

University Evangelical Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry

The Lampstand

April 2019

Our Mission

UELC's Mission:

To Embrace and Share the Love of God in Jesus Christ, as the Holy Spirit Empowers us.

UELC's Guiding Principles:

Jesus is our Lord and Saviour; therefore, we are to:

- > Worship God in inspiring, diverse, and creative ways
- > Be a community engaged in spiritual practices that attune us to the Holy Spirit's guidance for our living
- > Welcome all people in their diversity to worship, learn, and serve with us
- > Be a safe place to learn, explore, and debate
- > Be generous stewards of the gifts God has given each of us to bless others and care for the natural world
- > Continue outreach to, and further develop connections with, the academic communities of Alachua County
- > Affirm human rights and work for social justice



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**Join Our
Mailing List**

**Forward To A
Friend**

May Newsletter Deadline

Please send any articles for the March newsletter by April 29th to Andy Noss
andrew.noss@yahoo.com

April Worship Volunteers

Assisting Ministers

Apr 7 Krissi Norford / Becky Borgert
Apr 14 Otto Johnston / Ronald Bauldree
Apr 21 Nathan Gross / Jim Yale
Apr 28 Krissi Norford / Austin MontMarquette

Altar Guild

Apr 7 Mary Lou Schirmer
Apr 14 Anna Grace MontMarquette
Apr 21 Jackie Klein
Apr 28 Pat Dasler

Lector

Apr 7 Ruth Fugmann
Apr 14 Rick Dienhart

THE PATH TO THE CROSS...



At UELC we began the walk the journey with Jesus this Lent through the Resurrection and beyond. **Often we don't understand the agony Jesus had to go through to show us His great love; but we don't have to**



understand.

...THEN TO THE EMPTY TOMB

Here's a Reflection from a Lenten Wednesday evening prayer

1 Corinthians 1:25-30

For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

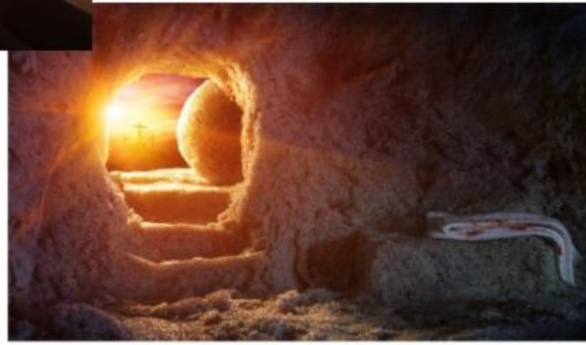
Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption.

- You could not ask for a clearer expression of the revolutionary character of Christianity than these lines from St. Paul.
- How do you feel when you read these lines? Inspired? Ashamed? Challenged? Sometimes we feel we are not good enough...to experience God. Worse still, sometimes we feel we are too good and deserve to experience God. How are you feeling right now?
- What might I do differently if I were putting into practice the standard spelled out here?
- What do I really want? To live my life by this standard, or to be "somebody," to be influential and important? Can I talk to the Lord about this, now?

In order to understand or even accept the ways of God, we have to empty ourselves of our own wisdom. In a world where we all want to be in control this is hard to do. It takes intentionality. It takes discipline. Lent is a time we try to do this. Prayer and fasting from whatever we hold dear, is to help us be disciplined about this emptying so that we can walk the path to the Cross and then to the Empty Tomb. Through this disciplined walk, we find joy in Christ – to the resurrection and beyond, into the life of abundance that Jesus provides by his death and resurrection. This is a life of grace and forgiveness, living the promise that in dying with Him we will rise with Him.

