



The CALENDAR

of Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church

March/April 2019

Vol. LXV No. VII

Ash Wednesday ***Dinner and Communion March 6***

On March 6, starting at 6 p.m., there will be a dinner followed by a worship service marking the beginning of **Lent**. This evening will set the stage for our **Lenten** journey. Reservations for the dinner (soup, salad and rolls) can be made by calling the church by Sundy, March 3. There is no charge to attend the dinner. The worship service, with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Tenebrae Service ***Maundy Thursday, April 18***

A **Tenebrae Service**, including the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, will be held at 8 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The movement, text and music of this service are designed to draw the congregation into a personal involvement in the events that led to the crucifixion. While Judas betrayed Jesus, and the soldiers crucified him, we know that there are times in our lives when we betray, deny, convict and crucify Jesus by our words and actions.

The **Tenebrae Service** follows a tradition of the church dating back to the eighth century. From Latin, the word **Tenebrae** means "darkness" and commemorate the final hours of our Lord's life on earth. As the candles are extinguished, they symbolize the fading loyalty of the disciples and friends of Jesus. The gradual darkening of the church portrays the diminishing light of the world as Christ was departing from it. We invite you, your family and friends to attend and share with us in this very special and moving service.

Good Friday Service ***Friday, April 19***

One of the special opportunities Christians have during Holy Week, is to stand with Jesus during his last hours leading up to his crucifixion and death. The service on **Good Friday**, April 19, at 1 p.m. will invite you, through music, scripture and pastoral reflections, to stand with Jesus and experience his passion and death. We encourage you and your friends to join us in worship in remembering Jesus' courage and love.

Easter Services ***Sunday, April 21***

At 10:00 a.m., we will gather in the Steep Memorial Garden and remember by name all those interred in the garden and in the Columbarium. We will also lift up the names of those who died since last **Easter**. Prayers will be offered for all these loved ones who have been granted sainthood as they entered the "Church Triumphant." At 10:30 a.m., our Festival Service, with a wonderful blend of hymns, anthems, scripture, prayers, meditation and the Celebration of the Lord's Supper, will inspire us to embrace the **Easter** story with heart-felt joy and hope.

Lenten Book Study

In Lent, we will be reading the book *God, Improv, and The Art of Living* by MaryAnn McKibben Dana. The book uses principles of improv related to scripture and personal stories to seek concrete wisdom for our lives of faith. Books cost \$17. The study group will meet from March 3 to April 7 at two different times. During Sunday School, a group will meet in the Guild Room from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and in the evening from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

JAPC Events in Lent

LENTEN BOOK STUDY
Sundays, March 3–April 7
9:15 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

ASH WEDNESDAY
Wednesday, March 6
Soup Supper, 6:00 p.m. • Worship, 7:00 p.m.

PALM SUNDAY
Sunday, April 14
Parade, 10:00 a.m. • Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Deacons' Brunch following Worship

MAUNDY THURSDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE
Thursday, April 18, 8:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY CHAPEL SERVICE
Friday, April 19, 1:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY
Sunday, April 21
Memorial Garden Prayer Service, 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service in Sanctuary, 10:30 a.m.

PASTOR'S CORNER

by Matthew Nickel, Pastor

As I write this, the weather forecast is anticipating a deep frigid cold that will descend on Detroit. Schools are closing. Employees are working from home. People are driving slower or not at all. We'll stock up on food so we don't have to go out in the difficult conditions. Life sends us through experiences where we improvise, shift gears, and do something different than normal.

Lent is a great season to consider how God is with us when our lives and the life of the world do something outside our expectations. The wise Joan Chittister wrote: Lent is not a ritual. It is a time given to think seriously about who Jesus is for us, to renew our faith from the inside out. So this Lent, in our book study and worship, in our gatherings and activities together, when we drink coffee on Sunday or meet in committees mid-week, let's think seriously about who Jesus is for us.

Let's also think about how our faith renews in different seasons of our lives. Let's think about the many ways we can respond faithful to God in our lives. In all that might happen, how might we say "yes," or be vulnerable, or gather people meaningful to us, or share grace? How do we become more aware, resilient, and courageous in our faith? How might we fail better, live with unanswerable questions, or forgive more readily?

