The terrible events of that first Holy Week inevitably provoke the question: What happened to the Palm Sunday crowd? There they were, crying “Hosanna!” and cutting branches and spreading out their own clothing to cushion Jesus’ ride down the Mount of Olives... and five days later they were shouting for his crucifixion.

What could have turned them in so short a time?

The traditional explanation is that the crowd expected Jesus to lead a revolution and throw off the yoke of Roman oppression that made 90% of all the Empire’s subjects technically slaves. And when he failed to do that...they turned on their hero and demanded his death.

Certainly, there is an element of truth in that; we need think no farther than Peter’s boast at the Last Supper: “Lord, even if all the others desert you, I’m ready to go with you to the death.” Peter clearly meant it...at first. When Judas came with the little band of soldiers to arrest Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, it was Peter who whipped out his sword, and swung it at the first person he could get to (Malchus, the High Priest’s servant), cutting off his ear in the process.

Peter put his life on the line. He truly was willing to go with Christ to the death. Until Jesus said, “Put away your sword, Peter; there isn’t going to be a fight tonight.” And moments later Peter was denying he even knew this man when questioned about it by someone no more threatening than a servant girl.

There had to be disappointment in the crowd, as well.

But was it enough to explain its going from adulation on Sunday to demanding execution on Friday?

We need to remember there were two entirely different constituencies surrounding Jesus. Mark tells us, “the common people heard Jesus gladly” (10:37), while the Pharisaic party was his bitter enemy - and it had been seeking his death nearly from the beginning.

It was to them that Judas turned when he betrayed Jesus.

Paul Maier writes that on Good Friday morning, “the shouting multitude in front of Pilate’s tribunal consisted primarily of the priest-controlled Temple staff – their police alone numbered 10,000.”

The irony of Holy Week is not the fickleness of a disappointed Palm Sunday crowd, but the triumph of power politics protecting a religious establishment determined to destroy its own Messiah. And the wonder of the Gospel is that the Man at the center of this drama rode into Jerusalem knowing that the salvation people were begging for would come only at the cost of his own betrayal, abandonment, false accusations, lying witnesses, corrupt verdict, mocking, scourging, and unimaginably excruciating crucifixion. And he came willingly.
And yet, there is disappointment at Jesus. It occurs every time he turns out to be other than we had hoped. Or expected. Or prayed. Every time he is other than our expectation.

Have you ever thought about the word “disappointed”? It means we thought something was “appointed” – that is, meant to be – but it wasn’t.

And the question is then, how will we respond to that disappointment? Will we renew our confidence that “his thoughts are higher than our thoughts” (Isaiah 55:9), and his ways better than our own? Or will we be “offended,” and “grumble” as the ancient Israelites were so wont to do?

This Holy Week let us ponder the fact that Jesus is often other than we imagine or hope he will be. And always better.

My love to you in him,

[Signature]
After Jesus had spent a night in prayer, he selected the men that would become his disciples. When you read about the men and their encounters along the way with Jesus, maybe you wonder why did he choose the guys he did. They quarreled over who would be the greatest in heaven, at times they misunderstood his teachings, they feared and doubted when presented with obstacles, they even turned and ran and hid when he was being led away to be crucified. And yet...something amazing transpires between the Gospels and the book of Acts. In Acts, these same men boldly proclaim the name of Christ spreading the gospel, performing miracles, and healing the sick. They no longer questioned who would be the greatest in heaven. Their new desire was to fill heaven with souls. What happened? What brought about such a drastic change? In Acts 2 the Holy Spirit fills the room where the disciples are gathered praying. As the Holy Spirit fills each one, the mission that may have seemed impossible to the disciples, "Be my witness in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth", suddenly becomes possible. The disciples leave that room changed men and begin setting the world on fire with their passionate message of salvation.

The mission continues today. We have been called to reach our communities, our state, our nation and the world with the Gospel. In our own power, this is an impossible mission. But when the Holy Spirit fills you, you too will find God's power to go and spread his message of hope. This month we begin Missions Week with a lot of special speakers, events, and activities. As you plan to attend that week, pray that God will show you how you can be involved in his mission. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you and to give you a boldness. Consider serving in one of the many missions our church is involved in, or joining us as we go back out this summer to our Navajo Nation mission. God wants to fill you, God wants to change you, God wants to use you.

