

PALM SUNDAY

Mark 11:1-11

Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields.
Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,
“Hosanna!”
“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”
“Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!”
“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

We now come to the final days of Jesus' ministry prior to his arrest and crucifixion. The story of Jesus' final days begins with his entry into Jerusalem as the long awaited messiah. Some recognize the import of the moment, but for most, it is business as usual.

The coming of Jesus to Jerusalem is a further self-revelation of Jesus the messiah. Yet, the subtlety of the revelation maintains the messianic secret. From our perspective, we see the king coming to receive his kingly crown, acclaimed by his people. His glorious enthronement, of course, is no glory from a human standpoint, for he comes to the cross. What is clear to us is anything but clear to the pilgrims. They at least recognize Jesus the prophet, but certainly not the messiah.

The acted-out parable of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is a further public disclosure of his messiahship, yet it is a disclosure for those with eyes to see. Few, other than the disciples (and even then we are not sure that they read the signs), see the significance of the event, yet the event is recorded to draw the reader to faith. The reader is asked to respond in faith to Jesus the messiah, the king who rides toward his coronation, acclaimed by the pilgrim crowd. Even nature bends to his lordship for he rides on an unbroken colt.

The subtlety of Jesus' self-revelation is still with us today. For us he remains the "coming one", coming to the Ancient of Days to claim his throne along with us his saints. In a sense, he is already there and we are there with him. In another sense he is still coming, still journeying toward that day of his enthronement. We can easily miss the signs, be transfixed by the energy of the moment, even diverted by religious enthusiasm, or worse, by church business.

Life is a journey to glory, so let us not miss its eternal purpose.

Rev. Ricardo Ramos-Diaz

LECTIONARY FOR APRIL

April 5 – EASTER SUNDAY

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-18

April 12

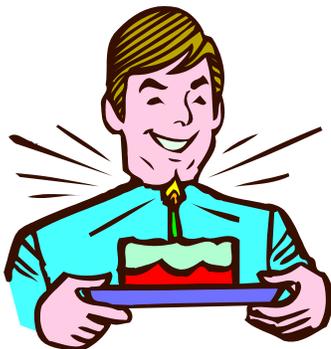
Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133
1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31

April 19

Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

April 26

Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18



HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAY TO:

<i>Pamela Humphries</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Michael Curtin</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Kelly Curtin</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Vivienne Merrill</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Kathleen Curtin</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Allison Klett</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Charles Ettel</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>Louise Beyer</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>Norman Carhart</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Sharon Lutz</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>John Stamer</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>Carl Michael Stamer</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Helen Stamer</i>	<i>30</i>

.....and many, many more!!

easter schedule



*7:00 PM – April 2- Holy Thursday
in the sanctuary -
Communion will be
served.*

*12 NOON TO 4:00 PM – April 3
Good Friday
Sanctuary will be open for
meditation, prayers and quiet
time.*

EASTER SUNDAY – April 5

*8:30 AM – Memorial Garden Service
(1/2 hour service-all welcome)*

*9:00 AM – Light buffet breakfast in
Aldersgate Hall
(please fill out a reservation
form in a Sunday bulletin or call
Doris Stamer, 925-0469)*

9:30 AM – Choir Rehearsal

*10:30 AM – Easter Morning Worship
Service in the sanctuary.*

*PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE OUR
SPECIAL EASTER SEASON. BRING YOUR
FAMILY AND FRIENDS.*

BITS AND PIECES

Joe and Tracy Cocco with son, Cole, recently visited Hawaii and on the way there they stopped at John and Julie Smith's (Henel) home in Sebastopol (an hour north of San Francisco) to spend the day and night with them. As John said it has been a long time since they had a 2 year old running around the house, and they are really looking forward to it.

Dr. Bill Martin's new address:

638 Congress St., Apt. 309
Portland Maine 04101-3354
207-415-9548

email = williamwmartindc@gmail.com

We haven't heard from Bill in a while. Hope he is enjoying living in Maine. We miss him!

We also have a new address for Bill Heinaman:

300 Saint Mark Ave., Apt. 3343
Lititz, Pa. 17543-2253
717-626-4326

Bill – where do you keep all your antiques now? Not much room in an apartment.

Ruth Schulte has been talking about giving up her position in the church as Financial Secretary. And at just the right time, Marese Pond Edwards asked if there was anything she could do for the church. The minister told her about the work Ruth has been doing for many years, and she offered to take that position over. We thank Ruth for her dedication and many years of commitment to the position of Financial Secretary and for a job well done! We appreciate Marese as a new volunteer and look forward to Ruth and Marese meeting together so that there will be a smooth transition to the position. Thank you, Marese, for your offer to help the church. We can always use volunteers.

Jayne Cocco has sold her large home in Maryland and purchased a condo in the same town. Her address is now:

673 Deering Road
Pasadena, Md. 21122
443-744-6263

email – Rockys718@aol.com

She loves her new place and now has company – a new puppy! Below is a picture of the puppy being held by her granddaughter, Chloe.



You better hang on to that puppie, Jayne! It looks like Chloe loves him, too!



