



TIDINGS

First Presbyterian Church



It Takes Grace...

IT TAKES GRACE...

"God has made everything beautiful for its own time.

He has planted eternity in the human heart..."

[Ecclesiastes 3:11]

If you do much traveling, you know that a good GPS is helpful in getting from one place to another. I appreciate our TomTom on long trips even when I think I know where I'm going. It's always nice to know just how far it is to the next exit or rest stop.

Now, take that sophisticated technology and compare it to birds. Yes...birds. Did you know there are some pretty amazing birds God created that have a phenomenal internal homing instinct more sophisticated than the latest GPS technology.

I read about the Manx Shearwater. These birds live off the coast of Wales. They have an unbelievable homing instinct. Some have been electronically

tagged and released at different points around the world, testing to see just how good that instinct really is. One was released in Boston (3200 miles from home). In less than two weeks, that bird returned to its original nest from a place it had never been before.

How about the Golden Plover – native to Hawaii? It migrates during the summer to the Aleutian Islands, which extend from the Alaskan Peninsula to Russia. Once there, they spend the summer mating and laying eggs. Then the Plovers return to Hawaii, leaving the chicks behind. After they've grown a bit, those fledglings make the 1200-mile journey on their own to Hawaii, a place they have never been before, to the correct family they were hatched to!

I believe, in a God-given way, we humans have a homing instinct, too. Something in us, wooing us, drawing us, to heaven. God has in effect wired us this way. The Bible says that God has "set eternity in our

hearts."

Just like the birds of Wales and Hawaii, we have this built-in GPS. We would be wise to follow that instinct. As we celebrate the resurrection of Christ Jesus on Easter, be reminded of exactly why we are celebrating. We would not be in a position to even consider heaven if our Lord had not come to us, died in our place, and then rose from death to offer the invitation to be there eternally.

God's love is steadfast. Christ's death and resurrection is sufficient. And the Holy Spirit will lead us home...all of us who choose not to fly off on our own in another direction. GPS – God's Plan of Salvation!

Hallelujah! Amen!

RevLon

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

SCHEDULE...

Sunday, March 29:

10:15AM Palm Sunday Celebration Worship

Wednesday, April 1:

5:15PM Fellowship Dinner

6:00PM Children & Youth Programs

Adult Bible Study (Final Words of Christ)

7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 2:

7:00PM Maundy Thursday Communion Worship

Friday, April 3:

Good Friday 24-Hour Prayer Vigil (ongoing in sanctuary)

Sunday, April 5:

7:00AM SonRise Worship in Chapel

9:00AM Easter Breakfast in Gym

Kids' Egg Hunt following

10:15AM Resurrection Celebration in sanctuary

Choir Cantata with Communion

THE GREAT BANQUET SEASON IS UPON US!

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Please keep the folks involved – guests and team members – in prayer as the Banquets continue through this month and into May:

April 16-19: Men's Great Banquet #166

April 23-26: Green River Correctional Center #10

April 30-May 3: Women's Great Banquet #167

May 8-9: West Kentucky Correctional Center #14

May 14-17: Women's Great Banquet #168

JESUS CALLING

I speak to you from the depths of your being. Hear Me saying soothing words of Peace, assuring you of My Love. Do not listen to voices of accusation, for they are not from Me. I speak to you in love-tones, lifting you up. My Spirit convicts cleanly, without crushing words of shame. Let the Spirit take charge of your mind, combing out tangles of deception. Be transformed by the truth that I live within you.

The Light of My Presence is shining upon you, in benedictions of Peace. Let My Light shine in you; don't dim it with worries or fears. Holiness is letting Me live through you. Since I dwell in you, you are fully equipped to be holy. Pause before responding to people or situations, giving My Spirit space to act through you. Hasty words and actions leave no room for Me; this is atheistic

living. I want to inhabit all your moments - gracing your thoughts, words, and behavior.

"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:1-2

"To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." Colossians 1:27

"Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own." 1 Corinthians 6:19

I've borrowed the above from a devotional book that Denise and I read daily called "Jesus Calling, Enjoying Peace in His

Presence" by Sarah Young. It spoke peace and purpose into our day and we wanted to pass it along to you. How do you spend your days and your moments within those days? I know life can become hectic and frantic but I also know that there is peace in the midst of all things with Jesus. As we celebrate and remember that peace Jesus gave us through His life, death and resurrection let's not forget that He not only took away our sins but that He gave us all of Himself and He never lets go! God is so good, all the time! And all the time, God is so good!!