Other ways God can use you to help spread his message of hope:

- Attend Mission Week...be sure to check out this month’s article on Missions Week.
- Looking for a way to love your neighbors? Home Helps is just around the corner. Check out this month’s article on Home Helps.
- There are exciting things taking place in youth and children's ministry. They would love to have you volunteer to be a part of what God is doing in the lives of our young people. Be sure to see Mandy's and John's articles this month.
- Dick Gullickson has a need for individuals to bake cookies for the Kairos prison ministry. Talk to Dick about helping to provide cookies to those he ministers to.
- Want to share your faith but not sure where to start? Take the Evangelism Explosion class being offered Wednesday nights in May at the church. Class begins May 8 and runs through the 29th.

MOST RICHL Y BLESSED
During the sermon I preached on prayer, I read a poem by a civil war soldier titled "Most Richly Blessed". Many came to me after the sermon asking if they could have a copy of the poem. We have printed it here.

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve.
I was made weak,
that I might learn humbly to obey.
I asked for health, that I might do greater things.
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.
I asked for riches, that I might be happy.
I was given poverty, that I might be wise.
I asked for power,
that I might have the praise of men.
I was given weakness,
that I might feel the need of God.
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life.
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.
I got nothing that I asked for
but got everything I had hoped for.
Almost despite myself,
my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am, among all people, most richly blessed.
First and foremost, Happy Easter to everyone. Christ is risen, Hallelujah!

I hope you all take the opportunity this month, as a family, to sit and reflect on what Christ did for us on the cross and what his resurrection means for those who call on Jesus as Lord and Savior. With all that's going on in Youth Group and Children's Church, this is an excellent time and opportunity to put a lot of the pieces together regarding the work of Jesus Christ. How does it impact not only our lives eternally, but how should it impact each and every day we live in Christ? Perhaps over the week of April 9th-16th, what we call Holy Week, read Mark 11-16 as a family for nightly devotionals. It’s the most glorious true story ever told and should be read as such (Deuteronomy 6:4-7).

Two years ago, we introduced a systematic way to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ: 1:1:1. One church service, one small group, and one outreach. I pray that you are taking the steps to keep a healthy balance spiritually through this idea. Does this perhaps call for a reorientation of time and priorities in the household and family? Perhaps...probably...good! The call to discipleship does not say, “Sweet, I've got Jesus, I’m Good. Now I can go about my life.” The call to be his includes redirecting the heart, and therefore our lives, to His service. Does this mean we’re all to be missionaries, pastors, Evangelists?...Well, in the context of our vocation, yes. Teachers are missionaries, pastors, evangelists. Businessmen and women are missionaries, pastors, evangelists. Mechanics are missionaries, pastors, evangelists. Fathers are missionaries, pastors, evangelists. Mothers are missionaries, pastors, evangelists. I think you get the idea.

Two ways to incorporate small groups into your life are to be a part of our Wednesday night adult groups, (MOMSNext and Intentional), and/or our Sunday morning group (Starting Point). Diane Rivenburg and Barbara Doman do a wonderful job preparing dinner on Wednesday Nights at 6:00 p.m., and Diane prepares a light breakfast for Starting Point. Yes, please thank Diane and Barbara when you see them around church.

Incorporating a small group/Sunday school may take a little effort to work into the family, but I know you will be blessed by sharing your faith and experiences with others in the same walk of life. I hope to see you at one of these groups soon. #sundayschooliscool

Enthusiastically His,
The Visitation & Shepherds Ministries are looking for additional members to join Minister Lemay in outreach visitation. If you would like more information about either ministry, please contact Mike Lemay, mike@lowchurch.org or 540-972-9060 x 110.

To Everything There is A Season –
A service of remembering our loved ones who have gone to their eternal rest.

Honor your loved one during our annual candlelight remembrance service, which will be held Saturday April 13, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. If you have a loved one who has passed within the last three years, you are invited to participate in this year’s service by sending a photo of your loved one to Mike Lemay. Please write the name of the person you are honoring on the back.

For more information contact:
Carol Twedt carol@twedt.org
Mike Lemay mike@lowchurch.org

Walk with Hope – a cancer support group for women that meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. in the Charter Room. For more information about the group, contact Suzanne Lentine by email sslentine@gmail.com, or call Minister Mike Lemay 540-972-9060 x 110.

