

Food for Thought

- ❖ The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the single greatest event in the history of the world. It is so foundational to Christianity that no one who denies it can be a true Christian.
~ John MacArthur
- ❖ Because of the empty tomb, we have peace. Because of His resurrection, we can have peace during even the most troubling of times because we know He is in control of all that happens in the world.
~ Paul Chappell
- ❖ Our old history ends with the cross; our new history begins with the resurrection.
~ Watchman Nee

- ❖ Jesus Christ did not come into this world to make bad people good; He came into this world to make dead people live. ~ Lee Strobel
- ❖ We live and die; Christ died and lived!
~ John Stott
- ❖ Few people seem to realize that the resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone to a worldview that provides the perspective to all of life.
~ Josh McDowell



Faith Community Church
1110 E. Cass Street
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821



mission

The mission of our church is to glorify Christ, proclaim the Gospel, reach the lost, and train and instruct Christians in the faith for service and daily living.

The Voice of Faith newsletter is a publication of Faith Community Church (an Evangelical Free church). Editor is Sharon Meier. Sunday Worship is at 10:15 a.m. Website is www.faithchurchpdc.org. Visitors are very much welcome!

The VOICE of Faith

Speaking the truth in love
Faith Community Church
(an Evangelical Free church)

Volume 28 Number 4

APRIL 2019

Living Hope

by Pastor Kevin Dick

We celebrate Easter this spring on Sunday, April 21. Millions of Christians around the world will gather to remember the events of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. For many, the basic facts are understood - Jesus was arrested, crucified, and three days later, God raised him from the dead.

It is easy to have the sequence of events memorized. Yet, we must not make Easter a one-dimensional holiday when it really is a multi-dimensional, life-transforming way of life. We come to realize that the resurrection is not just Jesus' story, but our story as well. As unique and special as Jesus' resurrection is, the New Testament writers apply its implications to our lives.

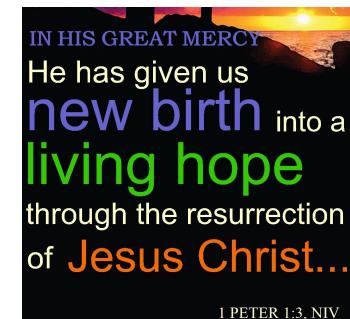
Two implications are important for us to consider. First, Jesus' resurrection proves that those who put their trust in Jesus have life after physical death. There is life beyond the grave in which our physical bodies will suffer decay. But, death for us becomes a transition point, not an ending point. When our hearts stop beating, our lungs stop breathing, and our brain waves cease to function, it is not the end. God made us to last forever. Jesus' promise in John 11:25,26 stands: "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die."

Jesus proved he could fulfill this promise by his resurrection. Otherwise, there would be no reason to believe it. If Jesus had not died on the cross and been resurrected more than 2000 years ago, we would have zero chance of getting to heaven - no hope of an afterlife and no certainty of eternal life.

A second implication is that the resurrection shows Jesus has victory of death and sin. Paul in Romans 6:23 says, "the wages of sin is death." In our sinful and fallen condition we could never have victory over our sinful condition.

Our connection or union with Jesus through faith guarantees we can conquer sin. We are given assurance that sin no longer has absolute mastery over us. The power of the resurrection provides hope God's redeeming work conquers our sinful predisposition.

As we recall the events in Jesus' life that led up to his resurrection, let us not only remember his pain and suffering leading up to the crucifixion, the events surrounding his burial, and the amazing restoration of life by resurrection, but also the eternal truths which give us hope and certainty for our days on earth. In Easter, we see events but also truths which take us from black and white to living color in that one day. If you trust in Jesus, he will raise you from the grave, too.





Palm Sunday Service
10:15 a.m. on April 14

Good Friday Service
7:00 p.m. on April 19

Resurrection Day Schedule
on Sunday, April 21
Breakfast from 8:30 - 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service at 10:15 a.m.

*He is
THE ONE
appointed
BY GOD
to be
JUDGE
of the
LIVING
and the
DEAD.*

ACTS 10:42, ESV

A Discipleship 101 Class
is offered to teens and adults
each Sunday morning from
9-10 in the Fellowship Hall.
Hope to see you there!



