

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, April 3: Sunday School for
all Adults & Children, 9 am**

Sunday, April 3: Live Worship in the Sanctuary, 10 am

**Sunday, April 3: Livestream Worship on
Youtube Channel, 10 am**

**Thursday, April 7: Single Senior Support Group, 10 am
at Rockabilly Coffee Shop (101 W. Kennewick Ave.)**

**Friday- Saturday, April 22 to April 23:
Sr & Jr UMY Rock-a-Thon, Sunrise to Sunset**

Upcoming Lent Schedule:

Palm Sunday Parade, April 10, 9:45 am
Palm Sunday Worship Service, April 10, 10 am
Good Friday Worship Service, April 15, 7 pm
Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 16, 9 am
Easter Sunrise Service, April 17, 6:30 am
(At Columbia Park)
Easter Worship Service, April 17, 10 am
(in the Sanctuary)

Hi friends,

I know that emails you get on April 1st are always suspicious ... to the best of my knowledge there are no April Fools Day jokes in this week's update. I am always reminded of Paul's words in his letter to his friends in Corinthians - ¹⁸ "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God." (1 Cor. 1:18). This notion of a God who sits on a throne in majesty leaving it behind to become human and walk in solidarity with those who suffer, so much so that he becomes unrecognizable as divine and lifted on the cross sounds like foolishness. I read a great quote from one of my favorite theologians this week " Jesus was not crucified on a gold cross between two candles on an altar, but on a wooden cross of shame between two thieves on a place called 'the Skull'." I often think that Jesus' life, death and, resurrection is

the greatest April Fool's Joke to those in power that ever happened. For those that thrived on pushing people to the margins... for those that were so willing to pronounce God's favor or condemnation, for those that used the words of God to fill their coffers or steal power... Jesus, God in flesh, comes to walk and live in solidarity with the exact people who are deemed unworthy, sinners and "other". And then in the ultimate act of trying to silence the message of God through Jesus, they crucify him. Only to see the full extent of God's love and power in an empty tomb. I can almost see and hear the angels at the empty tomb shouting "April Fools! He is no longer here!" God's grace, love and justice is what the world so often says is foolishness, but in the good news of the gospel it is exactly the thing that brings us ... life in abundance! I pray that we come to the end of this year's journey of Lent, that we have been touched and renewed by the message that the world around us says is foolish but that we know WHO saves us!

Pastor Mark

Easter Flowers

We will again be decorating the sanctuary with beautiful white, hypoallergenic spring flowers for Easter! In keeping with tradition, you may remember and honor a loved one by donating \$12.00 to this memorial in your loved one's name. All flowers will be delivered to shut-ins after Easter. The last date to order is April 4th. Please call the church office at 509-582-2163 if you have any questions.

Copy Paper for Amistad Elementary

Many of you know we have been collecting copy paper for Amistad Elementary, as a way of helping them with a need they have. Many of us have purchased packages of 8.5 X 11, 20lb copy paper and brought it to the church over the last few weeks. This Sunday will be the last Sunday we collect those gifts, and we will deliver them next week to the school. Thank you to all of you who have been so generous in helping with this need!

No Wednesday Morning Bible Study **the next two weeks**

Pastor Mark will be out of town this Wednesday, and we are taking the Wednesday of Holy Week off so we will not be having our usual Bible Study on Wednesday. We will start back up after Easter on April 19th at 11 am.

Palm Sunday 'Parade'

Palm Sunday is Sunday April 10th. Kennewick first has had a tradition of parading through our neighborhood as a way of celebrating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. For the last couple of years, we have not been able to participate in this tradition, but on the 10th, we will again march through our neighborhood to begin our time of Worship. If you would like to join our Sunday School in this 'parade', we will gather at the church at 9:30 am and finish by processing into the sanctuary to start our worship service!