

*Bethany Lutheran Church
2900 Parkview Drive
Longview, WA 98632*

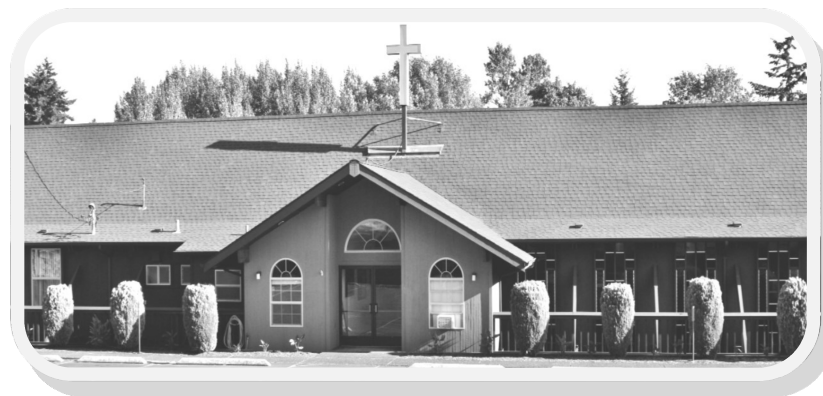
July 2022

God's Blessings to . . .



**March 2024
Newsletter**

Bethany Lutheran Church



Bethany Lutheran Church

Church: 360-577-8240

2900 Parkview Dr. Longview, WA 98632

Pastor Susan Dollinger

Church Musician: Dorothy McMillan

Admin. Asst: Ginger Garner

Bethany website: www.bethanylongview.org

Office Hours: Tuesday -Thursday 9:30am - 3pm

Office email: secretary@bethanylongview.org

Pastor email: pastor@bethanylongview.org

Sunday Morning Worship Time

9:30 Worship 10:30 Coffee Hour



Dear Bethany,

March continues our “40” days of Lent, all the way until March 31st, which is Easter. The last time Easter was in March was in 2016. Lent is actually 46 days (and this year, because of leap year, it is 47). Easter is March 31st, and before that, Holy Week. Holy Week begins with Palm

Sunday, where we see Jesus’ ride into Jerusalem on a donkey, which is followed by Maundy Thursday and then Good Friday.

Maundy is an interesting word, and it might be helpful to understand what it means. The word “maundy” comes from the Latin word *mandatum* for “commandment”, which comes from Jesus’ words from the Last Supper: “I give you a new commandment; that you love one another...” The full Latin phrase is *mandatum novum*, which means “a new commandment.” This is the day that we sit in the Last Supper with Jesus and hear the Words of Institution as Jesus passes out the bread and the wine. And we also see whose hand belongs to his betrayer. It is the night in which we strip the altar, signaling the betrayal of Jesus. While we leave the sanctuary only to return the next day, we remember that for Jesus, the night does not end. He is arrested on Thursday evening and crucified on Friday. But he is tried and beaten during those two points.

Part of the reason we “bury our hallelujahs” is to remember that there was a death that meant profound things and bringing them out on Easter is its own resurrection. Despite the solemnness of Maundy Thursday, it is my favorite day of the year; I love that we sit in the Last Supper and sit with the words of Institution and explore communion and why it is so important. The stripping of the altar is a touching moment that brings us to the cross of Good Friday, which is a difficult day but one that is important for the entire story. As you have already heard without Good Friday there would not be an Easter morning.

Throughout Lent, I remind us that we are Easter people and as we journey with Jesus to the cross we remember that it is all for the glorious morning of women finding an empty tomb.

May this time of Lent bring a depth to your own spiritual journey. May you find the beauty in the ashes of Lent.

In grace and peace,

Pastor Susan

Online Worship

Sundays at 9:30am, Streaming on Facebook, and Zoom.

Uploaded to YouTube the following Tuesday.

Zoom - Video & Phone

Using Zoom, you can login to worship with us via your computer, phone, or even by calling in to listen. Join the call as early as 15 minutes prior to our worship start time for fellowship with your Bethany Family.