Why buy the lie?

God can't use me! Jesus is my Lord, but you don't know what I was and how I did all those terrible things. There's NO WAY I can be used. News flash... that's a lie! Of course you aren't worthy, but that's not the issue... that was then. Bottom line: YOU **can't** look at yourself with yesterday's eyes! Yes, you were all that, but when you were saved, you became a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17-21). That is your new beginning and God has a plan for you!!! But it is YOUR choice to say 'yes' to the Lord.

"For **all** have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

Well... now you know you aren't alone – we've all come as sinners. But did this reality stop God? No! So why buy the lie and believe you can't be used. I read a post that shared all the people God used and who they were. Example: King David... had an innocent man killed so he could have that man's wife. Abram... tried to circumvent God's plan by conceiving a child with his wife's servant (upon the wife's insistence). Paul, who was Saul,... tried to wipe out Christianity by killing Christians. There are other examples. Who are you to say that God can't use you?

If He is able to save, He is able to enable, equip us to serve. It's truly up to us to change our focus from who we were to who we can become in Him. Jesus told us...

"...Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit..." (John 15:5, ESV)

Be encouraged!

Carolyn's new book, *The Start (Journey of Discovering)* is now available on [amazon.com](#).

Challenging, thought-provoking, insightful. Use it as a personal inventory of your walk with Jesus.



Resurrection Man

by Sharon Meier

I talked with a man today who was dead, was resurrected, and is now an ambassador. Though I can't reveal his name, it is known to God, the angels, and increasingly to his fellow inmates.

His childhood was ravaged by abuse, neglect, and abandonment. His choices became more and more bizarre and destructive as he entered adulthood. His body is covered with scars and tattoos testifying to his hopelessness, rage, and bitterness. Everything he touched turned to dust and ashes and heartbreak. He was on the very brink of losing his mind when... when Jesus came... through a fellow inmate representing Jesus who shared with him the good news of God's saving grace and mercy. At first, he was enraged and hostile. But over time, he softened as hope was held out to him like a rope to a drowning man. The "good news" started seeping through the cracks in his hard heart and ended up as tears on his sin-stained face. The resurrected Lord Jesus Christ grabbed his dead, putrid, rotting spirit and brought him to life in a fraction of a second when he confessed his sin, his need, and his desire to be forgiven. The God-Man, who Himself rose from the dead, utilized His resurrection power on a "dead" man sprawled out on a dirty prison cell floor and brought him out of darkness into His marvelous kingdom of light.

He is now seeking out others with whom to share this "good news". His smile is radiant, his joy infectious, his fervor tempered by patience. He is truly a "resurrection man". I feel privileged to know him in his new identity as my brother. If you know the resurrected Jesus Christ, this man is also your brother, and someday you will know his name and shake his hand.

<https://www.facebook.com/PrisonFellowshipWisconsin>

Consider the Seed

When you put a seed into the ground, it doesn't grow into a plant unless it dies first.

And what you put in the ground is not the plant that will grow, but only a bare seed of wheat or whatever you are planting. Then God gives it the new body He wants it to have.

A different plant grows from each kind of seed.

1 Corinthians 15:36-38 NKJV

Can the dead come back to life? While many scientists assure us that they cannot, the empty grave of Christ assures us that in Him everyone who trusts in His saving work on the cross of Calvary will live bodily with Him forever. When modern science tries to raise doubts about the bodily resurrection of Christ, just keep in mind that science cannot even explain the miracle of the seed.

Any seed, whether an ordinary bean seed, an acorn or a coconut, is a marvel of life. Consider the oak tree. Within the acorn, weighing less than an ounce, is a tiny embryonic oak tree, enough nutrition to get the young tree started on its own and all of the coded information needed not only to direct the start of growth, but to also guide the design and development of tons and tons of tree!

If it had been up to the first plant to figure out how to accomplish this miracle [of reproduction] by trial and error, we would still be waiting for the first seed to develop! But Scripture solves this problem for us by clearly stating that God is the author of all life! Besides Scripture's clear statement on the matter, it seems most unscientific to say that the tiny, packaged bundle of life we call a seed was not carefully designed and created but came about by chance.

