

“Christ has risen! He has risen, indeed!” These words have been proclaimed for almost 2000 years. They are the foundation upon which our Christian Faith is built. How do we describe what we consider the greatest miracle of all time? How can we explain what seems to be unexplainable? We can't! That's what makes the resurrection so wonderful.



I'm not aware of any other religion, or organization that was formed on the conviction that their leader was killed and then came back to life. This unique proclamation sets our Christian Faith apart from any other gathering of people. It is a mystery and mysteries cannot be explained.

Every Easter, we gather and tell the story of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. We feel the same wonder, surprise and joy that was felt by those who actually witnessed it. Come and join us during Holy Week, as we share the solemnity of the upper room, feel the darkness of the tomb and then proclaim the wonderful news that “Christ has risen!” Let this experience remind us that God is always doing wonderful and surprising things that are more than we can ever understand.



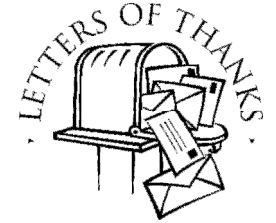
HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Maunder Thursday	April 21 Communion	7:00 p.m.
Good Friday	April 22 Service of Tenebrae	12:00 noon
Easter	April 24 Communion	9:30 a.m.

THANK YOU

February 2011

Dear Friends:



Thank you for your generous Souper Bowl donation of \$60.00 to help Feed My People. The mission of Feed My People is to show God's love and compassion to all of His people, particularly His people in need. As you know, Feed My People is the largest food pantry in the area. We continue to see more clients coming to us for food and other needs.

We are seeing fewer donations these days because of the economy and in need of increased financial support. Many of the adults we serve are single working parents. Many clients have lost jobs or had their hours cut. Many work full time jobs that pay less than the living wage. Choices must be made between paying rent, buying food or other necessities.

Our motto is “Hand in Hand – the Dream Continues.” That is all of us, reaching out and helping others to the dream that is our Father's dream for all of His children. We are very thankful for your support. It is because of people like you that we have been able to continue to provide much needed food and other services for our clients at this challenging time.

God's blessing to you,
(signed) Carol and John DeGuire
Executive Co-Directors

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March 3, 2011

Our dear friends of St. Philip's,

Thank you for all the warm gestures you all gave at the time of my mom's passing last month. It was and is a painful time. She had been staying with us and helping with my bed rest for the 2 weeks prior to her death, full of energy. The day before she died she began feeling weak, we took her to the ER and she died with her children, grandchildren, son-in-laws, and great grandchildren gathered around her bed. It was peaceful and a blessing for all of her loved ones to be there.

Thank you so very much to those who sent cards, notes, and came to the visitation – we thank you from our hearts.

God bless all of you,
(signed) Dave, Cheryl, and family (Paige)

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March 4, 2011

Dear St. Philip's UCC,

On behalf of the entire staff and Board of Directors at Joint Neighborhood Ministry, I would like to say 'Thank you' for your generous in-kind donation of food and clothing during the month of February, 2011. It was very thoughtful of you to remember JNM. We greatly appreciate your kindness and support. Through your donations, our programs are able to continue assisting families in the community with much needed food, clothing, utility assistance, medical support, and numerous other services. Your donation makes a difference!

Thank you again for your generosity, and we look forward to your continued support! If you would like to learn about volunteer opportunities, obtain information on our programs or schedule a visit, please feel free to contact us at 314-711-3987.

Sincerely,
(signed) Cindy Kohlman
Family Advocate

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The Women's Fellowship would like to thank everyone who helped and also those who bought books at the book fair. It was a huge success and will enable us to continue our many mission projects. I already have five boxes in my garage for next year !! Just let Janet Remmers know if you have any you want to get rid of.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

on March 12, 2011.

