

The Messenger



April 2018 • Vol. XLI, No. 4

The Junior Choir and Glorious Voices of Third Presbyterian Church present:

“The Old Testament Fast Forward”

words by Tom Long
music by Allen Pote

Sunday,
April 22, 2018
10:45am

Join us for a lively retelling of many Old Testament stories through word and song. See what happens when our storytellers attempt to get through the whole Old Testament in 10 minutes!

You won't want to miss the fun!

Artwork by Leah Ormaechea.



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER at Third Church

Sunday, March 25 (Palm Sunday)

Worship at 8:30am and 10:45am
All are invited to meet in the Chapel at 10:30am to join the palm processional

Monday, March 26

Living Waters at 7:00pm in the Chapel
A Service of Healing and Wholeness

Tuesday, March 27

Morning Prayer in the Chapel at 9:15am

Thursday, March 29 (Maundy Thursday)

Lenten Voices Study at 12:00noon in Johnston Hall

Thursday, March 29 (Maundy Thursday)

Tenebrae Service with Communion at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary

Friday, March 30 (Good Friday)

Good Friday Worship at 12:15pm in the Chapel

Sunday, April 1 (Easter Sunday)

Sunrise Service at CRCDS at 6:30am
Festival Worship Services in the Sanctuary at 9:00am and 11:15am (note special service times)



Easter Floral Decorations

If you would like to make a donation to help support the cost of our Easter decorations, please contact Emily Blecksmith, eblecksmith@thirdpresbyterian.org.

The deadline for receiving donations is Tuesday, March 27.

THIRD VOICE

Dear Friends,

The last time Easter fell on April 1 was in 1945, as World War II was coming to a close. It seems so appropriate, does it not? Life, love, resurrection playing a massive joke on death itself, the ultimate April Fool's Day prank.

It feels like it's been a tough winter. This is when someone says it's always this way in Rochester! Perhaps it is, but the lower temperatures, the in-like-a-lion March, the big snow and continuous gray, only underscore what we are experiencing in other ways. Nearly everywhere I turn, from the news on my phone to conversations at the checkout at Wegmans, it's present. Parkland, #metoo, white supremacy. Lent. Wilderness.

And yet...we who follow Jesus know at least two things: 1. This is not how God wants things to be and 2. This is not how things *will* be. This is the resurrection promise, that death, and every death-like thing, does not have the final word.

And yet...Lent is a journey, with Easter as the destination. We know that as well, that we must sojourn through Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday to Good Friday before we can experience the open tomb.

I hope, therefore, you will make it to church throughout Holy Week. If you've never experienced our Maundy Thursday service, with communion and the extinguishing of lights (Tenebrae), do it. You will be grateful that you did. And our Good Friday service is simple in its telling of the crucifixion story. But it is worth hearing again, of course, to set the stage for what is to come.

This year we encourage you to experience the Stations of the Cross at the newly established ROC SALT Mission Center, at the corner of Ashland and Averill. You can find details elsewhere in this *Messenger*. Come to experience this beautiful space as well as to echo Jesus' final journey.

Wendell Berry writes of "practicing resurrection." I pray that we may find ways to do that.



And I pray that the spirit of Easter written by Gerald Manley Hopkins may be ours:

Easter Communion

Pure fasted faces draw unto this feast:

God comes all sweetness to your Lenten lips.

You striped in secret with breath-taking whips,

Those crooked rough-scored chequers may be pieced

To crosses meant for Jesus; you whom the East

With draught of thin and pursuant cold so nips

Breathe Easter now; you serged fellowships,

You vigil-keepers with low flames decreased,

God shall o'er-brim the measures you have spent

With oil of gladness, for sackcloth and frieze

And the ever-fretting shirt of punishment

Give myrrhy-threaded golden folds of ease.

Your scarce-sheathed bones are weary of being bent:

Lo, God shall strengthen all the feeble knees."

May our knees be strengthened as we seek to live in hope and joy, and even as we keep vigil, may we breathe the sweet, liberating scent of Easter, of resurrection, of love, of life. No fooling!

