



Third Presbyterian Church

1221 Custer Avenue  
Rockford, IL 61103

# Third Pres Times

Volume 21 Issue 3

March 2021



# PALM SUNDAY

THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY



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# The Season of Lent

## March 7—3rd Sunday in Lent

*“The Foolishness of Obedience”*

Mary Hartshorn, Worship Leader

Exodus 20:1-17, I Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22



## March 14 - 4th Sunday of Lent

*“Venom and Anti-venom:*

*What Doesn't Kill You*

*Makes you Stronger”*

Greg Albert, Worship Leader

Numbers 21:4-9, Ephesians 2:1-10

John 3:14-31

## March 21 – 5th Sunday in Lent

*“Heartbreak and Heart Transplant”*

Chris Krakauskas-Lingelbach, Worship Leader

Jeremiah 31:31-34, Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33



## March 28 - Palm and Passion Sunday

*“Trajectory to Atonement”*

Mark 11:1-11, Isaiah 50:4-9, Psalm 31:9-16

Jeannette Stromquist-Sheehan, Worship Leader

# This and That



- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Brianna Kundo     | 20 Meeghan Archer   |
| 3 James Gray        | Allison Smith       |
| 4 Declan Milner     | 22 Allison Vosberg  |
| 6 Jeannette Sheehan | 23 Sue Peck         |
| 7 Virginia Cooper   | Kelly Raum          |
| 8 Alan Justman      | 24 Brad Claussen    |
| 10 Charley Murray   | 26 Thomas Dickerson |
| August Sabaka       | 27 Cindy Swanson    |
| 13 Brad Genrich     | 28 Amy Archuleta    |
| Steven Kennedy      | 29 Gaile Birch      |
| Lew Haven           | Fred Fauerbach      |
| 14 Matthew Peck     |                     |



The high school youth Chili (and Chicken Soup) was oh, so good and netted the youth a bit more than \$700 toward this year's summer Mission Trip.



Declan Milner receives the sign of the cross as his family participates in an at-home observance of Ash Wednesday.

## What's on the Air?

As I sat down to write a little message about 99.3 FM radio, I thought of these things when it comes to the month of March: Daylight Time returns, Spring begins, and we celebrate Palm Sunday!

There are two more dates I think of: March 6 has been a special day for the Hanson family and coincidentally, it will mark 7 years since I announced that I would be retiring as Pastor. (Yes, really, seven years.) St. Patrick's Day means a great deal to many, but really means a lot to me! It will be 54 years ago on since Mary and I met! (And believe me, in Minnesota, it was NOT at a corn beef and cabbage dinner.)

March also means it is about a year since most of us realized our world was going to change for a while because of COVID-19. I remember standing in line to vote last March 17 and becoming aware that many things were being "shut down." I am happy to say that 99.3 FM has carried on this past year. Our basic core of weekly programs means that in this one-year period we have aired over 500 new shows. In addition to this, there have been hundreds of additional new shows aired thanks to Mike Williamson, John Russell, Don Ferguson, David Fagen, and even some by me. I am glad that, as we like to say at 99.3 FM radio, we have been able to "keep the music playing." It was fun (and maybe you heard it as well) on the February 21 and 24 editions of American Standards by the Sea (2-4 PM) to hear host Dick Robinson give a "shout out" to listeners of WTPB in Rockford, Illinois, for all of the requests for music they have been sending in!

Best wishes, and how wonderful it will be, when soon we can say, "It's Easter!"

Rev. Dr. Murray Hanson  
Pastor Emeritus  
Station Manager, WTPB-LP 99.3 FM



## Back in the Building!!!

***"I was glad when they said unto me,  
Let us go into the house of the Lord."  
Psalm 122:1***



Alleluia! Based on guidance from the Winnebago County Board of Health, the sanctuary will reopen for worship on Sunday, March 21st.

This means you will have the option of attending in-person or as we have been, on Zoom or on Facebook. The choice is entirely up to you!

If you do plan to attend in-person please follow these guidelines:

- Register with Kay Carriglito, 815-742-5904
- Enter the building with a face covering and keep it on the entire time you are in the building
- Follow an usher to an assigned seat
- Keep socially distance as you enter and exit

No matter where you worship from,  
God will meet you THERE!