Let's continue this walk together,

Pr. Terrance



Ushers

Apr 7 Jeanne Chamberlin / John MontMarquette
Apr 14 Ron Gordon / Ron Fourman
Apr 21 Phil / Andy Noss
Apr 28 Gene Brandner / Roger Springfels

Greeters

Apr 7 Ron Fourman
Apr 14 Gene Brandner
Apr 21 Dan Norford
Apr 28 Ron Fourman

Sound Assistant

Apr 7 Dan Norford
Apr 14 Sam Brill
Apr 21 Sam Brill
Apr 28 Dan Norford

Counters

Apr 7 Gene Brandner / John MontMarquette
Apr 14 Jackie Klein / Phil Noss
Apr 21 Donna Day / Andy Noss
Apr 28 Dan Norford / Ron Gordon

Still Collecting Diapers!

We are still collecting infant/toddler diapers for Gainesville Community Ministry. You can put them in the lime green container in the Kaiser Center.

Gainesville Community Ministry says they often get plenty of new born and small infant diapers, but not a lot of the larger size (fitting 20 pounds and up).

So, if you could, donate some of the larger sizes.

If you have questions, you can contact Krissi Norford.

Council President's Report

As most of you know by now, the roof replacement is taking place and should be finished by the end of April. If you hear footsteps above your head, it is THEM!!! Thank you one and all for your generosity in making this happen.





During Lent there has been a change in liturgy which has been well received by the congregation. The soup and bread suppers will continue through April 10th. There will be NO Maundy Thursday service and Good Friday service will be on April 19th. Thank you for providing soups bread, and attendance on Wednesdays.

Efforts to increase attendance at worship continue. On May 18th there will be a Congregational planning retreat in the Kaiser Center from 9 AM to 12 PM. There will be a light breakfast provided at 8:30 AM and a luncheon following the meeting at noon. Please plan ahead and join us in planning for our church's future.

Have a blessed Easter,

Donna S. Day

UELC People



April Birthdays

4/8	Al Schilling
4/15	Kathy Brill
4/15	Richard Dienhart
4/19	Sam Brill
4/21	Jim Yale
4/21	Evan Griswold
4/22	Stephan Jahn
4/23	Vibeke Vala
4/27	Seth Borgert
4/30	Ronald Gordon

Congratulations to Newlyweds Kim and Ed!!!



Special Prayer Concerns

- Prayers for healing: Al Schilling, Agnes Martinson, Lois Wilkowske, Alice Simpson, Dutch Schirmer, Ron and Beverly Gronwall



Altar Flowers

A beautiful way to remember a loved one or a special occasion in your life.

Check the altar flower chart located in Kaiser Center to sign up for a Sunday that would be meaningful for you. Cost for flowers is \$25.00. Please contact Evelyn in the church office if you have any questions. 352-373-6945

Summer Garden Planting



Lenten Soup Suppers

Lenten Soup Suppers

Wednesday's at 5:30 PM

Starting on Wednesday March 13th

Volunteers are needed to help with the soup suppers for the 5 Wednesdays in Lent. Two volunteers are needed to prepare a pot of soup to feed about 30 and provide the bread or crackers. One of the soups should be vegetarian. Additional volunteers are needed to help set up and clean-up. Someone from the hospitality action team will be around to assist volunteers in the kitchens

Please consider adding your name to the signup sheet in the fellowship hall.





Easter Sunday Brunch

EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH

All members, students, and friends of the congregation are invited to join together on Sunday April 21st following the worship service for a brunch. Please add your name to the signup sheet so we will be sure to set a place for you. **Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share** that serves 12 or more. We can always use help for set up beginning at 9:00 or clean-up afterwards. Contact Caroline Yale 495-1742 if you can help.



Campus Ministry News

Students continue to meet on Thursday's at 5:30 p.m. (note change in day in the last 2 months). An initiative is underway to extend our ministry towards a Young Adult Ministry at UELC. This will provide the opportunity for students and younger adults up to age 40 to engage faith conversation and develop a ministry to suit the needs of young adults in a changing world.



at 7:00 to 7:30pm
March 13 – April 10
with Soup Supper at 5:30pm
followed by
Holden Evening Prayer,
as adapted for Lent.