Faithfully,

Worship Schedule

APRIL 1 EASTER SUNDAY

6:30am Sunrise Service at CRCDS

9:00am Festive Worship in Sanctuary

11:15am Festive Worship in Sanctuary

Mark 16:1-8

"The Stewardship of Resurrection"
John Wilkinson preaching

APRIL 8

8:30am Worship in Chapel

Communion

10:45am Worship in Sanctuary

Communion

John 20:19-31, Acts 4:23-35

"Living into the Unknown"

Martha Langford preaching

APRIL 15

8:30am Worship in Chapel

Communion

10:45am Worship in Sanctuary

Baptism and Commissioning Class

Luke 24:36b-48

"Can I Get a Witness"

John Wilkinson preaching

APRIL 22

8:30am Worship in Chapel

Communion

Psalm 23 and John 10:11-18

"Shepherded and Shepherding"

John Wilkinson preaching

10:45am Worship in Sanctuary

Children's Musical – "The Old

Testament Fast Forward"

APRIL 29

8:30am Worship in Chapel

Communion

10:45am Worship in Sanctuary

John 15:1-8

"Vine and Branches"

John Wilkinson preaching

Milestones

Praying for the Bereaved

- For the **Sanford family** on the death of Jane Sanford on August 31.
- For **Steve and Pam Apt, Braden and Cameron; Lauren and Christopher Cistrone** on the death of Steve's father Charles Apt on February 7.
- For **Stephanie Post** on the death of her nephew Mikey on February 17
- For the **Garrett family** on the death of Ann Garrett on March 4.
- For **Thomas Hargrave and family** on the death of his brother Richard Hargrave on March 9
- For the **Stewart family** on the death of Natalie Stewart on March 10
- For the **Stonehill family** on the death of Judy Stonehill on March 11.
- For the **Tomlinson family** on the death of Lois Tomlinson on March 13.

Fellowship Happenings

Calvin Guild, Wednesday, April 18 at 12noon

Paul Gongloff will present, "Once Upon a Time: The Gospel in Stories." Cost is \$8 for a simple soup and sandwich lunch. Please **RSVP** to Dot Wallace (dpiercewallace@gmail.com) RSVP no later than April 13.

April Young Adult Fellowship (20s and 30s) Potluck Dinner, Friday, April 13, 6:30pm – Johnston Hall

Join fellow young adults for a casual potluck dinner and get-to-know-you event! This will be a fabulous opportunity to meet other young adults at Third Church in a relaxed setting. Drinks will be provided, please bring a yummy dish of your choosing to share. During this time, we will also have the opportunity to learn about many existing outreach opportunities at Third Church, as well as brainstorm some new possibilities. Please **RSVP** to Mary Ann Rutkowski (mrutkowski@thirdpresbyterian.org, 271-6537, ext. 101) by Tuesday, April 10.

Church Ladies event – P.A.D. Project Initiative: Did you know that government programs like SNAP do not provide for feminine hygiene projects? Church Ladies is joining Temple B'rith Kodesh (TBK) in their support of local women and girls. There are two ways you can help:

1. Buy supplies. Supplies include: pads (any size) and pantyliners and drop them in the wooden collection box outside Johnston Hall.

2. Join Church Ladies for breakfast on **Saturday, April 28 from 9:00 - 11:00am in Johnston Hall.** Enjoy a light breakfast of fruit and bagels, listen to a representative from the P.A.D. Project Initiative and help assemble emergency kits. **RSVP** to Becky D'Angelo Veitch (RVeitch@thirdpresbyterian.org) **\$3.00 charge for breakfast.**

New Date!

Sharing Stories at the 190th Anniversary Tea

From left to right:
Betsey Wheeler,
Barbara Dick, Beth
Tschorke, guest Heidi
Hudnut-Beumler, Gloria
Pleger, Bill Pethick



Christian Faith and the LGBT Experience

The Lecture: "Telling the Story"

April 2 at 7:00pm at CRCDS

Brae Adams of Open Arms
Metropolitan Community Church

The Exhibit: "The Power of Stories: Resist, Reclaim, Resurrect"

April 2-5, 2018

Open throughout the week, this multi-dimensional study created by Brae Adams explores the lives of LGBT Christians and the local faith communities who have supported.

Rich in history, the exhibits reflect the struggles and triumphs of LGBT people who have served God from within the church, as well as those excluded because of lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender experience. The AIDS quilt, and Shower of Stoles will be represented in this exhibit, which will also present Third Church's More Light journey.

Donate Blood In Memory of Mary Sue Jack

Celebrate life and make a difference by giving blood. Blood is needed for many different patients – a young child with a rare blood disorder, a family member fighting cancer, or a friend involved in a car accident. Please schedule an appointment to donate at this special blood drive.

Blood Drive

Johnston Hall

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

1:00 - 6:00pm

For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting redcrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Adult Spiritual Formation

Sunday Seminar: 9:30am, Johnston Hall

April 8 – Migration in the wake of Maria

led by Gladys Pedraza-Burgos, Chief Operations Officer at the Ibero-American Action League
The effects of Hurricane Maria were devastating for Puerto Rico. Rochester is now home to many who relocated in the aftermath of the storm. Learn more about the impact that this migration has had on our local area, and how the Ibero-American Action League is working with displaced families.

