# **Fircrest Presbyterian Church**

FPC Update March 27, 2024

## You Are Looking For Jesus

Dear FPC Family,

Welcome to Holy Week. This week we will walk the final days of Lent toward the cross with Jesus. I'm so glad for those of you who have chosen to mark this journey in some meaningful way in the week ahead. We've had 32 adults and kids sign up for Maundy Thursday dinners and we'll join with Redeemer/St. John's Lutheran Church for a Good Friday service, here at FPC, at 7pm. If you are unable to participate in these ways but would still like to walk the last days of this journey with intentionality, I'd invite you to consider engaging through a resource like Pray As You Go. This link will take you to a selection of Holy Week prayers and exercises: <a href="https://pray-as-you-go.org/discover">https://pray-as-you-go.org/discover</a>

On Easter morning we will gather at 10:30am to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior! Feel free to bring fresh flowers to decorate the cross and don't forget to invite friends, family, and neighbors. You'd be surprised at how many people long for community on this day and are just waiting for an invitation! Here is a poem to help guide you into this celebration:

—from Easter Sunday: A Blessing for the Rising
The Painted Prayerbook, March 2016
By Jan Richardson

This is the place we have journeyed toward all these weeks, the destination we have been bound for all these days—more than forty now, if you count the Sundays. I am partial to John's telling of the story of Easter morning, and of what happens between Mary Magdalene and Jesus here at the garden tomb—how at the sound of her name, Mary's weeping gives way to seeing, to recognition, to the astounding joy of resurrection.

I would want to linger here, to stay and savor this miracle of reunion and return. But we know that Jesus asks something other of Mary Magdalene. Though this may be a garden, this is not a place to put down roots. It is a place of calling, of consecration, of sending as Jesus urges the Magdalene to go and tell what she has seen. Mary has to choose whether she wants this calling, this consecration; she has to decide whether she truly wants to be sent from this place. I feel a catch in my own chest in this moment of decision, this threshold that will change everything from here.

This day, this empty tomb: this has been our destination all this time. But we see, with Mary Magdalene, that this is not a place to stop. This is not the end toward which we have been traveling. This is the beginning.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Taeler



#### **Opportunities / Events**

Volunteer to lead the **kids JOY program** on Sunday morning: this is a great opportunity for the kids to get to know you better and it is a gift to families to experience the value of intergenerational relationships here at FPC. Sign up on Sunday morning!

#### We Dig Fircrest Presbyterian Church Community Garden

Join Cindy and Maureen as planning is already underway for spring!

#### **Worship**

We worship each Sunday at 10:30 am both in person and via Zoom. If you would like to worship via Zoom, <u>click here to join Sunday morning worship</u>. Or you can join worship by calling 253.215.8782 and using Meeting ID: 986 5172 9320 and Passcode: 423758.

#### Bookkeeper/Treasurer Email

Please use this email to contact Robin for any financial communications: **Bookkeeper/Treasurer email: fircrestbooks@gmail.com.** 

#### **Church Calendar**

You can find the church calendar here. Please let us know if you have any problem accessing the calendar, and/or whether you have any updates for us to add.

### **UPCOMING GATHERINGS AND EVENTS**

Wednesdays at 5:00pm: Kids Group.

Wednesdays at 6:00pm: Youth Chimes Choir. Wednesdays at 6:30 pm: Adult Bell Choir. Wednesdays at 7:10pm: Adult Singing Choir.

**Thursday, Mar 28th:** Maundy Thursday Dinners and Devotionals. Sign-ups in the Narthex.

Friday, March 29th: Good Friday Service.

Sunday March 31st: Easter Service @ 10:30am. Egg Hunt @ 2:00pm.

Tuesday, April 2nd at 6:30pm: Team meetings via Zoom.

Tuesday, April 16th at 6:30pm: Session meeting via Zoom.

Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 2:00pm: Memorial Nancy Caughlan.

#### **March Food Bank Donations:**

Families Unlimited: Tuna, Canned Fruit, Rice (1-2 lb. bags), Toiletries: Soap, Pads & Tampons.

Proctor Food Bank: Heavy plastic and paper bags.

Oasis: Individually packaged snacks. We are still collecting egg cartons!

Fircrest Presbyterian Church | www.fircrestpres.org