A Little Something



March 27, 2022 4th Sunday in Lent

Shall We Gather at the River I Need Thee Every Hour Just As I Am The Old Rugged Cross Standing on the Promises

Scripture

Psalm 32:1-7, 11 Mark 3:20-30

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Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

April HADDY BIRTHDAY

Ol Laura Collins

O2 Trevor Edd

06 Chris Cooney

08 Tricia Miller

Plastic Easter Eggs

filled with candy, \$ or other fun items are needed for our Youth Easter Egg Hunt.

(Please bring them to church by Sunday, April 10.)

our

Holiday Auction Get your creative juices flowing...

Our youth group will once again be holding a Holiday Auction, to raise funds for youth activities. It is planned for Sunday, August 21. We're giving you plenty of notice so you will have time to make or bake items they can auction off. This is always a fun time to get together and maybe have a bidding war or two.

There is a rumor going around that the auction may be combined with a BBQ potluck! We haven't had one of those in a long while.

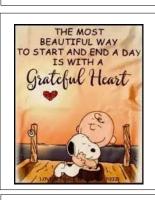
Start thinking about what you want to contribute. More info to come closer to the event. *Ready, Set, Create!!*

Food Cupboard

Items Needed:

Canned Vegetables

Ramen Noodles Sleeping Bags Adult Backpacks Jackets, Gloves or Mittens Umbrellas



April's Session meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 5 @ 6:00 pm

Holy Week Activities

Plans for Holy Week activities are in the planning stage and we will be updating you weekly on these plans.

Maundy Thursday Service: will be held here on April 14, 5:30 pm.

Good Friday Services: Will not be at First Pres. We will let you know which churches in our area will be holding these services.

Easter April 17...

Easter Sunrise Service: Sunset State Park, 6:30 am. We will be providing transportation with our bus. Seats are limited so please call the church to reserve your seat.

Easter Worship: First Pres. 10:30 am. Easter Egg Hunt: After Worship.



Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 27, 2022

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The difference between mercy and grace? Mercy gave the prodigal son a second chance. Grace gave him a feast. —Max Lucado



In Luke 15, Jesus tells several stories about objects that are lost.

First, there is the shepherd who has 100 sheep, but notices that one is missing. What does the shepherd do? He "leaves the ninety-nine in the wilderness and goes after the one that is lost

until he finds it" (vv. 4-5).

Second, there's a woman with 10 coins, but she loses one of the coins. What does do? She sweeps and cleans and cleans and sweeps until she finds it! (vv. 8-10).

Third, there's a father with two sons. One of the sons, the youngest one, makes some terrible choices. He asks for his part of the father's inheritance, and then leaves home and lives a life of sin and degradation.

We know this story as the Parable of the Prodigal Son.

The young man comes to his senses. He repents of his sin, decides to throw himself on the mercy of his father, willing to work for him as a servant.

Overjoyed, the father sends orders that a huge feast be prepared. Everyone is happy except the older brother, who has worked long and faithfully for his father. No banquet has been prepared for him! It is not fair!

Rob Bell, in his book, *Love Wins*, notes that at this point the father interrupts his eldest son: "The father redefines fairness. It's not that his father hasn't been fair with him; it's that his father never set out to be fair in the first place. Grace and generosity aren't fair; that's their very essence. The father sees the younger brother's return as one more occasion to practice *unfairness*. The younger son doesn't deserve a party — that's the point of the party. That's how things work in the father's world. Profound unfairness. People get what they don't deserve. Parties are thrown for younger brothers who squander their inheritance."

This is an excellent insight. God does not give us what we deserve! Instead, God treats us unfairly by bestowing grace, love and mercy.

The psalmist makes this very point:

He does not deal with us according to our sins,
Nor repay us according to our iniquities ... (Psalm 103:10)
Let's thank God for God's amazing unfairness. It's called grace! —Timothy Merri

Prayer: God, your love and mercy are beyond understanding. I am humbled in your presence and offer myself anew in your service. Amen.



Week of March 27, 2022



Daily Bible Readings
Sunday: Deuteronomy 1-3
Monday: Deuteronomy 4-6
Tuesday: Deuteronomy 7-9
Wednesday: Deuteronomy 10-12
Thursday: Deuteronomy 13-16
Friday: Deuteronomy 17-19
Saturday: Deuteronomy 20-22

VERSE TO REMEMBER

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. —Deuteronomy 6:5-6

Proverbs for Fun The following proverbs originate from the 16th century, and most, if not all, are in use today. Fill in the blanks to complete the proverbs. Transfer the letters in circles, boxes and triangles to the line below. Answers: 1. waste, 2. leap, 3. heads, 4. gift, 5. Paul, 6. broom, 7. hay, 8. turn, 9. nail, 10. hands, 11. hot. Then, unscramble the words to discover a three-word expression. 1. Haste makes _____. 2. Look before you ______. 3. Two ______ are better than one. 4. Don't look a _____ horse in the mouth. 5. Robbing Peter to pay ______. 6. A new _____ sweeps clean. 7. Make _____ while the sun shines. 8. One good ______ deserves another. 9. Hitting the _____ on the head. 10. Many _____ make light work. 11. Strike while the iron is ____ Write letters in circles, triangles and squares here: Unscramble the three words and write your answer here:

2022



2022

OTGS Band Rehearsal 6:00 pm
14 Tai Chi 11:00 am Ladies Thursday Bible Study -12:00pm
17 St Patrick's Day Tai Chi 11:00 am Ladies Thursday Bible Study -12:00pm 076S Band Rehearsal 6:00 pm
10 Tai Chi 11:00 am <i>Ladies Thursday</i> <i>Bible Study - 12:00 pm</i>
3 Tai Chi 11:00 am <i>Ladies Thursday</i> Bible Study - 12:00 pm
Thursday