April 15 – Addressing Hunger in Greater Rochester

led by Mitch Gruber, Chief Programs Officer at Foodlink
Learn more about the mission of the Rochester area's largest food bank and how it works to alleviate hunger in our region. Consider opportunities for involvement with this organization or the Third Church hunger ministries that have connection to its work.

April 22 – Renewable Energy: Incubators at RIT

led by Bill Jones and Brad Sparks, Third Church members
What are today's startup companies doing to help care for our environment? Come and hear Bill Jones and Brad Sparks discuss their "day jobs" where they mentor early stage, renewable energy companies.

April 29 – The Muslims I Know

THE SUNDAY SEMINAR

led by Mara Ahmed, activist and filmmaker
Mara will explore the creation of "The Muslims I Know", her 2008 documentary film that tries to answer the clichéd question "Where are the moderate Muslims?" Rather than trying to speak for all Muslims, this personal documentary focuses on the Pakistani American community in Rochester, New York.

THE LUNCH AND LEARN

Screening of "The Muslims I Know"
Third Church will hold a screening of Mara Ahmed's documentary film at 12:30pm on Sunday, April 29. Followed with a question and answer session led by the filmmaker. If you would like to attend the lunch and learn please RSVP to the church office by April 25. A free-will offering will be held to cover the cost of the lunch and the film screening.

Growing in the Word:

9:30am, Parlor

April 8 – The Baby in the Basket

Exodus 2:1-10
led by Paul Gongloff

April 15 – The Call of Moses

Exodus 3:1-4:17
led by Dianna Daunton

April 22 – The First Plague

Exodus 7:1-24
led by Paul Gongloff

April 29 – Free at Last

Exodus 12:1-15
led by Ernest Krug

Thursday Voices:

12:00noon, Johnston Hall

In April, we will engage with practices of faith that can shape our ways of living and being in the world, support and deepen our connections with God and with the world around us. These particular practices were developed as part of the Valparaiso Project and are drawn from Dorothy Bass' book, *Practicing Our Faith: A Way of Life for Searching People*.

April 5 – Testimony

led by Lynette Sparks

April 12 – Household Economics

led by John Wilkinson

April 19 – Dying Wall

led by Ernest Krug

April 26 – Saying Yes and Saying No

led by Martha Langford

10th Annual Ecumenical Good Friday Cross Walk 2018

This event will begin with a short prayer service 8:45am at the Auditorium of the Aquinas Institute at 1127 Dewey Ave. At approximately 9:00am the walk will proceed with youth carrying the symbolic wooden cross of Christ.

The walk is approximately 1 ½ miles long and proceeds along Dewey Ave., Driving Park, Maplewood Rose Garden, Genesee Riverway Trail, and Seneca Parkway. Part of this route is on gravel (weather permitting). For information, visit www.grcc-fian.org.



Stations of the Cross at ROC SALT

(Ashland and Averill)

The circuit is self-paced and will be available daily March 26 to March 29 from:

- 9:00am - 12:30pm and
- 5:00 - 7:00pm

On Good Friday, it will be open from 9:00am - 7:00pm

Children's Ministry News

Becky D'Angelo-Veitch, Children's Ministry Coordinator, 271-6513, ext. 118, rveitch@thirdpresbyterian.org or

Mary Ann Rutkowski, Associate Director of Music, 271-6513, ext. 101 or mrutkowski@thirdpresbyterian.org

Happy Easter!

Sunday, April 1 is Easter. Please note time change for services – there will be two services at 9:00am and 11:15am. Nursery care will be offered for both services for children in kindergarten and younger. School aged children will be invited to sit at the worship table, and in addition, will have the opportunity to have a worship clip board full of activities to do in the pews.

Junior Choir and Glorious Voices will sing at the 9:00am service and sit together as a choir.

Sunday School

In Sunday School we will be studying post-resurrection stories from Luke and John and stories of the early church from Colossians.

Our worship table schedule for the rest of the month is as follows:

- April 8 – 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade at worship table (please note the addition of the third grade class)
- April 15 – no class at worship table (note: this is a change from the original schedule due to teacher travel)
- April 22 – Children's Musical—No Sunday School (see article on page 1)
- April 29 – 4th and 5th grade class at worship table.

Qabats

In Qabats, we will be finishing up our preparations for the children's musical!



Third Church youth member Erin Colaluca prepared "bedtime bags" for RAIHN kids. Bags were filled with a book, snuggle toy, small dinosaur toys, soap, toothbrush and paste - which she placed at each child's bed!

