



COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CEDAR GROVE

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Missions Giving for April
- Hello from Lisa

APRIL 2022



A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PASTOR

Grace and Peace!

April is going to be an exciting time for us at Community Church! We start with a return of the Easter Egg Hunt, and then we head into Holy Week. We will wave our Palms and welcome Jesus into Jerusalem; we will break bread together on Maundy Thursday, mourn the loss of our savior on Good Friday, wait in anticipation on Holy Saturday, and finally, we will shout with joy, "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!" on Easter Sunday! We will watch "The 10 Commandments" during Bible study in April! Bring your popcorn and snacks and join us on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm.

You may be asking, "why are we changing things during Holy Week? Why are we doing something else?" The answer to that is simple; I want to help us experience this week as we are meant to. I want you to think of this as your chance to walk in the disciples' shoes (or sandals) and place yourself in the story. That means we will go day by day and talk about what was happening to Jesus each day of Holy Week. Monday through Wednesday, I will do a Facebook Live and talk about what Jesus did each day. On Maundy Thursday, we will have a chance to eat together as a community at 6:30pm as we tell the story of Jesus and the disciples in the upstairs room. We will have a simple supper of soup, salad, and bread followed by a service with Communion by Intinction and Handwashing. Maundy Thursday is supposed to make us feel uneasy with a false sense of security. We place ourselves in the roles of

the disciples and break bread, not knowing if/when Jesus will be arrested. Our worst fears and most profound sadness comes to fruition on Good Friday. We gather at 7:30 pm to sit and contemplate what happens to Jesus and end with lighting candles to remember those who left us. On Holy Saturday, you have the opportunity to come and do a Stations of the Cross from 1:00 pm-3:00 pm. This is a time for you to sit in suspense and think about what is coming on Sunday. And of course, on Easter Morning, we will celebrate The Resurrection!

I have often felt I am a better preacher on Easter Sunday than on Christmas Eve because I believe what God does for us on Easter Sunday is meant to change us and the way we see the world. Instead of seeing disappointment and pain, we see a world where God chooses us and says "yes" to us. This is not to say that I do not appreciate the Incarnation or the traditions of Christmas. I love what Christmas means! However, my faith is anchored on what God does on Easter. And I hope this year you find the power of this week to be meaningful to you.

I encourage you to treat Holy Week as a time to go deep into your faith. Let this week refresh and reaffirm why you call yourself a follower of the Risen Christ. I look forward to seeing you all during Holy Week! May God Bless You and Keep You.

In Peace,
Rev. Sarah Welch-Pomerantz
Pastor

Egg Hunt

**There's seven
easter eggs
hidden in this
newsletter!
Can you find
them all?**

HELLO FROM LISA

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.” —Psalm 51:10

Spring Cleaning! It is a time to discard that which has not been working, physically, mentally, spiritually. To toss out the old and bring in the fresh and new! As we set about the task of cleaning our windows, purging our closets and airing out our homes, our thoughts should also turn to how to clean up the habits that no longer serve us, as well as to adopt new more life giving habits that bring about peace, and happiness and the abundant life, Jesus invites us to live. Below are some suggestions to lighten your life spiritually and physically in the coming months.

Our daily life is our spiritual life and what we think, say and do matters. We need to sit down and consciously bring into our awareness what has not been working in our lives. What needs to go?

Sit down and write down all the bad habits, negative self-talk and even toxic people that need to drop away from your life. Sit in prayer and meditation

and ask the Lord for his hand in bringing about the change you seek. Pick one or two things to work on. Don't overwhelm yourself. Most importantly pick an action plan on how you will do this.

What needs your attention? Just as we make repairs in the spring from a long hard winter, we need to take a honest look at what we have been neglecting in our spiritual and emotional lives. Has there been a relationship that you just haven't given enough of your time? Have you been dropping away from worship and giving yourself excuses to avoid the spiritual realm? Do you need to engage in long needed self-care? Again, make a plan. I find writing everything down in a journal brings me more clarity and organization.

As we make our way into the beauty and renewal of Spring, My wish is for each of you to claim a renewal and a “spring cleansing” in all that you experience.