Join Zoom Meetings:

<https://zoom.us/j/6153119848>

Or to call in:

+1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 615 311 9848

Password: 2900

Name/Position/Term
1. Don Wallin (2027) 1st Term
2. Barbara Clausen (President, 2027) 2nd Term
4. Phyllis Cavens (2025)
5. George Obermeyer (2026)
6. Beth Grambo (Secretary, 2027) 2nd Term
7. Russ Gilchrist (2027)
8. P. Susan Dollinger (Pastor)
Susan Shui (Treasurer)

Council Meeting Minutes Continued

- **Sanctuary Computer:** Pastor shared that the computer is dying and a member has donated the money for a new one. John Pelster will help us with the specs for a new laptop. **Approved by consensus.**

Staff Report – From Ginger Garner

- **Facility Use** -none

Announcements and Adjournment – Barb Clausen

Next Scheduled Meetings: Executive Committee – Wednesday, March 6, 12:15

Council – Thursday, March 14, 2024 – 4:00 pm Retreat March 9;

ATTENDANCE	
February	TOTAL
4	46
11	55
18	54
25	49
AVG	51

Offering to date (February)	
2023	2024
29,430.42	\$24707.87
Expenses to date (February)	
2023	2024
25294.50	\$15,792.62

*Please have newsletter articles submitted before
March 19.*

While all efforts are made to keep original submissions, article submissions are subject to editing for accuracy, spelling, grammar and formatted to fit in the space allowed.



Good Friday – Stations of the Cross.

Calling all artsy types, Small Seeds and Sprouts, and spiritual type people. This year, Music and Worship talked about doing stations of the cross for Good Friday. I would like those who are interested to provide a “piece” that would go along with the station of the cross. It could be a poem, quilt, wood carving, pottery, something you have already, or a photograph; the following are the stations (technically, there are 14 stations; these are a combined version.) We will build this as we go. Good Friday is March 29. These need to be in by Palm Sunday (March 24).

1. Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane;
2. Jesus is betrayed by Judas, arrested, and condemned
3. Jesus is denied by Peter three times
4. Jesus is judged by Pilate and crowned with thorns;
5. Jesus takes up his cross, Simon of Cyrene helps him to carry his cross, and Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem.
6. Jesus is crucified
7. Jesus promises the repentant thief he will be with him in paradise, and Jesus entrusts Mary and John to each other.
8. Jesus dies on the cross
9. Jesus is laid in the tomb.

Bethany's Corner



Shelly Limpach is our prayer chain contact. You may contact her with your prayer concerns through email at. If you have an urgent prayer

Continued Prayers & Healing

Foslien Family	Audrey Schauer	Scott family
Marlys Beck Family	Alice Snyder	Bob Reistroffer
Dana Hughes	Kim Isakson	Krista & John
Croy Barbara Price	Gail Obermeyer	Jennifer Nance
Vickey Aubol	Takko family	Custer family
Thibodeau family	Gilchrist Family	



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 Susan Johnson	16 Leonard Bean
3 Pam van den Driessche	Barbara Utto
10 Joyce Croy	18 Suzanne Arnits
Kaytlynn Croy	Perry Ficus
15 George Obermeyer	20 Susan Nance
	26 Alice Snyder

ANNIVERSARIES

22 Kim and Marilyn Isakson

Council Meeting Minutes Continued

- ◇ **Other-** Tough week with Ash Wed, memorial, & Small Seeds=3 plans; Thankful to have Ginger back from trade/vacation time & relationships with Ginger & Dor; Planning lunch with staff;
- **Goal/Action Plan Progress Report:**
- ◇ **Marketing-Pending-**pastor is creating new brochure with welcome statement; council will distribute to Chamber of Commerce, etc.

Unfinished Business:

- **Caldwell Banker update-**Have gotten over 1,000 hits, 25 saves, & several walk throughs; feedback from Susan Wood (realtor) discussion was held about lowering the price. **It was moved/seconded to lower the market price to \$69,000 with option to negotiate. Motion carried.**
- **Evacuation Drill Columbia Hts. Ele.-**School still has not learned security system;
- **Portable Damage & Insurance Estimates-**Consideration of quotes; George Obermeyer, Randy Grambo, & Russ Gilchrist will review the three proposals. Randy has agreed to meet with the companies, get questions answered, and make a recommendation to council to proceed with the work. It was suggested that we do this as soon as possible so the half of the Fellowship Hall could be used for storage and still be available for a possible June rummage sale.
- **Authorize change for Secretary of State: January 28, 2024 minutes** It was moved/seconded to authorize the council members to serve as the board of directors on the Sec. of State to align with our actual officers, and to delete former ones. Motion carried.

