



▶ *Sharing Resources*  
Sheltering guests on  
Freezing Nights ..... 4



▶ *Holy Week & Easter*  
Wholeness out of  
brokenness ..... 2, 3



▶ *Studies for every age*  
Strengthening our  
faith together ..... 4

• ISSUE 4 • VOLUME 16 • APRIL 2009

# First Christian *Chimes*

...CALLED BY GOD TO LIVE AS A BLESSING...

## Book Club Selects *The Last Lecture* for April

FCC BOOK CLUB MEETS AT THE CHURCH ON TUESDAY, APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup> AT 7 PM

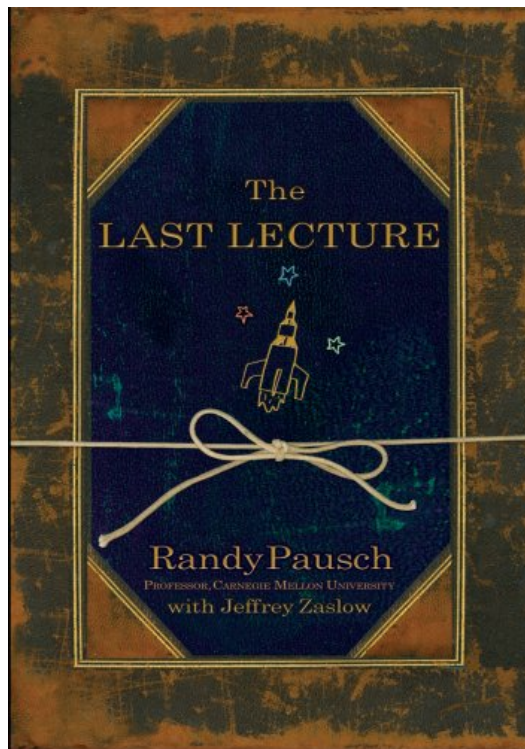
*"We cannot change the cards we are dealt,  
just how we play the hand."*

~Randy Pausch

"A lot of professors give talks titled *"The Last Lecture."* Professors are asked to consider their demise and to ruminate on what matters most to them. And while they speak, audiences can't help but mull the same question: What wisdom would we impart to the world if we knew it was our last chance? If we had to vanish tomorrow, what would we want as our legacy?"

When Randy Pausch, a computer science professor at Carnegie Mellon, was asked to give such a lecture, he didn't have to imagine it as his last, since he had recently been diagnosed with terminal cancer. But the lecture he gave--"Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams"--wasn't about dying. It was about the importance of overcoming obstacles, of enabling the dreams of others, of seizing every moment (because "time is all you have...and you may find one day that you have less than you think"). It was a summation of everything Randy had come to believe. It was about living.

In this book, Randy Pausch has combined the humor, inspiration and intelligence that made his lecture such a phenomenon and given it an indelible form. It is a book that will be shared for generations to come."



Join us on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 pm.  
For locations or to buy the book, visit the Book Club page  
at [www.fccpuyallup.com](http://www.fccpuyallup.com).

Start your purchases at our Amazon page  
and the church gets a percent!

~Book Review from [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)

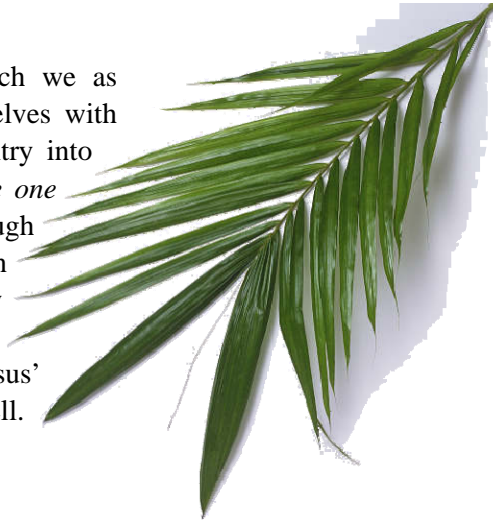
# Holy Week: a Time of Reflection and Renewal

COME, EXPERIENCE AN ENRICHING WALK THROUGH THE LAST DAYS OF JESUS' LIFE

April is not simply a time for Spring Break, flowers, Easter Bunnies and chocolate. Christians throughout the centuries have used the days leading up to Easter as a time of spiritual reflection. The final week of Lent, commonly known as Holy Week, offers some of the most powerfully dramatic worship experiences of the Christian tradition. Together we ponder the timeless questions of who we are and who God is.

## PALM SUNDAY

The Sunday before Easter is a time in which we as followers of Jesus symbolically identify ourselves with the crowds that surrounded Jesus upon his entry into Jerusalem. Cries of "*Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!*" echo through the sanctuary while palm branches are waved in the air. The congregation hears the gospel story of Jesus returning to Jerusalem to welcoming crowds, and the beginnings of the story of Jesus' betrayal, trial and execution are often read as well.



Worship with us on Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 11 am.

## MAUNDY THURSDAY (HOLY THURSDAY)

What does "Maundy" mean anyway?

*Maundy* is a holdover from the Latin word *mandatum*, which means "command." The services on Thursday evening of Holy Week retell the story of Jesus humbling himself to perform the menial task of a servant and washing the feet of his disciples. In the gospel of John, Jesus gives his

*Strong at the Broken Places* has been our theme throughout the journey of Lent. This Maundy Thursday we will join with one another in prayer for the broken places of our world and our own lives. Using the imagery of broken tiles we will create a mosaic together. This broken tile mosaic will become the top of our new communion table, which has been lovingly handcrafted by Thom Crabb.

