

Pinedale Community Church United Church of Christ April 2010 Newsletter

Whoever you are,
Wherever you are in life's journey,
You're welcome here!

Pinedale Community Church

United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 646, 113 South Maybell
Pinedale, WY 82941
(307) 367-2528

Our Mission

"Our doors and ministry are open to all who follow Jesus and have a sincere desire to share God's love with others."

Church Schedule

Sunday Worship 10:30 am
A nursery is provided during the worship service.

Preschool-Grade 5 Bible classes meet on Wednesdays after school.

For additional information, please visit these links:

Our Web Site

<http://www.pinedalecommunitychurch.org>

Calendar of Events

<http://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=yhwhpsa%40hotmail.com>

N.H. Conference Advocates Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

As the United States and Russia draw close to a new agreement to replace the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) arms control agreement which expired in December 2009, the UCC in New Hampshire has called for an all out ban on nuclear testing.

On March 8, four United Church of Christ ministers from New Hampshire, including Conference Minister the Rev. Gary Schulte, participated in a conference call with Sen. Judd Gregg's (RN.H.) national security advisor, Brian Miller, in which they urged the Senator to speak out in support of ratifying the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

The Test Ban Treaty bans all nuclear test explosions and establishes a global monitoring system to enforce the ban.

"Ending global testing will curb the continued proliferation of nuclear weapons, and reduce the risks of nuclear war and nuclear terrorism," says the Rev. Gordon Crouch, chair of the Peace With Justice Task Force of the UCC's N.H. Conference, and one of the participants in the conference call.

The treaty has been ratified by 151 nations, including Russia and all U.S. allies in NATO. The treaty can only enter into force upon its ratification by nine more nations, including the United States. "For the security of our nation and the safety of all the world's people, we have a moral imperative to ratify this treaty," says Crouch.

The conversation with Sen. Gregg's staff was the culmination of an ongoing dialogue with his office that began last May when the Peace With Justice Task Force presented a resolution at the N.H. Conference UCC annual meeting urging the U.S. Senate to ratify the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

The meeting passed the resolution overwhelmingly which prompted Schulte, on behalf of the Conference, to write both New Hampshire senators, informing them of the resolution and asking for their support. In response, Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (DN.H.) expressed support for ratification while Sen. Gregg expressed reservations.

Crouch wrote a follow-up letter, signed by 50 New Hampshire UCC ministers and dozens of New Hampshire UCC lay people, requesting that Sen. Gregg reconsider his position, saying, "To us, the choice is clear: a world without nuclear testing is a safer world."

Mike Neuroth, the UCC's policy advocate for international issues, hand delivered a copy of the letter to Sen. Gregg's legislative director March 22 in conjunction with office visits made with N.H. constituents during Ecumenical Advocacy Days.

Sen. Gregg has indicated he is not seeking reelection, yet the Peace With Justice Task Force feels their conversations are important, even if another legislator will be in office to vote on the issue. "To be sure," says Crouch, "the Peace With Justice Task Force will continue these conversations with whomever holds this office in 2011."

PASTOR PONDERERS

We do not have an altar; we have a communion table. An altar is for sacrifice. A communion table is the center of a sacred meal. Christ made the ultimate sacrifice for us, once and for all. Nothing needs to be added to his sacrifice. Therefore, we no longer need an altar. Instead, because of Easter, we gather around the communion table in a fellowship of celebration. For, "The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me. For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.'"¹

Easter morning we will proclaim the Lord's death and resurrection. We will celebrate communion: a sacred meal; a fellowship; an offering. All are welcome. "This is God's table, it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace."²

Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed!**

¹ 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

² "Come to the Table of Grace" by Barbara Hamm ©2008

THE LABYRINTH

On Tuesday evenings throughout Lent we met together for a weekly soup supper, followed by a half hour of contemplative worship. Each week we practiced some sort of meditation and group singing. We practiced Lectio Divina: a repetitive method of reading scripture. We meditated on some spiritual readings. We meditated on art & music. We took a guided visualization. And we walked the labyrinth at the library.

