

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

March 24, 2019

3rd Sunday in Lent

10:30 a.m. Worship



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

Homer Congregational United Church of Christ

Serving us in ministry today:

Tracy Bertram ~ Deacon of the Month

Bill & Sherri Masterson,

Bill & Dorothy Hopkins ~ ushers/greeters

Joanne Cincotta ~ nursery

Andrea Herzog ~ coffee hour

THIS WEEK:

Monday

NOTE: Disciple I and II will not meet this week.

6:30 Church Council

Tuesday

2:00 Bridge Group

4:30 Homer Nursery School Board

5:00 Centering Prayer

Wednesday

7:00 AM Early Communion at the Manse

5:30 PM Mystics Group at 3 Lil' Birds (**NEW TIME**)

7:00 Choir Practice

SPECIAL NOTE: Pastor Vicki & Belinda had a death in the family this week and so they are away today. They will be on vacation from Wednesday (AFTER early Communion) through April 3.

Attendance March 17: 90

Service of Worship

For Quiet Meditation

“The spiritual thirst that is latent in everybody can never come to a place of fulfillment unless people begin to think of each other as potential brothers and sisters.”

~ Malidoma Patrice Some ~

WE GATHER

**those who are able, please stand*

Welcome

Prelude

In God I Trust

Hanff

Chimes

following the prelude, we allow some silence

Call to Worship

One: We gather on this 3rd Sunday in Lent, because we are hungry and thirsty for God.

Many: We gather to drink from God’s life-giving waters, and to experience God’s mercy and love.

One: The chrysalis in our sanctuary has moved forward.

Many: We, too, move forward to be closer to God, and participate in God’s steadfast & everlasting covenant.

*Hymn

Morning Has Broken

#53

Prayer of Honesty

O God, we know you call us to the waters to be refreshed. As we continue this journey of transformation, free us from all that does not satisfy.

Silence is kept

GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW

Children's Time

Anthem

Scripture Isaiah 55:1-9 (Common English Bible)

Sermon Come to the Waters

OUR RESPONSE

Preparing to Pray

**When I pray, I feel my heart go deeper,
my heart go deeper into my God. (repeat)
Right here, right now. Right where I am, I pray.**

Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Offering

Invitation to Give

Offertory What God Does Is Well Pachelbel

*Doxology

**Praise God for blessings on this day.
Praise God for seekers of Christ's Way.
Praise God for grace beyond compare.
Praise God for hope and love and care.**

*Prayer of Dedication

**Generous God, we have received from you more than
our share of blessings. We thank you. Now increase
and multiply our gifts, we pray, that others may feast
on your goodness through our witness. Amen.**

BLESSING

Announcement

*Hymn I've Got Peace Like a River #530

*Benediction

*Postlude Fugue in F Major Buxtehude

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NEXT SUNDAY - March 31

9:30 Children's Faith Formation

9:30 Adult Faith Formation:
We begin our discussion of *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans. Alex Faulkenbury will lead the discussion and introduce us to the book. To reserve your copy, add your name to the list on the Resource Table.

10:30 5th Sunday Worship
Pastor Gary and our Outreach Team will celebrate the ministry of the Homer Food Pantry.

Noon Outreach Team meets

6:00 Youth Group in Preble

COMING UP:

Monday, April 1

4:45 Disciple I Bible Study

5:00 Disciple II Bible Study

Tuesday, April 2

5:00 Centering Prayer in the Upper Room

Wednesday, April 3

7 a.m. Early Communion **AT CHURCH**

The Burtsons are on vacation, so
Pastor Gary will lead the service.

5:30 p.m. Mystics Group at 3 'Lil Birds

7 p.m. Choir

Saturday, April 6 - **5th Anniversary of our ONA vote**

9:30 Stephen Ministers meet

Sunday, April 7

Noon If you are interested in becoming a
member of Homer Congregational UCC,
plan to attend this New Members' Class.
New Members will be received on
Sunday, April 14.

Monday, April 8

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Tuesday, April 9

2:00 Sr. Fellowship welcomes Jim McKenna,
who will offer a program about birding.

Join us for Holy Week:

Thursday, April 18 **Maundy Thursday**

Join us for a light meal similar to what Jesus and his disciples would have eaten. We will commune around the tables and then pray in the sanctuary. Time is yet to be determined, but this experience is being designed to be very “kid-friendly”.

Friday, April 19 **Good Friday** at 3 PM

Our Youth Group will lead us in a service called *The Way of the Cross*. Weather permitting, the service will be held around our Green.

Sunday, April 21 **Easter Sunday**

Invite your friends and family to this special celebration of God’s transformational love! There will be special music, a very special children’s time and a lovely coffee hour. Come and celebrate HOPE!

LENTEN HOMEWORK

based on writing by Nadia Bolz Weber

Monday: Forgive someone today.

Tuesday: Fast from screens today.

Wed-day: Read Luke 15:11-24 - With which character do you most identify today?

Thursday: Hum ...*right here, right now, right where I am I pray...* and then pray.

Friday: Ask for help

Saturday: Share your “grateful for” list with someone

Welcome friends!

If you have any questions before the service, please see one of the greeters. After the service, join us for refreshments in the room behind the sanctuary that we call the Russell Fellowship Room.

We celebrate children of all ages. After the Children's Time, pre-school children may head to our nursery, where we provide trained caregivers. A "busy bag" is available for the older siblings.

Individual listening headsets are available to provide hearing assistance to anyone in need. Ask our greeters for help.

MINISTRY TEAM WITH CONTACTS:

Rev. Vicki Burtson, Senior Pastor

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Rev. Gary Smith, Associate Pastor for Faith Formation

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Anne Wingard, Office Administrator

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Belinda Burtson, Stephen Ministry Leader

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Bill Masterson, Stephen Ministry Leader

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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
Find our web-home: homercc.com