

NEWSLETTER

Davenport First Presbyterian Church

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Susan Broadway, editor

TEDBITS

by Pastor Ted Broadway

Easter is coming! When many people think of Easter they often think of the Easter Bunny, colored eggs, chocolate, candy and Easter cards. But Easter is much, much more. Easter is the most important Christian holiday of the year—far more important than Christmas. In fact, the Church did not celebrate the birth of Jesus for the first 300 years, but Easter has been celebrated since the beginning. Easter established Sunday as the Lord's Day and the day for the Church to gather in worship. Jesus' sacrifice of Himself on our behalf, taking our place and paying the price for our sin so that we can enjoy eternal life in heaven with God, is the central tenet of Christianity. Remove the resurrection and you have done away with the Christian faith.

Easter Day is the day Christians celebrate Jesus' victory over death. After His cruel crucifixion, Jesus was placed in a stone tomb and a large stone was rolled over the entrance. On Sunday morning, after His death on Friday and the Saturday Sabbath day, followers of Jesus went back to pay their respects and take care that His body was properly treated according to custom. When these followers arrived at the scene they found that the stone had been rolled away! And only the linen that wrapped Jesus' body was lying there. Jesus' body was no longer in the tomb. An angel said to them: *Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here. He is risen!* (Luke 24:5)



He had in fact risen from the dead in order to save us all.

This amazing resurrection, as described in the Bible, means that we who accept Jesus' death on our behalf are given everlasting life. Christians now live forever after they die. The Easter holiday celebrates this great truth. Easter is the foundation of the Christian faith.

The 40 day season leading up to Easter is the season of Lent. It is a time of preparation for Easter. Lent began on Ash Wednesday and many churches, including ours, hold special services on that evening. Ashes are placed on the foreheads of worshipers to remind them of their mortality, of the sin that causes our death and which led to the death of Jesus. Lent continues until Holy Week, which is the final week of Lent and recalls the events leading up to Jesus' death on our behalf, a death He freely accepted. While not all Christians fast during Lent, those that do, pattern their behavior after Jesus who prayed and fasted in the wilderness.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, which celebrates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, where people spread palm branches and clothing on the ground before Him. This year, on Palm Sunday afternoon at 3 PM we are joining other Davenport churches to walk through Davenport praying for businesses and institutions while carrying a cross. The

Thursday of Holy Week is known as Maundy Thursday and commemorates the Last Supper—Jesus' last meal which was on Passover. The sacrament of Communion was instituted by Christ on this night. 'Maundy' comes from the Latin *mandatum*, meaning 'commandment'. So Maundy comes from the first word of the phrase "Mandatum novum do vobis ut diligatis invicem sicut dilexi vos" ("A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another; just as I have loved you"). Jesus in the Gospel of John (13:34) said this to explain to the Apostles the significance of His action of washing their feet, which He also did on this Passover evening. We have a very moving candlelight service on Maundy Thursday evening, April 21 at 7 PM. Good Friday is the day Jesus died on the cross and many believe it happened between the hours of 12 noon and 3 PM. Many churches, including ours hold services, during this time for meditation on the last three hours of darkness while Jesus suffered on the cross.

On Easter Sunday Jesus' resurrection is celebrated. Outdoor Easter services often take place at sunrise to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. We will celebrate with Trinity Bible Church in the City Park at 7 AM on April 24 (Easter morning). At our regular worship time of 10 AM we will celebrate in our Sanctuary. Just as Jesus rose from the dead, Christians believe they too will rise from the dead and ascend into Heaven. It is a time of great celebration. The miracle of renewed life has given Christians hope, faith and love since they know Jesus died willingly in order to save us. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!



MISSION REPORTS: Columbia Mission Follow-Up By Carolyn Moldrem

The mission group, 'Sew Sew Sisters' (5 women & 3 men), that went to Villa de Leyva, Columbia reports that 19 women were trained in the sewing arts. The students learned multiple quilting methods as well as the construction of a variety of decorative and functional shoulder bags and fabric baskets. The students have organized into a group that meets weekly to quilt together. They are working with Rotary International to set up marketing of the products.