In Christ's Love,

Rob

Romans 12

HOLY HILARITY SUNDAY—APRIL 12!!!

Did you hear the one about....Satan thinking he had won the battle against God and Jesus? Read 1 Corinthians 15:55, then laugh yourself into the arms of God!

We're continuing the tradition of celebrating the Sunday after Easter with Holy Hilarity! After all, Jesus is alive...God wins... and because of that, we get love and forgiveness and grace and a place in the family!!

It began with the early Greek Christians observing the week following Easter as "days of joy and laughter," with partying, picnics, and light-hearted pranks to cele-

brate Jesus' resurrection and the total defeat of Satan.

It got boiled down over the centuries to one day, the Sunday after Easter...a time for story-telling, joke-telling, light music, and "fun in the pews and the pulpit," according to St. Augustine.

One 16th Century theologian wrote, "Giving thanks to God is a good and joyful task, to be done with smiles on our faces and laughter in our hearts; for it is God who created us as creatures of mirth and joy...the God who helped us overcome the gloominess in our own lives."

Jurgen Moltmann wrote, "Bright Sunday is the laughing of the redeemed and the dancing of the liberated."

Steve Brown has said, "Christ is risen! Smile!"

Here is how you can help: Search your files and find at least one really good, really clean, and really funny joke pertaining to everyday life or life within the church family. E.mail it to RevLon at

revlon42431@yahoo.com

ON THE INSIDE

There are times that I think: I plow the field, plant the seed, and others gather the grain; I tend the vineyard and others press the grapes; and I do all the work and others enjoy the riches. I sit dazed and confused; however, I'm not listening to Led Zeppelin. I feel like the elder son without a fattened calf, working in the field while my brother is having a party with his friends. I'm busy doing the Lord's work. Work, work, work.

The religious Jews of Jesus' day had more than just the Law of Moses to keep; they also had centuries of customs, traditions, and rabbinical commandments to observe ([Mark 7:3-4](#)).

The only religion they knew was one of works, and they wondered what new works might be required by the teachings of Jesus. Imagine, then, their surprise at the Lord's wonderfully simple reply: "This is the work of God; that you believe on him whom he has sent" (John 6:29).

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever ([Heb. 13:8](#)). In this time of non-stop activity, careers, mission trips, conferences, and programs, believing on Him is still the only work we are required to do. Believing *on* Jesus is different from believing *in* Jesus ([Jas. 2:19-20](#)). Much more than mental consent to the truth

of the Gospel, it is a relationship of complete surrender and trust that we live out every day. As we do so, the Holy Spirit will guide us into the paths of God's will so that He can do His works through us ([Eph 2:10](#)). Since these works are His and not ours, we have nothing to trust in for our righteousness - nothing except the finished work of the Son of God, both now and for eternity ([Gal 2:20](#)).

Please pray that both you and I, especially I, can stay focused on believing on Christ Jesus so we are doing His work and not ours. To Him give the Glory and Honor. Amen.

On the Inside, Pete

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

3rd	Darrell & Bev Engelhardt (A)	Phyllis Klym	
4th	Michael Skultety	23rd	Patsy Sutton
5th	Dan Martin	26th	Mary George Peyton
	Kendrick Nuttall	27th	Caitlyn Perryman
6th	Aimee Goodwin	28th	David & Alisa Betts (A)
7th	Anna Leasure		Michael Hunt
10th	Doug & Suzanne Henley (A)		Reed Tabor
	Laura Ken Hoffman		Olivia Thomas
14th	Erin Winstead	29th	Gavin Ricketts
15th	Mike Agin	30th	Russell & Susan Fischels (A)
18th	Dale & Sharon Davis (A)		
21st	Darrell Engelhardt		



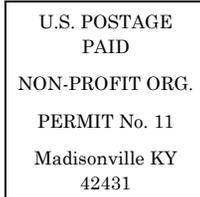
APRIL 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1 5:15 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	2  MAUNDY THURSDAY	3 Good Friday Prayer Vigil	4	
5  EASTER	6 9:30 Norma Siria Circle 7PM GB Team Mtgs	7 7PM Session Mtg	8 Spring Break—No Activities			10	11
12	13 7PM GB Team Mtgs	14	15 5:15 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	16  HOLOCAUST	17 Men's GB #166	18	
19	20 7PM GB Team Mtgs	21	22 5:15 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	23	24 Green River Great Banquet #10	25	
26 → →	27 7PM GB Team Mtgs	28	29 5:15 Fellowship Meal 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	30	Women's GB #167	→	

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