Our Journey of Hope® Cancer Care Ministry is now offered by The Lake of the Woods Church. This program helps cancer patients and their families spiritually in the fight against cancer and is based on the Our Journey of Hope spiritual outreach program sponsored by Cancer Treatment Centers of America® (CTCA).

Dealing with an age related illness?
The church has many resources available:
• Dementia / Alzheimer’s
• Cancer & Treatments
• Hard Choices for Loving People
• Making the most of healthcare
• A Guide to Better Understanding Diabetes

Contact Minister Mike Lemay for these resources.
Jesus give news life. Spring is here and we rejoice in new life and this beautiful time of new life that Jesus has given us. The children have been learning The Lords Prayer and how they can use it in their lives today. We are rejoicing in the Lord and giving thanks for all he has done and continues to do for us. We are learning how to praise him and thank him for his many blessings.

Vacation Bible School 2019 July 22-26
We are looking for volunteers. Planning has started for our 2019 VBS. If you are interested in helping out with VBS this year please contact Mandy Robinson at mandy.robinson@lowchurch.org

Wednesday Night Kids Club Dinner
6:00 p.m.
Kids Club Activities
6:30 p.m.

April Children’s Ministry Events
April 14th Lunch and Egg Hunt
April 21st Easter Sunday
NO 11:00 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL
Celebrate with your family

Children’s Musical July 1st - 7th 2019
The Rock Slinger and His Greatest Hit!
More information & Registration coming soon!

Sunday School Teachers Needed!
in the Children’s Ministry
Speak with Mandy Robinson for more information
With the arrival of Spring and the end of the school year approaching fast, the children are happy to be outdoors, running around and releasing all that pent up Winter energy!

The Child Care Center will be open for Spring Break, April 1st – 5th.

Our summer program begins on Tuesday, May 28th. We will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Summer Program is currently full for our Preschool and School-age Programs, however we will maintain a wait list. We are planning and anticipating a very busy summer. Orange County Schools will be returning to school on Monday August 12th this year.

For more information about our program please contact Belinda at 540-972-2349 or visit us on our website at www.lowchurch.org, click on “Ministries” and then click on “Child Care Center.”
Dear Church Family,

Last year our Hunger Run raised over $3,000 for youth missions. Did you know that this covered our food costs for feeding dinner to the Navajo Community of Smith Lake each evening of our missions trip? Let’s do it again this year! As we teach the people to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, the promise of having their basic needs met by a loving Heavenly Father surely applies. Isn’t it amazing that our great big God would use little ole’ us to fulfill this promise to the Navajo people?

Jesus came to seek and to save the lost, (Luke 19:10) and His mission has not changed. As we go in obedience to fulfill the Great Commission, our greatest example of how to do it is the Lord! Jesus made a habit of dining with sinners. Jesus made a habit of feeding the multitudes. Jesus made a habit of breaking bread with those he was leading and teaching. Similarly, when we feed the people on the reservation, we are expressing love. We are breaking down barriers. We are building trust and forming relationships. We are building those necessary bridges into their lives to create an opportunity to share the Good News of the Gospel. Can you get involved in this mission to feed the people?

Join us on April 27th! The Seek & Save 5K/1M Hunger Run has something for you! You can walk, run, greet, cheer, staff a station, pass out water, or even sponsor a teen missionary. All proceeds from this event will go to feed the hungry of Navajo Nation!

God bless,

John

April 3rd We will have Youth Group as usual during Spring Break as we observe the season of Lent.

April 7th Monthly leader meeting 12:15-1:45 p.m. in the Koinonia Café (Lunch Provided)

April 10- April 24th Missions Letter Writing Our teen missionaries are training and preparing to hit the mission field this summer. Would you like to support a specific teen missionary with your prayers and finances? Send a quick email to john@lowchurch.org to express interest, and I will establish contact between you and your teen missionary. You will receive updates from the field and be recognized at the “Go Ye Therefore” Banquet this Fall for your support.

April 17th Teen Missions Training will take place during Wednesday Night Youth group. This training is a requirement for teens who plan to do mission work this summer. Teen missionaries will have dinner at 6:00pm and will finish by 8:00pm as usual. Mission Trainings will take place on the second Wednesday of each month.

