

Resurrection of the Lord / Easter Sunday, April 1 services at 9:00 & 11:00 AM



An excerpt from the Companion to the Book of Common Worship (Geneva Press, 2003)

Pascha [or Easter] is the central event, the time of transformation, of becoming a resurrected people, God's new people. On this Sunday of all Sundays, Pascha, we celebrate our transformation as a new people. When Christ rose from the grave, death and all other "principalities and powers" that seek to entomb God's will were forever defeated.

Easter is not simply the miracle of a dead person raised from the grave, but a celebration of power that can shatter death in order that people can freely serve the God of life. In the resurrection of Christ, God's awesome purposes were on display, revealing a radically new world of peace and harmony and equality and mutuality, about which we can only dream. The Lord of the future has been disclosed to us. Both the incarnation at Christmas and the resurrection at Easter testify to the lordship of Christ. ...

On Easter we glimpse a new landscape — the age to come — and experience a sense of holy awe at the significance of the resurrection for human life. The shape of the age to come reveals a new people of God, a new humanity.

When Christ was crucified, humanity died with him on Calvary. But on Easter morning, a new world was born — raised up with the crucified and risen Christ. Bursting the bonds of death, the first human being of a new human race, Jesus Christ, appeared among those who crucified him. In the midst of the old sin-struck world, God gave the world a new beginning, a new humanity. By faith the old guilt-ridden humanity was born again into the new forgiven humanity of Jesus Christ. Ever since, here and there, clusters of the new people of God live according to the new social order of the new age.

Therefore, Easter faith recalls the past, especially the awesome act of God in raising the crucified Christ from the grave. Easter hope looks to the promised future, to that which awaits us. Easter love celebrates the presence of the crucified and risen Christ who is now among us, reconciling us as one people. Resurrection faith asserts that by grace we are born again into the new humanity of Jesus Christ. We are called to new life for God and for neighbors. As representatives of the new humanity we walk in newness of life.

You're Invited and So Are Your Friends and Neighbors! Manna and More Breakfast - Sunday, April 8, 8:15 - 10:30 AM

Share breakfast with your family and friends before and after the 9:00 AM service. There will be pancakes and sausage, fruit and assorted beverages. Adults - \$3, children (12 & under) - \$1. Invite your friends and neighbors to church and then treat them to a delicious breakfast!

Worship Service with Third Missionary Baptist Church Sunday, April 8, 4:00 PM

On Sunday, April 8, FPC is having a joint worship service with Third Missionary Baptist at 4:00 PM followed by a potluck. EVERYONE is invited and encouraged to attend! Rev. Kirk will preside over worship on this afternoon, and we are excited to have the opportunity to enjoy fellowship and dinner together with our church neighbor afterwards. Main dishes are sought for the potluck, along with sides and desserts. If you know what you are able to bring ahead of time, please contact Kristine Oswald (divamom8992@gmail.com), to let her know as she will be in charge of the master list for the potluck. Worship is at 4:00 PM, the potluck will be at 5:00-6:00 PM, the youth groups from both churches will team together to package meals for Kids Against Hunger from 6:00-7:00 PM.



Rev. Rogers Kirk
Third Missionary
Baptist Church

Kids Against Hunger – Helping to Feed the Need!

The annual Kids Against Hunger drive at First Presbyterian Church will be held April 8-11. Each 10-12 person team will package more than 1,400 servings of rice, soy, dried vegetables and vitamins for families in need. The process takes less than an hour. Last year's drive enabled FPC to pass the 100,000 meal mark over the past eight years but we're not stopping there! Consider participating as a family, inviting a friend, or even forming a team to help carry out FPC mission. Cost to participate in a packaging event is \$30 per person, but scholarships are available for those who cannot afford the fee. And if you are unable to attend, please consider donating for someone else to do so. For more information, contact Craig Foster (563-391-4622; cfoster871@mchsi.com).





Director of Music
Matthew Bishop

Worth the Wait

It happens every year, without fail, to all of my church music colleagues who serve in liturgically-minded churches: the tired grumblings of a few congregants wondering why music during Lent is not “upbeat and exciting.” They grumble all the way until Easter. Then they rejoice, as we all do, when Easter finally arrives, when

our hymns again echo with refrains of “Alleluia,” when the prevailing mood is joyous, when our recited prayers are exultant rather than penitential. This is exactly the point.