This will be a worship service you will not want to miss. Plan now to join us on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

## GOOD FRIDAY

On Good Friday the sounds and experiences turn quiet, as we remember the day Jesus was crucified and died. Often a black or dark red cloth is hung on a cross in an otherwise empty sanctuary. The story of the last hours of Jesus' life are often read, or the Stations of the Cross are followed.

Our sanctuary will be open from 9 am to 3 pm Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> for a time of personal reflection and prayer.



disciples these instructions, "*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.*" (John 13:34)

Maundy Thursday holds a special place in the hearts of Disciples of Christ congregations, in which we experience the unity of Christians around the world in a common celebration of the Last Supper of Jesus.



## HOLY SATURDAY

This year our Holy Week services will include an Easter Vigil. This tradition dates back to the early days of the ancient church. Believers would gather in darkness, and celebrate the first lighting of the Paschal fire outside of the church building. The Paschal Candle would be lit from this first fire and brought into the sanctuary space, a symbol of the resurrection that brings the light of Christ into the world.

Easter Vigil was the time of baptism for individuals who had been in preparation (catechumens). Worshipers would celebrate the baptisms and participate in a renewal of baptism as well. It was a major celebration; on Holy Saturday in 407 CE we know that over 3,000 catechumens were baptized in the church in Constantinople alone. The Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Anglican churches and others continue to observe the Easter Vigil. Other churches moved to an early morning service, and still others did away with the practice altogether.

At the end of the Easter Vigil service, the weekend fast would be broken with a celebratory meal of rich food and drink. The feast is a symbol of the wondrous and joyful new life we have in the resurrected Christ. After our service, we'll share in fruits and sweets and a toast or two.

If you've never experienced the drama of an Easter Vigil, come and be a part of it on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm.



## EASTER SUNDAY

The somber, penitential days of Lent are put behind us as Christians around the world gather to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. There is some suggestion that early Christians came together weekly to commemorate the resurrection, but within the first two centuries the church began to observe a special annual celebration. The importance of Easter for the ancient church is reflected in the great controversies that arose over the selection of the date to observe it. Finally in 325 CE the Council of Nicea set the formula for determining Easter. Today the differences in Easter dates between the Eastern and Western churches arise from the use of either the Gregorian or Julian calendar.

Easter is not a single day, rather Easter Sunday marks the beginning of the great 50 days of Eastertide stretching through to Pentecost Sunday. Our worship during this time has a heightened sense of celebration, as we retell the stories of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances. And after six weeks of Lent we finally can dust off our alleluias with loud and joyful praise!



Celebrate the risen Christ Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 11 am.

*All are welcome throughout Holy Week and the season of Easter as we worship, pray, learn, and reflect together.*

## March Giving:

March 1		March 8		March 15		March 22	
Carrie Talley Memorial (for Wee Gowns)	\$ 100.00						
Week of Compassion	\$ 114.25						
General Fund	\$1172.00	General Fund	\$1049.32	General Fund	\$1360.00	General Fund	\$1436.00
	\$1386.25		\$1049.32		\$1360.00		\$1436.00

*Return Service Requested*

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Puyallup WA 98371  
Permit #28

First Christian Church of Puyallup (Disciples of Christ)  
Pastor Nancy Gowler Johnson  
623 - 9th Ave. SW  
P.O. Box 516  
Puyallup, WA 98371  
(253) 845-6232

## life of the church

All-age Studies.....Sundays - 9:30 am  
Service of Worship.....Sundays - 11 am  
Women's Study (BRB).....Wednesdays - 10 am  
Choir Practice .....Wednesdays - 7 pm  
Crafters Group (Lunch Bunch).....Thursdays - 10 am  
Freezing Nights..... Fridays when 37° or below  
Adult Bible Study ..... Saturdays - 8 am  
2 ..... Lenten Study - 6:30 pm  
5 ..... Palm Sunday Service - 11 am  
7 ..... Book Club at the church - 7 pm  
9 ..... Maundy Thursday Service - 7 pm  
10 ..... Good Friday—Sanctuary open - 9 am - 3 pm

11 ..... Holy Saturday Easter Vigil - 8 pm  
12 ..... Easter Sunday Service - 11 am  
15 ..... Tax Day  
18 ..... Lunch with a Friend - Peace Lutheran - 10 am  
22 ..... Earth Day  
28 ..... Diaconate Meeting - 7 pm



## april birthdays

1.....John Pasola      9.....Joe Stanton  
2.....Jayne Isch      10.....Anastasia Patterson  
4.....Colleen Larsen      12.....Marlene Hawley  
7.....Bonita Goatz      12.....Chris Yanasak  
7.....Eunice Squires      17.....Mary Beth Baker  
8.....John Schmidt      20.....Markay Archer  
8.....Bunnie Stanton      25.....Sarah Meyer  
8.....Derek Valliere      27.....Timothy Raup

## anniversaries

3 ..... Rachel & John Schmidt

## baptism anniversaries

April 5, 1998..... Elliot Forslund  
April 6, 1947..... Robert Crabb  
April 8, 1990.....Bryan Forslund  
April 8, 1990.....Sean Forslund  
April 8, 1990.....Terry Forslund