April 21st Higher Grounds will not meet - Please attend Easter Service with friends or family. Happy Easter!

April 27th Seek & Save Hunger Run 5K/1M Visit the church website to sign up as walker, runner, or volunteer. Teens will be available in the Gathering Place on Sunday mornings to help you get involved. This event is rain or shine. Come out and participate in the Seek & Save 5K/1M Hunger Run and be blessed!

*Save the Date: September 30th - Annual Youth Missions Benefit Golf Tournament at Fawn Lake Country Club
Mission Partner of the Month

India National Inland Mission

By David Blackistone

I asked Ajay Pillai for prayer needs for India National Inland Mission, INIM. Ajay is the director of that ministry and was our Mission Sunday speaker last year. He replied by first listing five praises for what God has done, then mentioning their needs. What a model for our own prayers!

INIM was founded 55 years ago by Ajay’s father, Dr. Paul Pillai.

The motto of this ministry:
Bringing souls to Christ
Training souls in Christ
Sending souls for Christ

INIM’s primary focus is evangelism and church planting, but many other ministries have been birthed out of this effort. It is actively involved in orphanages, Grace Bible College, mission school, Bible and Christian literature distribution, feeding centers, medical missions, prison ministry and more. They are primarily in India and neighboring countries of South Asia Bhutan, Nepal and Burma/Myanmar. The Mission has trained and commissioned over 6,500 missionaries that have planted about 15,000 churches mainly in South Asia.

In 1996 Dr. Paul Pillai spoke at Timberlake Baptist Church. Rev. Jerry Falwell heard him speak and offered a scholarship to his son, Ajay, to Liberty College. Ajay went to Liberty College and met his future wife, Heather. They now have five children (Joel 15, Joshua 12, Josiah 10, Jonathan 8 and Joy 5) and live in Forest, VA. Today Ajay is the face of INIM in America and the director of this ministry.

Please pray for this vibrant ministry.
• Start with praises - for the ongoing fruitful work with Afghani Refugees, for the weekly feedings of almost 1,000 slum children between ages of 4 through 15, for the thriving ministries at Bethesda Children’s Home Network and for the 27 new weekly Discipleship groups.
• The Banjara people group is a nomadic Hindu tribe that is scorned and marginalized by most of Indian Society. Pray for continuing outreach to this group.
• A dozen church buildings have been demolished by anti-Christian groups and now are being rebuilt. Pray that God will use this as another opportunity to extend grace and forgiveness.
• New converts from Hindus and Muslims often face tremendous ostracization from their own families and village communities. Pray for their strength and reconciliation.
• The Nationalist government of India has encouraged persecution against all Christian outreaches. Pray for safety from persecution and boldness in proclaiming the Gospel.

Prayer for Missions

Our Father and our God: We remember the multitudes in India who have not yet experienced the saving power of Christ, and we give you thanks for all those who are bringing the Gospel to them. We especially pray for our partners this month, that through their efforts many may come to know, love and worship you through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Come to learn, enjoy and support!

This song title is our theme for Mission Week this year. *People need the Lord*! Poor, hungry, hurting people who are unaware of the Christian message need the Lord. But also people around us, living empty, performance-based lives. These revelations drew Steve Green to this song 35 years ago, and they are relevant today.

Steve Green will be our featured speaker on Mission Sunday, May 5th and will present a concert in the Worship Center on Friday night, May 3rd. The concert will be sponsored by the Living Water Community Clinic.

These events will conclude a full, exciting Mission Week.

Mission week begins on Saturday, April 27, in the morning with a 5k/1 mile Race/Walk sponsored by the Youth Ministry and our first International Dinner that night. The menu will feature dishes from Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Navajo Nation. Friendship Hall will be festively decorated and filled with international music, and you can see the large wall listing that lists the unreached people groups who have never heard the good news of Christ. The dinner will start at 6:00 p.m. Tickets cost $15 for adults, $10 for children ages 5 – 12, and younger children are free. Proceeds will be used for the mission trip to Navajo Nation this summer. Tickets are on sale every Sunday in the Gathering Place. Don’t miss this interesting and fun-filled evening.