## “Why Not??”

### Let's Dress Up For Easter!

We often consider the idea of *giving something up* for Lent as a way of challenging our self-discipline during this season.

Well, if we made a list of all the things which we have already given up over the past 12 months we could create a scroll long enough to wallpaper a good-sized family room. We have given up birthday and graduation parties, get-aways and vacations, graduations, funerals, weddings, sporting events and on and on.

I suggest that we might think about what we could take up or *put on* instead. As you'll read about elsewhere in this newsletter, we are *taking up* in-person worship in the sanctuary! What else could we take up?

The letter to the Colossians uses the metaphor of getting *undressed and dressed* to describe reforming our lives to more and more resemble that which gives honor to God. Getting undressed from that which holds us back and getting dressed in qualities that improve our discipleship.

*“As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.” (Col. 3:17)*

This leads me to recall traditions from a bygone era when folks *dressed up* for Easter. Shall we? Not just our Sunday best but our *everyday* best.

*Pastor Steve*

## News and Noteworthy



Lew and Doris Haven, 815-608-0541

Larry Bergquist, 815-491-5420

Lu Willsey, 779-238-6790

Tim and Amanda Marsh, 9343 Beall St., Dyer, IN 46311; 219-614-1789

Lillian Leber, 4405 Highcrest, Room A5,

Rockford, 61107

**Think SPRING!** Planning for the community garden helps us think of the sun and warmth of Spring. We have six garden beds available for you to plant whatever you like. Stores will soon have seeds available. This would be a great activity for you to do with your kids and/or grandkids.



The Rock River Valley Blood Center will be having a blood drive on March 24, from 2-7 pm at St. Bernadette's Church. 2400 Bell Avenue, Rockford.

Bring a photo ID. Remember to eat and drink plenty of fluids before donating. Your blood could save a life!

**Newsletter Deadline**

Tuesday, March 12



### Because Water is Life

When Manuel Nazario casts his net into the water these days, his catch is far less plentiful. In the remote area of Bolivia near the Paraguay-Argentina border, Manuel and the members of his indigenous community are finding that fishing, their traditional livelihood, is now in severe jeopardy.

The Capirendita community is grappling with the devastating impact of climate change, irregular rainfall patterns prolonged droughts, disease and mining pollution. As a result, their age-old ways of life and their means of economic support are increasingly threatened. The degradation of the environment and the mounting lack of access to water threatens their very survival.

### How Your Gifts are Used

For more than 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGH is the single, largest way Presbyterians come together every year to work toward a better world.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.



*The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected throughout the Easter Season.*



### March 28

*Palm and Passion Sunday*

9:30 Zooming with Jesus

10:15 am **Worship In-Person and Online**

### March 31 at 7 pm

*Vespers Bible Study on Zoom*

### April 1 at 7 pm

*Maundy Thursday on Zoom*

*Tenebrae and Drama*

*with The Lord's Supper*

### April 2

*Good Friday 7:00 pm on Zoom*

### April 3, 5-7 pm

*Holy Saturday*

*Sacred Fire, see page 7*

### April 4

*Easter Sunday*

9:30 am Easter "Sunrise" on Zoom

10:15 am Resurrection of the Lord

**In Person and Online**

## College Care Packages



### Remember students at Easter!

The Mission Committee invites you to adopt a college student for Easter and to send them a "care package" before Easter Sunday. Please call Gene Archer (815-289-7145) to be connected with one of our students:

Hannah Insko  
Jalen Craglione  
Alex Bertolasi  
Miranda Lingelbach  
Grace Carlson

Abby Ponder  
Macy Olson  
Alyssa Archer  
Grace Carlson



Three generations (Nancy Justman with daughter Ann Marie and granddaughter, Olivia, finish tying a Piece Corp quilt.

## Lighting the Sacred Fire

### A Gathering to Light up the Darkness Saturday April 3rd, 5-7 pm



On Holy Saturday (April 3rd) we will gather in front of the church to light a fire and stand vigil as we remember the day that the world was absent the presence of God in Christ Jesus.

Easter Vigils have long been a part of Orthodox tradition. We will adapt a portion of it to create an opportunity for both reflection and celebration.

Refreshments and hot drinks will be served according to health protocols. Bring a folding chair and dress for the weather.

If you would like to help with arrangements, contact Julie Leber (815-298-9305) or the church office.