The 'Sew Sew Sisters' took 800 pounds of fabric in all...100 pounds were provided by Davenport Presbyterian...as well as thread and embellishments. The sewing machines had been provided by the 'Sew Sew Sisters' with the mission trip last year. The men on the team repaired the building that houses the sewing group.

Villa de Leyva has an average daily income of \$9.00, but the costs of transportation and goods are similar to the U.S. The climate is temperate, most grow their own food, and most walk to get around. The mission was part of an ongoing effort to assist impoverished women in the village develop skills that will enable them to support themselves financially.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. (1 Peter 3:15-16b)

Disaster Relief for Japan Submitted by Sharon Nighswonger

The Mission Commission would like to thank the congregation for the Session approved special offering for the disaster in Japan. After Sunday's special offering, \$172 was collected thus far. The Mission Commission will donate \$1000 to

Samaritan's Purse as well to assist in the disaster relief process. For more information on Samaritan's Purse's outreach in Japan, please see the following article.

This year, instead of taking an offering for One Great Hour of Sharing, the Mission Commission would like to try something new. The idea is to organize the congregation's effort to help individuals and communities in poor countries by supplying them with specific items that would make their existence somewhat easier. Funds collected would be forwarded to Samaritan's Purse for dispersal. There will be more information concerning this project soon. Stay tuned!!

If you are not familiar with Samaritan's Purse, I have included their mission statement. They are a fabulous organization, with low overhead and a heart for Jesus and helping those in need.

Mission Statement for Samaritan's Purse: Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ.

JAPAN DISASTER RELIEF NEWS FROM THE SAMARITAN'S PURSE WEBSITE:

A Samaritan's Purse disaster relief team arrived in Sendai late Wednesday night (local time) after a long drive from Tokyo, and is preparing to provide relief supplies to people in the hard-hit city of affected by the deadly earthquake and massive tsunami that hit the northeastern coast of the country on March 11.

Through a strategic local church partnership, the three-vehicle convoy carrying staff and relief supplies such as blankets, hygiene kits, water, and first aid kits was able to secure government permission to travel on a restricted access expressway that was otherwise closed to all civilian traffic.

Trucks carrying four tons of Samaritan's Purse emergency relief supplies also arrived into Sendai today. Our priority tomorrow morning is to determine areas of need, set up a distribution network, and deliver these much-needed supplies into the hands of local families as quickly as possible.

“Our efforts are being coordinated by volunteers from churches across Japan, who are rallying together to travel to the affected area and support the relief efforts,” [one eye witness] said.

Tonight our 14-member team is sleeping on the floor of a local Christian kindergarten that has generously opened their doors to us.

“Our food and drinking water is only what we brought with us from Tokyo,” [the eye witness] said. “Temperatures outside are below freezing and there is snow on the ground. The large classroom where we're sleeping doesn't have central heat, so we're keeping warm with two electric space heaters. We have no idea when, where, or what breakfast tomorrow morning will be. In many ways, I think our sleeping arrangements are very similar to thousands of other residents across Miyagi Prefecture who have lost their homes and are sleeping in chilly, crowded community shelters.

Other team members are traveling south toward Osaka to set up a forward logistical hub to facilitate and expedite the purchase and transport of more relief supplies.

Back in the United States, we are organizing a 747 cargo jet to airlift approximately 90 tons of emergency aid, including blankets, hygiene supplies, heavy-duty plastic shelter

materials, and water filtration systems. The plane is scheduled to depart for Japan on Friday.

Samaritan's Purse President Franklin Graham has conducted evangelistic Festivals in the Japanese cities of Osaka and Okinawa. The events were organized by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, which is working with us for this response.

Pastor Yoshikazu Takada, who was chairman of the Osaka Festival committee, requested our assistance. "Please come. We need your help," he said.

The massive tsunami was triggered by a 9.0-magnitude earthquake, one of the most powerful in recorded history. Giant waves engulfed coastal towns and swept away houses, cars, boats, and trains.

The official death toll from the earthquake and tsunami has surpassed 3,700, and is still expected to rise significantly in the coming days. Survivors are facing a desperate situation as food and clean water is in short supply. There is no electricity to heat homes in freezing temperatures.