I would never be so stodgy as to imply that we cannot enjoy Easter without enduring Lent. Just as humans are perfectly capable of experiencing joy without first living through pain and suffering, somberness is not necessarily a prerequisite for intellectually grasping the victory of the Resurrection. Rather, I offer that our appreciation for Eastertide is greater having experienced the forty days of reflection. Jonathan Aigner, Director of Music at the Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church (USA) and author of a wonderful blog called *Ponder Anew*, writes “The reality is that we cannot be an Easter people without first being a Lenten people. The feasts are meaningless without the fasts.”

Those of us who worship in congregations that follow liturgical tradition get to experience a full range of emotion as we relive and retell the story of Christ every year. Inasmuch as music serves this liturgy, it is not my goal in selecting music for worship that every piece make us feel happy. My hope is that the music makes us feel *something*. And then we connect that something to our experience of (and thus our memory of) the liturgy.

I happen to love Lenten music, but even I am not an advocate for guilt. That is a dated mode of worship from which most of us have thankfully moved away. For me, the Lent-Eastertide duality is more like being awakened by the sun after a long slumber in a dark room, the most productive way for our bodies to awaken in the morning.

Joan Chittister, the great American Benedictine nun, writes, “Lent is not a ritual. It is time given to think seriously about who Jesus is for us, to renew our faith from the inside out. It is the moment when, as the baptismal waters flow on every Easter Vigil altar we return to the baptismal font of the heart to say yes once more to the call of Jesus to the disciples, ‘Come and see’ (John 1:39). It is the act of beginning our spiritual life all over again refreshed and reoriented.”

Happy refreshment and reorientation! Alleluia!

Matt Bishop

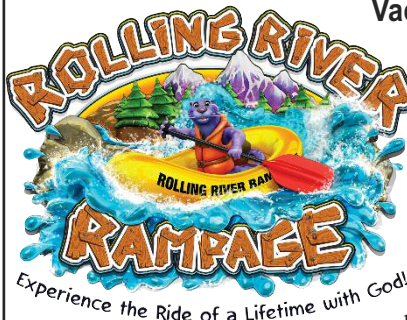
Christian Education and Fellowship for Youth (CEFY)

Sunday School: Our last day of Sunday School will be April 29, which is also Youth Sunday! It will be followed by luncheon potluck celebration for EVERYONE concluding the year after the 11:00 AM service, called “Franks for the Memories!” The church will provide the hot dogs, buns and condiments. Please, bring a dish to share and plan to stay for lunch and enjoy socialization and fellowship time on April 29.

Youth Volunteer Recognition: There is ****NO**** Sunday School on Sunday, April 22 as we will be recognizing all Sunday School teachers and youth volunteers at the 9:00 AM service, and have fellowship time with cake and refreshments in Fellowship Hall during the normal Sunday School hour this day.

Kirkwood Club: Kid’s Against Hunger is set for April 11 for Kirkwood Club—the cost is a \$30 donation to participate but scholarships are available for those who need them. This is a great mission Kirkwood Club has supported for years now! Our last Kirkwood Club for the year will be April 25, and it will be an ice cream social and then we will play outside on the playground!

ACT and EPIC: We are focusing on Youth Sunday practice every Sunday in April—EXCEPT for April 8—which is Kids Against Hunger. April 29 will be our last Youth Group—there is NO choir that evening! Meet at the church at 5:00 PM, and we will conclude the year with our annual Laser Tag and Bowling event!



Vacation Bible Camp 2018: This is happening June 5-8 but we want to make sure everyone gets it on the calendars now! Please note: we are doing a 4-day instead of a 5-day Vacation Bible Camp due to Davenport Schools going through Monday, June 4! VBC is from 9:30 AM-12:30 PM for youth age 3 and potty-trained through 6th grade. 7th grade through 12th grade youth are helpers and adult volunteers are also needed! Please contact Tiffany (horvath@fpcdavenport.org) if you are able to help out. Childcare is available for volunteers.

