



Where faith happens and love abounds!

April 2018

PALM FRONDS

Issue 22284

From the Pastor

Easter worship is an uplifting moment filled with powerful sounds and a commanding message. Entering into the pageantry of Easter we not only honor what happened long ago but we mystically tap into the “*power of Christ’s resurrection*” (Philippians 3:10) for living today.

It doesn’t take long, however, to realize that we live in a world far more focused on pain and suffering rather than the new beginning of resurrection. It’s easy to find broken places in the world; it’s easy to find places where death is dealt on a continual basis.

The Bible texts we will read during the Easter were written by and for people who lived in a world in which resurrection was not apparent. Accounts of their passionate faith in the face of an oppressive death-dealing empire inspire us and fill us with hope. “*But,*” writes Wil Gafney of Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth, Texas, “*we are not dependent on their words. We have unmediated access to the love and power of the resurrected Jesus.*” We experience that love and power in worship, prayer, Bible reading and study, in our relationships with one another, and in compassionate service to others.

Frederick Buechner captures the spirit of our work in bridging the gap between death and life:

Anxiety and fear are what we know best in this fantastic century of ours...From civilization itself to what seemed the most unalterable values of the past, everything is threatened or already in ruins. We have heard so much tragic news that when the news is good we cannot hear it. But the proclamation of Easter Day is that all is well. And as a Christian, I say this not with the easy optimism of one who has never known a time when all was not well but as one who has faced the Cross in all its obscenity as well as in all its glory... In the end, God’s will, not ours, is done. Love is the victor. Death is not the end. The end is life. God’s life and our lives through God, in God. Existence has greater depths of beauty, mystery, and benediction than the wildest visionary has ever dared to dream. Christ our Lord has risen! Alleluia!

As we face the struggles of life, may we do so as an Easter people whose song is Alleluia! And may we all be “*born anew into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ*” (1 Peter 1:3).

Easter blessings to all!

Pastor Brad



Easter Sunday April 1

10am Easter Service with
Holy Communion

11am Butterfly release in
the Garth

11:15am Refreshments &
Conversation in
Friendship Center



“Do not abandon
yourselves to despair. We
are the Easter people and
hallelujah is our song.”

~ John Paul II

April Worship - Sundays, 10 am

April 1 – Easter - *Holy Communion*
Scripture: Isaiah 25:6-9; Mark 16:1-8
Sermon: *The End of the Story*

April 8 – 2nd Sunday of Easter
Scripture: Acts 4:32-35; John 20:19-31
Sermon: *A Matter of Heart and Soul*

April 15 – 3rd Sunday of Easter
Guest Minister: Rev. Susan Moore

April 22 – 4th Sunday of Easter
Scripture: 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18
Sermon: *Loving Close Up*

April 29 – 5th Sunday of Easter
Scripture: John 15:1-8
Sermon: *Rooted*

Pastor Brad will be on retreat April 11-18. For pastoral care during his absence, call the office or contact Susan Moore, Spiritual Life & Celebration Team facilitator.



Prayer Ministry

Thursdays, 10:00 am-10:20 am, in the sanctuary

No meeting on March 29, Maundy Thursday

To list a joy or concern listed on the prayer list, fill out a Prayer Request form in the pew and place it on the offering plate or call the Church Office. Requests are lifted in prayer at Prayer Ministry every Thursday.



Prayer Requests received during March
12-Step Groups meeting at the Church + For all who eat from our food offerings + Carol Lois Bryant + Helga Hoefler + Carl Mulholland (Susan Moore's brother) + For health & blessings For discerning what I can give to others An end to gun violence + For refugees For the earth + For Colleen Putnam on the death of her grandmother + For Bud Scott on the death of his father

And our shut-ins:

Dot Cooper, Barbara Daum, Linda Dick, Marlene Hambleton, Dorothy Jones, John Mann, Ellen Mason, Miriam Mabrey, Barbara Miller, John Nemire, Henrietta Smith, Harry & Beverly Wagner, Lorna Zirbel

Bible Study

Thursdays, 10:30 am-11:45 am

In Fellowship Hall

During April, studies will be focused on the *Still-Speaking Devotions* published on Mondays. Copies will be available at Bible Study but can be previewed on the United Church of Christ website at www.ucc.org, click on "Daily Devotional".



Thanks to Rev. Linda Reilly who will lead Bible Study on April 12. Pastor Brad will lead the studies all other Thursdays in April.

Everyone is welcome! Just bring an inquisitive mind & open heart!



SPECIAL WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT THE CHURCH!

Donate the cost of any **Sunday bulletin** at \$25.00 in honor or memory of someone. Contact the Church office.



APRIL 8th
11:30am-12:45pm

Super Sunday is when all Ministry Teams meet for 1 hour followed by a 10-minute update and closing blessing.

Ministry Teams do the day-to-day planning for programs, activities, events and on-going physical plant and staff needs of the Church of the Palms. So, if you have ideas...volunteer!

Teams and facilitators are:

Missions – Linda Reilly
Faith Formation – Colleen Putnam
Spiritual Life & Celebration – Susan Moore
Administration (includes finance, property, & personnel) – Bud Scott



April Birthdays

4 Barbara Sinclair

13 Rich Flick

14 Betty Aucello

15 Liz Hill-Sanio

27 Fred Moore

Thank you: Women's Fellowship

Dear members of the Women's Fellowship,

Thank you so much to all of you who helped in any way with the reception after our piano and organ concert. From the beautiful bouquets of flowers to all of the refreshments and decorations, everything was so lovely and really meant a lot to Ed and me. We also want to give a special thank you to Karin Cogswell for spearheading the preparations.

