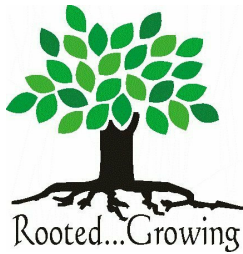


WOODBURY BAPTIST CHURCH



APRIL HIGHLIGHTS



APRIL 2011

OUR JOURNEY TO EASTER

Our Lenten sermon series on the Prodigal Son focused on the things we must give up to “find our way home” to God’s grace. The younger son had to repent and give up his rebellion against his father. The Father gave up his right to extend conditional love to the returning son. The older brother would remain outside of the celebration of reconciliation if he did not give up his hurt and anger against his father and younger brother.

Jesus makes it plain in the parable that redemption and reconciliation come out of giving things up - sacrifice. Now it is time for us to humbly walk behind Jesus as he approaches His own sacrifice for us.

Our theme for **Holy Week** – Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday – is “To the Cross, the Tomb and Beyond.” We follow Jesus as he goes to from triumphant entry, to Calvary’s cross, and conquers the grave.

On **Palm Sunday** we will celebrate Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem with hymns, a palm leaf procession and a challenge for us to praise Jesus, otherwise “the stones will cry out” (Luke 19:40).

Maundy Thursday takes us into a dark place of Jesus’ journey as we remember our sin that betrayed and crucified Him. We will be comforted and strengthened by Communion, which we will receive by coming forward. The handbell and worship choirs will bless us with music at this service.

Easter Sunday is our day of victory in the Risen Lord! Breakfast in Fellowship Hall begins at 7:45 am. The youth will present a play recalling the passion of our Savior. At 9:30 am we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Come early for preludes before the service. The choirs (voices and bells) are preparing special music for our celebration.

Jesus told the parable of the Prodigal Son because the Pharisee’s thought that some people – the “sinners” – were beyond hope of redemption. Jesus teaches us that even the greatest insults and the sharpest wrongs can be overcome with sacrificial love. That love is what He gave when He died on the Cross. It is the foundation of our hope. In it, we claim forgiveness and are assured of abundant and everlasting life!

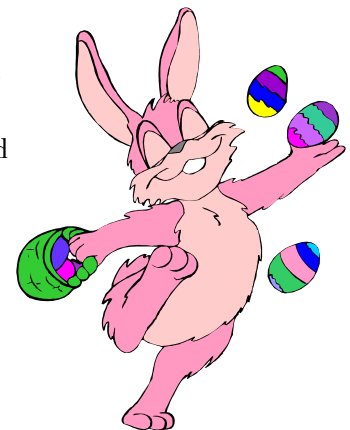
The story of the Prodigal Son strikes close to home for many people who have had great upset or joy in their families. If you have been touched by the story and would like to talk, I am happy to listen.

Blessings in Christ for a joyous Easter,

Pastor Greg

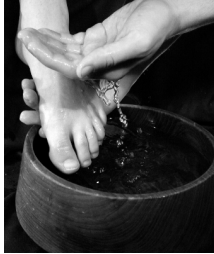
INTERESTING FACTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ **SEMI-ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING** The next WBC Business Meeting will take place on Sunday, May 15th at 12:00 p.m. following Education Hour. There will be a light lunch served prior to starting. The meeting will include the Annual Report; Election of Officers and Board Members; voting of new members; Sr. Pastor report; building issues and any other concerns. If you have questions, please contact Margie Castro at 651-74-0326.
- ◆ **SPIRITUAL FORMATION MINISTRY** Earlier this year the Deacon Board considered and approved a proposal to form a ministry of Spiritual Formation led by Elaine Anne MacGregor. In collaboration with the Board of Christian Education, Elaine Anne has led this ministry for the past few months. Spiritual Formation is the process of becoming more Christ-like through the working of the Holy Spirit using the tools of Christian spiritual disciplines, the teaching materials and writings of Christian authors, and the arts. This ministry will encourage spiritual formation through spiritual classes and activities, and studies during Advent and Lent during Education Hour and at other times. The ministry will also offer spiritual formation ideas and materials to other ministries in the church such as children's ministries, ministry to shut-ins, and the Library. To learn more about spiritual formation or opportunities to become part of this ministry speak with Elaine Anne or one of the Deacons.
- ◆ **THANK YOU** A big "Thank You" goes out to **Steve Sommers** and **Gordon Cummins** who have completed the painting of the church's hallways. Your hard-work and dedication is appreciated by all who use the space.
- ◆ Remember that "Shop with SCRIP" would make a perfect gift for the person for whom it's difficult to buy for. Buy your gift cards on the first and third Sundays of the month. Not only will you save time by one-stop-shopping from WBC, but a percentage of your purchase benefits WBC missions without costing you an extra cent!
- ◆ Remember to bring your Campbell's soup labels, box tops, 5 cent milk caps, and pop tops to church! Drop off boxes are located in the Christian Cupboard cart. Remember, a little help goes a long way!
- ◆ **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** VBS will be 'PandaMania – Where God is Wild About You!' Sunday – Thursday, July 24th – 28th from 5:30 – 8pm. Watch for more details!
- ◆ **ALL CHURCH CAMPING WEEKEND** The church camping trip will once again be in St Croix State Park, at the secluded campground we used last year. This year we are going over Labor Day weekend which is Friday, September 2nd through Sunday September 4th. We would love to have a great turnout, so please, save the date! Questions? Ask Jerry & Winnie Williams, Kaz & Paul Nelson, or Deb & Al Patchin, who will be organizing this event this year.
- ◆ **VINTAGE PEOPLE OUTING** The Vintage People will be going to the "KING TUT" Exhibit and film, "Mummies-Secrets of the Pharaohs" at the Science Museum of MN on Tuesday, May 17th. Cost is \$25.00 which includes coffee and rolls. Meet at church at 9:30am in order to carpool. Sign up by speaking to Carol Cline or call her at 651-738-0898.
- ◆ Weekly Sermons are recorded on CDs and available to be checked out from the library. Also, most "Telling Our Stories" Events are recorded on DVD format and can be checked out too.