The B.E.A.T. BOX (Building Excitement at Third)

Jane Carden, Youth Ministry Coordinator, 271-6513, ext. 107 or jcarden@thirdpresbyterian.org, www.thirdchurchyouth.weebly.com

Peter DuBois, Director of Music, pdubois@thirdpresbyterian.org

Commissioning Sunday

Sunday, April 15 during 10:45am worship service

Be there!! Welcome our new members!

Red Wings

YOUTH Parents are staffing Rhorbach's at six Red Wings games this summer. Our dates are April 21, May 15, June 29, July 18, July 22, and August 9. If you find yourself at the game on any of these dates, please find us! Better yet...if you would like to join the fun and volunteer to work the concession stand alongside us, please do! We could use your help.

Contact Shannan Monrad (sswallowmonrad@hotmail.com) or Jane (jcarden@thirdpresbyterian.org) to be hooked in! For parents...the sign up link is in the March Youth Newsletter.

Youth Fundraiser - Plant Sale

Flowers delivered on Mother's Day (May 13). Look for the pre-order table at coffee hour on April 29 and May 6.

YOUth Mission Saturday Help us help our planet – plant a tree!

Saturday, April 21 from 9:00am-1:00pm
Location TBD



YOUTH and their families will work with Lake Ontario Tributary and Anglers Council to planting trees in an effort to reverse and prevent the degradation of the Lake Ontario tributary coastlines. Location details and necessary equipment will be determined once our site has been selected. Once available details will be included in the Thursday update, worship bulletin and posted on Facebook. For more information, contact Becky Picone (becky.picone@gmail.com).

Rusty Olson "Retires"

Rusty Olson's first retirement was from Eastman Kodak where, for many years, he was Director of the Kodak Pension Fund.

Now, to mark his second "retirement," all of Third Church and the Board of Trustees in particular; congratulates Rusty for his dedicated and selfless service over an amazing thirty-six years, during which time he has shepherded the church's endowment investments as Investment Committee chair.

"Third Presbyterian Church is incredibly fortunate to have had, for more than 36 years, the experience and connections Rusty Olson brought to the Investment Committee of our endowment. Without the support of a healthy and growing endowment, our Church would not be what it is today," said Doug Phillips, member of the Investment Committee and Chief Investment Officer at the University of Rochester.

John Wilkinson comments that, "Rusty's skills and expertise, but more so his dedication and commitment, have served Third Church exceedingly well. I am grateful that while Rusty is moving to a new role, we will continue to benefit from his leadership."

"It was a special privilege over the



years to have been able to look after our church's Endowment Fund – and a great learning experience for me, in many ways. It is also highly satisfying to leave the fund in such capable hands," Rusty said.

Over the last two months, Rusty has worked closely with Brad Sparks, the incoming investment chair. To the church's good fortune, Rusty will continue to be an integral part of the committee becoming, by proclamation of the Board of Trustees, Chair Emeritus. According to Brad, "Rusty has been extremely helpful in making this a smooth transition. I look forward to working with him and the other Investment Committee members as we strive going forward to continue to be good stewards of our endowment."

Rusty and Jeanette Olson have been members of Third Church, and have faithfully served the congregation in various capacities, for almost 55 years!



SAVE THE DATE
Car City 2018
April 28 - April 29
Visit RAIHN.org to learn more.

Statistics for 2017:

- 33 families served in shelter
- 100 individuals, including 33 adult females, 10 adult males, and 57 children
- 4,170 bed nights
- 12,510 meals
- 43 days = average length of stay
- 82% of families graduated into permanent housing
- 61% of families in program were employed or in school
- 85% of families remain housed 1 year later (2016 - 2107)
- 423 families in 14 years (1,323 individuals, including 772 children)
- 273 families called for shelter and could not be accepted due to being at-capacity at the time of request.
- 27 families served in aftercare
- 3 evictions/returns to homelessness prevented through provision of aftercare services

Generosity UPDATE

In addition to your stewardship pledges, this month we received gifts and contributions:

In Memory of:

Elizabeth Gocker
Sally Lunt
Cynthia Coupal
Mary Sue Jack

Additional gifts to support the following:

People's Emergency Fund
Food Cupboard
Dining Room Ministry
Adult Spiritual Formation

Amazon Link Helps You Raise Money for Third Church

Thanks to all who are using the Amazon Link on the Third Website. You are making a difference!

Before you shop at Amazon go to www.Thirdpresbyterian.org and click on Amazon link and shop...so easy to use.

