



PAL PRES

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION

PALISADES
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



— REFLECTIONS —

“Nothing is the same forever, says modern science. Ninety-eight percent of our bodies’ atoms are replaced every year. Geologists, with good evidence over millennia, can prove that no landscape is permanent. Water, fog, steam, and ice are all the same thing but at different stages and temperatures. “Resurrection” is another word for change, but particularly positive change—which we tend to see only in the long run. In the short run, change often looks like death.”

-Richard Rhor

In Jesus’ time, the basic idea that someone who had died might come back to life was not a unique or unbelievable one. In the Hebrew Scripture hundreds of years before Jesus Elijah raised the widow’s son from the dead (I Kings 17:17-22) and in the Second Testament Jesus raised Lazarus (John 11) and in the Gospel of Mark, Jairus’ daughter is also raised (Mark 6:35-43). Author Stephen Patterson writes: “In such a world, the hard part about the Christian resurrection proclamation would not have been believing in resurrection. The hard part would have been believing that Jesus, a nobody, had been raised”.

So why did the ancients believe and why should we believe two millennia later? It certainly wasn’t because of the stories of empty tombs or a fish-eating non-ghost.

I think it was because those who knew him and experienced the way he touched their lives experienced God in the flesh and this encounter with the living Jesus made his resurrection plausible. Patterson writes: “They believed in him...not because of his resurrection. They believed in him...because of the way he touched their lives. And because he had touched their lives in this profound way, they believed in his resurrection”.

Those loyal to Jesus proclaimed the resurrection as a celebration of his life and vision. His cause was simple: the Kingdom of God. They believed God would raise him from the dead because they believed in him and what he lived for: a messiah on the side of the nobodies. A messiah who called the unloved the beloved of God.

Proclaiming the resurrection today is to say Jesus still offers us a vision of a way of life into which we are invited to participate in a very real way. As Rohr points out, resurrection is about change...change that leads to new life in all areas of our lives. Affirming the resurrection confirms our faith in God who brings life to places the world pronounces dead. Trusting the resurrection is allowing God to work God’s dream for us in our lives and in our world even if it means changing the dream we planned for ourselves.

May we, this Easter season, accept God’s gracious invitation to encounter the risen Lord and continue the necessary work of God’s realm on earth.

Blessings, Angela



When time matters most

The 7th ANNUAL WALK TO REMEMBER will be held at Rockland Lake State Park in Congers at 8:00 am May 5th. United Hospice of Rockland invites individuals and families who have been touched by Hospice to come together and walk, side by side, to remember our loved ones! Registration required.

MAY CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Bible Study Wednesdays 12:15 pm

- May 1 Parent Support Group, 7:00 pm
- May 4 Spring Cleanup 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
- May 25 Sally Green Memorial, 11:00 am
- May 27 Pancake Breakfast 8:00 am – 11:00 am

**Strawberry Festival Saturday
June 8th 2:00 -6:00pm**

Confirmation June 9th

Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast



Monday, May 27, 8:00 – 11:00 am
Adults - \$8.00
Children under 12 - \$3.00



Annual Spring Cleanup

**Saturday, May 4, 2019
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

Please Join Us as we keep our church beautiful!
Sign up in the Parish House or contact Sue Webb:
swebbstah@aol.com

Deacons' Corner

Well, it seems the winter has finally gone away, which means it is now time for the Deacons, the congregation, and the community, to start looking forward to the Strawberry Festival in June. April went by pretty quickly with the school breaks, and Holy Week and Easter preparations. June will be here before we know it. This month the Deacons will be asking for everyone's help as we start the preparations for the Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 8th. Sign-up sheets will soon be posted asking for shortcake bakers, strawberry hullers, servers, the pocket lady, and help setting up before and breaking down after the festival. There are many choices for everyone to help, so please sign up. We need all the help we can get! Also, get the word out about the festival; tell your family, friends, and co-worker to put it on their calendar so they can come and enjoy shortcake and conversation (it is sort of like Coffee Hour from 2 to 6 pm). As usual, for rides to and/or from worship contact Margaret Allen, for casseroles contact Denise Cae Tilberis. If a memorial service or any other event is being held at the church contact John Guzewich to help coordinate the service. We are here to serve all in need! For prayer requests or get well cards you may contact Stephen Van Dyk. We ask for continued prayers for all who need God's healing presence in mind, body, and spirit including Bigelow and family, Mary Baier's family, Richard's family and friends, Bill and Dallas' family, Maureen and her family and friends, Ernie & Rich, Jane, Jack, Mary Ann, Christopher, Josh, Marilyn, and Helen. Please keep everyone in your prayers.

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Pastor Office Hours Tuesday & Friday 10:30 am – 12:30 pm; Wednesday 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm.
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