Lent is a season for renewing our faith. There are times when we might just need to improvise. We can trust that God is renewing faith in us. How will we nurture our lives individual and as a church to do the same? I hope you encounter God in ways that enrich you in the season of **Lent**.

Peace,
Matt

Looking for Easter Brass Sponsors

Would you like to "decorate" our **Easter** service with the glorious sound of Brass celebrating the good news of the resurrection? Your support is needed!

The fee for each player is approximately \$250, so a gift of \$25 or more will help defray the cost. All contributions will be listed in the bulletin just as we do for the springs flowers that grace the Chancel on Easter morning.

If you would like to make a donation, or "underwrite" the cost of one player, please contact Margie Uysal, Church Secretary (313-822-3456).

PARISH LIFE

Pizza with the Pastor

During winter and spring, Pastor Matt will be hosting a few pizza parties at the manse. In groups of eight, over pizza, we'll share some conversation about who we are as individuals, who we are as a church, and what we see God doing among us. If you are interested in participating, please add your name at the sign up table in the foyer or email Margie in the church office: marjoriejapc@comcast.net. Dates and times will be established soon and Parish Life will reach out with options.

Bible & Brew *Wednesday, March 13*

Pastor Matt Nickel will be teaching at **Bible & Brew**. We have been exploring specific words related to our faith. In March, we'll explore the biblical understanding of reconciliation. Upcoming gathering is on Wednesday, March 13 from 7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m. at City Kitchen, 16844 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe, 48230. If you haven't attended **Bible & Brew** before, it's an informal and relaxed time of fellowship centered around learning more about scripture, sharing how it speaks to us, and understanding how it applies to our daily life. Everyone is welcome.

Facilities and Building Updates

As we seek to be good stewards of our beautiful physical plant, the Facilities Committee has had a variety of projects that have been accomplished or are underway. By the end of 2018, the church completed the installation of a new air conditioning system in the sanctuary, the condensate return line to the boiler, the masonry fence in the parking lot has been repaired, and a few leaking radiators. After snow season, a fence will replace the empty space between the church and apartment building parking lot.

Easter Flowers

In celebration of **Easter** on April 21, the Chancel is adorned with lilies and other Spring flowers. These decorations are donated by interested members and friends of our congregation. If you are interested in participating, you may fill out the form in the Sunday Bulletin or you can place your order by calling the Church Office (313 822-3456) by Monday, April 15.

After the service, you may take the plant home or allow the Board of Deacons to deliver it to a sick or house-bound member of our congregation. Please indicate on the flower card your desire.

Welcome New Members

In November and December the church welcomed some wonderful new members. Please look for them on Sunday mornings to introduce yourself. We welcomed Nick and Nicole Allen, Clare Rogan, Sharyl Gates, and Julia Felton.



Slow Brewed Theology

Sunday, March 10 at the Kresge Estate

Slow Brewed Theology is a safe and open place for dialogue surrounding faith, doubt and transformation where people can build intentional relationships. This year's theme has been *Community, Communion and Relationships*. Each small group-style meeting happens at the Kresge Estate (94 Arden Park Blvd., Detroit 48202) in the Parlor with a roaring fire and adult beverages. On Sunday, March 10, the discussion will surround Relationship to the Earth. Enjoy deep theological and life discussions? Join us for *Slow Brewed Theology*.

Remember!

**Daylight Savings Time begins
on Sunday, Sunday, March 10**

Turn your clocks forward one hour before you go to bed on Saturday so you won't miss church on Sunday.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Lent and Families

Breakfast for families

Saturday, March 2, 9:00 a.m.–11 a.m.

All families—with infants, toddlers, elementary or middle school children, grandparents with grandkids—are invited to this morning to share a meal. Pastor Matt will share a Lenten practice that we can bring home to use throughout *Lent*. Come share pancakes, prayer, and play. Please contact Kathy Chateau or Matt Nickel to RSVP.

Lenten intergenerational activities

during Coffee Hour

Sunday, March 10

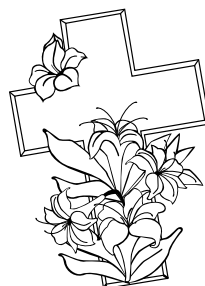
Interactive stations focusing on *Lenten* themes will be set up for all to participate, including take home projects. Everyone invited!

NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRIES

Tutoring T.R.E.E. Outreach

Each quarter in *Tutoring T.R.E.E.*, we focus on a specific skill in addition time doing homework. In the fall, our focus was on mastering math facts. Students worked on flash cards and timed tests in order to learn the facts. While they continue to work on their goals, eight students were awarded a "Katherine Johnson Math Master" certificate. This quarter we are working on writing in journals each week. Tutors use prompts such as, "If I had a super power, I would like _____ so I could _____." Our goal is to give voice to their thoughts and produce a booklet.

We partnered with College for Creative Studies in the fall to offer an art class to the students. This winter Coach Mackie is working on motivational and goal setting skills through physical education and sports. Our Ralph Wilson, Jr. Grant funds help provide these extra programs. Volunteer tutors, office help, food preparers, and walkers are all an important part of making *Tutoring T.R.E.E.* successful.



Praise be to the God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In his great mercy he has given us
new birth into a living hope through
the resurrection of Jesus Christ
from the dead.

— 1 Peter 1:3

PARISH LIFE

HIGHLIGHTS FROM DECEMBER

Deacon's Baskets *Many hands make light work*

Members and friends swarmed the packing room at Samaritas in Detroit on Saturday, December 15, to organize groceries, fill 90 18-gallon bins and head out to 45 homes with these *Deacons' Christmas Baskets*. Under the leadership of Anne Maters, Pat Slone and Sandy Behm, the annual Deacons project seeks to bring nutritious food to area families, most of which have children attending Nichols School. Before leading the volunteers in prayer, Lou Prues reminisced about earlier years when volunteers wrestled with paper bags of food and stairs to climb. The present plastic bins are sturdier and reusable and are able to hold canned and packaged goods, coloring books with markers, candy canes and fresh meat.

The Deacons at JAPC thank everyone, from donors to tireless volunteers, for making this an important outreach that brings us together with our neighbors.



Above: Volunteers pause for prayer before packing at Samaritas. Deacons Therese Nolan, left, and Anne Maters review the organization.

Coneys Becoming *a JAPC Holiday Staple*

The second annual *Coneys, Carols, Cookies and Carillon* evening December 19 welcomed some 65 people to JAPC. Diners enjoyed "real" coneys - complete with chopped onions and lots of mustard, charming party sandwiches, chips and dip and cookies. The JAPC choir provided wonderful music in Dodge Hall, after which people were invited to take a cup of hot chocolate and venture outside to hear Christmas music on the carillon. Folks returned to the warmth of the sanctuary for the popular singalong, accompanied by Steve Warner on the organ.



Above: The choir provides our dinner music

Blood Drive *Thursday, March 14*

5 REASONS TO GIVE BLOOD

JAPC will host a **Blood Drive** sponsored by the Mission Committee and the American Red Cross on Thursday, March 14, from 2:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Why should you donate?

- 1) Your blood might save the life of a loved one;
- 2) It feels good to know you gave to help others;
- 3) The bandage on your arm is a badge of honor;
- 4) It only takes a few minutes and you can lie down and relax;
- 5) You get free orange juice and cookies.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us to donate or to volunteer during this important event. Blood donors are eligible if they donated on or before January 16. To register online go to www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code *japc13*.



Join us for fellowship at the
DEACONS' PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH
Sunday, April 14
following 10:30 a.m. Worship
Donations gratefully accepted.

OUR MINISTRY IN MUSIC

by Stephen Warner, Music Director

This January, I had the privilege to travel to Sydney Australia to do the final phase of a restoration project on the 1927 Wurlitzer theater organ in the State Theater right in the Central Business District. In the last decade or so, I have had the opportunity to subcontract for a Chicago based builder, Jeff Weiler on a few different projects. These have included the extraction and reinstallation of the solo division of Cedar Rapids' Iowa Theater Barton organ damaged in the flood, a new installation of a transplanted Skinner organ, also in Cedar Rapids and the re-pitching of the Chicago Symphony Hall organ. I had toured Australia in 2000 with the U of M Men's Glee Club, so I was terribly pleased to be given the opportunity to return!

The organ had a great deal of water damage and had been fussed over with mixed results. In this case, the hospitality corporation which owns the theater took the brave step to restore the organ to as original condition as possible. Jeff has been working on this project for five years now and the entire organ, save a few large pedal pipes has travelled to Chicago and back. (Having originally travelled from North Tonawanda, New York, the State's Wurlitzer probably has one of the highest mileages of all!) The instrument has twenty-one sets of pipes which are unified across four manuals. Our task on this trip was to work out any bugs in the mechanism that have appeared since re-installation and then to adjust the speech, tuning and volume of every pipe as necessary to give a nice blend and powerful ensemble. Unlike most theater organs, both chambers are installed side by side above the proscenium, giving a ninety foot stair climb and a walk across the grid to get access. Between this work and all of my wandering after hours, my iPhone has been

tracking an average of 35 floors climbed and in excess of 6 mile walking distance a day! Each day we tweaked details (usually involving me crawling under or climbing over something) and tuned more sets of pipes in and heard the beautiful voice of the Mighty Wurlitzer come into its own. It is a rich and colorful instrument with great subtlety and will make a fine film accompanying organ as well as a fun instrument to "play in" shows. It also happens to be the only completely original Wurlitzer in the Southern Hemisphere.

With shows at the theater and a fair amount of evening light, I had the wonderful opportunity to explore Sydney almost every evening and for a few full days. These have included multiple ferry rides to Manly beach, a trip to Bondi beach, a day trip to the Blue Mountains, a visit to the Aquarium and the Naval History Museum, seeing an opera at the Opera House and taking in the Australia Day fireworks from the dead center of the show at Circular Quay! Every part of the city has beautiful vistas. Even walking through the neighborhoods is a treat. The view of the bridge and opera house never disappoint and are fully worth their iconic status. The people of Australia are wonderful and they have worked very hard to build a deliberate spirit of grace and humility in terms of their reference to the Aboriginal and East Torres Islander people in civic discourse. An homage to the Aboriginal land was even given prior to the performance of the opera!

I am grateful for the opportunity to be away and use my skills in a different setting for a while. I hope that opportunities like this every few years will help keep my creative energy fresh and bring rekindled skill back home. It is an archetypal story to go half way around the world to give yourself the chance to come home and find yourself!

Nominations for Elders & Deacons Needed

The All-Church Nominating Committee will be meeting soon to consider members to fill the vacancies on the Session, the Board of Deacons and the All-Church Nominating Committee. Please feel free to suggest names of candidates you think should be considered.

Nominee's Name: _____

Please Consider the Nominee for: ____ Board of Deacons ____ Session ____ All-Church Nominating Committee

Provide any information you think would be helpful to the Nominating Committee:

Nominee's Name: _____

Please Consider the Nominee for: ____ Board of Deacons ____ Session ____ All-Church Nominating Committee

Provide any information you think would be helpful to the Nominating Committee:

PLEASE RETURN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE

MARCH 2019

JEFFERSON AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24 Word for Worship 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School	25 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	26 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Tutoring TREE 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	27 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	28 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Administration Meeting 7 p.m.	1 Church Open 9:00 - 3:30 p.m. Community Movie Night 6:00- 8:00 p.m.	2 Breakfast for Families 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
3 Word for Worship 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School CCD Practice	4 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study 7:30 p.m. (at the home of Anne Thomas)	5 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Tutoring TREE 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	6 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Soup Supper 6:00 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m.	7 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	8 Church Open 9:00 - 3:30 p.m.	9 Remember to push your clocks 1 hour ahead before bed
10 1st Sunday in Lent Words for Worship 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School 11:30 Forum Family Lenten Activity CCD Practice Music Series 4:30 p.m. Sarah Simko - organ Slow Brewed Theology (Kresge Estate 5-7)	11 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Finance Meeting 4:30 p.m.	12 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Tutoring TREE 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	13 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Bible & Brew (City Kitchen 6-8 p.m.) Deacons Mtg. 7:00 p.m.	14 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Card Makers 10:00 - 1:00 Blood Drive (2 - 7:30 p.m.) Facilities Meeting 7:00 p.m.	15 Church Open 9:00 - 3:30 p.m.	16
17 2nd Sunday in Lent Words for Worship 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School CCD Practice	18 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Mission Meeting 7:00 p.m.	19 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Tutoring TREE 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	20 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Session Mtg. 7:00 p.m.	21 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	22 Church Open 9:00 - 3:30 p.m. Community Movie Night 6:00- 8:00 p.m.	23
24 3rd Sunday in Lent Words for Worship 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School CCD Practice	25 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	26 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Tutoring TREE 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	27 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	28 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Administration Meeting 7:00 p.m.	29 Church Open 9:00 - 3:30 p.m.	30
31 4th Sunday in Lent Word for Worship 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School CCD Practice	1 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	2 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. No Tutoring TREE	3 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	4 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	5 Church Open 9:00 - 3:30 p.m. Community Movie Night 6:00- 8:00 p.m.	6 Indian Village Pancake Breakfast 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

APRIL 2019

JEFFERSON AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 4th Sunday in Lent Word for Worship 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School CCD Practice	1 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Membership Meeting 7:00 p.m.	2 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. No Tutoring TREE	3 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	4 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	5 Church Open 9:00 - 3:30 p.m. Community Movie Night 6:00- 8:00 p.m.	6 Indian Village Pancake Breakfast 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
7 5th Sunday in Lent Word for Worship 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School CCD Practice Jazz Series Concert 4:30 Sisters w Deborah Nero and Shahida Nerulah	8 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Finance Meeting 4:30 p.m.	9 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Tutoring TREE 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	10 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	11 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Card Makers 10:00 - 1:00 Facilities Meeting 7:00 p.m.	12 Church Open 9:00 - 3:30 p.m.	13 Deacon's Breakfast Preparation
14 Palm Sunday 10:00 Palm Walk 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School 11:30 Deacon's Breakfast CCD Practice	15 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Mission Meeting 7:00 p.m.	16 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Tutoring TREE 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	17 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	18 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship 8:00 p.m.	19 Church Open 9:00 - 3:30 p.m. Good Friday Worship 1:00 p.m.	20
21 EASTER 10:00 a.m. Memorial Garden 10:30 Festival Worship & Church School	22 CHURCH CLOSED	23 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Tutoring TREE 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	24 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	25 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Administration Meeting 7:00 p.m.	26 Church Open 9:00 - 3:30 p.m.	27
28 2nd Sunday of Easter Word for Worship 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School CCD Practice	29 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	30 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m. Tutoring TREE 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.	1 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	2 Church Open 9:00 - 4:30 p.m.	3 Church Open 9:00 - 3:30 p.m. Community Movie Night 6:00- 8:00 p.m.	4

THE CALENDAR
Published by
JEFFERSON AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
8625 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, MI 48214

JAPC Position Opening

JAPC is currently searching for a Building Manager. This is a part-time position (8 to 20 hours per week based on building needs).

The Building Manager is responsible for the identification and coordination of building maintenance and projects. The Manager will prioritize building work, coordinate quotations, and oversee completion of projects within budgeted allotments.

The complete job description is posted on the church's website at japc.org.

If you know of any potential candidates, please have them apply by submitting their resume to marjoriejapc@comcast.net.

Additional questions can be forwarded to any of the Administration Committee (Bill Brownscombe, Jon Christinidis, Ron Huizenga, Beth Klein, Jan O'Brien, Bob Sfire, or Sally Wicks).

Coffee Hosts

Want to share a smile, a cup of coffee and a cookie? Be a coffee host after worship some Sunday. Home-baked cookies are a treat but if you are not a baker, store cookies will do. We need at least five dozen. If you would like to volunteer, call the Church Office (313-822-3456).

Church Register

DEATHS

Carolyn Thomson on October 14, 2018

Douglas Rentschler on January 6, 2019

NEW MEMBERS

Sharyl Gates on October 28, 2018

Nicole Harp on October 28, 2018

Nicholas Allen on October 28, 2018

Clare Rogan on October 28, 2018

Julia Felton on December 9, 2018