

FAITH MATTERS



March 21, 2021

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Ministry Moment: GriefShare

*Greeting

*Call to Worship

"Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me."

*Songs

How Can It Be

Create In Me a Clean Heart

*Invocational Prayer

Scriptures:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

John 12:20-33

*Hymn #226: *What Wondrous Love*

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Musical Meditation

Sermon: ***The Cost of Discipleship***

*Hymn #222: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

Benediction

Postlude

*Please stand as you are able.

Hearing assistance devices are available at the A/V Booth.

THIS WEEK'S MINISTRIES CALENDAR

SUNDAY, March 21

9:00am: Praise Band Rehearsal

9:30am: Adult Discipleship Class

9:30am: Confirmation Class

10:30am: Worship Service

6:15pm: High School Youth Group

TUESDAY, March 23

6:00pm: Communications Team Meeting

WEDNESDAY, March 24

12:00pm: Faith Matters Newsletter deadline

9:30am: Women's Bible Study Fellowship

10:30am: Women's Bible Study Fellowship

2:30pm: Middle School Homework Help

3:30pm: Middle School Youth Group

SUNDAY, March 28—Palm Sunday

9:00am: Praise Band Rehearsal

9:30am: Adult Discipleship Class

9:30am: Confirmation Class

10:30am: Worship Service

6:15pm: High School Youth Group

MARCH SCRIPTURE READERS

03.21: Drew Mendians

03.28: Jonas Carlson

WORSHIP WITH US ON SUNDAYS

IN-PERSON worship at 10:30am. (COVID-19 Criteria in effect.)

WATCH ONLINE on FCC's [website](#) or [Facebook page](#)

LISTEN to the broadcast over FM 105.3 from your vehicle in the church parking lot.

PRAYER REQUESTS

The Family & Friends of Alexis Nelson

(Paul & Tammy Woroniak's niece)

Comfort while grieving Alexis' passing.

Jane Kuriger

Healing from stroke and pneumonia.

Jordan Jacobi (Joyce Reed's godson)

Healing from TCell Lymphoma.

Yvonne (Bev Johnston's daughter)

Healing & Salvation.

Mert Youngberg

Healing & strength during radiation treatments.

PALM SUNDAY, MAUNDY THURSDAY & EASTER SERVICES

Next Sunday, March 28th, is Palm Sunday—Join us for the celebration of the day at 10:30am.

The following Thursday, April 1st, is Maundy Thursday—We will gather for a special service at 7:00pm.

Sunday, April 4th, is Easter Sunday—Join us either at 9:00am or 10:30am to celebrate the risen Christ! Reservations are being taken to ensure we are prepared. The Nursery will be available at both services. The 9:00am service is “Face masks encouraged, but not required.” Once seated, you may remove your mask, if desired. Masks are required at the 10:30am service. [Email the office](#) or call us to reserve your seat(s): 231.723.7173.

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE (PSC)

The PSC had their first meeting and are now working on posting the job opening in various locations. The Members serving on the PSC for our Pastor/Director of Children & Family Ministries are:

Pastor Erik Carlson, Team Leader

Pam Carlson

Katie Dye

Jim Henderson

Bev Johnston

Rachel Nelson

Kevin Schmutzler

JOB DESCRIPTION: PASTOR/DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

This job description is available for you to [read on our website](#). Please [email Pastor Erik](#) or call him if you have questions: 231. 887.4619.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY: *THE HEAVEN PROMISE*

Heaven isn't the construction of a fairy tale or some mythical narrative. It is very real; it is very good; it is very much the fulfillment of God's promise to you. When we think about heaven, eternity, or the afterlife, we often think different things and have contracting opinions. How can you know for sure what heaven will be like? On April 7th, we will begin a Wednesday evening Bible study based on the book, “*The Heaven Promise*” by author Scot McKnight. If you have ever wondered what heaven will be like, or had questions about heaven, eternity, or the afterlife, you will want to take advantage of this Bible Study. Led by Pastor Erik, the study will run for 6-8 weeks. It is not necessary to purchase the book. Everyone is encouraged to attend! If you have any questions, please [email Pastor Erik](#) or call him: 231.887.4619.