New Business:

- **Checking account signatures need to change: Remove Barb Wilson and Tori Gosch, Keep: Barb Clausen, Add: George Obermeyer, Susan Shiu, Beth Grambo; It was moved/seconded to make these changes. Motion carried.**
- **Council Retreat Planning March 9 & Meeting March 14-Barb Clausen** It was decided to keep these two events separate. Members signed up & discussed a drafted agenda.
- **Emergency/Communication Revised List 2024-**Barb C will have the Ginger send out the new one. She explained how to use it.
- **Quarterly Meeting of Members Update-**Feb. 8, 5:00 5 attended, & only did Lent events and calendar;
- **Grants Update:** Working on Price Foundation \$10,000 & Community Foundation Donor Grant SW WA \$28,000;

Council Meeting Minutes Continued

- **Memorial:** Joyce Croy No new report.
- **Worship/Music:**
 - ◇ Lent-Feb. 14, 21, 28, Mar 6, 13 with Homeless Bags, & Mar 20. Holy Week Maundy Thurs. Mar 28, Good Fri. Mar 29 with Healing of Nations, etc.
 - ◇ Installed council Feb. 11 & fits well with Transfiguration Sunday;
- **Youth/Service:** Barb Clausen
 - ◇ FISH -February 12th -Pam van den Driessche & Shelley Limpach reported that they served 15 seniors, 48 adults, 34 children and 3 babies for a total of 100 people. What an awesome job! Thank you for those who donated! Next:
 - ◇ April 2 set up-April 3 serve/distribute. Please see the list in the newsletter.
 - ◇ Small Seeds & Sprouts: Feb. 17th Susan Dickey-Hafterson will help (district employee) & some already know her from swimming; ask Sprouts to attend Ash Wednesday so they can talk about it on Saturday; two meetings in Mar 17 & 24;
 - ◇ Homeless Bags Collection-March, assembling March 13, 4:45 (before Lent soup)
- **Duct Tape Crew:** Pr. Susan
 - ◇ Weekly inside cleaning has been done dependent on number of volunteers available: vacuuming, etc.
 - ◇ Requested spraying/vacuuming sanctuary bugs update-
 - ◇ Life Works-Justin very fast: scrubbed kitchen floor, did four bathrooms, & vacuumed the sanctuary in 1 ½ hours; (Boy Scouts put up chairs) A great way to help someone & our crew; miss having Carol T & grateful for the time she spent;
- **Stewardship:** No report
- **Mutual Ministry:** February 22, Thursday, 11:15;
- **Education:**
 - ◇ **Women's Bible Study-** Meeting each Tuesday, 10:30
 - ◇ **Education Class-** "Philippians on Joy" two weeks and "How to Create a Prayer Bible"-supply fee/scholarship available, starting at noon during Lent;
- **Women of Bethany:** Kathy Newton
 - ◇ Duane Scott Memorial Service Cookies and Coffee service Feb. 16th 2:00;
- **Minister's Report:** Pastor Susan
 - ◇ **Organizational systems-**Planning Lent,
 - ◇ **Life Balance-** Balancing Lent preparation with Duane Scott funeral & Ash Wednesday the same week; approved to take April 7 trade for 5th Sunday; already approved June 9 will be 5th Sunday;

Upcoming Events

Council Retreat:

Saturday, March 9th from 9:00-3:00

The council will be having their annual retreat in the Fellowship Hall. If you have an idea for our vision for the future, thoughts about priorities, or goals you would like to see us have for the next year, please let Pastor Susan and Barb Clausen know.

To Go Bags for Homeless

Wednesday, March 13- During Lent Service

Dave Foslien's Celebration of Life

March 23- Time to be announced

Easter

Sunday March 31

Plan to bring your family, your friends, and your neighbors to our Easter Service. It is a wonderful time to bring those we know together for a celebration and invite them to join us. Share the benefits of our close-knit community—"the best little secret in Columbia Heights." A potluck breakfast will follow—plan ahead! Thank you to the Hospitality Committee for organizing this event!