Our shut ins – Helen Wright, Vernon Hornung, Jacque Walker, Ann Davis, Elvira Rebienne at The Quarters at DesPeres and Oscar Wenk at Delmar Gardens – Meramec Valley. Also remember Alice Hillyard and Ruth Ann Nuelle whose sister-in-law, Idakatherine Schenk, passed away

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Please keep thinking about your Lenten Banks for Habitat for Humanity. Several of the children have told me that they are putting change in the banks each day. Our goal is to raise \$1000 which has been our yearly pledge for a local Habitat House for many years. Don't forget to put your envelope number on your bank. Thanks. Your Outreach Board.

St. Philip's has been scheduled to help with landscaping at Habitat for Humanity the last of August – possibly the 13th or 20th. We will be working with St. John's UCC/St. Charles and possibly Pilgrim UCC. 20 people will be needed so we hope you plan to keep that date open to help with this project.

LYDIA'S HOUSE MEAL

We will be donating a meal for Lydia's House on Wednesday, April 6th. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you can donate a food item. We will need the items by noon on that day. Both we and Lydia's House appreciate your donations.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Be sure to mark your calendars for the April 10th congregational meeting. The list of candidates for the ministry teams will be available for you to peruse on March 27th and the committee reports will be ready by April 3rd so that you can take them home to read before the meeting. If you are a chairperson of a committee, be sure to have your report to Shirley by March 28th.



Election will be held for new team members where needed. Following is the status of these committees:

- Church Property – Al Farrow and Gary Karcher will continue.
- Congregational Life – Carole Armistead and Tammy Knoll will both continue.
- ECC – Cathy Gutjahr will continue; Sue Bowles is going off and Richelle Fischer will replace her.
- Finance – Mike Shelton and Walter Knoll will both continue.
- Learning – Virginia Hladnick and Brigitte Mittler will both continue.

Outreach – Nancy Krenning is going off and Jan Freese will replace her and Barbara Barnes will continue.

Spiritual Life – Tom Nottelmann will continue, Ellen Disseler is going off (no replacement found yet).

Continuity – Ken Faerber is going off, Gary Karcher will replace him.

2011 WOMEN'S RETREAT



Women's Retreat

Not to be confused with the St. Philip's Women's Retreat but the Missouri Mid-South Conference UCC Women's Retreat will be held at Camp Mo-Val on the weekend of April 29 – May 1st. The theme of the retreat is Grace in your Face. Come learn how to create and strengthen more meaningful relationships and celebrate the gifts of friends and community. The keynote presenter

will be Joy Allen, LCSW, M. Div. and the guest musicians are Susan Drake and Julie Jennings.

Also it's not too late to sign up for the St. Philip's Women's Retreat which will be held on Saturday, April 9th at Camp Fenwick from 9 a.m. to about 3 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Hope you will consider joining the ladies for a day of fun, food, fellowship, and worship.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected on Sunday, April 3rd. If you receive the Crier in the mail, the envelope is enclosed. If you receive it on the internet the envelope will be included in the bulletin on Sunday, March 27th. This is a very worthy cause and we hope you will remember to bring your envelopes on the 3rd and place them in the offering plate.

SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR LITURGIST, ETC.

The sign-up sheets for April, May and June are on the bulletin board and looking pretty bare. If you can help in any way, please check out the sheets and sign where you can help. Thank you.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The April activity for Women's Fellowship will be lunch at Pepi's. We will meet at church at 11:00 a.m. to carpool there. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board so please sign it if you plan to go.

50+ GROUP

The 50+ Group will be going to Grant's Lodge after worship on Sunday, April 10 at 11:45 a.m. for breakfast/lunch. The cost is \$11.95 plus tax and gratuity for the All-You-Can-Eat Buffet. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board so please sign it if you plan to join us for the buffet. All are welcome.

TIME AGAIN FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The theme this year is "Shake it up Café" where kids carry out God's recipe. So – save the dates July 25th – 29th. This not only has the Biblical stories and activities, but we will have activities and learn about the food pyramid. Learning about the different food groups and food in each group will be a big part of the activities. We will need MANY, MANY magazines with these kinds of pictures, such as grain, meat, vegetables, fruit, milk. Etc. So – we would like for you to start saving these kinds of magazines. We will set a date when we will be collecting these.

