

## Federated Church

### A Place to Belong

April 2025

REV. KENNETH MCKENZIE PASTOR

KEVIN DIXON
ORGANIST &
CHOIR DIRECTOR

LUANNE BROOKS
CHURCH SECRETARY

Points of Interest

Pastor's Letter

Calendar

Choirs

Concert

Holy Week

Diaper Dist.

Easter Flowers

**Blood Drive** 

Rummage Sale

Holy Week will soon be upon us: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Then comes Easter Sunday, a day of great celebration and praise. But these are far more than dates on a calendar, or simple commemorations of stories told long ago, for each reflects a spiritual truth that helps us to understand God's rescue plan for us in Christ.

Palm Sunday points us in the direction of worship and praise. Maundy Thursday draws us to a place of betrayal. Good Friday takes us to a place of loss. Holy Saturday demands our silence. Easter morning is filled with shouts of triumph and proclamation as we share the good news that "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!"

But that's not where the story ends, for the good news of Easter morning continues to change lives. That's where we come in, for as Easter people, our shouts of triumph and proclamation turn to witness and testimony and the building of relationships with those who still need not only to hear but to accept the salvation that is ours in Christ. That's why we still have Pentecost to celebrate in June, for the Holy Spirit that was first unleashed upon the faithful that day continues to inspire and motivate us to join in sharing the good news.

Easter should also remind us that it's not just about Sunday mornings, but that every day of the week holds the same potential to share our testimony, to tell the old, old story, and to lead with the witness of our lives in bringing the gospel to life for those around us.

Having said all that, don't forget that we've got invitations available for our Easter morning worship service, invitations that only work when they're shared with others.

Pastor Ken

#### **Applying Bible Principles**

Jim Elliot, who was martyred in 1956 by the Auca Indians, once described missionaries as "a bunch of nobodies trying to exalt Somebody." That's a great definition, isn't it? In fact, it fits all of us. In one way or another, we're just a bunch of nobodies trying to exalt Somebody.

Chuck Swindoll was trying to emphasize the importance of people who might be nameless in the kingdom, men and women who "with silent heroism and faithful diligence, relinquish the limelight and live in the shade of public figures." And then to illustrate his point, he asked several questions:

- Who taught Martin Luther his theology and inspired his translation of the New Testament?
- Who visited with Dwight L. Moody at a shoe store and spoke to him about Christ?
- Who followed Hudson Taylor and gave the China Inland Mission its remarkable vision and direction?

#### Swindoll concluded,

Had it not been for such unknown persons, a huge chunk of church history would be missing. And a lot of lives would have been untouched...

But don't mistake anonymity for unnecessary. Otherwise, the whole Body gets crippled ... even paralyzed ... or, at best, terribly dizzy as the majority of the members within the Body become diseased with self-pity.

Because of God's foreknowledge and sovereignty, the decision as to who gets publicized and who stays behind the scenes is not ours to make. God's sovereignty explains why we know Luther better than Malanchthon, Moody better than Kimball and Taylor rather than Hoste.

But here's the really great part. According to 1 Samuel 30:24, the one who works in the background shares in the reward just as much as the one who is in the spotlight. The person changing diapers in the nursery shares God's blessings and rewards just as much a worship leader does. Those who tally the offerings will be rewarded as much as those who teach Sunday school. The sound technicians who make it possible for us to hear the preaching of God's Word are as vital in God's sight as the one doing the preaching.

To use Jim Elliot's term, are you a "nobody" in God's kingdom today? Welcome to the club. All of us are. In one way or another, here at The Federated Church, we're just a bunch of nobodies trying to exalt Somebody. May it ever be so.

# April

## 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		9:30 am Coffee, Clergy & Conv. 5:00-7:00 pm Girl Scouts	WIC 9:30 am – 2:00 pm	5:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Choir	4	5
9:30 am Worship Service Communion 10:30 am Coffee hour 11:00 am Bells	7 7:00 Finance Bldgs. & Grds.	9:30 am Coffee, Clergy & Conv. 5:00-7:00 pm Girl Scouts	9	5:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Choir	11	12
9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee hour 11:00 am Bells Palm Sunday	14	9:30 am Coffee, Clergy & Conv. 5:00-7:00 pm Girl Scouts	1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Blood Drive	5:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service	18	19 10:00- Noon Diaper Distribution
9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee hour	7:00 pm Church Council	9:30 am Coffee, Clergy & Conv. 5:00-7:00 pm Girl Scouts	23	5:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Choir	25	26
9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Coffee hour 11:00 am Bells	28	9:30 am Coffee, Clergy & Conv. 5:00-7:00 pm Girls Scouts	30	5:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Choir		

Coffee, Clergy, & Conversation Tuesdays 9:30 – 11:00 AM Join Us!







#### **Easter Flowers**

We will be adorning the sanctuary with plants on Easter Sunday. Please purchase your own plants and if you would like them in memory of a loved-one please let Luanne know by April 10<sup>th</sup> to be in the Easter bulletin.





Community Singers

Annual Spring Concert

Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 7pm

Mt. Markham High School

No Admission

Federated Church
Holy Week Schedule
Palm Sunday Service
April 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am
Maundy Thursday Observation
April 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm
Easter Morning Celebration
April 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am









The Federated Church Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> 1:00 - 6:00 PM





Federated Church's Annual Spring Rummage Sale will be from Thursday May  $15^{\rm th}$  from 5:30 to 7:30 PM, Friday May  $16^{\rm th}$  from 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM and ending on Saturday May  $17^{\rm th}$  from 9:30 AM to noon with a \$3.00 bag sale.

Donations for the sale can be brought to the church starting on Wednesday May 7th THROUGH NOON on Wednesday May 14th. As it takes a lot of time to sort, place and price the items, we will not accept any items after NOON on Wednesday May 14th. All items should be placed in the Fellowship Hall at the rear of the church. As always we appreciate all the donations brought to the church and ask that they be items of Spring/Summer clothing and household items in good condition. If you bring items that are damaged or stained, we cannot put them out for sale and we end up overloading the dumpster and paying additional monies for their disposal. If you have plastic bags and cardboard boxes please bring your items in those and let us reuse the boxes for sending the items home with their new owners.

As always, we will need volunteers, beginning on Monday May 12<sup>th</sup> to sort and arrange items for sale. We will start at approximately 9:30 each morning and work till early afternoon each day prior to the sale starting on Thursday. We also need additional help on Saturday for clean-up and need cashiers for each of the days and evenings we are open. We will be placing calls to those who have helped in the past but please feel free to contact us before if you know you will be available to help.

Not only is this a great fund raiser for the Federated Church but meets a large need in our community for those who come to shop at it each Fall and Spring.

With everyone's help we can make this the huge success again this Spring that is has always been.

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