Peace,
Lisa

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

I hope this Lenten season is bringing space to remember and reflect before we are launched into the fullness of Resurrection.

We are so excited to have been able to hold some familiar fun events in the past month (and more to come)! The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner was back in full force this year with delicious pancakes, salad, and desert. The kids entertained us all with a Mummy Wrap competition and a Pancake Toss. After dinner, even the adults joined in for the Alleluia March, complete with Alleluia banners, beads, and masks!

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is back this year as well! It will be held on April 2, 2022 at 10:00am with a rain date of April 9, 2022 at the same

time. Along with the hunt, we will also have snacks and even photos with the Easter bunny! Feel free to invite any children you know who may be interested. If you would like to be involved in the planning of this event, please see me after church.

As always, we're so thankful for all of the support the Christian Education team has experienced and we are looking forward to bringing you more fun-filled events, both well-loved, long-held traditions and new ideas.

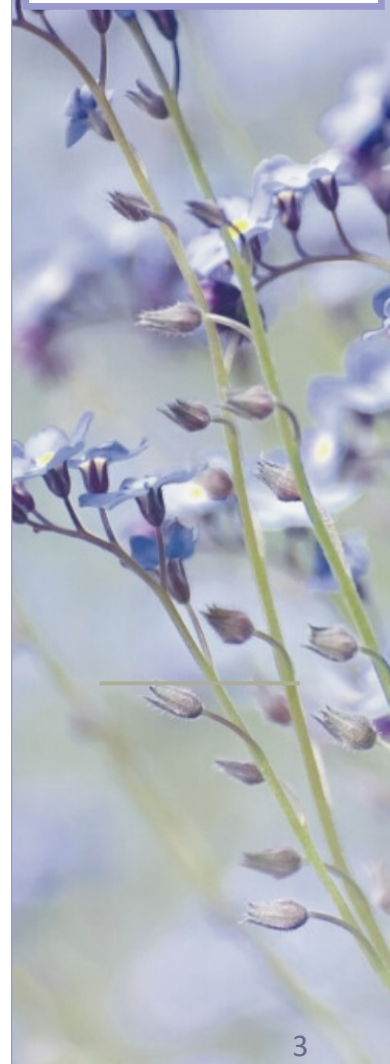
Peace,
Bailey Welch-Pomerantz,
Director of Christian Education



THRIFT SHOP

Thursdays

10am—3pm





CHOIR CORNER

It is always so amazing how quickly time flies by. It seems as though we have just finished filing away our Christmas music, and here we are, just a few weeks away from Easter!

Once again our wonderful choir is hard at work - actually, we started working on Easter music right after New Year! Our music for Easter is diverse and poses many challenges for our singers. This year, we have

a range of compositions, from a high energy spiritual, a very popular anthem from Luis Bojos, a Congolese folk hymn, to an anthem based on a chorale by Heinrich Schutz, a German composer from the Baroque area.

Also included in our program is American composer Randall Thompson's magnificent "Alleluia", and Dan Forrest's new arrangement of "Crown Him", based on "Crown Him With Many Crowns".

While our music is indeed diverse, it does have a common theme. Through our music, we celebrate the Resurrection in many different ways, ranging from energetic to quiet reflection. And once again, our wonderful musicians will be back with help us celebrate this special day!

We look forward to seeing you on Easter morning!

Happy Spring!

Sandy



April MISSIONS GIVING

BROADWAY HOUSE

March Budget will go to Broadway House. Broadway House for Continuing Care provides post-acute care for men and women infected by the AIDS virus. They provide treatment for the mind and spirit as well as the body. They are affiliated with University Hospital in Newark and have gained national recognition for their unique brand of comprehensive care. With proper care and education, the majority of people can go back to their homes and live long, productive lives as members of the community.

April THANK OFFERING

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CEDAR GROVE

The Thank Offering for the month of April will go to the Church. Please use your offering envelope or marking a pew envelope "CHURCH"



Act Against Antisemitism

Join Reverend Sarah at Temple Shalom in Cedar Grove as they host an open forum on antisemitism and bias.

