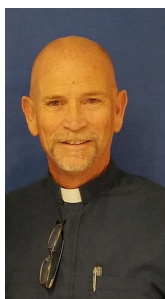


From the Pastor



As we continue our recovery from the pandemic Faith United and Iglesia Emmanuel are partnering together to offer an Easter Egg event to our community, Saturday, April 8, 10:30

am. However, it is more than simply an event, it is a ministry event. Our primary goal is to connect with our neighbors in relationship. Yes, we would like our neighbors to come to church. Yet, our primary purpose is to find ways we can love our neighbors. It is in relationship that we learn the needs of our neighbors. When we find ways to connect through love, the business of church attendance and membership takes care of itself.

The Easter Egg ministry event actually begins on Palm Sunday, 4/2/23. We will join with our sisters and brothers from Iglesia Emmanuel to assemble the eggs after worship. If you are unable to be here on Saturday, April 8, this is a good way to be involved in the ministry effort, and to further develop relationships with our sisters and brothers in Christ from Emmanuel.

At the actual ministry event we will need all the help we can get! We hope

to have a lot of children to marshal around through face painting, music, arts, and egg hunting! We also need people to interact with the parents. I will look forward to seeing you there!

Sunday, April 2 is Palm Sunday, a day that is, by design, a day of drama and paradox, of triumph and tragedy. It's a day of triumphant songs and subdued songs. It's a day of excitement and of foreboding. Jesus entered the city to shouts of Hosanna. By the end of the week, he would be mocked, tortured, and killed. The crown he received was one of thorns. Jesus' death and resurrection cannot be separated. Palm Sunday insists that we cannot avoid the cross – God's way of glory leads through the grave.

On Thursday, April 6, we gather for a Maundy Thursday worship service, 7 pm. This service proclaims Jesus' new commandment to love one another as he has loved us. It celebrates Christ's example of humble service and self-offering. By the end of the service, we find ourselves drawn to the cross of Jesus. There is no Easter without the cross.

We celebrate Easter on Sunday, April 9 with worship at 11 a.m. "Easter"

Rev. Dr. Ken Ritchie

comes from an old English word related to dawn and shining. At Easter we stand in the light of the resurrection to see a new creation, transformed by the grace and glory of God. We celebrate the presence and power of the risen and victorious Christ in his church, proclaiming his good news through Word and Sacrament. We rejoice in the gift of the Holy Spirit, who is the Lord and giver of life. Easter is the center of the Christian year.

I look forward to seeing you soon whether it be in-person or online during Sunday worship.

Let me know of any needs or concerns. If you would like to visit with me, let me know and we can arrange a time to meet.

Let's continue to choose kindness, compassion, and love; let's do justice and make peace; let's welcome the stranger; let's persevere in prayer, as we glorify God, grow disciples, and meet the needs of our neighbors.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Ken

Ken@FaithUnited-pc.com

Words of Faith

Outreach & Evangelism

Courtland Lewis

The **One Great Hour of Sharing** offerings will be received through Easter, April 9. Whether giving online or via check please designate your offering by noting it for “OGHS.”



For over 70 years, **One Great Hour of Sharing** has provided Presbyterians a way to share God’s love with our neighbors in need around the world. In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by **One Great Hour of Sharing** - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Thank you in advance for your gifts to **One Great Hour of Sharing**.

Weekly Bible Study class

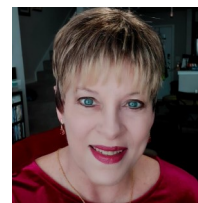
Rich Lewis

The class is currently led by Rich Lewis. They meet from 9:30 to 10:30 in classroom #4. Their current study is a series of lessons on the Psalms. The New Testament quotes the Psalms more than any other book of the Old Testament with the possible exception of Isaiah. We hear at least one psalm every Sunday as part of our worship service. Often, we sing hymns based on psalms. Psalms serve many purposes. There are psalms of praise, psalms of lament, psalms of thanksgiving, and psalms of celebration. There are psalms to fit our many moods and needs. We will look at all types of psalms and see how they can affect our faith.