Music and Worship Meeting

April 28

Mother's Day

May 1

Annual Breakfast potluck, everyone brings a dish to share

FYI

Ministry of the Month:



We are recognizing FISH this month as our ministry! Did you know that Fish has been in our county for nearly half a century and Bethany has been one of the 18 long-time church partners with a mission of helping give immediate help to people in need of food security. (There are no restrictions for participants but it is monitored to assure no abuse.)

Co-chair Pam van den Driessche and Shelly Limpach do a wonderful job rotating inventory, gathering supplies from the county, re-filling the coffers, and communicating the additional needs to our members. They are experts at organizing teams who load the supplies, prepare the boxes, and help our guests to carry boxes on carts to the cars. Last time

Children's Sweat Pants Needed



Columbia Heights Elementary School has a call out for children's sweatpants in **medium and large in black, navy, or gray**. When children get wet, have an accident, etc. the change of clothes allows them to stay in school and continue their learning. Please put new or gently used pants in the box lid in the Faith Room on the bookcase, and we

March Emergency Fund:

The "second-mile" giving for the month is the Cowlitz Chaplaincy as well as the pastor's discretionary fund. Upon request, this is the group who

- Provides support & comfort for police/fire/EMS and their families;
- Performs crises intervention for the community in times of need;
- Gives relational, emotional, & spiritual support to anyone (regardless of faith)
- Appears roadside at fatality accidents to help the people cope with loss,

On scene support is provided at a variety of settings as needed: homicide or suicide, search & rescue scenes, serious auto accident, hostage situations, domestic violence, fire scenes, plane/train crashes, civil disturbances, SIDS/death of a child, line of duty injury/death, etc.

February Council Minutes

Bethany Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes– Thursday, February 15, 2024 4:00p.m.

Attendance – George Obermeyer, Beth Grambo, Don Wallin, Phyllis Cavens, Susan Shiu, Russ Gilchrist, Pastor Susan Dollinger, & Barb Clausen

Devotions and Prayer – Pastor Susan led a devotion about hope.

Call to Order and President's Report – Barbara Clausen called to order at 4:32pm.

- Decisions made between Council Meetings: Motions approved were:
 - a. **to transfer money from the Red Canoe Savings Account into the General Fund and pay back Thrivent \$5,000 from the double-payment error they made.**
 - b. **to elect George Obermeyer as the Council Vice President.**
 - c. **to approve Feb. 6 and 7 as "trade time" for hours previously worked and to approve Feb. 8 as vacation time. Note: It was moved and seconded to change the one vacation day to another trade day and that fulfills all makeup time due to financials and the new software.**
- Agenda Changes-no additions were made at this time
- Devotions for Thursday, March 14, 4:00 Council Meeting-George Obermeyer

Secretary's Report – Beth Grambo

- Approve January minutes as emailed were approved and filed.
- Recommendation for Annual Meeting Minutes-none received so will file as emailed.

Treasurer's Report – Susan Shiu

January 2024 offerings of \$8,658.00 fell short of the budgeted expenses of \$11,235.22 by \$2,577.22. (Short a Sunday offering on January 14th due to snowstorm) Designated funds balance as of January 31st \$17,700.39. January 2024 YTD budget offerings of \$7,638.00 fell short of 2024 YTD expenses of **\$2,577.22** by \$2,577.22. *January 2023 YTD offerings of \$20,720.42 fell short of budget expenses of \$21,824.64.* We received a detailed sample print out of the expense and would like to see formatting to show comparison to previous.

- **Synod Remittance**-Undesignated benevolence \$267.33 was sent.
- **Emergency Fund Report**- \$104.00 to Family Promise besides Pr. Susan's discretionary.
- **Attendance for January Avg. 49**

Ministry Reports –

- **Hospitality:** Joyce Croy: Mother's Day Continental Breakfast provided May 12; Easter March 31 Potluck breakfast, please plan to bring a dish;

HELP WANTED

Duct Tape Crew

Duct Tape needs you! From dusting, cleaning floors, pulling weeds, and mowing. The Duct Tape crew needs your help.

Thursdays from 9-12. Coffee hour at 10:00.

