

April Link

What a Crazy Month

When I wrote my last newsletter, I was just about ready to head out on vacation, over the course while I was away, much started brewing here on the east coast. Namely the Corona virus. This scary pandemic has taken the news media by storm, it has put panic and anxiety in the hearts of the entire planet, and has gone from the “that’s ok, I drink Budweiser” joke of February to the very real, very fierce quarantine yourself for the health of you and your family of today.

God will make good of this, heck, only God could make good of this. He will use this to teach us how to stay healthier, how to be more careful, and how to keep our friends and family safe, by doing simple things. Much like he kept illnesses away from His chosen people with that whole “don’t eat pork” thing. And I’m sure that’s only the beginning of the good God will make of this.

With that said, what are you doing for Palm Sunday? And what about Easter? Easter is a time for self-reflection, to focus more on what Jesus has done for us, and how we can follow Jesus’ example and make sacrifices in our own lives, to help others. It’s not all about the Easter Bunny, lots of candy, and dare I say it, it’s not about dressing up nice and heading off to Church. Those are all nice things, and I don’t discourage any of it, but let’s face it, that’s not what Easter is about!

This year, as you stay home on Palm Sunday and Easter, as you have a quiet, quarantined Easter dinner, take some time to consider what you can do to be more like Jesus. I’m not suggesting die on a cross for someone else’s sins, but maybe there’s something inside of you that can die for someone else, how can you go out of your way this year to help out, and perhaps bring closer to Jesus, one more person than you did last year?

Pray for all those that are involved in the care, treatment and research of ending this pandemic, and plan for a future where we can all come together in the name of Jesus Christ to love and fellowship once again.

Pray daily for all those that are affected, effected and infected!
In the meantime, stay home, stay safe and stay healthy.

Blessings Always
Pastor Mike and Karen Antici

This was posted on Facebook. I thought it was something worth reading. Maybe it will give us the hope and optimism we all need to get through these troubling times. I hope you enjoy it. Re

When this is over,
may we never again
take for granted
A handshake with a stranger
Full shelves at the store
Conversations with neighbors
A crowded theatre
Friday night out
The taste of communion
A routine checkup
The school rush each morning
Coffee with a friend
The stadium roaring
Each deep breath
A boring Tuesday
Life itself.

When this ends,
may we find
that we have become
more like the people
we wanted to be
we were called to be
we hoped to be
and may we stay
that way—better
for each other
because of the worst.

LAURA KELLY FANUCCI

Scriptures for April

April 5: "Shut Hosanna every day!": Mathew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-44

April 12: "The Slow Clap": Mark 16:1-8, John 20:2-10

April 19: "Just the Shirt on Your Back": Matthew 10

April 26: "Found: 1 glass slipper": Luke 15:1-7



April Schedule

April 5 April 12 April 19 April 26	<u>Nursery Care</u> Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	<u>Cleaners</u> Slater Slater Lucas Lucas	<u>Ushers</u> Steven Shaw & Judy McKay Bonnie Slater & Bertha Weih Barbara Sherwin & Shirley Green Barb & Steve Bailey
April 5 April 12 April 19 April 26	<u>Counters</u> Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed Volunteers Needed	<u>Greeters</u> Root Family Volunteer Roberts Family Sandy Slemmer	<u>Coffee Hour</u> Bette Vasko & Ticia Tubman John & Cathy Baum Terri Collins & Barb Sherwin Shelley Bailey
April 5 April 12 April 19 April 26	<u>Lectors</u> Cathy Baum Bonnie Slater Steve Bailey Tom Lucas	<u>Children's Message</u> Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed	
April 5 April 12 April 19 April 26	<u>Lector Readings</u> Mathew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-44 Mark 16:1-8, John 20:2-10 Matthew 10 Luke 15:1-7		