Our Sunday liturgy will be changing for Lent, but it will be easy to follow as the Music Ministry has been doing some of this new liturgical music during Offertory Special Music in the past few weeks. This "new" liturgy is a combination of parts of different liturgies offered in the ELCA hymnal, ELW.

Thanks to all who continue to step us as we endeavor, as Jesus said, "to worship God in spirit and in truth." *John 4:24.*

Crystal Jacob
Minister of Music



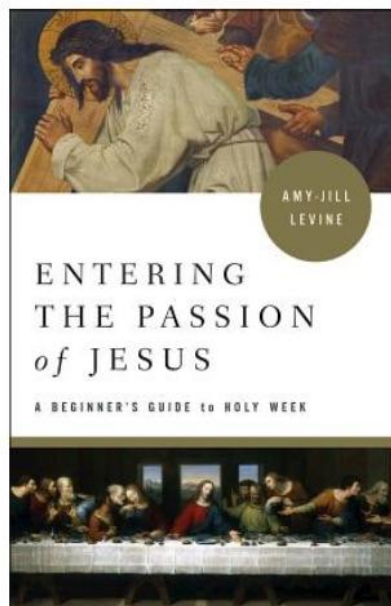


Adult Forum

NEW SUNDAY MORNING STUDY BEGINS MARCH 17 at 9 a.m.

ALL WELCOME!

A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week:



This new study features a DVD introduction by Amy-Jill Levine, a Jewish professor of New Testament at Vanderbilt Divinity School.

Topics for the six sessions:

1. Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem
2. The Temple Incident
3. The Anointing of Jesus and the Role of Women
4. Jesus' Teachings in the Temple
5. The Last Supper Traditions
6. Gethsemane

If we look closely at the people who were part of Jesus' life during the last days before the crucifixion—their relationships and roles in the story—how might that deepen our understanding of what happened? In *Entering the Passion of Jesus*, Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story to help us enter into the story and make connections to enrich our spiritual lives.

Discussion will follow the video presentation. (All video sessions are closed captioned.) You are encouraged to make this Sunday 9 a.m. study part of your Lenten experience!

The Bee

What's Buzzing around The Bee?

On Sunday March 31, 2019, we presented the Bee's Gratitude project. The project was based on the Women of ELCA Daily Grace. The devotional suggested that rather than being crabby one should chose gratitude. The Bee used this piece to discuss how being grateful can be transforming. As the Daily Grace said, "Choosing to be grateful is powerful. If we make a point of it, before long it becomes a healthy habit. Being grateful means being aware of the grace around us all the time-and that leads us to our drawing closer in gratitude to the Source of it all." The Daily Grace recommended choosing to be grateful for a *month* to see if practicing gratitude made a difference in our inner lives.

We wanted to share this practice with the congregation. The Bee has made individual "gratitude bags" that contain a copy of the Daily Grace devotional, a mini-notebook for writing 3 daily gratitudes, a pen and laminated prayer card. The prayer was provided by Shari O'Brien. The "gratitude bags" are available now in the Kaiser Center if you did not get one after church this morning. Please feel free to take one for yourself. We made enough so everyone can share with friends and family so please do!

The Bee's most recent outreach program was to reach out to our neighborhood elementary school, J.J. Finely. We made comfort bags which will hold a fleece blanket and a book for children who are in crisis. Janet Janke arranged with the school counselor to distribute the bags when needed. The children would get a bag with a message on it from the Bee. Then the child can pick out their book and blanket. Liz Finn also talked to Shell Elementary School and we repeated the project for them. We distributed about 60 blankets and books! It is our hope that the blanket and book will help children in crisis know they are loved. Both schools have been delighted with the project and the impact it has on their children.

After an Advent study guide, we have been learning about hymns. Sharon Grant has a wonderful book that we are using to guide our study about who wrote the hymn, what the world was like when they wrote the hymn and other interesting information. We also have gotten information about women in the Bible to honor International Women's Day.

