**Holy Week**

**April 5th at 10 am, Palm Sunday** — Everyone is encouraged to meet in the Narthex and process in with palm frond during the prelude. We will have plenty of palm fronds available for all.

**April 9th 7 pm, Maundy Thursday Service**—Come join us for this reflective service. Maundy Thursday commemorates the Washing of the Feet and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles.

**April 11th at 10 am, Easter Egg Hunt**—Be sure to invite all of your neighbors and friends. If you are able to help set up, greet folks as they arrive, or clean up please see Laurie Costales or Christa Ryan.

**April 12th, Easter**—Join us for the Sonrise Service at 6:15 am followed by a Continental Breakfast. Regular worship service is at 10 am. There will be a signup sheet for those who are able to help bring fruit, rolls, and juice for breakfast.

**Lenten Devotional**

There is a Lenten Devotional, “For the Beauty of the Earth,” available for everyone on the Narthex table. Please feel free to take one and follow along.

The Bible Study group will be studying this in-depth at our regular Thursday Bible Study at 11 am.
Yesterday was Ash Wednesday, which means that the season of Lent has officially begun. Lent, a season of reflection, renewal, and preparation is often recognized by Christians as a period focused on preparing and improving the self in recognition of the coming Easter celebration of the resurrection. We often mark the time with sacrifice of some vice or another in order to better focus our attention upon God. This is good for us, but it is not all that Lent is about. It is not meant to be an entirely inwardly focused season of preparation. We are not meant to simply sit in contemplation during this time and reflect upon God and pine away for that last pint of ice cream in the freezer that we’re saving because we gave up sweets for Lent. Lent should be a balanced time of fasting, praying, and giving that serves to re-focus our lives on God and reminds us who we are and what we’re here for. We fast to remove distraction, of which there are all too many, each pulling our attention farther away from God’s intention for us. We pray, not to continue asking God for what we want or even need, but to listen. We need to listen more in our relationship with our Creator. Like in any relationship, nobody likes the person who never stops talking and never just listens. Don’t be that person in your relationship with God. We are called, also, to give. We are called in this season to sacrifice, to listen and to serve God’s people. We are called to engage in some inward pursuits, listening, and reflection in order to finally turn our energy outward.

God expects a faithful response to the sacrifice that was first made for us, Jesus’ life on the cross. Lent is the time we take leading up to the remembrance of Christ’s sacrifice during which we prepare not only ourselves, but one another and our world to both mourn the death and celebrate the resurrection of the One who came to save. If our time of reflection and renewal during Lent don’t result in some sort of transformation, some greater sense of love, some active pouring out of God’s Spirit in and through us, then we have grievously missed the point. We must continue to practice the faith and try, try again. Thankfully, Lent comes again every year; a cycle of renewal, of re-filling cups of grace gone dry. “Fill my cup Lord. I lift it up Lord! Come and quench this thirsting of my soul; Bread of Heaven, feed me till I want no more – Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole!”

May we all respond fully to the invitation to engage God in this season of Lent; to sacrifice with abandon, to pray without ceasing, to serve with love. Through all of this may we grow deeper in faith and in love for Christ, the one who saves, the one who makes us whole.

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“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” ~ Mark 1:15
Blessings and Concerns

From February 23rd:

❤ Prayers for our nephew Chris Phillips who has heart problems and may have a heart transplant. Julie Hittle
❤ God, please be with my sister Leslie whose health is declining rapidly – 56 years old and dying from COPD and a history of congestive heart failure. Traci Pearl
❤ Please pray for Margy McCurry – she called me this morning and said she was going to urgent care. Her back is hurting and she thought it might be her kidney. Nancy Dalrymple
❤ Kena Dewey is home and doing well following her pacemaker installation. She can’t lift her arm or drive for six weeks and sincerely appreciates calls or visits. Thanks to everyone for your prayers, she is feeling much better. Pastor Erik

Previous Blessings and Concerns:

❤ Prayers for Mike Allegre having surgery on the 26th for a leaking heart valve and aortic aneurism. Van Moore
❤ The Dodge Family has a blessing to share. We have learned that Aurora is expecting a baby – due to arrive in September. Mark and Kathryn Dodge
❤ Thankful to be alive! Praise Jesus! Carol Reynolds
❤ For those of you who knew Vi Laudon, her grandson Scott passed away of a massive heart attack. For more information on services and circumstances, see Margy McCurry.
❤ Please pray for one of our Indoor Park families. The father has terminal brain cancer and is on hospice. Laurie Costales
❤ There is a lovely valentine letter from Michael and Janet Crouch on the bulletin board to the congregation. They send warm greetings and news.
❤ Elders Sue Day and Mike Reynolds visited Shirley Summers, Leila Pearson, Glen Walker, and Barbara Rodriguez this last week and took them communion. Shirley is doing very well, Leila and Barbara have good/bad days but are in good spirits, Glen is sleeping a lot. There is a photo of Barbara dressed up for St. Patrick’s day on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

Regional Assembly—May 15-16, 2020

You are invited to the 4th Regional Assembly, a gathering of the Christian Church in Oregon and SW Idaho (Disciples of Christ) congregations and friends entitled “Growing Into God’s Future Together.” It will be hosted by Salem First Christian Church. For more information, check out the website at Regional Assembly.
**Unsung Heroes**

Thank you to Don Kaehler for donating some Ham Radio equipment that will be going with Pastor Erik and Mark Dodge on their mission trip to Puerto Rico.

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**Rock Painting and S.A.N.I.A.**

We meet every 2nd Monday of the month from 6:30-8 pm in the Fellowship Hall to work on our various craft projects. Our next meeting will be on **Monday, March 9th**. Anyone is welcome, no skills or supplies needed. We have plenty of rocks and paint for those who wish to create painted rocks. It’s extremely kid friendly as we have a kid-size rock painting table we set up for our younger enthusiasts.

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**Real I.D. — What You Need to Know**

Something big is happening October first of this year. If you aren’t paying attention, it might mean missing your flight out of PDX or any other airport across the U.S.

On that date the Transportation Security Administration, or TSA, begins requiring a new type of identification to board a commercial aircraft. The new ID must be compliant with something called the Real ID Act. It’s designed to keep us safer in the air, but if you try to board an aircraft using your current Oregon driver license starting in October – it won’t work. That’s because the current Oregon driver license is not Real ID compliant.

Oregon DMV will begin offering a Real ID option on July 6, 2020. To fulfill the demand of nearly one million Oregonians who will want the Real ID option, DMV would have to issue 32 licenses a second every business day from July to October. That’s just not possible.

If you don’t have a Real ID compliant form of ID at the airport, TSA will put you through an alternate identity verification process that could take an hour or more, and you could miss your flight.

There is an answer for Oregonians: obtain and use a passport or passport card. The cost of getting a new passport card is roughly equal to that of getting a replacement license with the Real ID option – and you can apply now at one of over 76 acceptance sites across Oregon. To find out more, visit [https://www.Oregon.gov/REALID](https://www.Oregon.gov/REALID)

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**Keizer Community Dinner**

Our next Community Dinner is Wednesday, April 25th from 5-7 pm. Bring a Friend — Meet a Friend! It is free and open to all. A goodwill offering is taken if you feel you can contribute.

We will be helping again so if you would like to volunteer, see Sue Day.
**MEN’S GROUP**

Men’s Group continues to meet every other Saturday. The next meeting is on **Saturday, February 29th** at Shari’s on River Road at 8 am. It is open to all men! For future dates, please see the calendar. For more info, please see Pastor Erik.

**MISSION TO PUERTO RICO**

This Spring Break Mark Dodge and Pastor Erik will be travelling with five other Oregon Disciples from the Murray Hills Christian Church to Puerto Rico to participate in the ongoing hurricane and earthquake relief efforts there. The trip is being led and coordinated by Murray Hills CC member Raiza Spratt who is from Puerto Rico and has family there still. We will be working under the instruction of Disciples Week of Compassion and Global Ministries partners in Puerto Rico to help with the rebuilding process both physically and mentally/spiritually. In the physical sense much is left to be repaired, primarily roofs as well as other elements of infrastructure. Many are still without power. In a spiritual and mental sense we will serve people affected by the recent earthquake who are struggling with hopelessness and trauma in the wake of the destruction of homes and national monuments.

Both Mark and I have training in brief trauma counseling and psychological first aid with Mark bringing his skill as a trainer of these practices. Our main goal and purpose is not come as any kind of experts, but to simply be present, to listen, to offer a sense of hope and camaraderie. We invite your prayers and support in this adventure and mission of hope to our siblings in Christ in Puerto Rico. If you would like to support us financially you can use the link to the KCC app here: [https://pushpay.com/g/keizerchristian](https://pushpay.com/g/keizerchristian). All support will go towards registration and travel costs as well as relief supplies we hope to offer to the people. God bless.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL HUMOR (Via Kay Taylor)**

After church mom asks young girl what the Sunday school lesson was about. Reply: Don’t be scared you’ll get your quilt.

