HOLY WEEK: The end of the journey… or the beginning?

We affirm that when God dies it is a time to suspect:
to suspect that darkness can be crushed by sunrise,
that silence can break with song,
that alleluias can be shouted in graveyards,
that love chooses to live.
We affirm that when God dies,
it is time to suspect this is not the end.

We affirm that when God dies it is a time to believe:
to believe laughter will be heard at dawn,
that tombs will be unsealed,
that grave clothes will be folded away,
that love chooses to live.
We affirm that when God dies,
it is time to believe this is not the end.

We affirm that when God dies it is a time to trust:
to trust that the conspiracy belongs to heaven,
that crosses aren’t the last word,
that the last word is always love,
and that love chooses to live.
We affirm that when God dies,
it is time to trust this is not the end.

Continue the journey:

Maundy Thursday Service - April 2nd at 7 pm
An intimate gathering recalling the night when Jesus was betrayed and arrested after sharing a last meal with his closest friends. Experience communion and prayer stations.

Good Friday Way of the Cross Walk - April 3rd at 4 pm
Neighbors will unite to carry a cross to local churches and attend moving services recalling the life and death of Jesus. Meet at Powers Funeral Home parking lot, 320 W Pioneer.

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil - April 4th at 8 pm
A celebration of darkness becoming illumination, firelight and candlelight, scripture and song, remembrance of baptisms, and sharing a joyful feast while awaiting the resurrection.

Easter Sunday Worship - April 5th at 11 am
A service of joy, worshipers will break out the buried alleluias, sing songs of gladness, and shout, “Christ is risen!” Bring flower buds and blooms to bring life to the Easter cross.

—Affirmation of Faith, © 2004 Mucky Paws, Roddy Hamilton
Annual self-evaluations by First Christian Puyallup ministry teams are underway... with a twist! This year as each team considers last year’s goals, this year’s successes, and how those milestones fit into the church’s long term Ministry Plan, team members are then sharing the happy results with the rest of the congregation during Worship. The bottom line: much good work was done!

CELEBRATING THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

Stewardship Ministry Area

In March, the Stewardship Ministry Area kicked off the sharing with their teams’ celebrations and accomplishments. On the first Sunday of the celebration, Bill Robey, Trustee with Property Oversight, first recapped the overall makeup of the Stewardship Ministry Area: the Property, Administration, and Financial Stewardship teams, which each have sub-groups. Bill went on to speak about his own area of oversight, Property Stewardship, and conveyed highlights from the Indoor Property Team (chaired by Robin Crabb), the Outdoor Property Team (chaired by John Grant), and the 2015 budget planning process, which plans ahead for all ministry area uses and was led by Bill.

The next week, Leslie Du Bois, Trustee with Administrative Oversight, brought fresh insights as FCC’s newest trustee. Leslie described some of the behind the scenes things that must take place to keep a church running, which she had previously never considered and are now included in her tasks. Among other things, as lead of Administrative Stewardship, Leslie is currently part of an Employee Relations team working to secure an interim Nursery Attendant for several Sundays in the summer.

The third arm of Stewardship, led by Trustee with Financial Oversight Marydarlene (MD) Cieszynski, will present the success story of the Financial Stewardship Team in May.

COMING SOON:
In April the Ministry Area of Disciple Formation will celebrate with the congregation all that they have to be thankful for.

DEFINING STEWARDSHIP:

Gone are the days when “stewardship” meant simply an annual fiscal pledge drive. It has grown to embrace the good care and purposeful use of all the church has been given. Resources (human, financial, physical) are carefully overseen to best be used for God’s mission and work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Stewardship</th>
<th>Administrative Stewardship</th>
<th>Financial Stewardship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upkeep of property as mission center</td>
<td>Trustees</td>
<td>Growing &amp; planning financial support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning for ministry uses</td>
<td>Employee Relations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Financial Recording Secretary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
April birthdays
1. John Pasola
2. Jayne Isch
3. Colleen Larsen
4. Bonita Goatz
5. Eunice Squires
6. Bunnie Stanton
7. Derek Vailleire
8. Anastasia Peterson
9. Chris Yanasak
10. John Grant
11. Mary Beth Baker
12. Colleen Larsen
13. Bonita Goatz
14. Eunice Squires
15. Bunnie Stanton
16. Colleen Larsen
17. John Pasola
18. Jayne Isch
19. Colleen Larsen
20. Bonita Goatz
21. Eunice Squires
22. Bunnie Stanton
23. Derek Vailleire
24. Anastasia Peterson
25. Chris Yanasak
26. John Grant
27. Mary Beth Baker
28. Colleen Larsen
29. John Pasola
30. Jayne Isch