Brenda Swindle Retires

Brenda Swindle has announced her retirement. We celebrate with her this milestone marker of life! We grieve that she will be leaving. Brenda has seen much in her twelve years of faithful service. There have been pastoral changes, major building projects, other worshipping communities coming and going, and of course, a pandemic. She has served our church with creativity, empathy, ingenuity, and professionalism. She has displayed grace and patience while functioning at a high level of professionalism. She has been dependable and productive. Often her conscientiousness led her to go beyond her ordinary responsibilities when needed. We have been fortunate to have Brenda in our community! It will be hard to replace her.



The Session and Pastor Ken have planned a time for the church to celebrate Brenda’s retirement with a reception after worship on April 23. I hope you will be able to attend to rejoice with her in her wonderful milestone and to give thanks for her service to our church. There will be a money tree at the reception if you would like to contribute to a celebratory gift. Brenda’s last day in the office will be May 2.

Happy Birthday!

April 9

* Dixie Howell

April 10

* Doug Sparks

April 11

* Brenda Burkham

April 13

* Scarlett Silva

April 19

* Richard Davenport



Faith United and Iglesia Emmanuel will be hosting a Community Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday April 8, 10:30 am - 11:30 am at the church. Invite your family and neighbors! The Easter Egg Hunt there will have arts and crafts, face painting, music, and other activities. If you are able to help let Pastor Ken know!



Praying the Kingdom of God

Whenever we pray the Lord's Prayer, we pray that God's kingdom would come and that God's will would be done on earth as it is in heaven. What are we praying for? Jesus offers several parables to describe the kingdom of God. We will consider those parables as models of prayer to form and shape our faith and faithfulness. Each week, usually Wednesday afternoon, a new episode will be uploaded to the church's Facebook page and YouTube channel. If you like the Facebook page and/or subscribe to the YouTube channel you will be notified when the latest video is uploaded. You can view the video offering at your convenience. This midweek devotional series will run through April 19. Join Pastor Ken as we pray the kingdom of God!



Worship services are available In-Person, via Facebook Live, or on our YouTube channel.

Worship resources available at www.FaithUnited-pc.com



Homebound:

♥ George & Mozelle Mills

Prayers for:

- ♥ David Duell
- ♥ Dale Durcholz
- ♥ Mike Jones
- ♥ Greg Kaut (George & Mozelle's son-in-law)
- ♥ Dennis Van Deventer

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Palm Sunday 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:00 Communion Worship 11:00 Iglesia-Fellowship Hall 12:30 Easter Egg prep	3 7 pm GA-Room #2	4	5 9:30 LTCDS #1 7:00 FUPC Choir	6 Maundy Thursday Worship 7	7 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship Hall #1	8 9:00 GA-Double Rm #4 10:30 Easter Egg Hunt 11:00 OA-Double Rm #4
9 Easter Sunday 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:00 Communion Worship 11:00 Iglesia –Fellowship Hall	10 7 pm GA-Room #2	11	12 9:30 LTCDS #1 7:00 FUPC Choir	16	17 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship Hall #1	18 9:00 GA-Double Rm #4 11:00 OA-Double Rm #4
16 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Iglesia-Fellowship Hall 12:30 FUPC Session 3:00 RYLA—Fellowship Hall	17 7 pm GA-Room #2	18	19 9:30 LTCDS #1 7:00 FUPC Choir	23	24 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship Hall #1	25 9:00 GA-Double Rm #4 11:00 OA-Double Rm #4
23 9:30 Adult Sunday School 10:30 Coffee Fellowship 11:00 FUPC Worship 11:00 Iglesia-Fellowship Hall	24 7 pm GA-Room #2	25	26 9:30 LTCDS #1 7:00 FUPC Choir	27	28 9:00 LTCDS Fellowship Hall #1	29 9:00 GA-Double Rm #4 11:00 OA-Double Rm #4



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