Everyone is invited to join us on Tuesday mornings at 11:30 AM. We bring our lunch, have interesting discussions, have Bible study or other study, and write cards. We also work on our current project. Come join us!

Choose to be Grateful!

JOIN US ON TUESDAYS for

"THE BEE"

WHERE: ULC KAISER CENTER

WHEN: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

WHAT: A "BEE"

**Which is a meeting for communal work and/or amusement OR
a prayer, favor, the joining of neighbors to help a neighbor in
need.**

**We will have lunch together, short devotion, and a variety of
programs to select.**

**BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH
COME and SEE!!!**

LIFT



Thank you to Vibeke Vala, for her entertaining presentation in March.

Family Promise Bed Race

Family Promise Hosting will begin May 5.

2019 Bed Race



We have a team, we have a bed, but we need you! We have a team of students willing to push and ride the bed. Jim Griswold has replaced the wheels with bicycle wheels and it is ready to roll. We need fans to cheer on our student team on May 4th at 9:00 am at Trinity Methodist. Kem Jacob will be the head of the First Aid station. You can vote for your favorite bed and enter for door prizes. There are bleachers to sit on or bring a lawn chair and grab a piece of shade. But more than fun the Bed Race is one of 2 major fund raising events for Family Promise. We have a donor willing to match the first \$100 in support of our student team. You can contribute by going to the Family Promise website and contributing to the LutherRuns team. Better still, put a check in the offering plate marked BED RACE.

Family Promise

Hello Family Promise supporters,

We just wanted to let you all know how truly important you are in making Family Promise function. Please read on to hear one family's story about their time in Family Promise of Gainesville...

In April of 2018 we lost our home. We left Gainesville and went to Ocala, where we thought we had friends that would help us. Both of our vehicles broke down soon after. Life as we knew it had been completely shattered.

In Ocala, we didn't have as much support as I'd hoped for. Actually it was just the opposite. People we considered family, Friends that we have shared since childhood, treated us worse than enemies would. We didn't have much to offer at this point in our life and they made us feel very worthless and unwanted. We had to stay at three or four different houses during our stay down there. They made it very known that we were nothing but a burden to them and that they wanted us gone as soon as possible. We couldn't find anywhere to stay long enough to put our child in school. We had no transportation so we could get on our feet and get jobs. *This was definitely the darkest time of our lives.*

In October of 2018 we had finally come to our wits end. We were living at a hotel that my mother's friend was paying for, but he could no longer afford it. We had tapped out every resource known to man and we were hours away from having to take our five year old child and live in a tent. This is when we decided to give Gainesville another try. We had tried to get help before we lost everything back in April and every resource was a dead end. We didn't have much faith in this plan, but we also had nothing else to lose, except for our child, and this COULD NOT happen... so we were open to any and every idea at this point.

It was on this day that we were given a tiny little sticky note with the name of FAMILY PROMISE by a nice gentleman at St. Francis House. I went to the parking lot and dialed the number that was on the paper and a lady named Shari answered my call.

We can't describe in words how thankful we truly are for this organization. We were able to move in and get started immediately at repairing our lives. We were able to get our child into school within 2 days after we arrived. My fiancé was able to start his job within 2 weeks of being there. Mrs. Jayne and Mrs. Shari were even able to find shelter for our dogs because they are a part of our family and without them we would have been lost. Mrs. Jayne gave a good word for me at Grace Marketplace and I was hired immediately out of my interview, also only two weeks of being there. My mother was also able to find employment within the first few weeks as well. We were able to get our daughter into an amazing after school program with their assistance. Someone even donated us a vehicle. I could go on and on for hours about the amazing things Family Promise did for us.

The people from the churches are heaven sent. Everyone that is involved in Family Promise needs to know how very important they were in our lives and how very thankful we are for them.