Japan has accepted assistance from 15 countries, mostly in the area of search and rescue. These and other humanitarian efforts have been hampered by strong aftershocks that continue to rock the area.

Evangelical Christians number less than one-half of one percent of Japan's population, according to some estimates. Please pray for the hundreds of thousands of people affected by this catastrophe, especially that they will be touched by the love of Jesus Christ through the ministry of Samaritan's Purse, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, and our Japanese church partners.

"Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and if true, of infinite importance. The only thing it cannot be is moderately important."
- C.S Lewis

Community Gathering Palm Sunday The Way of the Cross

**Sunday, April 17
3 PM**



**Sponsored by the Davenport
Ministerial Alliance**

Gather at Zion Lutheran for a procession and prayer walk through the town of Davenport with stops for prayer at the schools, the museum and library, the pharmacies, the Davenport Retirement Village, the Hospital and Nursing Home, the Courthouse, Jail and the Banks. The walk concludes at our church. All have been invited to gather for fruit, cookies and community in our Fellowship Hall.

Commemorate
the Lord's Last Supper
Maundy Thursday
Service
Thursday, April 21
7:30 PM

Seder Meal

Friday, April 22
Following the Service

Have you ever wondered what kind of meal Christ shared with His disciples at the Last Supper? The Seder is the joyful family dinner and worship service which is held in Jewish homes on Passover. Seder means *order*. The Seder consists of a number of ceremonies of extreme antiquity. Through these ceremonies and symbols, we can recount the trials of the Jews of Exodus—their embittered life of bondage and the joy of their subsequent triumph of freedom. Our Seder meal will be a simplified and adapted version so that participants have sense of the ceremony. As this is our first attempt at this, a spirit of flexibility among participants is highly appreciated.

**If you would like to participate in the Seder dinner, please plan to bring a potluck dish to share:
no dairy and no recipes with yeast,
baking soda or baking powder is
traditional.**
**PLEASE contact Sue Broadway
@ 725-1802 if you are planning to
attend so we can properly set the
tables.**

GOOD FRIDAY OBSERVANCE

Friday, April 22
Noon to 3 PM

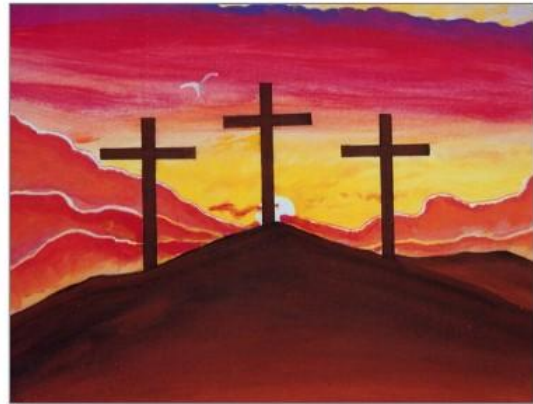
The Sanctuary will be open for anyone wanting to come in from the world and meditate on the happenings of this solemn day for a few minutes. Self-guided devotions will be available.

**Celebrate the Resurrection of Our
Lord and the Hope of Our Faith**

EASTER SUNDAY

April 24
Sunrise Service
City Park at 7 AM

Morning Service
Church Sanctuary at 10 AM



The first fact in the history of Christendom is a number of people who say that they have seen the Resurrection. - C.S. Lewis

Session Highlights—March 3, 2011

By Sharon Nighswonger, Clerk of Session

- The deacons are busy with the shut-in ministry, sending cards to those who are under the weather and planning after church fellowship gatherings.
- Since the church budget does not support the different benevolences yearly as we have in the past, special offerings will be taken for them. They will be well publicized ahead of time to inform everyone.
- Shelly Johnston will be retiring as church treasurer this year. If anyone is interested in this position, they need to contact Jim Linstrum.
- A cleaning day will happen this spring; we are just waiting for the weather to be cooperative to decide on a date.
- A new church directory will be produced soon. The details are being worked out—stay tuned.
- **The Session is in serious discussion about the future of our church and the options are being weighed, reviewed and prayed upon.**

IN THE NEWS

THE APRIL SESSION MEETING: The April Session Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 31 due to SPRING BREAK!

RUMMAGE SALE FOR MEXICO MISSION: Please think about setting aside items for Saturday, May 28—but please hold items until the week prior due to lack of storage room. Contact Rena at 725-2124.

RUMMAGE SALE FOR YOUTH OUTING: If you have plenty to go around, there will also be a rummage sale on Saturday, April 9 at the Black Bear Motel to raise funds for Youth Trip to Creation Music Festival. Contact Glorea at 215-0181.

DEACON NEWS: Deacons' will meet April 3 after church. They plan to host a "Picnic Theme" Potluck on April 10.



COFFEE CART SUPPLIES NEEDED:

Caffeinated instant coffee, packets of sugar, tea bags, and Non-dairy coffee creamer—any kind, even the ones that are still good but you hardly ever use...

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE DONATED SO FAR! WE ARE IN FACT KEEPING UP WITH DEMAND! HOORAY!

AND NOW . . . CUSTODIAN SUPPLIES: In an effort to stretch our church dollars, the congregation is being asked to donate the following sorts of custodian supplies—things that can be picked up while you are out and about shopping and you come across a good deal: Liquid anti-bacterial soap, Windex, Z-fold towel dispenser towels, "U" type vacuum bags, Lysol Bowl Cleaner. Donations may be placed in the janitor's closet near the kitchen. Please ask Tina West if you have questions.

DALE WILSON COLLEGE MERIT AWARDS: Forms are available in the Narthex. Completed forms must be returned to the church by May 1, 2011. Contact Heather Pankey @ 725-0245 for details.

CAMP SPALDING (877) 595-1512: The summer schedule is out and registration has begun! Go to www.campspalding.org for more information and to download a registration form. **This year the maximum campership per camper is \$250 ("first-come, first-serve basis").** For more details, call the office at 725-1802.



MAKING PEOPLE FEEL WELCOME IS A HUGE SERVICE! As you can see, we need some help in May and June. To volunteer, please call the office at 725-1802 to let us know the space you would like to fill.

USHERS 2011

April

- 3 Bryan & Bea Teel
- 10 Chris & Corinne Clayton
- 17 Virginia Morrison & Cathy Anderson
- 24 Rosalie Ressel & Jon Broadway
(Easter)

May

- 1 _____
- 8 Lilje Family
- 15 Linstrum Family
- 22 Howard & Cheryl Nelson
- 27 _____

June

- 5 Roger Bond & Bryan Teel
- 12 Marshall & Sharon Thompson
- 19 Harold & Linda Patterson
- 26 Joe & Vi Lilje

GREETERS 2011

April

- 3 Lois & Beth Aldrich
- 10 Terry & Jeannie Goodman
- 17 Howard & Linda Patterson
- 24 Nighswonger Family

May

- 1 Mike & Jody Hardin
- 8 Rosalie.Ressel
- 15 Joe & Vi Lilje
- 22 _____
- 29 Rand & Bev Masteller

June

- 5 Carla Boleneus
- 12 Nick & Debbie Marriott
- 19 Marilee.Pankey
- 26 _____

Order Your

Easter Lilies

For Easter and for the weeks that follow, we beautify our sanctuary with lilies, a symbol of the resurrection. We also use blooming azalea plants for their long-lasting beauty. Eighteen plants have been ordered and need to be “sponsored” at a cost of \$12.50 per plant. All the plants will be used to decorate the church for several weeks.

Your Name(s):

Address:

Phone:

I/We would like to order

- ___ lily/lilies
- ___ azalea/azaleas

at \$12.50 (includes tax) per plant for a total of \$_____ .

The bulletin insert and visual announcement on Easter should include the following intention(s):

In Memory of

In Memory of

In Honor of

In Honor of

Please return this form with your cash or check made payable to Davenport First Presbyterian Church and mark it “for Easter Lilies.” If mailed, please note “Easter Lilies” on the envelope. Our address is P.O. Box 318, Davenport, WA 99122. Your form and payment may also be returned to the church office or deposited in the offertory plate. Thank you!

