

How fortunate we are to have such creative children attending the third-grade Sunday School class as they made their Palm Sunday stoles. The children handed us our palms wearing their stoles! Under the direction of their teachers, they worked on felt using colorful patterns, fringe and rickrack. The stoles will be blessed during this morning's worship service.



#### OF NOTE....

- All members of **ABCs** are invited to an **open Church Council meeting on Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**. We will share a meal of **soup and hearty bread** and continue to discuss the concept of allowing ourselves to rest and simplify the work of the church.
- Reminder there is no afternoon **Bible Study** this week. It has been rescheduled to **Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm** in the church parlor. Worship at **Blaire House** has also been rescheduled to the 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm.
- **Senior Choir Rehearsal** is scheduled for Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> instead of Thursday next week at 7:30pm. The choir will sing "**Come Celebrate the Passover Lamb**" at the Maundy Thursday worship service at 7:30pm.
- As the days are getting longer, our thoughts turn to spring cleanup! The **Trustees** will schedule a **Spring Cleaning Day** sometime soon and will invite all members of the congregation to participate in cleaning up the church grounds.

## Faith notes!



### *Notes on worship (from the Pastor)*

*There is no day like Palm Sunday to help us focus on praising God! Palms, shouts and the excited cries of children and youth and families fill this passage. Jesus was the center of a small scene of political excitement and wonder! "Stop this ridiculous (and dangerous) demonstration!" the Jewish leaders cried! And yet Jesus refused to shut these joyful voices down... for He knew that praise to God is the most important activity of the human heart. Today I want to review what it is about praise that you and I need on a regular basis. I will set this conversation in the 'red sky' zone... praise when there are storms brewing, praise in the midst of life's difficulties. And I hope that we can leave this morning with a greater commitment to make praise a continual experience of grace in our lives. It has a power that we cannot deny... in fact, that can lift our hearts above their daily cares.*

The sanctuary will be open **Good Friday** from **12:00 noon** until **3:00pm** for prayer. Please feel free to come into the quietness of the sanctuary anytime during the above hours.

*There are no dances for dark days.  
There is no music to bellow the pain.  
The best we can do is to remain  
still and silent  
and try to remember the face of God...  
and how to kneel  
and how to pray.*

– Ann Weems

**Sr. Youth Group  
Easter Lock-in!**

**Date: Friday, March 21 starting at 6:00pm**

*An annual tradition is for the Sr. Youth to take part in a lock-in over Easter weekend.*

**This is a special event that all members of the Senior Youth Group may participate in.**

**What goes on in a lock-in?** Crazy games, good food, powerful worship, service projects, little sleep and lots of fun with friends!

**What will we be doing?** We'll meet at church at 6:00pm and enjoy supper with everyone. We'll play some crazy games and conduct a service project within TCC. We'll watch the "Passion" movie and conduct a late night worship service. We'll have more games and some sleep. When we wake up on Saturday morning, we'll make breakfast and have some reflection time and hang out together. We'll be finished by 11:00am.

**What do we need to bring?** A sleeping bag and pillow, an air mattress if you have one and snacks to share with others during the night.

**For questions,** call Annmarie Baldwin (978-319-9031) or Steve Trudeau (978-640-9716) – Hope to see you!

**Today**

**Junior Choir**

**9am, Fairgrieve Room**

**Worship & Sunday School**

**9:30am**

**Coffee Hour**

**10:30am, Fellowship Hall**

**Cherub Choir**

**10:45am, Room 10**

*Newsletter articles due today  
to the church office.*

**Garry Mattheson of Harvest Hands Ministries**, was in town recently and your church secretary had the opportunity to meet him. He showed some great photos of the orphanage in Juarez that TCC folks, on their mission trips, have helped construct. One of the buildings is completed. On the beds were colorful quilts made by women in another US church who had taken on this project. The walls of the orphanage are white, yet there's all this color with the handmade quilts. A beautiful setting for children.

Don't forget to purchase your tickets for the fund-raising event sponsored by the 25 TCC'ers who plan to continue construction of the second building in Juarez and provide rice, beans and oil to people in the local community. The **dinner dance is Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall.** Tickets are available during coffee hour today and cost \$10/each.

**Monday**

**6:00 PM**

Jubellation

Ringers

Rehearsal

**Wednesday**

**8:30 AM**

Prayer Circle

**7:30 PM**

Sr. Choir

Rehearsal

**Holy Week  
Worship Services**

*Please join us for our Holy Week and  
Easter Worship Services*

**Maundy Thursday Worship Service  
March 20<sup>th</sup>  
7:30 PM**

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Note: Author and actor Nancy Tutunjian Berger will perform with TCC readers.

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**Dramatic Scripture Readings  
Prayer - Hymns  
Choir will Sing**

**Good Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>  
Church Sanctuary open for Prayer  
from 12:00 noon to 3:00pm**

**Easter Services  
Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>  
6:30am – Ecumenical Sunrise  
Service at Tewksbury United  
Methodist Church followed by  
breakfast.  
Worship Services at TCC  
9:00 and 11:00am**



**Our Maundy Thursday worship service** begins at **7:30pm** in the sanctuary.

A reenactment of the **Last Supper and the arrest of Christ** will be presented.

Our service will be a service of communion (by intinction) and then a sacred drama, interweaving the reflections of several of Jesus' disciples with a strong reading of the last hours before Jesus' death.

We will strip the altar and finish the evening in quiet in a darkened sanctuary.

*Nancy Tutunjian Berger performed in worship in the fall and presented a musical reflection on the book of Philippians.*

*We asked her to shape a sacred dramatic reading that includes our traditional tenebrae reading, done in a more dramatic fashion.*

**Coming soon....  
Friendship Potluck Supper  
Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 – 7:30pm**

Games for the children.  
Conversation for the adults.  
Bring your favorite dish to share.

Open to all TCC members and friends no matter what age!