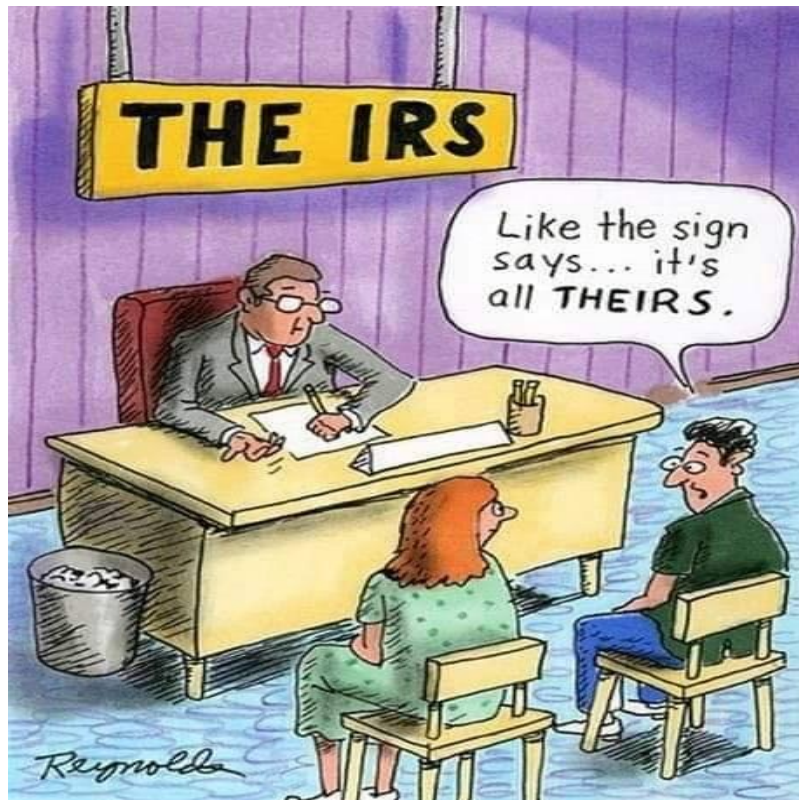


****Because of the COVID-19 virus all meetings and Church Schedules are tentative. Please call or email me to confirm.**

April

<u>SUN.</u>	<u>MON.</u>	<u>TUES.</u>	<u>WED.</u>	<u>THUS.</u>	<u>FRI.</u>	<u>SAT.</u>
			1	2 2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA	3	4
5 10:00AM Worship Service with Holy Communion 	6	7 10:00AM Bible Study 7:00PM Trustees Meeting 8:00PM AA	8	9 6:45PM AA	10	11
12 Easter Sunday 10:00AM Worship Service 	13 6:00 – 8:00PM Food Bank	14 10:00AM Bible Study 7:00PM Admin./Finance Meeting 8:00PM AA	15	16 2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA	17	18
19 10:00AM Worship Service	20	21 10:00AM Bible Study 7:00PM SPRC ? 8:00PM AA	22	23 6:45PM AA	24	25
26 10:00AM Worship Service	27 6:00 – 8:00PM Food Bank	28 10:00AM Bible Study 8:00PM AA	29	30 2:00 – 4:00PM Food Bank 6:45PM AA		

Church Humor:



Recently a large seminar was held for ministers in training. Among the guests were many well-known motivational speakers. One such boldly approached the pulpit and, gathering the entire crowd's attention, said, "The best years of my life were spent in the arms of a woman that wasn't my wife!" The crowd was shocked! He followed up by saying, "And that woman was my mother!" The crowd burst into laughter and he gave his speech, which went over well.

About a week later one of the assistant ministers who had attended the seminar decided to use that joke in what was his first sermon to the congregation. As he shyly approached the pulpit one Sunday, he tried to rehearse the joke in his head. He was notably very nervous and getting to the microphone he said loudly, "The greatest years of my life were spent in the arms of another woman that was not my wife!" His congregation sat shocked.

After standing there for almost 10 seconds the pastor finally blurted out, "...and I can't remember who she was!"

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The Bathtub Test

During a visit to the mental asylum, I asked the director how do you determine whether or not a patient should be institutionalized.

“Well”, said the director, “we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub...”

“Oh, I understand,” I said. “A normal person would use the bucket because it’s bigger than the spoon or the teacup.”

“No” said the director, “A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?”

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I was on a long line at 7:45 am today at the grocery store that opened at 8 for seniors only. A young man came from the parking lot and tried to cut in at the front of the line, but an old lady beat him back into the parking lot with her cane.

He returned and tried to cut in again, but an old man punched him in the gut, then kicked him to the ground and rolled him away.

As he approached the line for the 3rd time he said, “If you don’t let me unlock the door, you’ll never get in there.”

April Announcements

Because of the uncertainties with the Corona Virus the Church has decided not to have the Bean Hole Supper in May.

Church office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00AM to Noon.

Pastor Mike has office hours on Sunday from 12:30PM to 3:30PM or by appointment.

Church contact info:

Visit us online at: pleasantvalleyumc.com

Church Office: 860-379-2157

Church Kitchen and Food Bank: 860-379-0346

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Pastor Mike’s phone number: 203-997-5069