The labyrinth offers a metaphor for life's twists and turns. A single path leads each walker into the labyrinth center. The same path then leads each pilgrim back out into the world. You will not get lost on a labyrinth, but you will twist and turn as you find your way to the center of the circle. In a spiritual journey, God is found at the center.

Always before I had walked the labyrinth alone. It was completely different for me as a community experience. Here are some of my observations, which I believe parallel our walk with God and each other:

- some people you follow, some follow you
- the path didn't always lead the way I expected
- some people walk a little way with you
- some people you encounter again and again
- just when you think everyone else is going another direction, suddenly you find them walking beside you
- some people are easier to walk beside than others: matching their pace, their stride, finding room together
- sometimes I had to get out of the way, other times people moved aside for me
- even when it didn't look like it, we were still traveling to the center
- sometimes you just need to stop and breathe
- often when you think you'll never get there, you are the closest to the center
- faith is a community pilgrimage even when it feels solitary
- there is a place for all of us at the center

HA! HA! HA!

On Sunday, April 11, be sure to bring your senses of humor with you to church. This will be our humor time, so be prepared to join in and LAUGH.



FROM THE MODERATOR

Council meeting dates are:

4/14

5/12

6/16

July & Aug no meeting

9/15

10/13

11/17

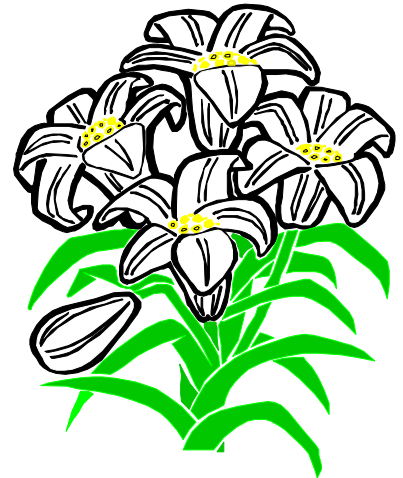
12/15

1/12/2011

EASTER LILYS

We thank the following people for providing Easter Sunday lilies:

- Dave & Peggy Bell in honor of Jim & Jean Bell
- Floyd & Kathryn Briggs in memory of parents Dorthean & James Jorgenson and Floyd & Julia Briggs
- Barb & Les Burrough in memory of Hank Askey and Marie & Morris Burrough
- Cindy Carlson in memory of Dick Stearns
- Miriam Carlson in memory of Anna Grinder
- Dave & Brenda Doyle in memory of our parents
- Amy Graham in memory of Johnny Lee
- Paul & Bette Hagenstein in memory of our parents
- Gwen Hill in memory of grandparents Lois & John Hoffer and Manuel & Eva Carillo
- Ken & Julie Konicek in memory of Joyce Konicek and Clarke Beard
- Maxine Leckie
- Chandler & Debbie McClellan in memory of Roger & Stella Jesseman
- Susan Mitchell in memory of Joyce Mitchell
- Janet Montgomery in honor of Amy Fife and Viola Goodacre
- Dave & Karen Moulton in memory of Clare Winkler and Ruth Moulton
- Candy HerdaScott in memory of Bill & Gloria Scott
- Jackie Sea in memory of Chuck Sea
- Connie Wenz in memory of Ralph Wenz
- Bert & Carol White in memory of Herbert G. White, Sr.