FISH HOTLINE

Telephone Volunteer 1-4 PM, 1-2 times monthly. Calls are anonymously forwarded to your phone, so that you may volunteer from home. This position helps people with emergency needs they cannot afford. Contact Susan Shiu 360-431-2810

Kitchen Coordinator Needed

Bethany Lutheran church is in need of a person who would be willing to be in charge of the kitchen for the next year. Duties would include...

- Making sure we have clean towels.
- Contacting Duct Tape if something needs repair.
- Coordinating volunteers for regular kitchen cleaning.

If you are interested in helping in this way, please let a member of Hospitality know.



**AND
KETTLE
CORN!**

**Saturday, March 23
10 AM - 1 PM**
at the Longview Public Library

**Suggested donation:
\$5 per box or bag**

Bring your documents to shred
and help us support our
community!

Early Bird Lions support
local high school scholarships,
Lower Columbia School
Gardens, Emergency Support
Shelter, area food banks, and
more!



Lenten Wednesday Offerings:

Council decided that due to the small total that we would include this offering with the February designated E.R. Fund the Cold Weather Shelter (to meet current expenses.)

Coffee Hour

Thank you to all whom help with the coffee hour each week. We would like you to know that you are welcome to keep it simple. There are a few that like to do extra, but more than anything we are happy to have everyone who wants to participate have fun doing it. We know it can be expensive and overwhelming. We at Bethany love to socialize and will come to coffee hour no matter what is included.

Note from Zoomer Corner

To echo our dear Roger Lee, whom I still see in our “balcony” every Sunday watching over us, I would like to express the sincere gratitude of the Zoom Community to John Pelster for his ongoing dedication and expertise to this ministry so that we may join with the rest of our community to worship! John continues to strive to enhance ability of the equipment Bethany has in order to make Zoom to be the “next best thing to being there experience”.

We also wish to acknowledge and thank Lee Limpach for stepping up and learning Zoom so that John would have a chance to worship with his family!

Job well done, John and Lee!!

The Power Point Team would welcome another member. If you have interest in learning how to participate, please contact me, Susan Nance. Carol Thompson is happy to train another member for Power Point. Many thanks to Carol Thompson, Don Wallin and Gabe Pelster for their ongoing help with Power Point!

If anyone else would like to learn to livestream please see Pastor Susan.

Our humble and heartfelt “Thank You’s” for making Zoom what it is!! May God continue to richly bless all of the Bethany faithful every day!

Growing in Faith & Knowledge

Women's Bible Study

We gather for prayers, cares, concerns, challenges, and celebration in the Faith room and on Zoom

March 5 10:30 am Bible Study
March 12 10:30 am Bible Study
March 19 10:30 am Bible Study
March 26 10:30 am Bible Study

March Study is on Rivers: Scripture & Nature: Teachers of Faith.

Headlines for the month: Headwaters of Life, The Nile River, Waters That Connect, Rivers of Justice, The Jordan River and Rivers that Bookend

Kathy Newton leader guide with ideas from all in attendance.

Gather Magazine is \$9.95 for new subscribers. Call Kathy Newton for how to subscribe or questions about our study

Small Seeds and Sprouts

Saturday, March 16

Sprouts 12:30-2:00, Seeds 2:00-3:30

Small Seeds Sunday, March 17 & (Palm Sunday) 24



Moment's at the Lake

Bethany

There will be no Moment's for the Month of March

March Ministry Volunteers

March 31– Easter Service/ Communion

Greeter	Judy Bailey
Ushers (2)	
Reader	Duane Thompson
Communion Setup	
Communion Assist	
Powerpoint	
Live Service	John Pelster
Financial Secretary	Pam van den Driessche
Continental Breakfast	Tori Gosch/ Hospitality

Holy Week 2024

JOIN US IN OUR HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES!

