

# *Grace Presbyterian News*

## **March 2018**

**Lenten Study Continues – The Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

**Sunday School March 4, 11 and 18 at 9:45 a.m.**

**and Tuesday at the Cross March 6, 13 and 20 at 5:30 p.m.**

It is appropriate during Lent to take on an added spiritual discipline, and one way to do that this Lent is to join in a study of the creeds and confessions of faith that make up the Book of Confessions of the Presbyterian Church. We will walk through these confessions, led by Don and Linda Jo McKim and Mike Krech in a special Sunday School series meeting at 9:45 a.m. through March 18 and at Tuesday at the Cross, meeting at 5:30 p.m. through March 20. The McKims will lead the Sunday School class each week and Tuesday, March 6. Mike will lead again Tuesday March 13 and 20. So, come learn more about our core beliefs and the particular ways that we Presbyterian/Reformed Christians have expressed our faith in our historic confessions. Copies of the Book of Confessions are available in the narthex.

**Holy Week Events – Palm Sunday, March 25, through Easter Day, April 1**

Easter is Sunday, April 1, 2018, and the week preceding it is properly known as Holy Week. (“Easter Week” is the week which begins on Easter Day.) Holy Week is holy because of the events in the life of Jesus that are pivotal for our faith in him as Lord and Savior. The Palm Sunday “parade,” the Triumphant Entry, finds Jesus entering Jerusalem to the shouts of people who may or may not have known all they were saying in hailing him as Son of David. On Maundy Thursday, betrayal is on the mind of Judas Iscariot, and Peter dissolves into tears when he denies Jesus. Faithful women stand at the cross on Good Friday, to witness the death of their teacher, healer and Lord, the Savior of the world. Some of those same women make the early Sunday morning journey to the tomb, but, finding it empty, hear from a heavenly messenger that Christ is risen. These women then have the first evangelical burden – to tell a doubtful world the good news that sin is conquered and death has died. We re-live these events through worship, Word, Sacrament, music, and holy fellowship with one another. I hope that you will make it a priority to attend and actively participate in the events of Holy Week and Easter.

On Palm Sunday, March 25, we sing “All Glory, Laud and Honor” to the Jesus who comes to save us from sin (though not in the way we might have imagined.) The service on this day concludes with the responsive reading of the Passion Narrative.

On Maundy Thursday, March 29, we gather at 6:30 p.m. for a meal of sacrificial soup. At about 7:30 p.m. following our simple meal, we worship as though in the Upper Room, with choral anthems, congregational hymns, Scripture, sermon, the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, as well as some of the historic liturgy for Holy Week and concluding with the “stripping of the church,” in which we remove the paraments and other objects normally used in worship, so that Good Friday finds the sacred space bare.

On Good Friday, March 30, the beloved service of Tenebrae is held in the sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. This simple but powerful service of Scripture, music, and the extinguishing of candles, is a church liturgy of long standing, which helps put us in mind of the depth of God’s love for us in Christ.

On Easter morning, April 1, at our 11:00 service, we praise, pray, preach and proclaim the joy of the resurrection in worship. A fellowship lunch and a “mini” egg hunt follow the worship service. There is no Bartlett-Ellendale community sunrise service this year; instead there will be a Service of Reconciliation and Peace on Tuesday evening, April 3, at Fullview Missionary Baptist Church, observing the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Martin Luther King’s Mountaintop sermon and his tragic death the next day.

## **Mustard Seed Resumes March 2**

Mustard Seed, our program of study and crafts for children, resumes Friday, March 2, from 4:15-5:15pm. If you are interested in assisting, there is a sign-up sheet in the hallway.

## **Young(ish) Adults Dinner – Saturday, March 10**

The Young(ish) Adults meet at the church at 5pm on Saturday, March 10 and then head to dinner and Dave and Buster's. Childcare is provided.

## **Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings in March**

The Night Circle meets Monday, March 12, at 7:00 p.m. at the church.

The Day Circle meets Tuesday, March 13, at 10:00 a.m. at the church.

## **Palm Cross Making Pot Luck – Saturday, March 24, at 6:00 p.m.**

Many of us have come to enjoy and benefit spiritually from the palm cross making pot luck on the night before Palm Sunday. It is good to eat together and then to shape the palm fronds into the form of a cross. These are then given to and worn by worshippers on Palm Sunday. We start the meal at 6:00 p.m. in order to have more time for the palm cross making.

## **Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, March 31 at 10:30 a.m.**

We will have an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31, at 10:30 a.m. at the church. Children up through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to hunt for eggs. Families are invited to stay for a light lunch after the egg hunt. We are inviting our daycare children. Please help up fill up enough eggs by donating non chocolate candy to fill eggs with. There is a donation box in the hallway as well as sign-up sheets for donations for lunch and egg hunt duties.

We will have an egg stuffing gathering on Sunday, March 25, at 2:30 p.m. All are welcome to come and fill Easter eggs. We will also have a small egg hunt after potluck on Easter Sunday, April 1. If you have any questions please contact Cristaldawn.