GRIEFSHARE MINISTRY AT FAITH COVENANT

GriefShare consists of a 13 week, video-driven support group, of which two people co-facilitate. Find out all about this ministry new to FCC during and after Sunday's worship service. Rita Shipman will be available in the church lobby after the service with information and answers to inquiries.

This is another great opportunity for FCC to continue to be supportive of the people in Manistee and the surrounding areas who have been affected by the loss of a loved one and need emotional support & connection with caring individuals. It is through the sharing of our stories that we become a closer community. All sharing is optional as a person becomes comfortable; it is never an obligation. More information is available on the [GriefShare website](#).

Please feel free to [email Rita Shipman](#) or [email Kate](#) in the office to let us know if you have a desire to be part of this healing journey. The only cost is \$15 when you register. We will have a workbook for each person.

We will begin meeting at FCC on Tuesdays, 3:00-5:00pm starting in April. Former attendees from Manistee UMC have stepped up to facilitate during the first 13-week class cycle. Please let us know if you would like to help in this ministry. And please help to spread the word about this ministry throughout our community!

WEEKLY PRAYER MEETING

With Spring just around the corner, people getting vaccinated, and Faith Covenant beginning to “open up”, this is a good time to start a weekly prayer meeting to give our church a firm foundation from which to move ahead. Luke 6:48 (NIV) reads, *“They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built.”*

Joyce Reed will facilitate this prayer meeting. If you would like to get together with other believers once a week to pray for each other, the church, and the world, call Joyce at 231.510.5475 and suggest a day & time you would like to meet at the church. *“Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”* James 5:16 (NIV).

SAFE HARBOR UPDATE

From Joyce Reed

Thanks to wonderful, willing brothers and sisters, the Safe Harbor schedule has been completed for the month and the season!

This past season has been, to say the least, challenging. I could not have done it without your help! **Thank you!** I will give an update after the season ends.

Matthew 25:40 (KJV), *“And the King shall answer and unto them, ‘Verily I say unto you, in as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.’”*

PROPERTY STEWARDS NEEDED

The Property Stewards need team members. For all the details, please [email Barry Peterson](#) or call him: 231.723.4370.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Would you like to volunteer in this ministry to help our young families during worship services? Please [email Katie Dye](#) to get on the schedule.

FCC'S CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

At FCC, all volunteers working with minor children (0-18 years of age) must complete the Volunteer Application and agree to our background check. ([Click here](#) to access this form online.) Send completed forms to Carolyn in the office. If you have not completed our Child Protection background check, or if you are unsure, please [email Carolyn](#) or call the office: 231.723.7173.

A NOTE REGARDING THE LIVE STREAM OF SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES

For 10 minutes prior to the start of the Sunday morning service, the A/V Techs will be verifying the live feed and taking care of any technical issues. You will see the countdown timer in the service's browser window until the service begins.

FCC'S COVID-19 CRITERIA UPDATE

The Leadership Team has updated the criteria to be followed by everyone using the church building: **Groups of 15 people or less may remove masks once everyone is seated and socially distanced 6' or more. Masks are still required for all movement through the building and for groups with more than 15 in attendance. All other criteria remains unchanged.**

FAITH MATTERS NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Please submit any information you would like included in our newsletter by Noon on Wednesdays.

OFFICE HOURS

Kate & Carolyn are still mostly working from home, but Kate is in the office on Mondays, Tuesdays, & Thursdays, 9:00am—Noon. Please call or [email Kate](#) to make an appointment before stopping in.

EASTER LILIES

We are continuing our tradition of having Easter Lilies adorn our Sanctuary for Easter Sunday. These lilies can be purchased in honor or in memory of loved ones and taken home with you following the morning's worship service. If you would like to purchase one or more of these beautiful plants, please [let Carolyn know](#). The cost per plant is the same as last year: \$14.95. Please pay for your plant(s) by March 26th and clearly mark your payment as being “For Easter Lily/Lilies.”

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