And as the seed in the ground shakes off its old, dry coat to burst forth in vibrant new life, let each of us look to Christ to shake off the old and decayed and allow Him to place on us the vibrant new life He gives us through His resurrection.

~ Written by Pastor Paul Bartz,
Steve Schwartz and Paul Taylor
www.creationmoments.com



We support four **Gospel for Asia** missionaries and their families: Daud, Dayalu, Christian, and Roghu.
www.gfa.org

**Interjection**

an exclamation, originally an appeal to God for deliverance, used in praise of God or Christ. ("Please! Save now!")

Noun

a shout of praise or adoration; an acclamation.

Verb (used with object), ho·san·naed, ho·san·na·ing. to praise, applaud, etc.

~ from www.dictionary.com

DO'S AND DON'TS

- Get knowledge, but don't depend on your knowledge.
- Seek to be wise, but don't rely on your wisdom.
- Work hard, but don't trust in your hard work.
- Work smart, but don't stake everything on your own cleverness and efficiency.
- Be ethical, but don't lean on your morality.
- Make plans, but don't hope in your plans.
- Save money, but don't trust your savings.
- Add up your numbers, but don't count on them.
- Value people, but don't depend on people.
- "Little children, keep yourselves from idols."

(1 John 5:21)



LAWN-MOWING TEAM
Recruiting now for service!
April through October
Sign up at the Information Center
in the church lobby.
Thank you!



CHURCH Work Day

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 8:00 A.M. to NOON

The Trustee Board has scheduled a Spring Work Day for April 12 from 8 to 12. Come and join the fun! Here is a partial list of projects about which we know. Let us know of others that should be included.

Outdoor Projects

- Inspect and clean air conditioner covers
- Pick up branches, debris from the lawn
- Organize the garage
- Organize the trailer
- Pressure wash trash cans
- Pressure wash entry mats. Sweep/vac dirt underneath
- Stain wooden playground equipment
- Clean shrubs and hostas
- Pressure wash siding

Indoor projects

- Lubricate window cranks and hinges
- Check furnace filters
- Write on furnace for date to be inspected for parts under warranty
- Open petcock on bottom of air compressor tank to release moisture
- Verify that all lights are working. Replace ballasts/bulbs as needed
- Test emergency lights
- Check exit light bulbs
- Clean (vacuum) blinds in sanctuary
- Clean stove vents and filters
- Clean back and bottom of refrigerator and freezer
- Check water softeners for salt
- Install security camera to provide a better view of the parking lot and front entrance

This is a great opportunity to serve the Lord and spend time with others from our church family. See you then!



Remember God's special gift of Jesus by making this craft.

What you need:

- Large piece of blue paper
- Large bowl
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Paint (green and red)
- Paintbrush
- Wet wipes
- 3 wooden craft sticks
- Craft glue
- Black marker
- Bible



John
3:16

What you do:

1. On the paper, trace around the bowl. Cut out the circle.
2. Paint your palms green, one at a time, and press them in the circle side by side. (Clean your hands with wet wipes.)
3. Dip a finger in red paint and make a dot on the center of each handprint.
4. Between the handprints, glue two sticks end to end vertically. Glue the third stick horizontally to make a cross.
5. In marker, write the words of John 3:16 around the blue circle.

PUZZLE

Jesus gives us life

Through his death and resurrection, Jesus offers the free gift of eternal life.

Directions: Match each clue from Holy Week with the correct image. If you get stuck, look up the Bible verses.

People spread these on the road for Jesus. (Matthew 21:8)



Mary pours this on Jesus' feet. (John 12:3)



Jesus shares this with his disciples. (Matthew 26:26)



This is placed on Jesus' head. (John 19:2)



Soldiers may have used these to compete for Jesus' coat. (John 19:23-24)



Jesus carries this himself for a while. (John 19:17)



Marks caused by these help Thomas identify Jesus. (John 20:25)



While on the cross, Jesus is thirsty and is given this. (John 19:28-29)



This is rolled away from Jesus' tomb. (John 20:1)



These are used to prepare Jesus' body for burial. (Luke 23:55-56)



These remain in the tomb after Jesus rises. (John 20:6-7)



Judas betrays Jesus for this. (Matthew 26:14-15)



Answers: palm branches, perfume, bread, crown of thorns, chalice, cross, nails, sponge, stone, picks, thorns, silver coins.

