



THE PARISH VISITOR

APRIL 2023

A Letter From The Desk of Pastor John

John Omerod,
Pastor



**NEED TO
CONTACT
US?**

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As we enter into the Paschal season, Easter Sunday is the pinnacle of the Christian year. We are well aware of the long-standing commercialization of the day. We have become conditioned to secure a share of Easter cards, table decorations, new spring clothing, baskets, grasses, egg coloring kits, billowy stuffed bunnies, and candies of sizes, shapes, and calorie counts. Sweet treats of jellybeans, marshmallow chicks, chocolate and caramel eggs, chocolate crosses (Oh my!), and chocolate rabbits line store shelves, each begging to be taken home. Easter baskets are a tradition, and you don’t mess with the culture. Habit rhymes with rabbit. Ginny and I know! We have grandchildren, too. We have baskets for each of them. As an adult, I have nothing against candy. At tender ages, we had little understanding of the connection between the Cross and Resurrection. The mystery of our faith was transferred into the innocent question: “Can I have another chocolate egg?”

As adults, we have a better understanding of the Resurrection, much more so than the litany we heard as youth: that Jesus died for our sins, was crucified, laid in the tomb, and was resurrected.

Rather, the Resurrection is what writer and pastor Robert Maas tells us is far less about detailing each act of Holy Week. “It is enough to hear the truth, to repeat the stories of the day, and for each listener to discern what they need of the Gospel: the hope of a coming King, the acknowledgement of a prophet in conflict with injustice, and the empathic compassion of a suffering servant.”

Our entire Lenten journey culminates with the belief that Love arose from the grave to new life, and that Easter eggs represent new life and rebirth. Whatever your sense of the Resurrection, there is no better story than the one that tells of a humble compassionate and just servant. The resurrected Jesus becomes our resurrection to act justly and with compassion toward others. Suffering and death is the beginning. Life in Christ is our present and our future.

We needn’t rely on a chocolate cross to demonstrate the point.



The “Women’s Evening Fellowship” decided at their recent meeting that going forward they will be known as “Women’s Fellowship”. They will meet quarterly in the Family Room at the church after coffee hour. The next meeting will be on Sunday, June 11th.



If anyone is interested in knitting or crocheting a prayer shawl (which are donated to the ill or homebound), or a little Cross Prayer Square, rainbow baby hats, or angel pockets (which are donated to a hospital), patterns and some yarns are available. If you would like to contribute, please contact Barb Raymond at 630-556-3127 or TheRaymonds@BigRockUSA.com

POTLUCK LUNCHEON - APRIL 23rd

Join us after Worship on Sunday, April 23rd for a Potluck Luncheon. The sign up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall on the counter.

We hope you can join us!





HINCKLEY AREA FOOD PANTRY

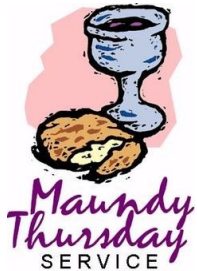
"NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS"

Thank you for your continued donations to the Hinckley Area Food Pantry. They provide a much needed resource for those less fortunate in our community.

If you wish to make a monetary donation to the Pantry, you can send it to:

Hinckley Area Food Pantry , PO Box 463, Hinckley, IL 60520

Monetary donors will receive a tax donation letter at the end of the year and the Pantry can buy even more food with monetary donations.



MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

We will worship together here on
Maundy Thursday (April 6th) at 7pm.
Communion will be served.



Volunteers for April



April 2nd
PALM SUNDAY
 Sunday School at 9am

 Worship at 10:15 am
 Communion
 Change Up Sundaes



Ushers: The Peters and Ashby Families
 Nursery:
 Coffee: Alan and Lavon Nehring

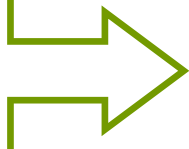
 Lock Up: Teaching/Learning
 Servers: Moderator



Maundy Thursday service here at ECUC on April 6th at 7pm
 Communion Servers: Vice Moderator, Youth, Outreach Lock Up: Worship

April 9th
EASTER SUNDAY

 Worship 10:15 am
 Communion

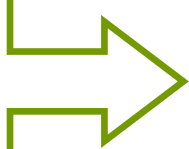


Ushers: The Peters and Ashby Families
 Nursery:
 Coffee:
 Lock Up: Youth
 Servers: Operations, Nurture, Teaching/Learning



April 16th
 Sunday School at 9am

 Worship at 10:15am

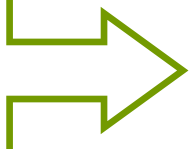


Ushers: The Peters and Ashby Families
 Nursery:
 Coffee: Volunteers are needed
 Lock Up: Moderator
 “The Other Side Of History” Presentation after Coffee Hour begins this Sunday.



April 23rd
 Sunday School at 9am

 Worship 10:15 am



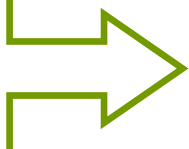
Ushers: The Peters and Ashby Families
 Nursery:
 Coffee: Pot Luck Luncheon
 Lock Up: Vice Moderator

 Installation of New Members



April 30th
 Sunday School at 9am

 Worship 10:15 am



Ushers: The Peters and Ashby Families
 Nursery: Larry and Mary Dalton
 Coffee:
 Lock Up: Treasurer



April 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2 Sunday
School -9am
Worship 10:15
Palm Sunday
Communion
Change Up
Sundae

3

4

5

6 Worship
Ministry Meeting
at 9:30am
Maundy Thursday
Worship Service—
7pm



MAUNDY
Thursday

7

8

9 Sunday
School -9am
Worship 10:15
Easter Sunday
Communion

10

11

12

13

14 Pizza
Night at Life
Spring 6pm

15

16
Sunday School
-9am
Worship 10:15

17
Executive
Council
Meeting -6:30pm

18

19

20

21

22
Earth Day



23 Sunday
School -9am
Worship 10:15
Pot Luck Lunch
Installation of
New Members

24

25

26

27

28

29

30
Sunday School
-9am
Worship 10:15

CHANGE UP SUNDAYS

Upcoming collection dates are as follows:

April 2nd May 7th June 4th
July 2nd Aug 6th Sept 3rd

The Teaching/Learning Ministry will use these collections for the Pilgrim Park Campership Fund. This fund provides the means for our youth to attend camp that otherwise may not have that opportunity. A little change in your pocket can have a big effect on a child.



Weekly Sunday Presentation by Michelle Drawz: “Great Courses— The Other Side of History, Daily Life in the Ancient World (starting on April 16th)

The Other Side of History moves systematically through history, with significant stops in ancient Egypt, Greece, Persia, Rome, and medieval Britain. What did the citizens do for a living? What was their home like? What did they eat? What did they wear? What did they do to relax? What were their beliefs about marriage? Religion? There will be a 30 minute video presentation followed by a short discussion. If you can't make it each week, that is not a problem. Each presentation stands alone, so you will not be lost if you do need to miss some presentations. Please join us starting April 16th after Coffee Hour, and if possible, please let Michelle know you will be attending. Thank you!

For More Information, please see this website:

<https://www.thegreatcourses.com/courses/the-other-side-of-history-daily-life-in-the-ancient-world>

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“SHARING GOD’S LOVE AND PEACE”
2023 VISION STATEMENT