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees had a discussion recently about checking Aldersgate Hall and closing the building in the evening after a rental. It is an impossible situation for the president, Bob Losyk, who does not drive and uses a motorized bike to get around. This is not safe to be doing at night in all kinds of weather. He is willing and able to open the building for rentals and to check them out when they leave, and lock up the building when the rental is during the day. Most rentals are on Saturday afternoon with a few during the year on Saturday evening. It is the evening check-out and lockup that we are asking for help, This was brought up recently at the Church Council meeting on March 11th and it was suggested that an article be put in the April Messenger asking for a volunteer to take care of only those rentals that involve an evening check-out and closing of the building. A motion was made, seconded and carried to see if someone from our church would volunteer to take over this task. If there is no response, the Trustees will have to come up with an alternate plan, They will be happy to explain the duties and responsibilities to anyone that volunteers. Please call Gertrude Baldwin, 908-862-9473 if you can help them solve this problem.

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BUILDING BLOCKS DAY CARE

The Day Care repairs are almost finished and the State will be coming soon to inspect the facilities. We hope to meet all the requirements for the State license and purchase the furniture and hire people needed to run our Day Care. We can then plan for the opening of our new facility, hopefully in the near future.



We were sad to read in the Star Ledger recently of the death of Jane Arnold Vacuole. The Arnold family was involved in our church and their children, Jane and Bob, were active members of our Sunday School. In fact, Jane was Gertrude Baldwin's closest church friend as they were growing up. Jane was predeceased by her husband, Francis and 2 daughters, Janis and Carol. She is survived by 3 sons, 2 daughters and 3 grandchildren. The service was Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at Maplewood Cemetery, Freehold, N. J. We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Jane.

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SPEAKING OF VOLUNTEERS

Rev. Ramos brought in the names of two new people who have volunteered to help the church, and we are glad to have them! Demola Adeyinka will serve as a new Trustee and they will be very pleased to welcome him, and Helia Deus Nysembaum will be serving on the Outreach Committee which has made Carolyn Franz a very happy chairperson. You will both be notified when your committee meets.

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UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 7th, 12 noon in Aldersgate Hall. Bring a sandwich and enjoy lunching with your church friends. Plans will be made for future meetings.

TIME FOR THE AUDIT OF OUR FINANCIAL RECORDS

MaryJane Koslosky has requested that the following financial records be turned over to her by April 12, 2015:

- CURRENT EXPENSE
- BLDG. IMPROVEMENT FUND
- MEMORIAL FUND
- ENDOWMENT FUND
- SCHOLARSHIP FUND
- UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
- LINDEN UMC ROBERT BAUER FOUNDATION #1
- LINDEN UMC ROBERT BAUER FOUNDATION #2

The Conference requires that all financial books that have bank accounts must be audited by the end of each year. We have done this each year. MaryJane will be out of state for a few weeks after April 12th and needs to get all the books to the auditor before she leaves. PLEASE SEE THAT SHE RECEIVES YOUR BOOKS ON TIME. They will be returned to you as soon as the audit is completed.



THANK YOU!!!!

A special “thank you” to Ruth Schulte who has been serving as Assistant Financial Secretary for over 24 years. She probably never knew when she said YES that 24 years would pass before she retired from that position. We appreciate her commitment, dedication and knowledge and the times she was asked questions and was always able to answer them. Thanks, Ruth, for a job well done! And a welcome to Marese Edwards, our new Financial Secretary.

EASTER FROM OTHER YEARS



UNITED METHODIST SCHOLARSHIPS

We don’t know exactly how much money will be available for our annual scholarship, but we do know that the investment the Scholarship Committee made last spring was better than the year before so we are looking forward to sponsoring at least one scholarship. Applications are available in the unlocked file in the old church office. Please speak to one of the active members in church on any Sunday and they will find the applications listed under SCHOLARSHIPS. One application will cover the Dianne Long, Gregg Carhart and William Steiniger scholarships. They will be presented in June.

APRIL 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 4:30-9:30- Fencing School	2 HOLY THURSDAY 7 PM - Communion	3 GOOD FRIDAY 12 – 4PM Sanctuary Open for Meditation, Prayer & quiet time 5:30-8:30 Champion Youth	4 9:30- 1:30 Fencing School
5 EASTER SUNDAY 8:30-Worship in Memorial Garden 9 AM-Light Buffet Breakfast 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 10:30-Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	6 7:00 Board of Trustees 4:30-9:30- Fencing School	7 12 Noon-U.M.W. 4:30 -9:30 Fencing Sch.	8 10:30-CHURCH COUNCIL 4:30-9:30- Fencing School	9	10 5:30-8:30 Champion Youth	11 9:30-1:30 – Fencing School in gym
12 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 10:30-Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	13 4:30-9:30- Fencing School	14 4:30-9:30-Fencing School	15 4:30-9:30- Fencing School	16	17 5:30-8:30 Champion Youth	18 9:30-1:30 Fencing School in gym
19 9:30-Choir Rehearsal 10:30-Sunday School 10:30-Worship Ser.	20 4:30-9:30 Fencing School	21 4:30-9:30 Fencing School	22 4:30-9:30- Fencing School	23	24 5:30-8:30 Champion Youth	25 9:30-1:30 Fencing School
26 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 10:30-Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	27 4:30-9:30 Fencing School	28 4:30 -9:30 Fencing Sch	29 4:30-9:30 Fencing Sch.	30		: