



April 21

Maundy Thursday

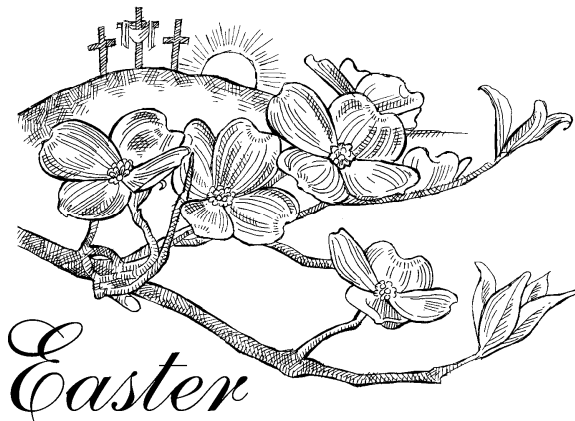
Tenebrae Service with Communion
(6:00 pm – supper and 6:45 pm – Worship)



April 22

Good Friday

Ecumenical Worship at North Haven Church
2249 E. 15th Ave. North St Paul
(noon – worship and 12:30 pm – Soup)



April 24

EASTER

9:15 am Traditional Service
10:45 am Contemporary Service

Congregation News



CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!!!!

Pending session approval, the 3rd annual Craft Show and Sale to raise funds to support Youth Workcamp will be held Sat Oct 1. We are looking to fill the hall and narthex with a variety of crafters! In addition we will be having a "craft raffle" and a bake sale. Spread the word - and reply to the church office (north@northchurch-mn.org) if you would like to register or know of someone else who would like to sign up.

SYNOD SCHOOL 2011

Join Pastor James, Spencer and Abigail as they attend their sixth Synod School. The worship is inspiring, the classes are spiritually nourishing, the fellowship is exceptional and there are many fun activities and crafts, all on a beautiful campus. Pastor James will join a wonderful faculty that will offer over fifty classes for adults. Children and youth have their own special classes, worship and fellowship. Spencer and Abigail are eager to attend again. Please consider joining the York family this summer for Synod School July 24-29 at Buena Vista University, Storm Lake Iowa. More information can be found at <http://www.lakesandprairies.org/school.html>.



What is "One Great Hour of Sharing"?

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities. Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our sisters and brothers around the world find the hope for a brighter future. The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent of undesignated One Great Hour of Sharing gifts, while the Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receives 32 percent. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected through Easter Sunday.



Ladies Tea at North Church

May 14, 2011 ~ 2 to 4 pm

Ladies: \$5 Young Ladies (10 and under): \$3

For Ladies of All Ages

Bring a friend, neighbor, mother, daughter or sister

There will be tea, snacks, entertainment, prizes and most importantly – fellowship. Look for our reservation table. Tickets will be sold between services each Sunday (with the exception of Easter).

Do you know of anyone who is interested in joining our family of faith? Please invite them to the Membership Inquirer's Gathering on Saturday, May 7th from 8:45-11:00 led by Pastor James. The gathering is an invitation to faith exploration and is the way a guest becomes a member of North Presbyterian Church. Guests will enjoy refreshments as they discuss faith and our beliefs. Child care is available upon request. Please contact Pastor James if you know of anyone interested in attending.



TO GEORGE ZOYA.....

The Outreach Commission would like to recognize **GEORGE ZOYA** for not only volunteering with the North St Paul Food Shelf program for 21 years, but also for being the Food Shelf Coordinator for North Church for over 19 years! We appreciate your efforts, George, and thank you very much for your dedication to this worthwhile mission of our church.

Children's Ministry

Teacher Recognition Sunday

May 15, 2011

We will be recognizing our Sunday school teachers and Wednesday night leaders on May 15 during the 10:25 am Celebration Time. We would like our Christian education volunteers to plan to attend, so we can recognize your contributions to our children's and youth ministries.

Sunday School Celebration

Sunday, May 22, 2011

All children in Preschool – 6th grade are invited to the end-of-the-year Sunday School Celebration on May 22. We will be meeting on the west lawn where older children are invited to play kickball and younger children will play on the playground. Please have children dress for the weather. We will still plan to go outside if it's cool but not if it's raining.

Summer Camps At Presbyterian Clearwater Forest

Clearwater offers exceptional camps year around for all ages, individuals and families, at great facilities, in the beauty of God's creation. Summer week long Discovery Camp (grades 3-6) and Adventure Camp (grades 7-9) have been favorites of several members of our congregation for years. This summer we will again have several children and youth attending a week long camp. The camps are offered throughout the summer. Information and registration can be found at www.clearwaterforest.org. Talk to Pastor James if you would like to carpool and attend with others from our church this summer.

Financial Assistance for Clearwater or Workcamp

The endowment committee and/or a few members of our congregation are eager to offer financial assistance to any member in need so they can attend camp. They are glad to invest in the blessings that abound from the camp experience. Talk to Pastor James or George Smith of the Endowment Committee if your child wants to attend camp but you are short on the funds for the camp.

VBS Volunteers Needed

We are excitedly planning our *Pandamania* Vacation Bible School and beginning to look for volunteers. Last year was a wonderful experience with almost 40 children and 30 volunteers attending a week of fun and fellowship. Please read the following job descriptions and prayerfully consider whether you can volunteer at least one evening during July 17-21. If you have any questions, please call Renee Kristensen at 651-777-4044 or email renee@northchurch-mn.org.

Party Time Sing & Play Leader and Rowdy Wrap-Up Leader: Lead or co-lead the music and finale each day using video clips and skits provided in the curriculum.

Crazy Crafts & Missions Leader: Help children create one-of-a-kind crafts that reinforce the daily Bible stories.

Bamboo Blast Games Leader: Play games with the children that relate to the daily Bible point.

Spotlight VBS Leader: Take pictures of children and copy them into a special slide show to use during the *Rowdy Wrap-Up*.

Treetop Treats Leader: Help children prepare snacks for the entire group.

From Pastor James

A Resurrection Devotion

"Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. Jesus has been raised...Jesus is going ahead of you...you will see Jesus, just as he told you."

You are invited to find a quiet, comfortable place to pray and reflect on the power of resurrection in your life. Perhaps this devotion will enrich your prayer.

- † Begin by assuming a comfort posture of prayer.
- † Be still and know God.
- † Be aware of God, Creator, Sustainer, Redeemer.

- † Be aware of life, energy around you and in you--your breathe--your heart beat--your senses--your feelings, loving heart--your thinking, creative mind.
- † You are the image of God. Picture your favorite peaceful place.
- † Jesus the creator, sustainer and redeemer of all and you is there.
- † Jesus is eager to see you.

Jesus reads to you Mark 16:1-8.

“When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. Jesus has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Jesus, just as he told you.” So they went out and fled from the tomb, trembling and bewildered; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.”

Jesus explains how you are bewildered, alarmed, afraid because you are in the middle of the Easter story. Jesus has been resurrected and Jesus is working to resurrect the world and every aspect of your life. However fear, pain and trembling linger because the resurrection power of Easter is just beginning. Give your fears to Jesus. How is Jesus rolling away the stones of your fear? How is Jesus filling your emptiness? How is Jesus giving you abundant life? What in your life is Jesus resurrecting? Image the glory of resurrections that will come. Jesus, our risen, eternal savior reassures you, I am with you always. Amen



On April 10th six youth were confirmed at North (Ryan Bearth, Ellie Blair, Courtney Colton, Kendra Durst, Rachael Holle and Rachael Marah). A Faith Statement from a youth will appear in the Innovator each month. Below are the faith statements from Ellie Blair and Rachael Holle.

STATEMENT OF FAITH - Ellie Blair

I believe that God created us all because he loves us. Some people may be atheist and not believe in Him, but He still loves them even if they don't know it. I believe that there are many stories of creation in the Bible. I believe that when we are born, it is a creation story of its own because there is nothing more beautiful than life. I also believe that when Jesus comes back to Earth everyone will see Him and know that God loves us despite any preconceived notions. He will then lead us all to Heaven where we will live in perfect happiness and love forever. I believe that sometimes there are angels sent from heaven to remind us all of what awaits us.

We know that we cannot be perfect and yet we should always strive to be like God. Everyone sins, including you and me, but we don't have to pay the price for our sins because Jesus already did. I think it was very brave of Him knowing that He would probably die and yet He died because He loves us all unconditionally. I believe that when we are forgiven we are born again in a way. We are made new and innocent. Everything that God does for us He does out of love. Forgiving us for our sins; however, the term

forgive and forget is not completely accurate here. God does not forget that we sinned He accepts us and loves us in spite of them.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is God's inspiration and promise to us. It's basically saying, "I love you no matter what. Pass on the love because it is the right thing to do." The Trinity: God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are three beings so perfect that they became one whole, loving and leading up. They are one God who loves us and will always love us.

I believe in the Trinity and in God's unconditional love. I believe that heaven is a Utopia structured to our personal preferences so everyone's heaven will be different but perfect in their eyes. I believe that God has a plan. We might not know what it is now but when we find what we are made to do we will know.

STATEMENT OF FAITH - Rachael Holle

I believe that God created the heavens and everything on earth. In the bible there are many different stories about God creating the earth. I believe God created humans because he was lonely and he wanted someone to love. I believe God's will for my life is to serve God by being an active member in church, sports and school.

I believe that Jesus Christ is fully human and fully God. Jesus is a man who is a helper, a lover, and a peacemaker. He has both human traits and God traits. For a human trait, he was scared to die for us. A God trait is he made a blind man see. I believe Jesus is a savior who can help anyone.

I believe that grace is God's love for us. I believe Jesus saves me from sin when I pray at night, read my bible, go to church/youth group. I believe Jesus saves me from sin when I confess my sins, when I pray and go to church.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is God and reveals God's love. I believe the Holy Spirit helps people out of love. I believe the word of God is the bible. Everything in the bible is God's word.

I believe the purpose of the church is to bring people together with similar beliefs to worship God. I believe the church's mission is to get people closer to God, to help people when they need it, and to share God's love.

I believe that everyone can be baptized at any age. I believe baptism is God's way of us into entering God's family. I believe that the Lord's Supper is to remind us about what Jesus did for us and why he died for us.