

WEEKDAY WORDS

Thursday, February 17, 2022

THIS SUNDAY

Due to the winter break, there will be no Faith Formation classes this coming Sunday. Nursery care will be available during worship.

Continuing our Epiphany series that encourages our dreaming and visioning, Pastor Vicki will preach on Luke 6:27-38. We look forward to special trumpet music, offered by Joe Ford's brother-in-law, Mark Weed who is visiting from California. No doubt, you will depart singing "O Happy Day!" If you cannot join us in person, find the link for our service at: www.homercc.com.

THIS WEEK

Monday Our office will be closed for Presidents' Day holiday.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Last Saturday, our **Board of Deacons** spent the morning on retreat. After Carrie Scheibner's devotions, the group welcomed the new class of Deacons. They viewed and discussed a short movie, *Trees* by Rob Bell. During their business meeting, they:

- elected their leadership:
Chair – Lori Schmidt; Co-Vice Chairs – Carol Costell Corbin & Jim Ulrich;
Secretary – Terry Pedersen; Treasurer – Cindy Stout
- ...heard about plans for Lent, including a film series led by our area clergy. *See information below.*
- ...considered a request from the Phillips Free Library to host a storyteller for Juneteenth (June 19).
- ...heard about plans to reorganize our Hospitality teams.

Our **Board of Trustees** met on Tuesday. They, too, elected their leadership, welcomed new members and laid plans for the coming year.

- New Leadership:
Co-Chairs – Gary Harrington & Linda Homer; Secretary – Bonnie Haaland
- In an effort to lower the cost, Buildings & Grounds will review our insurance coverage. In addition, the fire inspection checklist is nearly completed.
- The electrical work upgrading our technology for worship is nearly complete. A team from Beard Electric LLC has been working on electric and technical hookups. New electrical sockets have been installed at the rear of the sanctuary and at the base of two pews in the middle of the room. The need for multiple extension cords has been alleviated.
- Holiday in Homer is underway. Entertainment has been booked and vendor packets have gone out. Mark you calendars for **Saturday, July 16** and plan to volunteer!

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Revenue to 1/31/2022 - \$16,165.09, 7.5% of budget

Expense to 1/31/2022 - \$19,892.76, 9.2% of budget

Additionally, the Mission Committee challenged us to collect funds for **2021 Severe Storms/December Tornadoes**, pledging to match our offering and add \$1,000. We raised \$1,810 x 2 = 3,620. Soon, we will send **\$4,620** to the United Church of Christ's support of the people affected by those December storms. We thank God for this chance to share our blessings with people in need.

LENTEN & SPRING OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday, March 1 at 5:30 PM: *Winner, Winner, Chicken (soup) Dinner*
People have signed up to bring their best chicken soup, breads, salads, and desserts. Join us as we keep our tradition of sharing a meal and some games for our kids on this night before Lent begins. We have been raising funds for the Heifer Project. Wait until you hear about the Mission Committee's Bake Sale last Sunday! This Sunday, the "noisy can collection" transforms to a "QUIET can collection". When your pew is visited on Sunday, fill the cans with things that do not make noise (i.e. cash made of paper or a check with as many numbers as possible.)

Wednesday, March 2 at 7 PM *Ash Wednesday Service*
Set in the sanctuary, we begin our journey through Lent. The palms from Palm Sunday 2021 are the ashes for this service. Come, pray, and receive a stone and ashes.

Sunday, March 6

9:30 Adult book study begins: *How to Love* by Thich Nhat Hanh

A book of brief meditations, here is an excerpt:

If you pour a handful of salt into a cup of water, the water becomes undrinkable. But if you pour the salt into a river, people can continue to draw the water to cook, wash, and drink. The river is immense, and it has the capacity to receive, embrace, and transform. When our hearts are small, our understanding and compassion are limited...But when our hearts expand, these same things don't make us suffer...So the big question is: how do we help our hearts grow?

BOOKS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

10:30 Communion for the First Sunday in Lent

11:45 Introduction to New Testament

If you are interested in participating, see Quinn Caldwell or Pastor Vicki.

Monday, March 7 at 6:30

Ecumenical Lenten Film Series

MOVIES SHOWN MONDAYS AT 6:30 AT HCC & WEDNESDAY AT 2:00 AT UPC

Last October/November, 7 area clergy pooled our continuing education funds and hired facilitators from Interfaith Works in Syracuse to lead us through a dialogue about racism. Following our six-week conversation, we wanted to include members of our congregations in on-going discussions. We offer this film series hoping to expand our encounter with racism and its meaning in our lives. Watch in person with 30 minutes of discussion afterward or watch it on your own and then take part in a Zoom discussion (TBA).

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Movie</u>	<u>length of film</u>	<u>available on:</u>
March 7/9	Bend It Like Beckham	1h 52min	HBO Max
March 14/16	Glory Road	1h 58m	Disney+
March 21/23	Loving	2h 3min	Netflix
March 28/30	Green Book	2h 10min	Prime Vid.
April 4/6	The Hate U Give	2h 12min	Hulu
April 11/13	I Am Not Your Negro	1h 33min	Netflix

AS YOU PRAY, PLEASE REMEMBER:

Our leadership team: Jim McKenna - Moderator; Lori, Carol, Jim, Terry, Cindy – officers for our Board of Deacons; Buzz, Linda, Bonnie – officers for our Board of Trustees. Pray for Brian, Gary, Jason, Kyle, Mark, May, Paul, Rick, Tyler, and our Confirmands. Those who are taking wonderful adventures during Winter Break from school. The ones recovering from surgery and those who are currently dealing with Covid.