

**The Homer Congregational Church
United Church of Christ**

April 29, 2018

Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:30 a.m. Worship



Easter continues

*Gathered on the Green in 1801 -
Still Gathered Doing God's Mission*

Homer Congregational United Church of Christ

Sunday, April 29, 2018

Serving us in ministry today:

Joanne Cincotta ~ Deacon of the Month
Maureen & Shelly Hilts; Bert & Jan Bertram ~ greeters
Lori Schmidt ~ Nursery
Becky & Dora Jones ~ Coffee Hour
Belinda Burtson ~ Flowers

Welcome, Peter Wright and thank you for leading worship today. We are grateful for the ways that you will share yourself today.

Today is the Spring Meeting of the Susquehanna Association in Greene. Pastor Vicki is the moderator and she is preaching at that worship service this morning. Pastor Gary and Belinda Burtson are also in attendance.

Today:

4:00 Disciple Bible Study
7:00 Hand Bells – all are welcome!

Attendance April 22: 80

Faith in Action:

6 teams accomplished eight projects;
58 people wrote 58 caring notes,
which were mailed on Monday.

For Quiet Meditation ~ *Christian Responsibilities*

Reject racism, Forgive often, Love God, Fight for the powerless, Share earthly & spiritual resources, Enjoy this life, Love God with all your heart, mind and soul, Love your neighbor, Walk humbly with God, Love justice, and Know that God is, Trust God, Rejoice in the Lord, Obey God, Put God's commandments in your heart, Ten Commandments (can you name them?) Be saints, Be holy, Be blameless, Sing to the Lord, Care for the orphans & widows, Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength, Run with perseverance, Witness for God, Imitate Christ, Bring up your children to know the Lord, Live a life of faith & charity, Welcome the stranger, Pick up your Cross, Follow God's plan, Pray unceasingly, Live your life with love as an example to the world, Work for the common good, Do not be dismayed, Don't speak badly of anyone, Live in the present moment, Be a good steward, Ask the Spirit what Jesus expects from you at every moment of your life & in every decision you make, Knock on the door, Commit yourself, body and soul, Heal the sick, Give to Caesar whatever is his and give to God what is God's, Leave revenge to God, Follow in Christ's footsteps, Evangelize the world, Study the scriptures, Grow in holiness, Be the light of the world, Be the salt of the earth, Seek God, Pray in God's name, Seek out the lost, Feed the hungry, Clothe the naked, Care for the sick, Visit the prisoners, Give abundantly, Hunger and thirst for righteousness, Be merciful, Be peacemakers, Forgive seventy times seven, Guard your heart with vigilance, Be persecuted for righteousness, Lose your life to save it, Know the peace & joy of the Lord, Don't put a period where God has placed a comma, Offer extravagant hospitality, Be open & affirming, Care for the Poor, Protect the environment, Embrace diversity (whew!)

WE GATHER

**those who are able, please stand*

Welcome

Prelude
Chimes

Fanfare

Webster

Call to Worship

The Beatitudes

#185

*Hymn

More About Jesus Would I Know

#348

Prayer of Presence

Dear Lord, we are often overwhelmed by the problems and challenges we face in this life. We think we are inadequate and failures in following you. Remind us of your Love and Mercy. Remind us of your Life among us. Remind us that we are forgiven and are your Easter People through the power of Jesus Christ, the risen one. Amen.

GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW

Children's Moment

Too Many Balls

Anthem

Scripture

Matthew 5:17-21

Sermon

Christian Responsibilities

OUR RESPONSE

Silence is kept

*Hymn

O Word of God Incarnate

#322

Prayers of the People
Our Lord's Prayer (*debts/debtors*)

Offering

An Invitation to Give

Offertory This is My Father's World Burkhardt

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One,**

*Prayer of Dedication

Use these gifts to help us walk humbly with God, to love justice, and to do mercy in our lives and throughout the world. We offer these gifts with gratitude to you in Jesus' name. Amen.

BLESSING

Announcements

*Hymn What Does the Lord Require for Praise #659

*Benediction

*Postlude God of Grace Held

This Week:

Monday at 6:30 Church Council

Tuesday at 10 UCC Clergy Book Club
at 2 Bridge

Wed. at 7 Choir & Z Club
at 7:30 Men's Choir Rehearsal

Next Week:

Tues., May 8 10:00 UCC Clergy Book Club
2:00 Bridge Group

Wed., May 9 6:00 Worship & Music
7:00 Z Club
7:00 Choir
7:30 Men's Choir

Thurs., May 10 11:00 Disciple Bible Study

Fri., May 11 10:00 Women of Faith

Coming Up:

Sunday May 20 – A Celebration of Confirmation

Reminders:

We will celebrate the sacrament of baptism in the near future (date to be determined). If you are interested, please see Pastor Vicki.

Do you know of a young person in our congregation that will be graduating this year? If so, please contact Anne Wingard in the church office so we can be certain to honor them on Dads and Grads Sunday.

SOFTBALL – do you play? We have a team, and we need players! It is mixed gender and open to many ages. Check with Head Coach Darci Gumaer or Pastor Vicki if you are interested.

HANDBELLS – even if you don't play...Jan Jeffers will teach you! Rehearsals are Sunday evening at 7. Seriously, Jan will teach you to play. Don't be shy!

Outreach Team Thought of the Week

One in three American families report struggling to provide an adequate supply of diapers for their children, which can cost \$70-\$80/month per child (firstfocus.org). SNAP benefits (commonly referred to as food stamps) and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) do not provide funding for diapers. Last week we sang "They'll Know We are Christians" and proclaimed that "we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride." As we **collect diapers and wipes**, that is what we are doing: guarding the dignity of parents in our area by ensuring that their children have basic necessities to stay clean and healthy. Let's continue to fill the pack-n-play through May 13!

Welcome friends!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us, If you would like more information about our church, please let Pastor Vicki, the worship leader, or one of the greeters know, We hope you will choose to stay for refreshments and conversation following our service,

You should also know that we believe children of all ages have a place here, One of our greeters can bring you a children's bulletin and a "busy bag," After the Children's Time, small children may head to our nursery, where we provide trained caregivers and a fruit snack for the wee ones,

Ministry Team with contacts:

Rev, Vicki Burtson, Senior Pastor

pastor@homercc.org

607,624,9940 (cell)

Rev, Gary Smith, Associate Pastor for Faith Formation

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607,423,6456 (cell)

Anne Wingard, Office Administrator

office@homercc.org

607,749,2604 (O)

Joseph Ford, Director of Music

James Shultes, Organist

Bev Berry, Financial Secretary

Jan Jeffers, Chapel Bells

Andrea Herzog, Treasurer

Gary Harrington, Sexton

Our office is open Monday – Thursday from 9 am – noon
web site: homercc.com

Service information

- Individual listening headsets are available to provide hearing assistance to anyone in need. Ask our greeters for help.
- Prayer request sheets are at each entrance. Your prayers will be offered later in today's service.