Thank you all for blessing us with your love and support.

Fondly,
Elaine and Ed



Women's Fellowship Spring Luncheon

Wednesday, April 11th
12 noon at Quail Ridge Country Club.

Event costs \$25 and includes special entertainment.
Sign up available in Friendship Center.



Music Notes

MUSIC APPRECIATION SUNDAY

We will celebrate the musicians of the church on Sunday, April 29th. Our dedicated singers and handbell ringers work all season preparing anthems, Cantatas, and solos to be presented to the congregation at Sunday Worship. There will be special recognition after the service in Friendship Center that morning. Please be sure to speak to the choir members to thank them for their tireless dedication to the Music Ministry here at Church of the Palms.

ELAINE REINHARDT

Elaine Reinhardt blesses us with her gift of music from November until she leaves for her home up north. Elaine is very fond of the Music Ministry here at Church of the Palms. April 29th will be her last Sunday here for the season. You can greet her and personally thank her in the Friendship Center after the service. Elaine will travel to her home in New York State where she will spend the summer months before returning here to Florida in November.

Everyone here at Church of the Palms thanks you, Elaine, for your contribution to the Music Ministry and the Sunday morning worship services.

Soli Deo Gloria (Glory to God Alone)

Ed Krynicki

Faith Formation Team

The Community Easter Egg Hunt was another success! We thank all volunteers who joined in the fun and helped behind the scenes. It was such a delight to see little ones running, playing and dancing about the campus in pure joy...and sugar lol. As we gave our warmest welcome, families enjoyed the music, games and fun with each other. A big thanks to our friend Shawn Thomas, who lifted hearts with his singing. Many visitors expressed how much fun they had with us and understood that with our words and actions that we are here for them. About fifty kids attended this year. Parents and caregivers signed up to receive the newsletter and other news. We hope to see them soon. Thank you to the Women's Fellowship for your \$200 donation to help with all our giveaways and prizes. See you next year!

In celebration,

Colleen Putnam, Faith Formation Team



APRIL CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 EASTER 10am Worship 11am Butterfly release (Garth) 11:15am Social Hour/Birthdays	2 Church Office Closed	3 <i>Pastor's Office Hours</i>	4	5 10:00 am Prayer Ministry 10:30 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir Practice <i>Pastor's Office Hours</i>	6	7 10:30am – Pastoral Relations Team
8 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am - Social Hour 11:30am – Super Sunday Ministry Teams' meeting	9 <i>Pastor's Office Hours</i>	10	11 12pm Women's Fellowship Spring Luncheon	12 10:00 am Prayer Ministry 10:30 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir Practice	13	14
15 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am - Social Hour	16	17 <i>Deadline to submit information for newsletter.</i>	18	19 10:00 am Prayer Ministry 10:30 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir Practice <i>Pastor's Office Hours</i>	20	21
22 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am - Social Hour	23 6 pm Leadership Council meeting <i>Pastor's Office Hours from 1pm</i>	24	25	26 10:00 am Prayer Ministry 10:30 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Choir Practice <i>Pastor's Office Hours</i>	27	28
29 Music Appreciation Sunday 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am - Social Hour	30	 <p><i>Office Hours are Tuesday – Friday, 9am-1pm</i> <i>Pastor's office hours on days indicated; generally from 9am but always call first to be sure he is available.</i> <u>Pastor Brad will be on vacation April 11-18.</u></p>				



CROS Ministries

Caring Kitchen Update: Be assured that the Caring Kitchen has not closed. They are serving lunch five days a week at noon at local churches. They are also providing weekend bag lunches, and dinner on Sunday evenings. If you have questions about the Caring Kitchen transition, please feel free to contact Rev. Juanita Bryant Goode, Director of Engagement, who is heading up the transition at jgoode@crossministries.org.

Caring Kitchen Meals noon to 1:00 pm weekdays

MONDAY – Resurrection Life Fellowship
TUESDAY – Cason UMC; Enter on south side
WEDNESDAY – St. Matthew’s Episcopal;
THURSDAY – Cason UMC; Enter on south side
FRIDAY – St. Matthew’s Episcopal; Parish Hall
SATURDAY– 9 am; Bag Lunches at Cason UMC
SUNDAY - 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm; Delray Beach Haitian United Church Of The Nazarene

Also, we, at Church of the Palms, continue to support CROS Ministries and their Food Pantry through our gifts of canned and dry goods.



Attendance and Offerings

February

Average Attendance	70	
Giving	\$11,942	
Total income		\$24,710.00
Total Expenses		<u>\$45,226.00</u>
Total		(\$2,0516.00)

Thanks to all who contributed a total of \$688.00 to the **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering. Your generosity is appreciated.



No matter who you are, or where you are on



**life’s journey, no matter who you love,
you’re welcome**

**Church of the Palms United Church of Christ
where faith happens and love abounds!**

Church of the Palms; United Church of Christ

1960 N. Swinton Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33444

561.276.6347

www.churchofthepalms.net

info@churchofthepalms.net

Rev. Brad S. Lutz, Designated Pastor
Edward M. Krynicki, Minister of Music
Elaine Reinhardt, Pianist
Nancy Hart, Office Manager
Elnora C. Mitchell, Bookkeeper
Milan Charles Sunday School Teacher
Shawn Antman, Jeanrony Esther, Sextons

Joycelyn Patrick, Moderator
“Bud” Scott, Vice Moderator/Administration Team
Karin Cogswell, Clerk
Barbara Sinclair, Treasurer
Linda Reilly, Mission Team
Colleen Putnam, Faith Formation Team
Susan Moore, Spiritual Life & Celebration Team

... and many amazing volunteers!