UPCOMING EASTER EVENTS

Palm Sunday, April 17th Worship with us as we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with hymns, a palm leaf procession and a challenge for us to praise Jesus, otherwise "the stones will cry out" (Luke 19:40). Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.



Maundy Thursday, April 21st takes us into a dark place of Jesus journey as we remember our sin that betrayed and crucified Him. We will be comforted and strengthened by Communion, which we will come forward to receive. The handbell and worship choirs will bless us with music at this service. Service begins at 7:30 p.m.

Easter Breakfast & Drama, April 24th Come and start Easter Sunday, April 24th with breakfast when we Celebrate the RESURRECTION of our RISEN LORD! Breakfast will be served from 7:45 – 8:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$5 per person or \$3 for a child 6 years or younger or \$20 per family. Proceeds will help defray the costs of Youth events and special projects. "He Lived, He Lives, I Live!", a short drama of worship by the youth, will begin around 8:30 and end by 9:00 a.m. Please make your reservations in the Friendship Book or by calling the church office by Wednesday, April 20th.



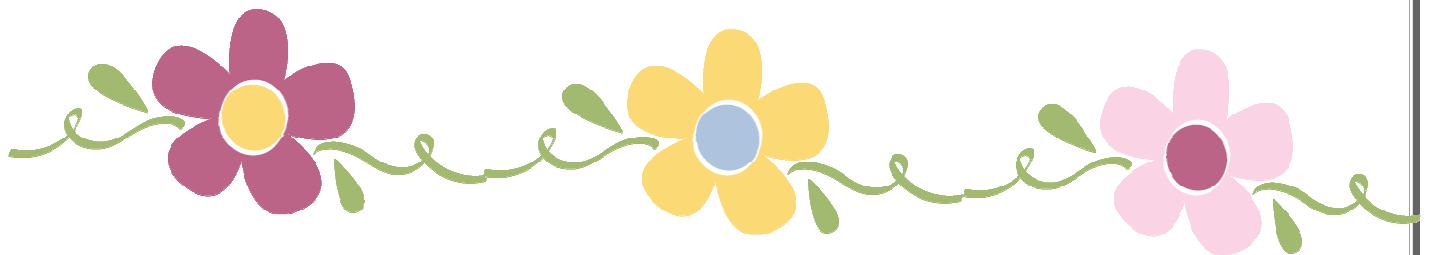
Easter Sunday Worship, April 24th is our day of victory in the Risen Lord! At 9:30 a.m. we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Come early for preludes before the service. The choirs (voices and bells) are preparing special music for our celebration. There will be no Education Hour so everyone will have the opportunity for fellowship and time together.

SPRING LUNCHEON & TEA TO BE HELD MAY 7TH

The Ladies Spring Luncheon & Tea will be held on **Saturday, May 7th** at 12:30pm here at WBC. Guest speaker will be Julie Zimmermann telling how she found purpose and mission in her life working to help provide for the care of babies in Chinese orphanages, which she visits every year. Lunch will be prepared by Steve Sommers with a cost of \$12/adult and \$8 for ages 7-11. Plan now on attending and bring a friend. This event is sponsored by the WBC Women's Lit Group. Reservations are taking place in the Foyer after Worship, by calling Karen VanderHoven at 651-739-7369 or the church office at 651-738-7700. Hope to see you there!



Happy Spring!



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