Remember your baptism
April 2, 1961 Linda O’Gwin
April 3, 2010 Ben Johnson
April 5, 1998 Elliot Forslund
April 6, 1947 Bob Crabb
April 6, 1947 Herb Crabtree
April 8, 1990 Bryan Forslund
April 8, 1990 Sean Forslund
April 8, 1990 Terry Forslund
April 11, 1976 Mike Kuper
April 12, 1992 Kelli Kays
April 14, 1985 Amy Doering
April 16, 1995 Kris Goatz
April 17, 1966 Gretchen Mertes
April 17, 1977 Frank Archer
April 18, 1982 Karrie Cheek
April 18, 1982 Tony Fink
April 21, 1940 Pete Freeman
April 25, 1955 Connie Robey
April 27, 1969 Colleen O’Brien
April 30, 1995 Darelee Phillips

April birthdays
1. John Pasola
2. Jayne Isch
3. Colleen Larsen
4. Bonita Goatz
5. Eunice Squires
6. Bunnie Stanton
7. Derek Vailleire
8. Anastasia Peterson
9. Chris Yanasak
10. John Grant
11. Mary Beth Baker
12. Leslie Du Bois
13. Mike Cheek

Anniversaries
1. April 2, 1961 Linda O’Gwin
2. April 3, 2010 Ben Johnson
3. April 5, 1998 Elliot Forslund
4. April 6, 1947 Bob Crabb
5. April 6, 1947 Herb Crabtree
6. April 8, 1990 Bryan Forslund
7. April 8, 1990 Sean Forslund
8. April 8, 1990 Terry Forslund
9. April 11, 1976 Mike Kuper
10. April 12, 1992 Kelli Kays
11. April 14, 1985 Amy Doering
12. April 16, 1995 Kris Goatz
13. April 17, 1966 Gretchen Mertes
14. April 17, 1977 Frank Archer
15. April 18, 1982 Karrie Cheek
16. April 18, 1982 Tony Fink
17. April 21, 1940 Pete Freeman
18. April 25, 1955 Connie Robey
19. April 27, 1969 Colleen O’Brien
20. April 30, 1995 Darelee Phillips

FCC Guiding Vision
- First Christian Church of Puyallup is a gathering of diverse individuals called by God to live as a blessing in our own neighborhoods and in the world.
- We dream of being a faithful community of God’s people whose spiritual practices of worship, prayer, study, and ministry nurture those who are seeking to live in the way of Jesus.
- Believing that every follower of Christ is gifted by God, we dream of being a family in which each person discovers their gifts and is supported in sharing those gifts with the world.
- We experience God’s welcome in our celebration at the communion table and dream of being a reflection of that welcome in our acts of acceptance, forgiveness, generosity, justice and peacemaking.

FCC Puyallup: A Generous People

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Weekly Offering</th>
<th>DMF Week of Compassion</th>
<th>Homeless Ministries</th>
<th>DMF Easter Offering</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03/01/15</td>
<td>$3,190</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/08/15</td>
<td>$1,333</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/15/15</td>
<td>$975</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/22/15</td>
<td>$1,340</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/29/15</td>
<td>$1,623</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Designated giving:
- DMF Week of Compassion: $15
- Homeless Ministries: $50
- DMF Easter Offering: $131

Read the entire FCC Puyallup Ministry Plan which outlines the hoped-for future of the congregation: www.fccpuyallup.com/guiding-vision

...called by God to live as a blessing...
March 25, 2015

The Honorable Michael R. Pence  
Governor of the State of Indiana  
200 W. Washington Street, Room 206  
Indianapolis, Indiana

Dear Governor Pence,

We write with respect to the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA). We urge you to veto the bill.

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has been headquartered in Indianapolis for nearly 100 years. Although Butler University is no longer affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), its founder, Ovid Butler, was a Disciple and a noted abolitionist. The college, in keeping with our values, admitted women in a time when that was rare. We are the church that founded Christian Theological Seminary. Our offices are located on North Meridian. Our Indiana regional offices are located in Indianapolis as well.

Every two years our general assembly, a gathering of over 6000 people from across the United States and Canada, is held in a US city. In 2017 it is scheduled to be in Indianapolis as it was in 2009 and 1989. Like so many other host cities, we find Indianapolis to be a hospitable and enjoyable location for our people. Many of our leaders are citizens of this city, and we take particular pride when our selection process makes it possible to bring the assembly to our home town.