During the week five missionaries will visit to speak to five Bible studies or small groups. Wednesday night, May 1, will be movie night, and we will show “The Letters”, the untold story of Mother Teresa and the “Missionaries of Charity”. It follows her life from her call from God to be a missionary to the end of her life. There are many great quotes, thoughts, and testimonies throughout the film that will make you stop and reflect. The program will start at 6:30 p.m.

Steve Green is the son of missionary parents and was raised in South America. He worked with other Christian music groups in his early 20’s and in 1984, he established Steve Green Ministries. Throughout his years of ministry, Steve has been honored with 4 Grammy nominations, 18 number one songs, 7 Dove Awards, and has been inducted into the Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame. With over 40 recordings to his credit, including children’s projects and Spanish-language albums, he has sold over 3 million albums worldwide.
Martha and Vincent Sukites Celebrate 9 Years Leading the Good News Clubs
By Dick Gullickson

Martha and Vincent Sukites have devoted their entire lives to bringing spiritual leadership to children. For the last 9 years they have led Good News Clubs in the Orange County School system. Currently the Good News Clubs in the Locust Grove Primary and Elementary Schools are an important mission supported by The Lake of the Woods Church. Martha and Vinny have been highly effective ministry stewards providing loving guidance and direction to teachers and the children enrolled in the program.

The Good News Clubs are a ministry of the in Child Evangelism Fellowship International, that has brought the Word of God to boys and girls around the world for more than eight decades. Our LOWC Good News Clubs meet weekly to present a Bible lesson, share songs, stories, snacks, and play games to illustrate the essentials of a Christian life.

Martha credits a Bible club at her church in Brooklyn, NY for helping her adjust to the new city when she was nine years old. The inspiration and education she received resulted in her lifetime commitment to bringing the same good news to other children. Martha and Vinny have led youth programs in positions of leadership at a variety of churches throughout their lives. Martha comments that they have tried to follow the direction of Jesus in Matthew 19:13-14 to “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

When Martha and Vinny arrived at Lake of the Woods in 1991 and joined LOWC, they taught Sunday School, led youth programs, and in 2010 became Ministry Stewards for the Good News Clubs. They have especially enjoyed helping to train many of our youth to serve as Good News teachers, several of whom became strong youth leaders as teenagers and young adults. In addition to their leadership of the Good News Clubs they have served our community in many other capacities. Martha is the founding Regent of the DAR chapter at Lake of the Woods, and Vinny, an Army veteran, is a past president of the LOW Lions. He also was the chairman of the Mary Washington Hospital Sunshine committee for many years.

This amazing couple has made a huge impact on our church, our youth and our community. We have all benefited from their willingness to commit their time and talent to such important programs. Please take the opportunity to thank Martha and Vinny for their years of dedicated service to our church and our community.

Martha and Vinny are grateful for the strong leadership of Alison Merrell who has been selected to be the new Ministry Steward of our Good News Clubs. She’s a strong leader who will carry on the loving dedication of Martha and Vinny in serving our children. If you would like to join our Good News Club teams, please contact Alison Merrell at alisonsmerrell@gmail.com or at (540) 412-6800 for more information.
Home Helps Weekend

“And the King will answer them, ‘...inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it unto me.’” (Mt 25:40)

Why Home Helps? To obey, to honor, to serve our King. To put our love for him into action. The Home Helps Ministry sponsors two mission weekends each year, providing home repairs, yard clean-up and other services to home owners who have physical or financial limitations. Last spring a team of our youth cleaned the yard of a single woman who had just had an automobile accident. She wrote, “I can’t tell you how blessed I am to have your services...I was a mess that day and I needed the group prayer with the family...it gave me comfort and hope.” They came to rake, they gave hope.

Our next Home Helps mission weekend will be held on May 10 and 11. The format is similar to previous years. We will meet at the church at 8:15 on that Friday and Saturday to pray and divide into teams. Teams of 2 – 6 people will proceed to homes to clean, repair, rake, paint, build, install, whatever is needed, and to listen and share! Teams will return to the church for lunch and to share the morning’s experiences. Afternoon work should end by 4:30 p.m. Are you willing to serve, not knowing how God will use that act?

Registration will be held in the Gathering Place on April 7th and 14th, or you may register at the Community Mission kiosk.

Identifying home owners who need help is not always easy. If you know someone who needs help with home projects please contact Dave Blackistone, 540-972-3555 or dblackistone1@verizon.net. The ministry will pay for all materials used.

