



The Lighthouse

April 2018

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

Holy Week Opportunities

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, March 25

Palm Sunday, March 25 -- 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel -- traditional worship

10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary -- the Message today will be brought to us by the Chancel Choir, as they present the cantata, "The Power of the Cross".

Palm branches will be available for both Palm Sunday Services.

Maundy Thursday, March 29 -- worship at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, March 30 -- worship at 7:00 p.m. A Service of Tenebrae, this worship will reflect the mood of the day, somber, reflective.

Easter Sunday, April 1 -- 8:30 a.m. in the Chapel. 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Both Easter services will be very special.

Childcare will be provided for young children in the Nursery for all services except Easter 8:30 a.m.

Rummage Sale

Spring has sprung, which means it is time to prepare for the annual all church rummage sale on **May 12**. Please join us with your prayers, donations, and assistance during the week and on Saturday. We accept household items, bedding, furniture, books, shoes, purses and infant/baby clothes. Please do not donate adult or children's clothing, electronics or appliances over 10 years old. Proceeds from the sale go to the church, various missions, the Learning League and youth ministries.

This is an outstanding way to reach out to the community. Thank you!

Cheryle Seljan



Scrip News

How would it feel to know that you give a gift to First Church every time you go shopping, go to the grocery store, gas station or take in a movie? That is what you do when you participate with the **Scrip program**.

Thirty-two people supported this fundraiser resulting in a donation last year of \$2,000 to the Church general fund. This Spring we have been able to donate \$1,000. Thank you to all who support our fundraiser! How about stopping by?

Roseanne Watson & Kathy Smith



As I write April's note, I am in Clearwater, Florida, with my two sons and two good friends. This planned time away for rest, relaxation, recreation and reflection coincides with Michael's spring break. We have all looked forward to our time together for months. Our time together has been good---*is* good. We are still here!

Laughter, good conversation; white, powdery, fine sand, beautiful water, fresh seafood. A morning spent walking through a beautiful, lush botanical garden and a neighboring historic village. Observing and being part of the loving banter of my two sons. Embracing life and allowing it to sift through the grasp of my thoughts, my heart, and my hands and fingers as I scoop it up, hold it and feel it gently return to the beach, some of it clinging to my fingers.

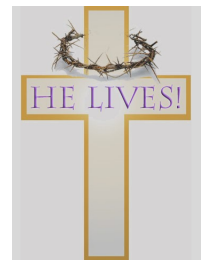
All these moments and experiences are good moments. Precious time, which I'm holding gently – in my thoughts, my heart, my hands.

Pastor Donna is also having precious time with her family and friends that is full of reflection, love and “God moments” --- though for different reasons.

And you? You too may be having a time of reflection and God moments. Are you able to allow these experiences to sift through your journey, your thoughts and your heart? I pray so!

In our busy, frenetic world where we all grapple with the complexities of life, people still gather at the beach, on a very windy pier with cool temperatures to watch the sunset. Glorious! Life affirming!

The most holy week of the year is upon us. Will you journey this last week of Lent with me, with us? Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday – and then, the glory of Easter! We will be able to say once again, “He is risen!” Hallelujah!



Pastor Mary

A Note From the Mission Committee

Hello First Church family! We just wanted to keep all of you updated on some of the exciting things that the mission team is doing.

On Saturday, April 21, at Grace United Methodist Church in Franklin, Indiana there will be a “Mission and Justice Summit”.

The cost of admission is \$15 and this includes lunch. You can register online at, inumc.org/mjsummit2018. **The registration deadline is April 12.**

This will be an exciting opportunity for United Methodists from across Indiana to gather, learn, and share about mission and service opportunities. During the Summit, participants will discover new ways to become more missional and to share what their churches are doing to impact their communities. We are sure anyone can attend this summit.

If you can attend, please register and do so.

We would love to see strong attendance from our church at this exciting summit.

This is an important opportunity to learn how we can do better at reaching out to the community.

Co-chair of the Mission team, Richard Miller

Youth Sunday School

The Youth Sunday School class will start an in-depth study of the Book of Revelations, beginning April 15. Classes will start at 9:15 a.m. and end no later than 10:15 a.m. We meet in the Youth Suite, and all are welcome!



Dave Dean

South Hohman Avenue Neighborhood Watch Meeting

Thursday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church
173rd & Hohman Avenue

Speaker: John Doughty,
Hammond Chief of Police

Questions: Contact Ruth Mores, 219-743-4105

Acolyte Training

Sunday, April 8 following 10:30 worship

Pastor Mary will lead acolyte training. Light lunch will be provided. Anyone, in third grade or older, is invited to attend.

Learn how and why we light candles to begin and end our worship service. This will be interesting stuff!



April Birthdays

2018

Pat Mosley	4/02
Peter Wicklund	4/02
Susan Bravo	4/03
Vivian Moery	4/04
Jackson Dean	4/06
June Jordan-Hall	4/07
Janice Wilson	4/08
Don Harris	4/13
Betty Merrick	4/15
Wayne Barnes	4/17
John Schu	4/20
Kobe Shelton	4/26
Sondra Mackin	4/28

The Schools Need our Help!



You've seen the headlines how funding has been cut. We are a missional church helping Kenwood Elementary School with uniforms, books, and now we would like to set **April Second Mile Giving** for other needs of the school.

The Kenwood Elementary School PTA also needs our help to purchase playground equipment! They are eager to work with us to raise funds!

Kenwood School Fundraiser -Mostaccioli Dinner

April 28, 2018 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM

Adults \$10 Children ages 5-12 \$5

Under 5, free

First United Methodist Church
6635 Hohman Avenue – Hammond, IN

We are hoping everyone will help in some way!
Sign up sheets coming soon!

We want to celebrate your birthday by including you on this list. If your special day is during this month, and your name is not listed, please let us know. Please pass along information about others in your household as well.

A Perspective from your Lay Leader - Radical Hospitality

What a joy it is to watch you greet one of our guests with a loving, caring smile and see their faces light up! I've watched many of you do this for our guests/visitors who may be looking for a friend, new relationships or have a need for prayer or something with which we can help!

A strange thing happened to me a couple of months ago which really "shocked" me! A lady in my water aerobics class said she overheard me talk about my church and wanted to know what church I attended, where it was and what time the services were. Did I invite like I should have? No. God gave me the opportunity, but I failed; however, she came the following Sunday at 8:30 and sat with me! When she spotted the title of my Sunday School book, she couldn't believe her eyes and asked if she could come to Sunday School class as "Forgiveness" was the exact help she was needing. I took her with me and she has been coming every Sunday since then! God's love is powerful! He DOES work in mysterious ways!

So here are the other ways that I/we can improve our actions to meet, greet, and make our visitors/guests feel appreciated and at ease:

1. Sit as close as possible to the front of the worship area. Save the back rows for guests or late entrants, so they don't have to walk past so many people.
2. Sit in the middle. *Don't claim the aisle seat* where people must walk past you unless you **really** need to sit there.
3. Sit closer to other people, just in case we have a great influx of guests!!! Thank you, Jesus!
4. Volunteer to serve. As the number of attendees increases, so does the need for volunteers - greeters, ushers, kids' ministry, parlor servers - wherever your passion or interest lies, help serve and minister to members and guests. See the back of the bulletin for dates and activities!
5. Pray as you leave the service. Think about how you can apply the worship message to your life during the week.

The Holy Spirit *is* working in our midst.

Pray for God's continual work of conviction and guidance.

We all have room for improvement and God is counting on us to serve Him with a passion!

With love and gratitude for all you do!
Thank you, Jesus!

Pauline Luthi

"Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a harder battle."

- *Plato*

SOUTH HOLLAND MASTER CHORALE

SPRING CONCERTS, 2018

CHANGE IN VENUES AND DATES!

Mozart's Requiem Mass

Accompanied by

The Chicago Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church

768 Lincoln Ave., Calumet City, IL

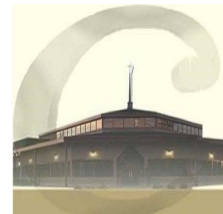
Sunday, April 29, 2018, 4:00 p.m.



Covenant United Church of Christ

1130 E. 154th St., South Holland, IL

Sunday, May 6, 2018, 3:30 p.m.



Contact Ken Wheeler if you would like more information.

PINEAPPLE PIECES



Be a pineapple: Stand tall, Wear a crown, And be sweet on the inside.

I believe in Christ like I believe in the sun. Not because I can see it, but by it,
I can see everything else.

C. S. Lewis

When you feel like you're drowning in life, don't worry...
your lifeguard walks on water.

anonymous

A person who is nice to you, but rude to the waiter, is not a nice person.

Dave Barry

Definitions for musicians: "MELODY" ----- an ancient and now extinct art in song writing.

"CRESCENDO" ----- testing the neighbors' tolerance level.

Prayer and Scripture Calendar 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Lois Wade	2 Acts 10:34-43 Carrie Ward	3 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Pete & Lora Ward	4 John 20:1-18 Sarah Ward	5 1 Peter 1:3-12 R. Ware Family	6 James 1:1-8 Dave & Bonnie Watson	7 Philippians 2:1-11 Terry & Roseanna Watson
8 Acts 4:32-35 Ken Wheeler	9 Psalm 133 P Wicklund Family	10 1 John 1:1-2:2 Phyllis Widstrand	11 John 20:19-31 Gary & Judy Williams	12 James 2:1-8 John & Janice Wilson	13 Romans 2:1-11 Jim Wind	14 James 5:19-20 Charlotte Wysocki
15 Psalm 4 Jack & Sue Yerkes	16 1 John 3:1-7 M. Young Family	17 Luke 24:36b-48 Penny Zeiler	18 Acts 3:12-19 John & Grace Adkinson	19 James 1:19-25 Larry & Jane Harper Alport	20 2 Peter 3:17-18 Ray Anderson	21 Romans 15:1-13 R. Ashcraft Family
22 1 John 3:16-24 B. Avina Family	23 Psalm 23 Claude Baker	24 Acts 4:5-12 Wayne & Anna Barnes	25 John 10:11-18 Jim & Donna Beifuss	26 Romans 6:1-11 T. Bell Family	27 James 5:7-12 Liz Berg	28 Ephesians 3:1-6 Betty Boyer
29 Psalm 22:25-31 Mario & Susan Bravo	30 John 15:1-8 Bob & Georgia Brown					