However, the recent passage in the state legislature of the RFRA bill is distressing to us. It is causing us to reconsider our decision to hold our 2017 gathering in Indianapolis.

Purportedly a matter of religious freedom, we find RFRA contrary to the values of our faith—as well as to our national and Hoosier values. Our nation and state are strong when we welcome people of many backgrounds and points of view. The free and robust exchange of ideas is part of what makes our democracy great.

As a Christian church, we are particularly sensitive to the values of the One we follow—one who sat at table with people from all walks of life, and loved them all. Our church is diverse in point of view, but we share a value for an open Lord’s Table. Our members and assembly-goers are of different races and ethnicities, ages, genders and sexual orientations. They have in common that they love Jesus and seek to follow him.

We are particularly distressed at the thought that, should RFRA be signed into law, some of our members and friends might not be welcome in Indiana businesses—might experience legally sanctioned bias and rejection once so common on the basis of race.

We are following closely the progress of this legislation. It will be a factor in whether we continue with our plans to hold an assembly in Indianapolis in 2017. We urge you to veto the bill.

Respectfully,
Sharon E. Watkins  
General Minister and President  
Julia Brown Karimu, President  
Division of Overseas Ministries  
Ronald J. Degges, President  
Disciples Home Missions

---

**UPDATE: 3/26 church leadership responds to signing of SB101**

"Thank you for the overwhelming response supporting our opposition to SB101. Unfortunately, Governor Pence has signed the bill. We will keep you posted...as we sort through the contracts, costs, and decisions around the 2017 General Assembly. We also have attorneys reviewing similar legislation in the states that are finalists for 2019 and in states where we’d consider moving the 2017 General Assembly. Not all of these bills are the same and there is a lot of misinformation about each of the state laws. We are ONE people serving the ONE who welcomes us all."
The FCC Council at Work:

What are they up to now?

The FCC Council comes together each month to oversee and support the work of the ministry areas, and to review and uphold the FCC Guiding Vision and Ministry Plan. Each ministry area is represented on the Council by a volunteer who brings news and needs to its attention. Here is just a sampling of the agenda items at the March FCC Council meeting:

- Bathroom remodel funding
- Celebrating FCC ministries
- FCC bylaws updates approved
- Outreach Team participants
- Volunteer job description updates
- FCC delegates to General Assembly
- Nominating Team for 2015

Meeting notes and financial reports may be viewed outside the church office.

“We, the Council of First Christian Church, covenant to serve the congregation’s vision as well as the members of the congregation. The Council intends to govern by:
- Discerning & articulating the congregation’s mission and vision of ministry,
- Setting goals and making strategic choices,
- Creating or overseeing the creation of written policies to guide the congregation’s ministry, and
- Overseeing the evaluation of the work of ministry teams, staff and itself.”
Life of the Church

Sunday Learning Circle .......... 9:30 am
Sunday Adult Study ................. 9:45 am
Sunday Worship Service .......... 11 am
Puyallup Comm. Band .......... Tues. - 7 pm
Back Row Broads study .... Wed. - 10 am

2 .......... Maundy Thursday service - 7 pm
3 ........... Good Friday Cross Walk - 4 pm
4 ............. Easter Vigil & Feast - 8 pm
5 ................ Easter Sunday - 11 am
6 ................ Parlor reserved - 12 pm
7 ................ Book Club gathering - 7 pm

9 ........... Faith Formation meeting - 7 pm
10 ............ Sanctuary reserved - 3 pm
11 .......... 208 Garfield, Tacoma
12 ...... Ad hoc Property Team - 12:30 pm
12 ........... Diaconate meeting - 12:30 pm
13 .......... Council meeting - 1 pm
18 .......... Freezing Nights vols brunch - 9 am
19 .......... Earth Day
20 .......... Elders meeting - 6:30 pm
21 .......... Council meeting - 1 pm
22 .......... Earth Day
23 ......... Elders meeting - 6:30 pm
24 .......... Preschool event - 6 pm
25 ...... All-Church Spring Cleaning - 9 am

Visit our online calendar at fccpuyallup.com/calendar or sign up for weekly emails for updates

SPIC & SPAN: All-church cleaning day returns April 25th

Scrub-a-dub-dub! In 2014, around 30 loyal church folks whistled while they worked and got the FCC Puyallup building and grounds into tip top shape! Despite the drizzly weather, the flowerbeds were plucked clean, the windows were de-smudged, and the rooms were un-cobwebbed. Join us this year to do it all again!

This year the fun happens on April 25th at 9 am. Sign up in the narthex for your favorite task, or just show up with a pair of gloves or a favorite tool. There’s a task for everyone.