Faith Kids'
BIRTHDAYS!



April

12

Nolan McClendon

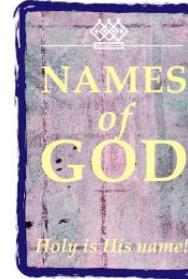
Elohim Shofet Tsadik

God is a righteous judge

God is always right
in how He judges.

He is angry with the sinful
every day.

Psalm 7:11 NIV



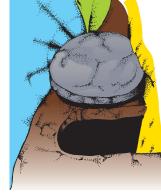
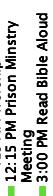
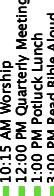
You're Invited!

One Way Club Closing Program
Wednesday, April 3, 7 p.m.

Our final Family Night will be on April 3. A meal will be served as usual at 5:45 and classes will begin at 6:15. One Way Club invites all family and friends to attend our closing program at 7:00 p.m. Treats will follow the program in the gym.

April 2019

Faith Community Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday			
	6:30 PM Prayer Time 7:30 PM Elder Board meeting 	1	2 Bulletin Deadline 5:45 PM Family Meal 6:15 PM Cubbies & Classes 7:00 PM Closing Program 	3	4	5 12:00 PM Gym Reserved until 6 8:00 AM Spring Work Day 			
	Community Needs Fund Communication 9:00 AM Discipleship 101 10:15 AM Worship 12:15 PM Prison Ministry Meeting 3:00 PM Read Bible Aloud 	7	8 6:30 PM Prayer Time Meeting 	9	10 Bulletin Deadline 	11	12	13	
	Newsletter Deadline Deadline 6:30 PM Prayer Time 15 	14	16 Bulletin Deadline 	17	18 Good Friday 7:00 PM Service 	19	20		
	Resurrection Sunday 9:00 AM Discipleship 101 10:15 AM Worship 10:15 AM Breakfast served 3:00 PM Read Bible Aloud 	21	22 Bulletin Deadline 	23	24 Bulletin Deadline 	25	26 5:30 PM Guys Night Out 7:00 PM Service 	27	
	Food Pantry Sunday 9:00 AM Discipleship 101 10:15 AM Worship 12:00 PM Quarterly Meeting 1:00 PM Potluck Lunch 3:00 PM Read Bible Aloud 	28	29 6:30 PM Prayer Time 8:30 PM Breakfast served 10:15 AM Worship 	30	<p>HE ISN'T HERE! HE IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, JUST AS HE SAID WOULD HAPPEN. COME, SEE WHERE HIS BODY WAS LYING.</p> <p>LUKE 12:28 NLT</p>				

April Volunteers



Date	Church Cleaning	Fellowship Time	Greeters	Ministry Highlight	Nursery	Trustee Duties	Ushers	Mowing
7	Part One: Slotman Part Two: Mansfield	Sue Mathre Heather Saylor	Erv & Mary Jones	None	Bob Meier Miah Miller	Erv Jones	Cody Erv John Ryan	Steve Hyer
14	Part One: Mathre/Fish Part Two: Saylor	Chad & Shelly Gruber	Erv & Mary Jones	Missions	Sue Mathre MaryAnn Haug	Erv Jones	Cody Bob John Ryan	Erv Jones
21	Part One: Schneider Part Two: Collins	None	Erv & Mary Jones	None	Sandy Goree Katherine Lein	Erv Jones	Cody Brandon John Ryan	Chuck Mansfield
28	Part One: Irish Part Two: Mathre*	Peggy Dick (Quarterly Meeting)	Erv & Mary Jones	Welcome	Merideth McClendon Heather Saylor	Erv Jones	Cody Brandon John Ryan	Nick Johnson