The Bible Story Telling will be about Festivals Jesus celebrated.

1. Israelites celebrate Passover
2. Festival celebrations for the Israelites
3. Jesus celebrates the Festival of Booths
4. Jesus celebrates Passover
5. Celebrating the Festival of Weeks and Pentecost

This will be another fun learning week for everyone.

Thank you so much for the help and participation.

Virginia



EASTER EGG HUNT



We would appreciate if you could donate individually wrapped candy. We have plenty of the plastic eggs. We usually have at least 50-60 children, so we do appreciate it if you can bring the candy by April 17th. The Easter Bunny will be there, so this will be a fun time.

A NOTE FROM ST. PHILIPS ECC

Did you know?

- We offer before and after Kindergarten care for students at Sappington Elementary who are younger than 7?
- We have a phenomenal themed Summer Camp for children ages 3-7 at a very reasonable price?
- Our Preschool program is included in our full day childcare tuition?
- We offer enrichment programs such as: Science Seekers, Creative Corner, martial arts, and Music and Movement for ages 4 and up?
- If you know anyone looking for childcare for children ages 2-7, send them our direction!

Happy Spring!

Theresa King, Director

COMING EVENTS

- April 2 – Senior High Laser Tag/Lock in party
April 3 – Communion
April 4 – Council meeting 7 p.m.
April 6 – Meal for Lydia's House – noon
April 7 – Yoga Class 6:30 p.m.
April 9 – St. Philip's Women's Retreat at Camp Fenwick – 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
April 10 – Birthday Sunday
Congregational meeting
50+ Group – Brunch at Grant's Lodge 11:45 a.m.
April 12 - Bell Choir 7 p.m.



- April 13 - Free lunch
April 17 – Confirmation
April 18 – Early Childhood Center Board meeting 7 p.m.
April 19 - Women's Fellowship – Pepi's
Bell Choir 7 p.m.
April 21 - Maundy Thursday Service - 7 p.m.
April 22 - Good Friday Service - noon
April 23 - Easter Egg Hunt
April 24 - Easter breakfast 8:30 a.m.
Easter Service 9:30 a.m.
April 26 - Bell Choir 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY EVENTS (see bulletin board for more info)

- Friday, April 1 - Fish Fry – St. Johns Evangelical UCC Church – Mehlville – Serving 4 – 7 p.m.
Sunday, April 17 – Palm Sunday Concert – St. Louis Metro Singers – St. Anthony of Padua – 3140 Meramec – 3:00 p.m.
Monday, April 25 – Auxiliary Spring Luncheon – Neighborhood Houses – Immanuel UCC (Ferguson) 221 Church Street – 10:00 a.m. registration

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- April 1 April Schillinger
April 3 Ben Kotthoff
April 4 Carley Nickel
Tara Siewing
April 7 Steve Werner
April 8 Grace Williamson
April 9 Elvira Rebienne
April 10 Judy Parkinson
Stan Parkinson
Bradley Knoll
April 13 Bryant Rohlfing
April 15 Alice Noland
April 18 Alyse Gordon
Kayla Gordon
April 23 Al Bowles
April 24 Steve Hladnick



- April 26 Linda Haman
April 27 Lucy Vogt
April 28 Kate Kimker
Mary Darr
Helen Wright

USHERS, ACOLYTES AND CHILDREN'S TIME FOR APRIL

Liturgists



April 3
April 10
April 17
April 24

Mike Shelton
Sandy Stevenson

Welcoming Teams

April 3
April 10
April 17
April 24

Joy Lopez



Children's Time



April 3
April 10
April 17
April 24

Carl Philips
Sandy Stevenson

Acolytes

April 3
April 10
April 17
April 24

Haylee Thibodeaux
Alex Balzer
Rachel Fischer
Madeline Williamson