April 26, 2022

7 pm –9:15 pm

Temple Shalom

760 Pompton Ave, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009



Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

PRAYER LIST

Gloria Booth and Family

Dolores Cardinale

friend of Joe Shook, health issues

Jacob and Jaxson

grandsons of Maria DaCunha

John DelVecchio

brother-in-law of Donna DelVecchio,
health issues

Helen and Rein Emrich

Church Members, health issues

Carole Furlong

sister of Lynne Davies, Cancer

The Jackson and Larson

Families

on the passing of Monica Jackson

The Kelly Family

on the passing of TJ Kelly

Kim Ostrowski

health issues

Heather Ostrowski

The Gallion Family

on the passing of Janice Grube

The Larson Family

on the passing of Jack Larson

Cliff Kreismer

on the death of his wife Helen and other
health issues

The Jenkins Family

on the passing of Margaret

Ed O'Brien

Church Member, in need of prayers

Ruth Ravina

Holocaust survivor, health issues

The Shedd Family

on the death of Phyllis Shedd

Deborah A. Yingst

in hospice

Joe Shook

Shook Funeral Home, medical issues

Norman Vaughan

friend of Gallions, dealing with effects of
a stroke

Mimi

Sister of Willie and Mary Wing

Tina Wright and Family

on the death of husband Gregory Wright

Nicholas Ferrigno

brother of Patrice Larson

The Caputo Family

on the passing of Gene Caputo



APRIL

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Anniversaries

Frank & Phyllis Ferante
31 Years on April 12

Birthdays

Kacey Studwell 04/02
Isabelle Walton 04/09
Jennifer Aragon 04/10
Matthew Searing 04/10
Helen Emrich 04/28

EASTER TRIDUUM

Maundy Thursday

April 14, 2022
6:30pm –7:30pm

Good Friday

April 15, 2022
7:30pm Service

Holy Saturday

April 16, 2022
Stations of the Cross
1:00 pm—3:00 pm

Easter Sunday

April 17, 2022
10am Service



WORSHIP NOTES FOR APRIL

April 3

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Scripture:

Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8

April 10

Sixth Sunday in Lent

Scripture:

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Luke 19:28-40
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 22:14-23:56

April 14

Maundy Thursday

Scripture:

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 15

Good Friday

Scripture:

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25 or
Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9
John 18:1-19:42

April 16

Holy Saturday

Scripture:

Job 14:1-14 or
Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24
Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16
1 Peter 4:1-8
Matthew 27:57-66 or
John 19:38-42

April 17

Easter

Scripture:

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or Acts
10:34-43
John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12

April 24

Second Sunday of Easter

Scripture:

Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 150
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31



April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Easter Egg Hunt 10 am
3 SERVICE 10am	4	5 NA Meeting 7:30 pm	6 Bible Study 6:30pm	7 Thrift Shop 10am—3pm AA Women's Meeting 7:30pm	8	9
10 SERVICE 10am Palm Sunday	11	12 NA Meeting 7:30 pm	13 Trustees Meeting 7pm	14 Maundy Thursday Service 7:30pm Thrift Shop 10am—3pm AA Women's Meeting 7:30pm	15 Good Friday Service 7:30pm	16 Holy Saturday 1 –3 pm
17  EASTER SUNDAY 10 am Service	18 Executive Board Meeting 7:30pm	19 NA Meeting 7:30 pm	20 Building and Grounds 6:30 Bible Study 6:30pm	21 Thrift Shop 10am—3pm AA Women's Meeting 7:30pm	22	23
24 SERVICE 10am	25	26 Act Against Antisemitism 7pm –9:15pm NA Meeting 7:30 pm	27 Bible Study 6:30pm	28 Thrift Shop 10am—3pm AA Women's Meeting 7:30pm	29	30



