



# Life Line

## Paul's Perspectives:



Our Lenten journey began on Ash Wednesday, and now as we come to the first Sunday of March it is already the third of the six Sundays in Lent. In many ways lent is a somber journey. It is a time for repentance, soul searching, and spiritual preparation. This journey will take us Monday through Thursday, with Jesus institution of the Lords table. Then comes Good Friday which is perhaps the darkest day the world has ever known. But there is light at the end of this darkened tunnel of our Lenten journey, and it is the open and empty tomb.

I'm reminded of Psalm 23, where the Psalmist says, "*Yea, though I walk through the valley of death...Thou art with me.....*" the keyword is 'through'. When dark days come, it is a great thing to know that we can, and will, get through them. Jesus got through his suffering because He knew that a great joy was set before Him, and those He loved, due to His certainty that death would be overcome by the resurrection. Some one has coined what you might call a Yogi-ism: "The only way through it, is through it." There are lonesome valleys, and dark tunneled days that we, along with Jesus, must traverse, but remember to keep the end in sight: which is Easter's bright and joyful light - called resurrection.

One bright spot for Jesus in His somber Journey to the cross, was Palm Sunday's entering into Jerusalem, accompanied with Palm fronds and Praises, and singing of children who called Him their King. But even then, Jesus wept over that Holy City because their excitement would soon wane, and the coming Friday would be completely opposite from what was happening on that Sunday.

Palm Sunday this year comes after a year's experience in this present pandemic. It comes with hopes, that with vaccines, COVID-19 will soon be coming under control. In the coming months we will have been 'through it'.

With this hope in mind, we have decided to 'resurrect' our Confirmation class, and we will be Confirming our confirmands on this coming Palm Sunday morning. (March 28<sup>th</sup>) I am sure it will be a bright spot for them, us, and our church. Come and join us if you can.

One other bright spot for your Pastor is - that this Tuesday I will be getting my second shot of the vaccine. The only way through it is through it!!

*Pastor Paul*



# March 2021



**Due to COVID19 our planning of worship and other events may be subject to change.**  
**When changes are made, you will be advised by email or church website.**

*You can watch Rev. Ray on your phone or computer every Sunday morning at 10:15 am on Zoom.  
(Our I.D. is 8493568945, Password 998736.) Just go online and get your ZOOM App. It's free!*

**Bible Study** - Evening Bible study meets on the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Monday at 7:00 pm.  
We are studying the book of Luke.



**Wednesday, March 3rd**—Lenten Meditation only on ZOOM at 7:00 pm.

**Sunday, March 7th**—Third Sunday of Lent. Worship Hour at 10:15 am.  
Special Music by Rose Seeger and Lora Gensler.

**Wednesday, March 10th**—Lenten Meditation only on ZOOM at 7:00 pm.

**Sunday, March 14th**—DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS. Fourth Sunday in Lent.  
Worship Hour at 10:15 am. Special Music by Steve Dolphin.  
Following the Church service we will have Confirmation Class from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm.

**Wednesday, March 17**—Lenten Meditation only on ZOOM at 7:00 pm.



**Sunday, March 21st**—Fifth Sunday in Lent. Worship is at 10:15 am. Special Music TBD.

**Monday, March 22nd**—Church Council Meeting at 7:00 pm.

**Wednesday, March 24th**—Lenten Meditation only on ZOOM at 7:00 pm.

**Sunday, March 28th- Palm Sunday**  
Holy Communion and Confirmation Sunday.  
Worship Hour at 10:15 am. Special Music TBD.  
Following the Church service  
please join us for Coffee Hour.



**Friday, April 2nd— Good Friday**

Church Service at 7:00 pm.  
Please come and join us in  
person or on Zoom.



## Lectionary Readings



3/7 3rd Sunday of Lent— Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22.

3/14 4th Sunday in Lent— Number 21:4-9; Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10,  
John 3:14-21.

3/21 5th Sunday in Lent— Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Psalm 119: 9-16; Hebrews 5:5-10;  
John 12:20-33.

3/28 Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday— Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Psalm 31:9-16;  
Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 11:1-11; Mark 14:1-15:47.