APRIL LECTIONARY

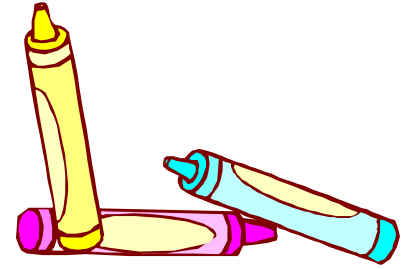
Maundy Thursday April 1, 2010	Exodus 12: 14 [510], 1114	Psalm 116: 12, 1219	I Corinthians 11: 2326	John 13:117, 31b35
Good Friday April 2, 2010	Isaiah 52:13–53:12	Psalm 22	Hebrews 10:1625 or Hebrews 4:1416;5:79	John 18:1–19:42
Holy Saturday April 3, 2010	Job 14:114 or Lamentations 3:19, 1924	Psalm 31:14, 1516	1 Peter 4:18	Matthew 27:5766 or John 19:3842
Easter Sunday April 4, 2010	Acts 10:3443 or Isaiah 65:1725	Psalm 118:12, 1424	1 Corinthians 15:1926 or Acts 10:3443	John 20:118 or Luke 24:112
Second Sunday of Easter April 11	Acts 5:2732	Psalm 118:1429 or Psalm 150	Revelation 1:48	John 20:1931
Third Sunday of Easter April 18	Acts 9:16, (720)	Psalm 30	Revelation 5:1114	John 21:119
Fourth Sunday of Easter April 25	Acts 9:3643	Psalm 23	Revelation 7:917	John 10:2230
Fifth Sunday of Easter May 2	Acts 11:118	Psalm 148	Revelation 21:16	John 13:3135

CHOIR

Choir practices resumed on Sunday morning, February 7th, at 9:30 AM. Like to sing? You're welcome to join and share your talent with others. Questions? Call JJ Huntley at 859-8607.

LITURGICAL COLORS AND THE SEASONS OF THE CHURCH YEAR

The use of colors to differentiate liturgical seasons became a common practice in the Western church in about the fourth century. At first, usages varied considerably but by the 12th century Pope Innocent III systematized the use of five colors: Violet, White, Black, Red and Green. The Lutheran and Anglican churches that emerged from the Reformation retained the traditional colors but they disappeared entirely (along with most other ritual) from the worship of the Reformed churches. During the 20th century, the ecumenical Liturgical Movement prompted the rediscovery of ancient Christian ritual—including the traditional colors of the Western church. To these have been added Blue and Gold—colors that were used in some Western rites before the 12th century.



Briefly, the colors express emotions and ideas that are associated with each of the seasons of the liturgical year. Violet is the ancient royal color and therefore a symbol of the sovereignty of Christ. Violet is also associated with repentance from sin. White and Gold symbolize the brightness of day. Black is the traditional color of mourning in some cultures. Red evokes the color of blood, and therefore is the color of martyrs and of Christ's death on the Cross. Red also symbolizes fire, and therefore is the color of the Holy Spirit. Green is the color of growth. Blue is the color of the sky and in some rites honors Mary.

Congregations in the United Church of Christ have the freedom to use any combination of colors (or no particular colors) as seems best to them. The use of traditional colors, however, connects us to the wider Body of Christ and provides worship planners with visual aids that mark the transition from one season to another. Colors can be used in altar and pulpit decorations, vestments, banners and tapestries.

HOLY WEEK

During Holy Week, the congregation follows the footsteps of Jesus from his entry into Jerusalem (Palm/Passion Sunday) through the Last Supper (Maundy Thursday) to his death on the Cross (Good Friday). Red, the color of blood and therefore of martyrs, is the traditional color for Palm/Passion Sunday and the next three days of Holy Week. On Maundy Thursday, White or Gold symbolizes the church's rejoicing in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. But at the end of the Maundy Thursday celebration, the mood changes abruptly: all decorations are removed and the Holy Table is stripped bare. The church becomes as empty as a tomb. On Good Friday, either Black or Red is customary—although the use of no color at all is also appropriate. The Red of Holy Week is sometimes a deeper red than the brighter scarlet color associated with Pentecost.

EASTER AND PENTECOST

Instead of finding a sealed tomb, the women who had come at dawn on Sunday are surprised by an angel who announces astonishing news: "Jesus has been raised from the dead" (Matt. 28:7). The heavenly messenger invites the mourners to see the empty tomb and then go and tell the disciples that the Crucified One is alive!

