earth Day Scavenger Hunt, taking cell-phone photos of everything from a tree to a butterfly to a feather. We ended the evening with incredible “dirt cupcakes” from Whisk and Whimsy. Stef Fellows led our singing and coordinated the youth. Pastor Vicki used Psalm 8 to remind us that God invited us to be stewards of the earth. But it was our Director of Children’s Ministry – Sheri Saddlemire who planned, recruited the team, and then accomplished this marvelous experience. We are so grateful, Sheri. Our closing circle was a reminder that our church really is a family of faith sharing God’s love with one another and with the world.

 **As you pray…**

As the season of Easter continues, please offer prayers of joy.

* We thank God for the arrival of Ava Rose to our world. Her parents are our manse neighbors, Ashley & Rob. PV met Ms. Ava yesterday and she looks just like her dad!
* Jacob Dentes has selected M.I.T. as the institution where he will work on his Ph.D. They are lucky to have you, Jacob!

As the season of Easter continues, please offer prayers of support.

* We pray for our siblings-in-faith throughout the world as we mourn the death of Pope Francis. We thank God for his example of humility in living. May God’s Spirit move as the Catholic Church elects his successor.
* We pray for those dealing with health or life issues: Dick, Jean, Kathy, Michael, Patty, Paul, and Tyla.