“No, Peter Cottontail was not an apostle!”
04/01 Newt Wilson  
04/01 Faith Quiroga  
04/02 Richard Tatum  
04/03 Diane Sellers  
04/04 Joyce Hardman  
04/04 Mike Phillips  
04/05 Lauren Neely  
04/06 Helen E. Desarmeaux  
04/08 Thomas Harris  
04/09 Cindy Quattlebaum  
04/09 Bruce Boyd  
04/10 Sarah Gaskill  
04/10 Terry Hoffman  
04/11 Wilma Hood  
04/12 James Milligan  
04/12 Gary Loeffler  
04/13 Debbie McInnis  
04/13 Dave Bogozi  
04/14 Helga Birdsong  
04/14 John Moore  
04/15 Jenn Hughes  
04/15 Sarah Rawls  
04/15 Christa Stine  
04/15 Jerry Garegnani  
04/16 Connie Chapin  
04/16 Chris Melcho  
04/16 Gia Heffernan  
04/16 Wesley Seaman  
04/16 Nancy Gibson  
04/16 Mary Berger  
04/17 Linda Sipe  
04/17 Gwen Fournet  
04/18 Tom Collins  
04/19 Carol Bohrer  
04/20 Harry Brown  
04/20 Bobbie Hanes  
04/21 Tassie Jackson  
04/21 Shannon Smith  
04/21 Ruth Rayne  
04/22 Matt Bernd  
04/22 Sam Graves  
04/24 Jean Taylor  
04/24 Heath Austin  
04/24 Jean McLallen  
04/24 Dundee McManis  
04/25 Kathy Pellegrin  
04/25 Pete Smith  
04/27 Noah Rakes  
04/27 Charles Mincey  
04/27 John McCalla  
04/27 Dick Gullickson  
04/27 Karen Howe  
04/28 Betty Wilson  
04/28 Becky Sitnik  
04/28 Brad Stine  
04/29 Lois Frohnet  
04/29 Connie Smith  
04/30 George Duffy  
04/30 Pat Gechei  

Happy Anniversary

04/02 Gene & Melissa Daly  
04/04 Warren & Sally Reder  
04/06 Doug & Brenda Rogers  
04/06 Doug & Patti Wheeler  
04/08 Gordon & Roberta Klooster  
04/09 Laird & Laurie Knights  
04/10 John & Gayla Gamble  
04/10 Bill & Sharon Cole  
04/16 Pete & Connie Smith  
04/17 Adam & Johanna Colson  
04/19 Phil & Debbie Harris  
04/20 Joseph & Janine Wilson  
04/20 Joseph & Janine Wilson  
04/22 Eugene & Rebecca Slagle  
04/22 David & Vicki O’Hara  
04/24 Jack & Susan Gill  
04/26 Steve & Suzanne Roberts

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)
Fools for Christ

April Fools’ Day isn’t a religious holiday, though it may date to Pope Gregory XIII and his new calendar. In 1582, he shifted New Year’s Day from April to January, and people who didn’t believe the change were called April fools.

April Fools’ Day may also be connected to the lightheartedness that comes with warmer weather, as well as to medieval Christian festivals that involved pranks, disguises and a temporarily inverted social order.

Yet, in Scripture, such reversal characterizes the kingdom of God. In 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, St. Paul writes that the gospel seems foolish to people who don’t know Christ, that God uses the “foolishness of our proclamation” to offer salvation to all and that God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Jesus “foolishly” inverted the social order, saying the last will be first and the first, last.

So if on April 1 — and every day — we live as “fools for Christ,” we’re precisely what he calls us to be!

Spring Programs
By Julie Phend, Member

Women’s Guild of Lake of the Woods Church has big plans for spring.

Here’s what’s coming up:

April 4: During the Middle Ages, people relied on exquisitely illustrated Bestiaries to explain the world of nature. Because Christian faith permeated every area of life, many of the bestiary creatures had moral lessons to teach God’s people. On April 4, The Rev. Karen Howe will treat us to an illustrated presentation on the medieval bestiary and the Book of Kells (Ireland’s most treasured relic.)

April 18: Jan Crouthamel will talk about Victory 1:27, an organization that provides food, shelter, and education to children and families in need in Uganda.