The season from Easter to Pentecost is also called the Great Fifty Days, a tradition inspired by the Jewish season of fifty days between Passover and Shavuot—the feast celebrating the giving of the Torah to Moses.

The liturgical color for this season is celebratory White or Gold. When the season ends on Pentecost Sunday, White is replaced with Red. This color reminds the congregation of fire—the symbol of the Holy Spirit. On Pentecost the Holy Spirit overpowered the barriers of culture and race. The first Sunday after Pentecost celebrates the Trinity, and the color again is White or Gold.



A GREAT CELEBRATION

On January 16, 2010, Aubrie Doyle, granddaughter of Jack & Virginia Doyle, and Abby Fear, granddaughter of Randall and Janet Montgomery, were baptized by Reverend White. After many years of being stored away, the old alabaster font was used during the ceremony. The font, which was carved by Jack Doyle's grandfather, Dan Doyle, was originally presented to the church in 1950. The first child baptized using the new font was Dick Doyle - Jack & Virginia's oldest son and Dan's great grandson. Many church families have memories of it being used for their family baptisms.

LET'S CELEBRATE!

These are the special days our church friends are celebrating this month. When you see these folks, please wish them a happy. And, if you haven't given us YOUR special dates yet, please do.

- April 3: Joey & Amy Graham's anniversary
- April 4: Paige Graham's birthday
- April 5: Floyd & Kathryn Briggs' anniversary
- April 8: Debbie McClellan's birthday
- April 11: Cheryl Eatinger's birthday
- April 11: Anthony Goulette's birthday
- April 13: Barb Burrough's birthday
- April 16: Carol White's birthday
- April ??: Julie Konicek's birthday

PHOTOS FROM THE CONFIRMATION RETREAT



RESURRECTION ROLLS AND EASTER

Please plan to gather after worship on Easter Sunday, for a special treat in the Fellowship Hall. Dave and Brenda Doyle are making Resurrection Rolls for us to enjoy. These rolls were a tradition in Dave and Brenda's church at home in Casper, and this year, they are bringing them to us. (It's a secret why they are called "Resurrection Rolls"; but, you'll know as soon as you bite into one!)

PLEASE HELP US!

If you have an article, an item of interest to you, a coming church event that you'd like published, or a poem, saying, whatever you'd like to have noted in the newsletter, please drop it in the basket that is sitting on one of the music stands in the fellowship hall. It would be helpful if you sign each article, so that, in the event of questions, we may contact you. We love to have your contributions, as our "think tanks" sometimes run pretty dry!

Would you like to read scripture some Sunday during worship? Please call Maxine Leckie (8598881) and let her know.

The crib in the Nursery is broken and falls apart when ever it is moved. If you have a crib that you would be willing to donate to the church, it will be gratefully accepted!

JUST A THOUGHT...

"Problems are only opportunities in work clothes."
Henry J. Kaiser



The Back Page

Ministers this month

April 4

Ushers: Ken & Julie Konicek

Nursery: Needed

April 11

Ushers: Gene Andrews

Connie Wenz

Nursery: Julie Konicek

April 18

Ushers: EmmaLee Hecox

Sherry Wilcox

Nursery: Gene Andrews

Connie Wenz

April 25

Ushers: LuAnne Freeman

Cathy Mitchell

Nursery: Still needed

Contact Information for Rev.

Carol B. White:

Church Office 3672528

Cellular 2315818

Home 3673286

Email YHWHpsa@hotmail.com

Winter Office Hours:

Tuesday 1:00pm – 3:00p.m.

Wednesday 1:00pm – 3:00p.m.

Pastor's Days Off:

Friday & Saturday

2010 Church Officers

Moderator Maxine Leckie

Vice Moderator.....Ken Konicek

Secretary.....Cheryl Eatinger

TreasurerJohn Mortensen

Council Members:

Cindy Carlson

Aubrie Doyle

Jack Doyle

Jim Huntley

Debbie McClellan

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