Food Pantry Volunteer Date is April 24: Our monthly volunteer date at the Davenport Food Pantry will be on Tuesday, April 24 from 4:00-8:00 PM! We have space for 20 youth and adults—please let Tiffany know if you can come and serve the community this evening.

FPC Youth To Fundraise for Mission Trip!

This year, 24 FPC youth have expressed an interest in going on our mission trip to Minneapolis to work at multiple sites to benefit inner-city youth and seniors. This is one of the largest groups we’ve had in a while—and we need to fundraise \$10,000 to make this trip happen. Our trivia night fundraiser was an excellent start, giving us \$4,000 to kick off our efforts...so now we have \$6000 to go!



We would like to invite anyone who is able to make a donation for our youth mission trip to a private dinner, served by the youth who went on the mission trip, later this fall for a personal presentation by the youth of what they experience during this amazing week.

Any support is so appreciated. If a financial donation to this is hard right now, your prayers are also gratefully sought. For more information, contact DCE Tiffany Horvath (563-326-1691; horvath@fpcdavenport.org). GOD BLESS!

Tiffany’s Epiphanies: I had a dream I was a muffler last night. I woke up exhausted....☺

ACE Von Maur Hall Series - Sundays, 10:00 AM

April 1 - In Recess

ACE is in recess. Have a Happy Easter.

April 8 - David Fairweather's Rock Journey of Faith, part 1

I was comfortable as a Fundamentalist Christian.

You had to be wrong for me to be right. Then I went to college.



April 15 - David Fairweather's Rock Journey of Faith, part 2

Faith can be challenged. Even shattered. I didn't begin the true journey of Faith until I was a freshman in college. And from 1958-2018 there have been many high peaks and low valleys.

April 22 - Real Women, Real Faith, part 1

God moved in the lives of women in the Old Testament. The struggles they faced are not unlike the struggles women face today. Abigail dealt with confrontation in relationships.



April 29 - Real Women, Real Faith, part 2

God moved in the lives of women in the Old Testament. The struggles they faced are not unlike the struggles women face today. Rebekah was breaking free of feminine stereotypes.

Need a Good Book to Read? Great New Books Have Been Added in the Library!

Check out what's available in the church library by following the quick link at www.fpcdavenport.org to search the shelves. If you don't find something that interests you, make a recommendation to the Library Committee; and, a reminder to check if you have any overdue books at home and return them in the library. Here are a few of the new books: *Interrupting Silence: God's Command to Speak Out*, by Walter Brueggemann. The author urges people to speak in situations of injustice using many Biblical examples where marginalized people speak out to break repression. *Happiness Is a Choice You Make*, by John Lelan. Stories compiled from interviews of people 85 and older from various backgrounds enjoying life. *The Great Alone*, by Kristin Hannah. A story of Alaska, 1974 - A POW comes home from Vietnam and moves his family to Alaska with dangerous results.

Grant Funds Available

Applications are being received through May 15 for grants from the Deacons' Endowment Fund (DEF). These grants are intended to provide seed money to help groups and organizations within the church community to develop new mission, outreach, pastoral care and spiritual development programs. The maximum grant awarded is \$5,000. In prior years DEF grants have been awarded to help start Habitat ReStore's Health & Home Store, to secure a therapy dog for Sudlow Intermediate School, to help QC Symphony Orchestra pay for private tutoring for neighborhood music students, to help AMKA Africa School Foundation support students and to benefit other programs and projects. If you have questions about DEF grants, information is available in the church office, the Welcome Desk, the website at fpcdavenport.org, or from Brock Earnhardt (brockearnhardt@hotmail.com; 563-343-6304).

PAS Concert Date Change "A Musical Tour of the British Isles" Concert - Saturday, May 5, 7:30 PM

Due to a change in the QCSO's schedule, the date of the "A Musical Tour of the British Isles" concert has been moved to Saturday, May 5. If you already have tickets to this concert, please correct the date on the printed tickets. This event will include music from the *Sanctuary Choir*, *Chamber Chorale*, *Vesper Bells*, *Cecelian Carolers*, and an orchestra. Enjoy hymns, folk songs, and masterworks from Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and England. Tickets are \$15/adult, \$10/student, you may purchase them at the door.