Later in the week the pastor stops by for tea and mom asks the same question. Reply: "Be not afraid thy comforter is coming"

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**KEIZER COMMUNITY FOOD BANK**

Our next service night is Monday, March 16th.

**We have various needs throughout our service day to stock shelves, portion out produce, and serve clients.** If you have any questions, see me!

Thanks to those who have donated food during these last months, we can always use any of the Core Foods listed on the poster in the Narthex.

**Pam Elliot**

The February Core Foods are: **SOUP, CHILI** and **CANNED BEANS**
**Serving Schedule**

**March 1, 2020**
- **Candlelighter:** Bristol Campos
- **Children’s Church:** Sue Day
- **Presider:** Ed Query
- **Elders:** Sue Day & Mike Reynolds
- **Deacons:** Kim Free & Vicki Zielinski
  Don Kaehler & Tammy Puppo
- **Greeter:** Kay Taylor
- **Guestbook:** Vicki Zielinski
- **Usher:** Cindy Cheuvront
- **Coffee Hour:** Kathy Martinez

**March 8, 2020**
- **Candlelighter:** Addison Hughes
- **Children’s Church:** Sue Day
- **Presider:** Troy Costales
- **Elders:** Nancy Dalrymple & Pam Elliott
- **Deacons:** Troy Costales & Laurie Costales
  Dena Query & Ashlynn Hughes
- **Greeter:** Sue Day
- **Guestbook:** Vicki Zielinski
- **Usher:** Cindy Cheuvront
- **Birthday Sunday:** Don and Marsha Kaehler

**March 15, 2020**
- **Candlelighter:** Kady Rodriguez
- **Children’s Church:** Sue Day
- **Presider:** Mike Ryan
- **Elders:** Kathee Moore & Mike Ryan
- **Deacons:** Carol Reynolds & Vicki Zielinski
  Christa Ryan & Peggy Young
- **Greeter:** Vicki Zielinski
- **Guestbook:** Kathy Martinez
- **Usher:** Cindy Cheuvront
- **Coffee Hour:** Kathy Martinez

**March 22, 2020**
- **Candlelighter:** William Waldrop
- **Children’s Church:** Sue Day
- **Presider:** Carol Reynolds
- **Elders:** Ed Query & Sue Day
- **Deacons:** Troy Costales & Gerry Henjum
  Don Kaehler & Tammy Puppo
- **Greeter:** Nancy Dalrymple
- **Guestbook:** Kay Taylor
- **Usher:** Cindy Cheuvront
- **Coffee Hour:**

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**Happy Anniversary**
Brian and Regina Lepe

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**Tissue Dispenser Fund Raiser**

Our women’s group going to the W.W.O.W. Conference in June is selling tissue dispenser cups. They are available in the Fellowship Hall along the East wall for $3 each. All proceeds will go to the Women’s Group for WWOW expenses. We have also posted pictures on Facebook and encourage you to share the post with your friends and help us sell them by taking them to work, etc.

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**Birthday Sunday**
Don and Marsha Kaehler

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**Birthday Mug Rug**

Be sure to pick up your birthday mug rug! If you missed it on your birthday, see Paul in the sound booth, he has extras.
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You can also access the calendar at any time from our website at: [www.keizerchristian.org](http://www.keizerchristian.org).

The on-line calendar is updated daily with any changes.
SERMON SERIES

We approach the Lenten season with an emphasis on interiority, personal investigation, and contrition—the intentional work of seeking a change of heart or actions.

Reflection and change take work, hard work. Lent can be like a boot camp for the soul, a restart in a focused area. We walk this season together, demanding the best of ourselves, ready to support one another and prepared to see truths that shatter our self-understanding. The range of scriptures in this season is the full breadth of lived human experience from creation to death and new life.

March 1—Sermon: “The Need for Change”
Old Testament Reading: Psalm 32
The Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

March 8—Sermon: “Reset”
Old Testament Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a
The Gospel: John 3:1-17

March 15—Sermon: “Hydrate”
Old Testament Reading: Exodus 17:1-7
The Gospel: John 4:5-42

March 22—Sermon: “Redefined”
Old Testament Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13
The Gospel: John 9:1-41