



# The Steeple

April 2025

A Weekly Newsletter from First United Presbyterian Church

I've always enjoyed the comic strip "BC." The author, Johnny Hart, was a Christian who was never shy about incorporating his faith into the comic. Christmas and Easter seasons were opportune moments for him to share what he believed. His comic insight would often bring a smile along with a touch of truth. His characters, set in the time before time, are nonetheless as current and relevant as ever.

Take this comic:



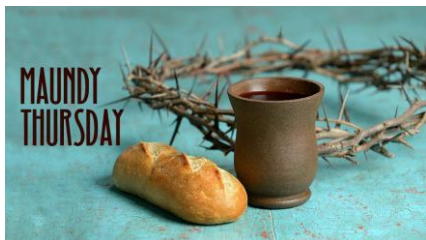
Why of all days would we call the Friday of Jesus' death Good Friday? The torture and brutality that Jesus endured physically, the emotional turmoil of knowing that he was to die and the spiritual isolation that came when he took on our sins can hardly be called good. And yet, that is the miracle of our God. A God who can take death and bring life. A God who can transform a dark Friday into a Good Friday. A God who can and does alter lives. Consider the attitudes of those before and after Easter: Mary Magdalene, Peter, John, Thomas and the disciples on the road to Emmaus.

The author John Stott said that the resurrection is at the very heart of Christianity. If you remove it, Christianity is destroyed. Yes, Christ's resurrection is central to our faith. Four months ago, when we celebrated Jesus' birth, we reminded ourselves that Jesus being born in Bethlehem means little if he is not also born in our hearts and lives. Similarly, the resurrection continues to happen today in the lives of people who experience the transforming power of a God who can and does turn dark Fridays into Good Fridays!

*"The same power that brought Jesus back from the dead is operative within those who are Christ's. The Resurrection is an ongoing thing."*

*- Leon Morris*

**Pastor Dave**



This year's service will be once again be at the First Christian Church on April 17, 6:30 pm. Each of the four participating churches are being asked to bring some of the food so if anybody in our church would like to help please call Ruth Reed. It's the same menu as last year.

**April 20**

**9:00 am – Sunday School**

**10:15 am – Worship with Communion**



## ***Coming up...***

***Sunday, March 30 – Fourth Sunday in Lent***

***9:00 am – Sunday School***

***10:15 am – Worship, Rev. Ioan Ittu***

***Wednesday, April 2 – Artful Devotions***

***10:00 am – Coffee with Pastor Dave***

***4:00 pm – Evening Guild***

***4:00 pm – Bible Study***

***Sunday, April 6 – Fifth Sunday in Lent***

***9:00 am – Sunday School***

***10:15 am – Worship, Rev. Dave Endriss, Communion***

***11:15 am - Fellowship***

***Monday, April 7 – 10:00 am – Madonna Circle***

***Sunday, April 13 – Palm/Passion Sunday***

***9:00 am – Sunday School***

***10:15 am - Worship, Kevin de Regnier, worship leader***

***11:15 am – Fellowship***

***2-4 pm - Birthday Party for Ethel Lee Osborn Tucker***

We are looking for folks to read at the Maundy Thursday service on April 17, 6:30 pm at the First Christian Church. Please let Pastor Dave or the church office know if you can help!



Hosted by the Hirschman family, you are invited to come celebrate Ethel Lee Osborn Tucker's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sunday, April 13, from 2-4 pm at First United Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall. If you are unable to attend, birthday wishes can be sent to:

Ethel Lee Osborn Tucker

303 E. South St.

Winterset, IA 50273



We pray for...  
Nolan Collins  
Pat Kuhns  
Tish McKee  
Ruth Wagley  
Ilene Holmes  
Those known only to God

Our sympathies to Ruth Reed and family on the March 20 death of Ruth's brother, Ron Elwick, of Vinton, IA. Services were held March 25.

*"Do not be anxious about anything,  
but in every situation, by prayer and petition,  
with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."  
Philippians 4:6*

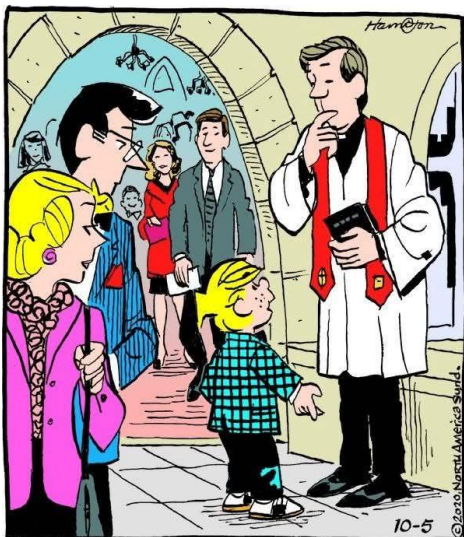
## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Ruth Reed	April 7
Sheryl Puderbaugh	April 9
Wendy Sawyer	April 13
Ethel Lee Osborn Tucker	April 14
Lori Ryner	April 27

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Nolan & JoAnn Collins	April 30
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One Great Hour of Sharing...will be received on Easter Sunday, April 20. Your gift supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Please give as you are able. Earmark your check OGHOS. Envelopes are available for this offering.