Enjoy Local High School Theater

Emma and Abby Saskowski have leading roles and will be performing in *Les Miserables* at the Paul Holzworth Auditorium at North High School. (For those attending *Les Mis*, a room has been reserved at the Machine Shed restaurant on April 7 at 5:15 PM for you to join other church members for a dinner from the menu, followed by a short drive to North High to enjoy the play. If interested in joining the group, please contact Bill and Judy Hawthorne (thornebj67@gmail.com; 563-391-9971). Grace Carr and Raziki Furaha have roles in *High School Musical* which will take place at the new Central High School Auditorium. The dates for both musicals are April 6 and 7 at 7:00 PM and April 8 at 2:00 PM.

Financial Update

	February 2018 Actual	February 2018 Budget	February 2017 Actual	February 2017 Budget
General Fund Income	62,209	66,779	67,949	69,403
Custodial Accounts Income	9,994		4,875	
General Fund Expenses	70,416	75,060	76,431	87,154
Custodial Accounts Expenses	9,994	-	4,875	-
Surplus (Deficit)	(8,207)	(8,281)	(8,482)	(17,751)
	2018 Year-To-Date Actual	2018 Year-To-Date Budget	2017 Year-To-Date Actual	2017 Year-To-Date Budget
General Fund Income	244,200	243,849	246,454	254,826
Custodial Accounts Income	14,647		12,551	
General Fund Expenses	147,425	153,162	146,305	165,222
Custodial Accounts Expenses	14,647	-	12,551	-
Surplus (Deficit)	96,775	90,687	100,149	89,604

Session Highlights for March

- Homework Helpers are needed for the Boys and Girls Club. Please contact Muffy Ellard (563-505-2292) to volunteer.
- FPC is hosting a Neighborhood Picnic on June 10. Morning schedule will be 10:30 AM worship service followed by 11:30 AM feasting together under the shelter of a large tent on the church lawn.
- An Emergency Preparedness Committee will be formed to address the safety of the congregation and visitors.
- Sexual Harassment Prevention Training will be implemented for all current and future FPC staff and employees.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Grounds Clean-up Day Saturday, April 21, 9:00 AM



You don't need a green thumb to help with this project! Here is an opportunity for productive fellowship and

breakfast, too! On Saturday, April 21 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, everyone is invited to help tidy up the planting beds and lawns around the church building. The church will provide lawn bags for yard waste and a wheel barrow and small rolling carts. Here's what is needed from you ... bring a rake and a smile! A breakfast of bagels, cream cheese, donuts, juice, milk, and coffee will be available. Georgia Roberts, will serve as project manager and will be there to answer any questions. Please contact John Gere to RSVP (john.gere1115@gmail.com). For more information, contact Shannon Gruhlke (563-326-1691; gruhlke@fpcdavenport.org).

Save the Date!

Men's Fellowship Breakfast - Saturday, April 7, 8:30 AM

Ever wonder what makes the River Bandits one of the most successful baseball franchises in the country? How do they break national attendance records week after week? Winning the 2017 Midwest League Championship was not their first win! Want to know how they give back to the community and their successful scholarship program? Come join us for a homemade breakfast for \$5. Please contact the church office to sign-up. If you have any questions, please call Deacon Terry Ousley ([563-344-0845](tel:563-344-0845)).



First Annual Ladies Breakfast - Saturday, April 14, 9:00 AM

Plan to attend this fun first annual gathering! The breakfast will be catered by Panera Bread. The guest speaker will be Sarah McGlynn of the Davenport Community Food Pantry. The cost is \$10 per person and a portion goes to support the food pantry. Sign-up between the services in Fellowship Hall. Childcare will be available. Please contact eacons Traci Cracraft (traciacraft@yahoo.com) or Pat Cresap (cresaptwo@gmail.com) for more information.



Young Adults Group at Comedy Sportz - Friday, April 20, 6:00 PM

Our annual trip to Comedy Sportz will take place on Friday, April 20 and the cost is \$10 per person. The show starts at 7:00 PM, childcare at church starts at 5:30 PM and we can start arriving at Comedy Sportz 6:00 PM! RSVP by April 13 to Tiffany (horvath@fpcdavenport.org) so she knows how many spaces to reserve!