Palm Sunday	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday	Easter Sunday
March 24 @ 9:30 am	March 28 @ 6:00 pm	March 29 @ 6:00 pm	March 31 @ 9:30 am

March Ministry Volunteers

March 3- Sunday Service/ Communion

Greeter	Glenn & Beth Milhiser
Ushers (2)	Suzanne Arnits / Bill Zimmerman
Reader	Kathy Newton
Communion Setup	Dot Blair
Communion Assist	Shelly Limpach
Powerpoint	Don Wallin
Live Service	Lee Limpach
Financial Secretary	Barb Wilson
Coffee hour (2)	Karen Langworthy

March 10- Sunday Service/ Communion

Greeter	Tom Hughes III
Ushers (2)	Shelly Limpach/ Pam van den Driessche
Reader	Barb Wilson
Communion Setup	Nancy Skora
Communion Assist	Barb Wilson
Powerpoint	Carol Thompson
Live Service	Lee Limpach
Financial Secretary	Pam van den Driessche
Coffee hour (2)	Glenn and Beth Milhiser/ Kathy Newton

March 17 Sunday Service/ Communion

Greeter	Small Seeds/ Tori Gosch
Ushers (2)	Small Seeds/ Tori Gosch
Reader	Small Seeds
Communion Setup	Shelly Limpach
Communion Assist	Shelly Limpach
Powerpoint	Don Wallin
Live Service	Lee Limpach
Financial Secretary	Mary Storm
Coffee hour (2)	Thompsons/Blairs

March 24 Sunday Service/ Communion

Greeter	Small Seeds/ Kathy Newton
Ushers (2)	Small Seeds/ Joyce Croy/ Tori Gosch
Reader	Small Seeds/ Renee Pelster
Communion Setup	Shelly Limpach
Communion Assist	Karen Langworthy
Powerpoint	Gabe Pelster
Live Service	Lee Limpach
Financial Secretary	Barb Wilson
Coffee hour (2)	Gil and Audrey Schauer

****Please find a substitute if you can't volunteer for that Sunday.****

Breakfast Group

Our Breakfast Group is meeting on Tuesday morning at 8:00am at the Corner Cafe located at 796 Commerce Ave. Suite 103 in Longview.

What a great opportunity to enjoy good food and fellowship!



Create a Prayer Bible throughout Lent

10:00-11:15 Wednesdays of Lent

February 21-March 20th.



Week 3 Calm and Rest – March 6

Week 4 Alternative Ways to pray and Popular verses – March 13

Week 5 Thanksgiving and Blessings – March 20

You are welcome to come to any class or all of them. They are a powerful way to pray for others.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone for the lovely birthday. All the cards and care has been amazing. I felt so honored. Thank you to the hospitality team for a fantastic lunch, your kindness made for a wonderful way to start this year. Thank you all!

Pastor Susan

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 2024					1 6:00 Girl Scouts	2
3 <i>Sunday Service</i> <i>Communion</i> Pastor Susan Dollinger 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Coffee Hour	4	5 8:00 Breakfast Group 10:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts	6 Justin Cleans 12:15 Exec (Zoom) 10:00 Prayer Bible 5:30 Soup 6:15 Service	7 9:00 Duct Tape 10:00 Coffee w/ Duct Tape 10:15 Youth & Services	8 6:00 Girl Scouts	9
10 <i>Sunday Service</i> <i>Communion</i> Pastor Susan Dollinger 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Coffee Hour	11	12 8:00 Breakfast Group 10:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts	13 10:00 Prayer Bible 5:30 Soup 6:15 Service To go Homeless bags	14 9:00 Duct Tape 10:00 Coffee w/ Duct Tape 4:00 Council	15 6:00 Girl Scouts	16 12:30 Small Seeds & Sprouts
17 <i>Sunday Service</i> <i>Communion</i> Pastor Susan Dollinger Small Seeds & Sprouts 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Coffee Hour	18	19 8:00 Breakfast Group 10:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts	20 Justin Cleans 10:00 Prayer Bible 5:30 Soup 6:15 Service	21 9:00 Duct Tape 10:00 Coffee w/ Duct Tape	22 6:00 Girl Scouts	23 Dave Foslien's Service
24 <i>Palm Sunday</i> <i>Communion</i> Pastor Susan Dollinger Small Seeds & Sprouts 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Coffee Hour	25	26 8:00 Breakfast Group 10:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts	27	28 9:00 Duct Tape 10:00 Coffee w/ Duct Tape 6:00 Maundy Service	29 6:00 Good Friday	30
31 <i>Easter Sunday</i> <i>Communion</i> Pastor Susan Dollinger 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Easter Breakfast						