

April 2019

From the Pastor:

APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

E.J. Peterson 4/04
Bob Bills 4/04
Emilie York 4/04
John Mahon 4/06
Donna Manion 4/07
Miriam Johnson 4/08
Bill Roberts 4/08
Gwen Childs 4/09
Cassie Henderson 4/10
Tina Barthlow 4/10
Jack Maddex 4/10
Violet Harding 4/10
Jackson Kirsch 4/12
Mary Pugsley 4/13
Jazlyn Taylor 4/14
Carmen Olsen 4/14
Jeanie Halberg 4/15
Heather York 4/16
Kevin Strode 4/17
Margaret Calhoun 4/19
Collin Dwyer 4/21
Emily Kersten 4/22
Carol Bills 4/22
Barbara Deeming 4/22
William Valtinson 4/27
Grace Gundry 4/27
Marcee Long 4/28
Diana Fitzer 4/28
Stephen O'Brien 4/29
Chuck Ganzel 4/30

Dear Westminster Family,

Holy Week begins on April 14th this year and we will gather together as the Body of Christ for four different worship opportunities. Palm Sunday and Easter book end the week, but I want to spend a little time talking about the importance of all four of these very different worship services.

On Palm Sunday, our children and youth will triumphantly process in the sanctuary during our opening hymn reminding us of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Many traditions call Palm Sunday Passion Sunday as the worship begins on a triumphant note and ends with the somber sounds of Jesus' impending arrest and crucifixion. Some of my most memorable worship experiences have happened on Palm Sunday in beginning worship by singing Hosanna, Loud, Hosanna and ending with the mournful tune of Ah, Holy Jesus.

On both Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, we gather for worship at 7PM. I invite you all to attend both of these services as they really help us journey through the events of Holy Week which I believe helps us to understand more fully the joy and promises given to us on Easter Sunday. Maundy comes from a Latin word which means mandate and it is the night where we remember Jesus sharing the most holy of meals in the upper room with his disciples. That night we were told to love one another as Jesus loves us. He washes their feet, he breaks bread, he gives thanks to God and he prays. It is because of the events that night that we have the sacrament of communion and it is in worship that night that we slow down, hear the story, and remember. This year, we will celebrate the sacrament of communion in a circle calling to mind Jesus and the disciples' meal together. At the end of the service, the sanctuary will be stripped, reminding us of Jesus' abandonment in the Garden of Gethsemane. Symbolically, Christ stripped of his power and glory is now in the hands of his captors en route to the crucifixion.

On Good Friday, we will recall the final hours of Jesus' life on earth in a traditional Tenebrae Service, or service of darkness. As the story is read from the Bible, candles will be extinguished gradually, leading to complete darkness to symbolize Christ's death. Worshippers are invited to leave in silence to ponder the death of Jesus and await the coming resurrection. No matter how many times we have read the story, the crucifixion narrative is hard to hear. It is brutal, cruel, painful and personal. In it we face the truth of our sin as we attempt to understand the love Christ has for us. Both of these mid-week services are very meaningful and help us remember and reflect.

Then, on Easter Sunday, we will all gather together with great joy to rejoice and celebrate the resurrection. I encourage you to come to all of these worship services, and as you make the journey through the week you might find that your Easter alleluias will be even more meaningful. Remembering the story and journeying through the week is an important part of our faith journey. Come to the cross this Holy Week and remember.

Grace and Peace,
Marta

HOLY WEEK

SERVICES

AT A GLANCE

**April 14: Palm
Sunday Service
10:00am**

**April 18: Maundy
Thursday Service
7:00pm**

**April 19: Good
Friday, Tenebrae
Service 7:00pm**

**April 21: Easter
Sunday Service
10:00am**



WESTMINSTER WOMEN



Save the Date Westminster Women! Saturday, May 18th, 2- 4 PM, Ladies Tea for Bags of Love! All the ladies of the church (ages six and up!) are invited for a lovely afternoon of tea, savorys, and sweets. Bring your friends, daughters, nieces, and granddaughters for fellowship, fun, and mission. Bags of Love supports children removed from their homes for abuse and neglect by giving them a bag full of necessities, a stuffed animal, and a quilt. We're hoping to have a speaker and will collect specific items. More information will be coming and the sign-up begins on April 14th for food and the table decorating contest. You have lots of time to find your favorite tea cup to bring and a big spring hat to wear! If you'd like to help please contact Martha Z, Whitney, Shirley, Judy C, Karen Y, Ann Mc, or Sher.

EASTER AZALEAS

Easter is right around the corner and that means flowers are in full bloom! Katie Stocks has ordered beautiful azaleas to decorate the sanctuary during Easter. If you wish to purchase azaleas, they are \$12 each and could be picked up at church on Easter Sunday. Order forms will be available soon. Also, please bring in fresh cut flowers to decorate the cross on Easter Sunday!



POSTPONEMENT

Due to conflict with other happenings and to encourage maximum participation, the CROP Walk originally announced for April 28 has been rescheduled to Sunday July 24.

Please mark it on your calendar and start early to sign up sponsors.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

During the season of Lent, Presbyterians give to the special offering of One Great Hour of Sharing. The money collected goes into three different programs:

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which works with communities suffering from natural or human-caused disasters, and support for refugees.

Presbyterian Hunger Program, which takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and the systematic causes of poverty so that all may be fed.

Self-Development of People, which invests in communities responding to their experience of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues.

Over the next few weeks of Lent, church bulletins will have inserts with more detail about these programs.

Please give to One Great Hour of Sharing. Special envelopes are in the pews.

Also, children have received their fish box containers for giving, with suggestions of how they might build up the amount that they give. If your child hasn't received a box yet, there are extra fish in the narthex.

APRIL YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE:

**April 7: Youth Group/ Lunch
right after church until 12:45**

**April 14: Palm Sunday: 9:15am
meet in Youth Room for Donuts**

**April 27: Youth/Children's
Sabbath Rehearsal (time TBA)**

**April 28: Youth/Children's
Sabbath (arrive 9am at church)**

Spring Plant Sale

April 6th 10am-4pm

Grassroots Garden

1465 Coburg Rd.

**Support the FFLC Gardens
Program by purchasing
beautiful, healthy plants for your
yard and garden. All proceeds
support the FOOD for Lane
County Gardens Program,
GrassRoots Garden, the Youth
Farm, Seed to Supper and our
efforts to build community by
creating access to healthy food,
gardening and life skills.**



**Westminster will be
hosting our Annual
Easter Egg Hunt for
our children on
Easter Sunday, just
following Worship.
We ask that you help
in donating
individually wrapped
candy (no hard
candy-please),
stickers, little treats,
small toys, etc. to
help fill the
hundreds of eggs
we hide. Please
leave donations in
the church office.**

MESSAGE FROM MARIAN LITTLE

This is directed to those of you with hearing loss, which prevents you from hearing many important things. For instance, if you wear hearing aids, as I do, frequently you miss what is being said. Often, I misunderstand what people are saying and respond with an answer that has nothing to do with what was said. This is embarrassing but, sometimes funny.

I want all of you to know that in Westminster Presbyterian Church sanctuary there is a wonderful installation which is called a LOOP. This LOOP is connected to the public address system so that with an easy adjustment to your hearing aid, you can hear what is being said better than you have for, possibly, a long time. Your responsibility is to check with your audiologist or the place where you purchase your hearing aids. Ask if your aid has a T-COIL, and if it does, you have the tool that will connect you with the LOOP and let you hear in this church. Frequently, the T-COIL is already installed in your hearing aid, but, for some reason, has not been activated. The person I purchased my hearing aid from was able to provide me with the T-COIL in a matter of minutes at no cost to me.

World Labyrinth Day "Walk as One" and Open Labyrinth

Saturday, May 4, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Once again, Westminster's labyrinth will appear in lists for this year's World Labyrinth Day, Saturday, May 4. Please consider walking the labyrinth at 1 p.m. that day when thousands of people around the world will "Walk as One." How wonderful to see the labyrinth full of people who are part of a global wave of peaceful energy! Those of us who can't walk with our feet are welcome to pull up a chair and walk the labyrinth in color (on paper) or to hold a "lap labyrinth." We will also have prayers and meditations from many cultures and beliefs to contemplate as you walk. Make a clay labyrinth of your very own to take home to use or let dissolve in your garden. Please let others know about this family friendly event, and invite them to walk, too. Walking the labyrinth with children is a blessing! Westminster Presbyterian Church's labyrinth is in the back garden, reached by parking in the Harlow Road lot and following the sidewalk on the east side of the church, or parking in the northeast corner of the Coburg Road lot and following the sidewalk in to the back garden. The Harlow lot is most level for easy access.

REMINDER:

**The 3rd SUNDAY of
each month is our
SHOPPING CART
SUNDAY for: FOOD
FOR LANE COUNTY**

**Please remember to
bring in your
canned and boxed
food items. Every
donation is very
much appreciated !**



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Find us on:

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/wpceugene

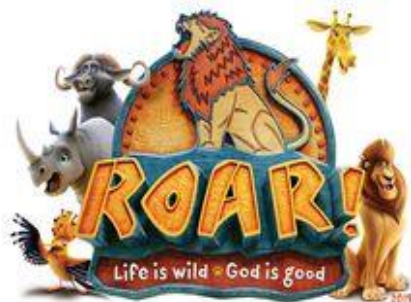
Instagram:

@westminsterpres_eugene



We're on the Web!

<https://wpceugene.org>



It's that time of year again and we are **EXCITED** to announce our theme for Vacation Bible School will be:

ROAR! Life is Wild, GOD is Good

July 29th - August 2nd from 9:00 am- 12:00 pm

We NEED Volunteers to make this the most Memorable year yet!

Please sign-up to volunteer for what you prefer on the sheets in the Narthex or let Brooke know to put your name on the list. We need volunteers for everything from a photographer to helping with snack time in the Hungry Herd Café to decorating to Crew Leaders!

All volunteers are appreciated and necessary to make VBS happen so please sign-up today!

