

## **THURSDAY WORDS**

Reaching out to you from Homer Congregational United Church of Christ  
Thursday, May 7, 2020

With this edition, we send our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Diane Brady who passed away in Florida on Sunday, May 3. Before retirement, Diane was a teacher in the area and she is Karen Dudgeon's mother. Our prayers surround Diane's husband, Mike and the entire family.

### **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

This week, we celebrate the many women who have nurtured, shaped and cared for us. Pastor Gary will offer a message using several scripture passages that focus on the maternal nature of God. Karen Downey and Joe Ford will provide music and Pastor Vicki will share the Children's Time. The offering this week includes a PowerPoint displaying pictures of our mothers – just some of the women who shaped us. The link for the service will be available by 9:00 on Sunday at: [www.homercc.com](http://www.homercc.com). Join us as you are able.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Our **Outreach Team** met on Sunday and discussed the following:

- The Homer Food Pantry continues to be open on Tuesdays in the morning and Thursday in the evening. Through these efforts we have been able to assist at least 40 families each month. Your ongoing donations enable this ministry.
- P.R.E.P. is scheduled for Saturday, August 22. We acknowledged that we will need to consider a new means of distribution, including a possible pre-registration. We will continue to discuss the best ways to meet the needs of children as they return to school in the Fall.

### **COMING UP**

Sunday, May 10

9:00 The link for our worship service will be available on our web site:  
[www.homercc.com](http://www.homercc.com). Watch as you are able!

Monday, May 11

4:45 Disciple I w/Pastor Vicki via Zoom (an invite has been sent by email)

Tuesday, May 12

4:45 Deacons meeting by Zoom

Sunday, May 17

11:00 **Adult Faith Formation** ~ *If the Church Were Christian* by Philip Gulley  
From our leader, Carol Costell Corbin:

If you haven't joined a Faith Formation book group in the past, now is the time! Even if you don't join in the virtual conversations, I encourage you to get the book, read on your own and then talk with others.

I first heard of *If the Church Were Christian* from Richard Rohr's Daily Meditation emails. His comments on "practical, practice-based Christianity" resonated with me, and

as I read his summary of the chapter titles (below), I thought, “yes! That makes so much sense.” So I invite you to envision what our church – and the wider church – could be if...

1. Jesus is a model for living more than an object of worship.
2. Affirming people’s potential is more important than reminding them of their brokenness.
3. The work of reconciliation should be valued over making judgments.
4. Gracious behavior is more important than right belief.
5. Inviting questions is more valuable than supplying answers.
6. Encouraging the personal search is more important than group uniformity.
7. Meeting actual needs is more important than maintaining institutions.
8. Peacemaking is more important than power.
9. We should care more about love and less about sex.
10. Life in this world is more important than the afterlife (Eternity is God’s work anyway).

Books are now available in the office. Cost is \$15 – payable to HCC (put **A.F.F. book** in the memo.) We are reading the first chapter for May 17.

### **OF INTEREST...**

Financial Information as of 3/31/20:

Revenues - \$65,283, 28.6% of budget

Expenses - \$52,140, 20.5% of budget

Your ongoing financial support – via mail or Tithe-ly – enables our ministry to continue.

Our virtual attendance for worship has been significant. Total views per:

March 22	<b>245</b>	March 29	<b>255</b>
April 5 (Palm Sun.)	<b>218</b>	April 12 (Easter)	<b>265</b>
April 19	<b>170</b>	April 26	<b>182</b>
May 3 Communion (Children’s 143 + Adult’s 131) =			<b>274</b>

### **THANK YOU...**

...to Lisa Clark and Sarah Bowen for the connections they continue to make with the children of the Homer Nursery School. In addition to supplying weekly activity packets, Lisa and Sarah are holding a weekly (brief) Zoom meeting with the children.

...to Buzz Harrington for continuing to keep our church clean and sanitized.

...to all of you who are faithfully reading these reports and joining us for worship each week.

**WATCH FOR THE ONLINE EDITION OF SATURDAY WORDS.**