# Prayers and Concerns



COVID19 Responders and Caregivers

Victims of Terrorism

Victims and volunteers of natural disasters worldwide

Our Nation's Leaders

All military personnel and their families

Casa Bernabe Orphanage

Kristy Novak Enger

Rachel Frashingbauer

Oscar Jacobs

Tom and Lynn Koeper

Neely McNeal

Dan Medkalf

Stephanie Mutz

Matthew Olson

Julie Pagan

Torin Philips

Reid Shamus

Jack and Jeanie Smith

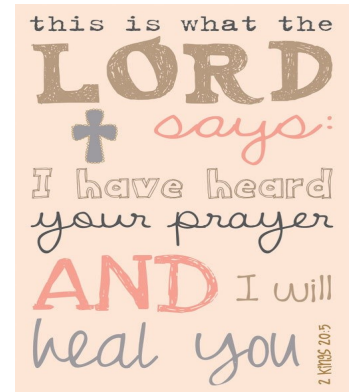
5 year old Clinton

## Health Care Facilities:

Marge Pischke

Jean Moyer

**Jean Moyer has a new address!**  
Oak Park Place 1700 Tuet Road  
Apt. 1118  
Burlington, WI 53105  
Phone Number 262-758-6718



## COUNCIL MINUTE HIGHLIGHTS



**February Council Meeting was canceled due to bad weather.**  
**Next Council Meeting is March 15th at 7:00 pm.**

### Pastor's Report

- Lenten services begin on Wednesday, February 17th (Ash Wednesday). Pastor has reached out to the 4-5 churches that our church normally partner with throughout the Lenten season. Due to COVID19, this year we will not join with the other churches.
- Our Church will have in person/ZOOM/Go Pro services on Good Friday and Palm Sunday.

### Treasurer's Report

- **DECEMBER 2020 REPORTING:**  
Deposits (Income): \$14,238.00  
Withdrawals (Expenses) \$6,396.00
- The Yearly finances ended up strong.

### Worship Commission

- Pastor Ray, Rose Seeger, and Laura Gensler are working on special music for services and Easter festivities.

### Fellowship Commission

- There will be a Coffee Hour and desserts during the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 7th.

### Missions Commission

- Love, Inc. will be serving on Mondays and Wednesdays and packaging food in individual portions for carry outs. FCC can sign up for support on an online calendar.

### Building and Grounds

- Don Ketterhagen and Steve Dolphin set up the nativity set and Christmas Tree lights for Christmas.
- Don Ketterhagen and Steve Dolphin leveled the shed and filled it with salt for the sidewalks.
- FCC purchased five picnic tables. Three of the tables were at a cost of \$340.00 and two were donated by Don and Kathy Ketterhagen.
- Plexiglass has been installed on the Church windows.
- A Mini Food Pantry box and where it will be located and operated will be presented and discussed at the Annual Congregational Meeting.
- Kathleen Ketterhagen discussed having the church building put on the National Historical Registry. Will contact people from the Historical Society for information.



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
OF ROCHESTER**

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Pastor PH. 508-837- 4611

*"For where two or three are gathered in my name,  
there I am in the midst of them."  
Matthew 18:20*

**[ [www.fccrochesterwis.com](http://www.fccrochesterwis.com) ]**

# March 2021



**Sun                  Mon                  Tue                  Wed                  Thu                  Fri                  Sat**

<i>All services are shared on ZOOM.</i>	<sup>1</sup> <i>Bible Study at 7:00 pm</i>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>3</sup> <i>7:00 pm Lenten Meditation on Zoom</i>	<sup>4</sup>	<sup>5</sup>	<sup>6</sup>
<sup>7</sup> <i>10:15 am Church Special Music by Rose Seeger &amp; Laura Gensler</i>	<sup>8</sup> <i>Bible Study at 7:00 pm</i>	<sup>9</sup>	<sup>10</sup> <i>7:00 pm Lenten Meditation on Zoom</i>	<sup>11</sup>	<sup>12</sup>	<sup>13</sup>
<sup>14</sup> <i>10:15 am Church Special Music by Steve Dolphin</i>	<sup>15</sup> <i>7:00 pm Church Council Meeting</i>	<sup>16</sup>	<sup>17</sup> <i>7:00 pm Lenten Meditation on Zoom</i> 	<sup>18</sup>	<sup>19</sup>	<sup>20</sup>
<sup>21</sup> <i>10:15 am Church Special Music TBD</i>	<sup>22</sup> <i>Bible Study at 7:00 pm</i>	<sup>23</sup>	<sup>24</sup> <i>7:00 pm Lenten Meditation on Zoom</i>	<sup>25</sup>	<sup>26</sup>	<sup>27</sup>
<sup>28</sup> <i><u>Palm Sunday</u> 10:15 am Church Special Music TBD Holy Communion &amp; Confirmation Sunday. Coffee Hour.  ing church.</i>	<sup>29</sup> <i>Bible Study at 7:00 pm</i>	<sup>30</sup>	<sup>31</sup> <i>No Wednesday Lenten Service in leu of Good Friday Service.</i>			

*Pastor Ray's Office Hours are Monday through Wednesday, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.*

