

# The Homer Congregational Church United Church of Christ

March 31, 2019

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

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10:30 a.m.

A Special Fifth Sunday Worship  
to Honor Our Connection to the  
Homer UMC Food Pantry



*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:**

Kathy McKenna ~ nursery  
Kathy Alvord & Jim McKenna ~ greeters  
Kathy Alvord and Tracy Bertram ~ Readers  
Outreach Team ~ meal  
Darci and Carrie Gumaer ~ desserts

**THIS WEEK:**

Monday, April 1

4:45 Disciple I Bible Study (led by Jim McKenna)

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**)

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

7 p.m. Choir

Saturday, April 6 - **5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our ONA vote**

9:30 Stephen Ministers meet

**SPECIAL NOTE:**

Pastor Vicki & Belinda are on vacation through April 3.

*Attendance March 24: 89*

# Service of Worship

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## For Quiet Meditation

We are stewards of each other's dignity...how we give, how we take, how we are stretched, bent or broken by each other. So Give. Donate. Volunteer. Share. Feed. Clothe. Hold. Acknowledge. Make eye contact. Greet. Really see the people who you pass every day...[give] with grace, [receive] with dignity, and [be] a community that does not need credit or headlines, commemorative plaques or strings attached...

~ Elke Govertsen ~

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## WE GATHER

Welcome

Prelude (*following the prelude, we allow some silence*)

Centering Prayer

**God of Healing and Transformation,  
we hunger and thirst for your abundant life.**

**We bring you our sorrow**

**and ask for the bread of joy;**

**we bring you our despair**

**and ask for the bread of hope;**

**we bring you our weariness**

**and ask for the bread of inspiration.**

**Meet us here and feed us;**

**so we may become bread for others;**

**as we seek to meet the needs of this community**

**through the ministry of a much needed food pantry.**

**In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Song

We Are One Body

Dana R. Scallon

Prayer of Honesty

**O God, forgive us for times we do not share the benefits of our privilege with others. As we continue this journey of transformation, help us to set aside our own wants and desires, so that we may address the needs of others in our community. Amen.**

*Silence is kept*

## **GOD'S WORD BOTH ANCIENT AND NEW**

Scripture

Joshua 5:9-12 (Common English Bible)

Matthew 14:13-21 (Common English Bible)

Mission Moment: The Homer UMC Food Pantry

*Offered by "Tiny", food pantry coordinator*

## **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

No One Goes Hungry

Weston Priory

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

**God of the Hungry, we give these offerings in gratitude, rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us. We give these offerings in hope, knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world. And with these offerings, we give ourselves; may we always live with generous hearts and open hands. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

Announcements

Hymn

Table of Plenty

Dan Schutte

Benediction

“We Dare to Dream”

*from Hunger for Justice: World Food Day 2016*

We dare to dream of a world  
in which hunger is unknown:  
where scarcity is an illusion,  
and everyone has a place at the table.

We dare to dream of a world  
in which generosity is the norm:  
where greed finds no foothold,  
and there is more than enough for all.

We dare to dream of a world  
in which love rules:  
where compassion is the first response,  
and there is no place for bigotry.

We dare to dream.  
We dare to pray.  
We dare to believe.

Sharing a Solidarity Meal

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**NEXT SUNDAY - April 7**

9:30 Children's Faith Formation

9:30 Adult Faith Formation:  
We continue the discussion of *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans. Alex Faulkenbury will lead the discussion about chapters 1 and 2.

10:30 Worship w/Communion to **Celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our vote to become and Open & Affirming** congregation!

Noon New Members Class—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.

2:00 Brewster House Service

## **COMING UP:**

Monday, April 8

- 9:30 Staff Meeting
- 4:45 Disciple I Bible Study
- 5:00 Disciple II Bible Study

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: Introduce yourself to a neighbor

Tuesday: Bake something and give it away

Wednesday: Read Psalm 121

Thursday: No shopping day

Friday: Learn more about hunger in our world

Saturday: Light a candle in honor of someone

## **MINISTRY TEAM WITH CONTACTS:**

**Rev. Vicki Burtson**, Senior Pastor

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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](http://homercc.com)