This easy fundraising tool is no additional expense to you! Thank you!

Trip Miller

RAIHN Welcomed SMP employees to our efforts to house the homeless.

On February 18 volunteers from SMP provided vital service in setting up our space to welcome guests that afternoon.

Nikki Reynolds, SMP Wellness Director, arranged their team to pair with a few of our volunteers.

Thank you!



Third Church's Young Adult Fellowship group checked out Radio Social!



What is stewardship?

Finding Stewardship In Baptism



When Stewardship is mentioned in a church conversation, the topic is often about money and budgets. For me, it means the many different ways we tend to God's creation...caring for the planet, caring for our community, caring for gifts and talents, tending to our spiritual life. And if I had to pinpoint one specific moment when Stewardship hits home, it's Baptism.

In the spring of 2008, Third Church member Vince Tollers volunteered as an advisor for the summer's mission trip to South Carolina. His reason was simple... he wanted to embrace the baptismal vows we, as a congregation, make and more specifically as he, himself, pledged at these specific kids' baptisms. "Our vow is to love, encourage and support you, to share the good news of the gospel with you and to help you to know and follow Christ." During the mission week, Vince freely shared his wisdom, his gentle humor, and God's love. We had deep discussions around the baptismal promises and enjoyed fruitful conversations around the many ways these promises manifested themselves in each one's life.

I embrace those precious promises as an act of Stewardship...stewardship of Time, of Choices, of Community, of Spiritual life. Nurturing faith in others and passing our faith on is Stewardship in action. Thanks be to God.

— Jane Carden

Grocery Run Revenue continues to grow!

In 2017 the Grocery Run raised \$45,960 to fight hunger. Third Church and 16 other food pantries benefit from this family fun race.



Recipients from 2017 race:

- A Meal and More
- Cameron Community Ministries
- East High School Food Pantry
- Foodlink
- Gates Presbyterian Church
- Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf
- Irondequoit Community Cupboard
- Mary's Place Refugee Outreach
- Messiah Lutheran Church

- No One Left Behind
- Penfield Ecumenical Food Pantry
- Riverside Neighborhood Churches
- South Wedge Food Program
- St. Thomas Episcopal Church
- Third Presbyterian Church Hunger Ministries
- Webster Community Chest
- West Bloomfield Congregational Church

More than \$230,000 has been raised since 2010!

THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

- **John Wilkinson**, Pastor
- **Martha C. Langford**, Associate Pastor
(Congregational Care)
- **Lynette K. Sparks**, Associate Pastor
(Outreach and Evangelism)
- **Ernest F. Krug**, Parish Associate
- **Peter A. DuBois**, Director of Music/Organist
- **Mary Ann Rutkowski**, Associate Director
of Music
- **Caroline J. Robinson**, Assistant Organist
- **Rebecca D'Angelo-Veitch**, Coordinator of
Children's Ministry and Congregational Life
- **Jane S. Carden**, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
- **Roderic P. Frohman**, Pastor Emeritus

To reach any of our staff, call Third Presbyterian Church at (585) 271-6513

Work Day at Ashland & Averill

Saturday, April 28, 9:00am - 1:00pm

All of Third Church is invited to a day of service and fellowship for all ages. We will work both inside and outside at Ashland & Averill (the former Calvary St. Andrews site) to help spruce up ROC SALT Mission Center, South Wedge Food Program, and the grounds. We will share brief devotions and lunch.

REGISTER TODAY!

<https://pbygenval.org/upcoming-events/>



Please contact Cheryl Battaglia at financialadmin@pbygenval.org with any questions/issues with the registration form or if you need help with online registration.

And contact Tracy Walker (tracy@walkermedia.net) for questions about the actual day of work at the site.

Volunteers of all ages and abilities are welcome! We hope you can join us.

Kenya Connection



The Kenya team will be bringing you monthly updates from Kihumo parish! We hope to share our lives of faith! If you have a photo or video you think our friends in Kihumo parish would like to see, feel free to send it to ddaunton@rochester.rr.com. I would love some video or pictures from Mardi Gras and the Youth Souper Bowl skit would be great as well! We will also be sharing on our various social media sites and on displays at Third Church! Stay tuned!

This month, Kihumo graduated a group who had completed a 2-year course of study called TEE. (Theological Education by Extension). This two-year course covered ten topics, including Old and New Testament, church history, Jeremiah and Mark, drug and substance use, HIV and AIDs, preaching, biblical theology and the PCEA (Presbyterian Church of East Africa). Graduates gave candles to others in the congregation to recruit them for the next session. Congratulations to the graduates of this amazing program!