"I LIKED THAT PART ABOUT THE FATHER  
AND HIS SON'S HOLY GOATS."



### WOMEN'S GROUPS

MADONNA CIRCLE:

APRIL 7 ~ 10:00 AM

EVENING GUILD:

APRIL 2 ~ 4:00 PM

**EASTER PRAYER VIGIL:** A prayer vigil offers a community a space to connect with God so that God's vision for love and justice can be carried out through us. You are invited to come to the church anytime between 8 and 4 on Saturday, April 19, for prayer and quiet reflection. Come and stay as long as you like as God leads you.

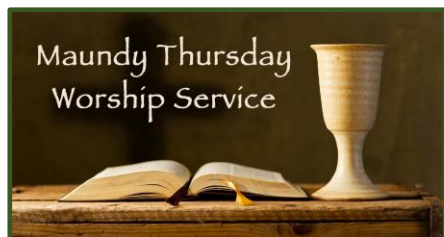
# APRIL 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Artful Devotions 10 am Coffee 4:00 p.m. Evening Guild 4:00 pm Bible Study	3	4	5
6 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship	7	8	9 Artful Devotions 10 am Coffee 4:00 pm Bible Study	10	11	12
13 <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship	14	15	16 Artful Devotions 10 am Coffee	17 <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> 6:30 PM Service at First Christian Church	18 <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> 7:00 PM Service at First United Presbyterian Church	19 <b>PRAYER VIGIL</b> 8 am - 4 pm
20 <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship	21 <b>EASTER MONDAY</b> Church office closed	22 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting	23 Artful Devotions 10 am Coffee 4:00 pm Bible Study	24	25	26
27 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship	28	29	30 Artful Devotions 10 am Coffee Noon – Bus Tour 4:00 pm Bible Study	<div> <i>"The very first Easter taught us this: that life never ends and love never dies."</i> </div>		

# HOLY WEEK 2025



Palm Sunday, April 13  
Kevin de Regnier, Worship Leader  
9:00 am - Adult Sunday School  
10:15 am - Worship  
11:00 am - Fellowship

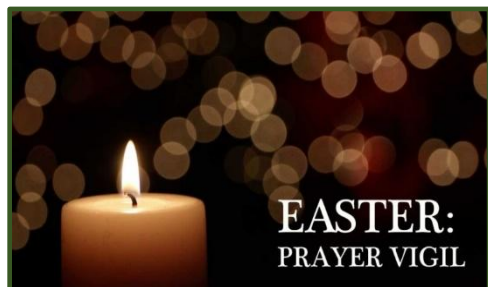


Maundy Thursday  
Worship Service

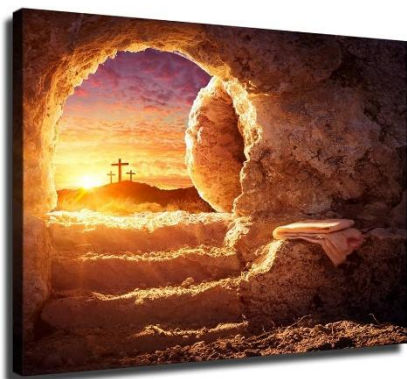
Maundy Thursday, April 17  
6:30 pm  
First Christian Church



Good Friday, April 18  
7:00 pm  
First United Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Erick Swanson, preaching



Easter Prayer Vigil - Saturday, April 19  
8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
First United Presbyterian Church  
Come and go anytime between 8 and 4



Easter Sunday, April 20  
Rev. Dave Endriss, Communion  
9:00 am - Adult Sunday School  
10:15 am - Worship  
11:15 am - Fellowship



# ORDER FORM FOR EASTER LILIES

**(Please print clearly)**



You are invited to purchase an Easter lily in honor or in memory of a loved one for Easter.

Please fill out the information and submit with payment of \$10.00 to the church office (or Administrative Assistant's mailbox). Deadline to order: **April 13**. (Make check payable to First United Presbyterian Church with lily noted in the memo.)

NAME OF HONORED PERSON(S):

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IN MEMORY: \_\_\_\_\_ IN HONOR: \_\_\_\_\_

(CHECK ONE)

YOUR NAME(S):

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(Please use more than one order form for more than one lily.)