Life as a family without a home and nowhere to turn for help is something I never want to experience again. Thank God for Family Promise coming into our lives, and thank God we didn't have to be alone any longer than we were.

We have all successfully kept and maintained our jobs. We have all moved into our own homes during the last month. We are happy. We are healthy. We are HOME again. Our child is so ecstatic about our new house. She's doing wonderfully in school. Although we experienced lots of heartache and sadness throughout all of this, we wouldn't change this experience for anything in this world.

This is not only our story, but it's our story of success. THANK YOU SO MUCH FAMILY PROMISE AND EVERY SINGLE VOLUNTEER INVOLVED. *You are all Angels.*

Love,
Matthew, Rachael, Aubree and Bethel

Village of Hope



February/March is the time the members of UELC renew or begin a new sponsorship for a child through the Lazarus Project at the Village of Hope School in Haiti.

This school is located in Bonnette, Ganthier, a resource poor, rural farming area approximately 15 miles from Port au Prince, Haiti. Sponsorship is a distinctive and personal way for you to enhance and develop the life of a vulnerable child. More than ever we know the future of Haiti rests in the hands of the youth that are being educated today. Supporting a child's education can be likened to planting a mango tree. One does not see the fruit or benefit from it for some years, but eventually one day the flowers appear and next, the fruit for all to enjoy. The same goes for the knowledge that you are providing for a student you will support via the sponsorship program. One day the education, conducted in the Christian environment at VOH, will bear fruit and it will not only benefit the child but also their families and community.

The Village of Hope School provides quality education for children from Kindergarten through High School. The students attend Chapel once a week, and services for the senior classes are led by high school

students. Along with routine school exams, in accordance with the Ministry of Education children in grade 6, 9, 12 and 13 must pass National exams in order to advance to the next level. Each day students receive a meal of rice and beans. They also receive dental and medical care through the Health Center that is now part of the campus.

Sponsorships can be paid annually [\$480] via a check made out to UELC with the notation, VOH, Lazarus Project on the memo line. Sponsorships can also be paid monthly [\$40]. Two or even three can go together to sponsor one child.

Watch for the poster in the narthex to the right of the bulletin board to see how sponsorships for 2019 are progressing. The bulletin board with the pictures of children that are sponsored will be updated in Spring.

For additional information contact Janet Janke, Lazarus Project Coordinator at UELC

Our Pastor and Staff

Pastor Terrance Jacob
Pastor, Congregation and Campus Ministry
pastor@ulcgainesville.com

Crystal Jacob
Minister of Music (Direct Choir and music-related ministries)

Moses Choi
Pianist

Evelyn Simmons
Administrative Assistant
info@ulcgainesville.com

April

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

11:30-1 pm The Bee

3

5:30 pm Soup Supper
6:45 pm Holden

4

5:30 pm Students /

5

6

7 pm AA

	7 pm AA		Evening Prayer 7:30 pm Choir	Young Adults		10 pm AA
7 5 th Sunday Lent 9:00 Adult Forum 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship	8 7 pm AA	9 11:30-1 pm The Bee	10 9:30 am FAT 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6:45 pm Holden Evening Prayer 7:30 pm Choir	11 5:30 pm Students / Young Adults	12	13 7 pm AA 10 pm AA
14 Palm Sunday 9:00 Adult Forum 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship	15 7 pm AA	16 11:30-1 pm The Bee	17 7 pm Choir	18	19 7 pm Good Friday	20 7 pm AA 10 pm AA
21 Easter Sunday 9:00 Adult Forum 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Easter Brunch	22 7 pm AA	23 11:30-1 pm The Bee	24 7 pm Choir	25 5:30 pm Students / Young Adults	26	27 7 pm AA 10 pm AA
28 2 nd Sunday Easter 9:00 Adult Forum 10:25 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship	29 7 pm AA	30 11:30-1 pm The Bee 7 pm Council				

2019

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