## **No Game Night in March due to Holy Week activities**

## **Weekly Events at Grace Presbyterian Church**

Prayer and Praise begins at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday. We sing and pray by name for those on the prayer list.

Sunday School, including the class on the confessions, begins at 9:45 a.m.

Sunday Worship begins at 11:00 a.m.

Bell choir rehearsal is held most Sundays after worship at about 12:00 noon.

Chapel for the Extended Care is held on Mondays at 4:15 p.m. (March 19 and 26).

Tuesday at the Cross is held on Tuesdays, March 6, 13 and 20, at 5:30 p.m.

Choir rehearsal is held in the sanctuary Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

GrandPals read to children in the preschool on Fridays at 11:00 a.m.

Mustard Seed (our program for children in the extended care) meets Fridays at 4:15 p.m.

## **Security**

In the interest of security the church doors are being locked at 11:15 a.m. on Sundays.

## **Visitors in Worship who signed the register in February 2018**

**Bill Britton**, Millington; **TC Campbell**, Memphis; **Don Cooke**, Knoxville TN; **Gabriel Davenport**, Bartlett; **Nadiyah Gibbs & Montrell**, Memphis; **Roseann and Dan Mayo**, Bartlett, **Shawn McGoldrick**, Memphis; **Don and LindaJo McKim**, Germantown; **Patti Smith**, Bartlett; **Martha Starnes**, Hapeville GA; **Randy & Linda Starnes**, Maple Grove MN; **Franceta Swain**, Bartlett; **Isaac, Leah & Nathan Vawter**, in transit to Bahrain; **Roger & Ann Wade**, Memphis; **Steve White**, Olive Branch MS; **Florence, Nyla & Tova Yarbrough**, Bartlett

# March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 11:00 a.m. GrandPals read to pre- schoolers 4:15 p.m. Mustard Seed  <i>Patsy Krech</i>	3 9:30 a.m. Presbytery Meeting at Parkway Gardens Church  <i>Michelle Clifford</i>
4 9:30Prayer&Praise 9:45SundaySchool 11:00 Worship/ Lent 3/ Communion Bell Choir rehearsal	5	6 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Cross	7 7:00 p.m . Choir Rehearsal	8	9 11:00 am GrandPals read to pre- schoolers 4:15 p.m. Mustard Seed <i>Casey Kehrl Linda Young</i>	10 5:00 p.m. Young Adult Dinner
11 Daylight Saving Time begins 9:30Prayer&Praise 9:45SundaySchool 11:00 Worship/ Lent 4/LindaJo McKim Bell Choir rehearsal	12 7:00 p.m. PW Night Circle	13 10:00 a.m. PW Day Circle  5:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Cross	14 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	15	16 No GrandPals  4:15 p.m. Mustard Seed	17
18 9:30Prayer&Praise 9:45SundaySchool 11:00 Worship/ Lent 5 Bell Choir rehearsal	19 4:15 p.m. Chapel for Extended Care  5:30 p.m. Session Mtg.	20 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Cross  <i>Suzanne Wood</i>	21 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  <i>Bob Gammon</i>	22	23 11:00 am GrandPals read to pre- schoolers  4:15 p.m. Mustard Seed	24 6:00 p.m. Palm Cross Making Pot Luck
25 9:30Prayer&Praise 9:45SundaySchool 11:00 Worship/ Palm Sunday Bell Choir rehearsal 2:30 Stuff Easter Eggs	26 4:15 p.m. Chapel for Extended Care	27	28 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal <i>Tony Benassi Anna Tate</i>	29 Maundy Thursday  6:30 p.m. Dinner 7:30 p.m. Worship/ Communion	30 Good Friday No GrandPals No Mustard Seed  7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Service	31 10:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt & Lunch  <i>Ken Hathaway</i>

### **Elders Serving Communion**

**March 4:**

**Harold Howard, Emily Mayne, John Price,  
Jean Starnes, Janet Vawter**

**March 29 (Maundy Thursday):**

**Paula Bishop, Kevin Bopp, Ruth Ellen Cox,  
Rosemary Gordon, Bob Harrold**

### **Usher Schedule**

**March 4 and 11: Brooks Keiser & Jim Pickren**

**March 18 and 25:**

**Harold Howard & Elizabeth Velazquez**

**March 29 (Maundy Thursday):**

**Bob Harrold and Sandy Kehrl**

### **Closing Elder**

**March 4: John Price**

**March 11: Rosemary Gordon**

**March 18: Elizabeth Velazquez**

**March 25: Bob Harrold**

### **Scripture Readings for Worship:**

**March 4:** Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19;  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

**March 11:** Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 103;  
Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

**March 18:** Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 119  
Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

**March 25:** Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm 24

Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 11:1-11; 14:1-15:39

**March 29 (Maundy Thursday):**

Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 116;

1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17,31-35

### **A Prayer for Palm Sunday**

**We praise you, O God, for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ, who today entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Grant that we who bear our palm branches may follow him in the way of the cross and that, united with Christ and all the faithful, we may one day enter in triumph the city not made by human hands, the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens, where with you and the Holy Spirit, Christ lives in glory everlasting. Amen.**

## **Grace Presbyterian Church**

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**Sent With Love To:**