May 2: We’ll be having a big birthday party to celebrate the Women’s Guild, which has been providing friendship, fellowship and spiritual guidance for forty years!

Women’s Guild meets the first and third Thursday of every month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Friendship Hall of LOW Church. Each meeting consists of a short devotion, prayer, and a featured speaker, followed by a simple meal and time for fellowship. The meetings are always interesting, fun, and spiritually rewarding. In addition, the group participates in a service project each month to benefit the wider community.

All women are welcome, regardless of church affiliation. Registration is not necessary, and there is no cost to attend. However, if you need childcare, please contact the church at 972-9060 by the Monday preceding the Guild meeting.
**Weekly Activities**

**Monday**
- 8:30 a.m. Aerobics
- 5:00 p.m. Bell Choir - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. AA Group

**Tuesday**
- 7:30 a.m. Pastor’s Bible Study for Men
- 9:30 a.m. LOWC Crafters Group
- 10:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study
- 3:30 p.m. Good News Clubs (LGPS & LGES)
- 4:00 p.m. Cancer Support Group - (3rd)
- 5:30 p.m. Senior Singles
  - call Carol 972-8196 or Joyce 972-4023
- 6:30 p.m. Shining Hands Ministry
- 7:00 p.m. Praise Team Practice
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

**Wednesday**
- 8:30 a.m. Aerobics
- 9:00 a.m. MOPS
- 10:00 a.m. Restoration Dance Preparation
- 6:00 p.m. Communion Service
- 6:00 p.m. Family Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group
- 6:30 p.m. MOMs Next
- 7:00 p.m. Kid’s Club
- 7:00 p.m. Adult Elective Education Classes
- 7:00 p.m. AA “Big Book” — Rt. 20 - Suite O

**Thursday**
- 9:00 a.m. Shepherds Meeting (3rd Thurs)
- 9:30 a.m. Prayer Group
- 10:00 a.m. Women’s Guild (1st & 3rd)
- 10:00 a.m. Faithbooking & Faithcarding (2nd & 4th)
- 1:00 p.m. Second Half of Life Bible Study (1st & 3rd)
- 5:00 p.m. Living Water Community Clinic
  - Medical Office Appt. (1st, 3rd, 4th, & 5th)
- 6:00 p.m. RISE Special Needs

**Friday**
- 8:30 a.m. Aerobics
- 10:00 a.m. Malachi 3:16 Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. AA Group — Rt. 20-Suite O

**Saturday**
- 7:00 a.m. Men’s Bible Study Group
- 10:00 a.m. Restoration Dance Ministry
- 9:00 a.m. Living Water Community Clinic (2nd)

**Pastors in Worship**

**April**

**April 7th Communion**
- 8:30 Blended Dr. John W. Howe
- 9:45 Traditional Dr. John W. Howe
- 11:00 Contemporary Dr. John W. Howe

**April 14th**
- 8:30 Blended Dr. John W. Howe
- 9:45 Traditional Dr. John W. Howe
- 11:00 Contemporary Rev. Jordan Medas

**April 21st - Easter Sunday**
- 7:00 Sunrise Service Clubhouse Point Rev. Adam Colson
- 8:30 Blended Dr. John W. Howe
- 9:45 Traditional Dr. John W. Howe
- 11:00 Contemporary Dr. John W. Howe

**April 28th - Missions Week Begins**
- 8:30 Blended Rev. Adam Colson
- 9:45 Traditional Rev. Adam Colson
- 11:00 Contemporary Rev. Adam Colson

**Weekly Activities**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES**
- Blended Service - 8:30 a.m.
- Traditional Service - 9:45 a.m.
- Contemporary Service - 11:00 a.m.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE**
- Adult 8:30, 9:45, and 11:00 a.m.
- Youth Higher Grounds 9:30 a.m.
- Children and Nursery 9:45 & 11:00 a.m.

**COMMUNION**
- Monthly on the 1st Sunday - All Services
- Weekly - Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.

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Articles for the May 2019 issue are due by Friday April 12th at 2:00 p.m.

“The family of Bernie Merritt wish to thank the many friends for their prayers and expressing condolences and for participating in the Celebration of Life Service. Your thoughts and prayers have helped ease the pain of our loss. With much appreciation, Kathy Merritt and family.”

CrossCurrents is a publication of
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“The Lake of the Woods Church”