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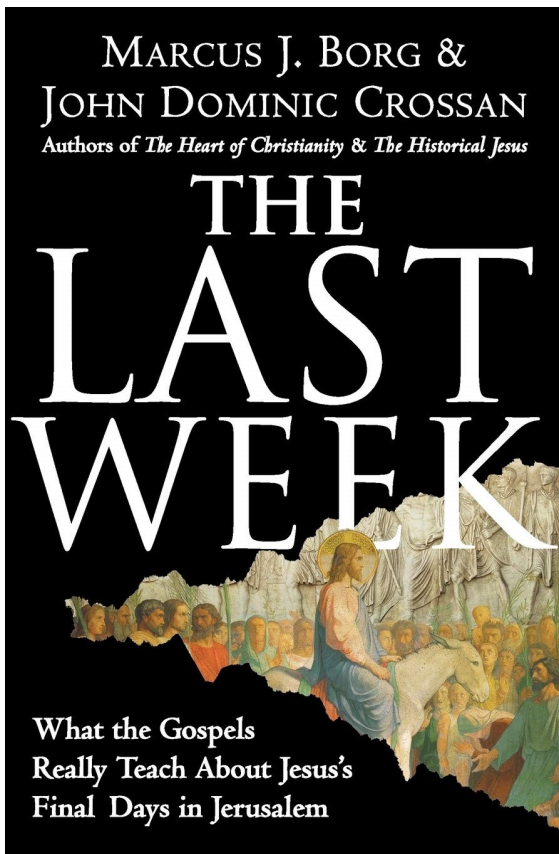
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The Last Week: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus's Final Days in Jerusalem

by Marcus J. Borg and John Dominic Crossan



Rev. Sarah will be referencing this book during our services for Holy Week. If you would like to learn more about the ideas that will be brought up during our services, we encourage you to read this book and let Rev. Sarah know your thoughts!



Synopsis

Top Jesus scholars Marcus J. Borg and John Dominic Crossan join together to reveal a radical and little-known Jesus. As both authors reacted to and responded to questions about Mel Gibson's blockbuster *The Passion of the Christ*, they discovered that many Christians are unclear on the details of events during the week leading up to Jesus's crucifixion.

Using the gospel of Mark as their guide, Borg and Crossan present a day-by-day account of Jesus's final week of life. They begin their story on Palm Sunday with two triumphal entries into Jerusalem. The first entry, that of Roman governor Pontius Pilate leading Roman soldiers into the city, symbolized military strength. The second heralded a new kind of moral hero who was praised by the people as he rode in on a humble donkey. The Jesus introduced by Borg and Crossan is this new moral hero, a more dangerous Jesus than the one enshrined in the church's traditional teachings.

The Last Week depicts Jesus giving up his life to protest power without justice and to condemn the rich who lack concern for the poor. In this vein, at the end of the week Jesus marches up Calvary, offering himself as a model for others to do the same when they are confronted by similar issues. Informed, challenged, and inspired, we not only meet the historical Jesus, but meet a new Jesus who engages us and invites us to follow him.

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CEDAR GROVE

UNITED IN SPIRIT AND INSPIRED BY GOD'S GRACE, WE WELCOME ALL, LOVE ALL, AND SEEK JUSTICE FOR ALL. COMMUNITY CHURCH IS A ENERGETIC, PASSIONATE, CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY THAT SPANS THE GENERATIONS, WITH PEOPLE OF ALL AGES COMMITTING THEIR TIME AND ENERGY TO THE CHURCH AND ITS MISSION. AS A WELCOMING AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION, WE FOLLOW THIS SIMPLE PRINCIPLE:

DO JUSTICE.

LOVE KINDNESS.

WALK HUMBLY.

Community Church has been part of the Cedar Grove community for over 70 years. We consider ourselves blessed to serve such a wonderful town. We welcome all of God's people to be part of our family.

WORSHIP WITH US

SUNDAYS AT 10AM

In the Sanctuary and online

OUR MISSION

We the members of the Community Church of Cedar Grove profess Jesus Christ as our Lord and invite all to join us in the fellowship of believers.

We seek with God's help to:

Covenant one with another to seek and respond to the Word and the will of God;

Depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us;

Walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known and to be made known to us through a loving, friendly and supportive church family that nurtures, trusts, and cares for one another in times of celebration and need;

Be faithful and active in our responsibility as church members by contributing according to our individual strengths;

Attend services regularly giving support to the staff and members of our church family;

Respect our children and youth and to encourage them to participate in the life of our church through worship service, church school, and youth activities while nurturing their spiritual development;

Witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in our congregation, our community, and all the world, while worshipping God, striving for truth, justice, and peace for all;

Look forward with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life as we strive to fulfill this mission.

Community Church of Cedar Grove

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