



THE WIND OF THE SPIRIT AT WEST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

WEST WINDS

Peabody, Massachusetts

April 2017

IMPLICATIONS OF JESUS' RESURRECTION

As we prepare ourselves for Holy Week to celebrate the death and resurrection of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ, I offer below some implications of Jesus' resurrection for us to ponder. So please take some time, find a quiet place and consider the following statements with scripture proofs. I hope it will cause you to have a deeper love, hope and courage to live out your Christians faith in our ever increasing secular culture. When Jesus rose from the dead it gave credibility and confidence in other areas of the Christian faith.

Here are some implications of Jesus' resurrection:

It gives credibility to Jesus' words; He is trustworthy for He promised and it came to pass.

Matthew 17:9; Luke 24:46; John 2:22

It proves that Jesus is truly God.

Romans 1:1-4

It validates His other works of power; the argument from the greater to the lesser. If He rose from the dead He certainly can forgive, heal and do other works of power.

It gives credibility to our gospel message.

John 11:25-26; Acts 1:22; Romans 10:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:8

It proves that Jesus has authority over sin and death.

1 Corinthians 15

If we are 'In Christ' we have a guarantee and a victory because of our union with Him.

John 14:1-6; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; Romans 8:11; 1 Peter 1:3

If we are 'In Christ' we have the power to experience progressive victory over sin in our lives for He is in us.

Romans 6:1-23

If we are 'In Christ' we have the power to live 'Alive to God for His Glory'.

Ephesians 1:18-23; Colossians 3:1-17

Below is our Holy Week Schedule with the theme '*Jesus Brings Something New*' taken from His words in the upper room discourse in the Gospel of John. May the Lord use each event and each speaker to be a vehicle of God's blessing and fill our hearts with hope and courage.

Warmly In Christ,
Pastor Rick

Palm Sunday
The Last Supper
Good Friday
Resurrection

HOLY
WEEK

April 9-16

Jesus Brings Something New
Teachings from The Gospel of John

Palm Sunday Service: April 9 at 10:30 am

The New & Final King from John 12:12-19

Speaker: Brother Vallerian Mganga Wisdom

Ladies' Tea: April 11 at 7:00 pm

The New Commandment from John 13:31-35

Speaker: Rebecca Brinton

Maundy Thursday Service: April 13 at 7:00 pm

The New Spiritual Reality from John 14:15-30

Speaker: Pastor Rick McDonnell

Good Friday Service: April 14 at 6:30 am

The New & Final Atonement from John 19:28-30

Speaker: Tim Roy

Good Friday Breakfast: April 14 at 7:00 am

Easter Sunrise Service: April 16 at 6:00 am

He Has Risen! From John 20: 1-10

Led by: Rock Solid Youth Group

Continental Breakfast: April 16 at 6:45 am

Easter Sunday Worship Service: April 16 at 9:30 am

He Has Risen! From John 20: 1-10

Speaker: Reverend Terry Shanahan

PIONEER GIRLS NEWS

A great, big “thank you” to all of our Pioneer Girls and their families who were a part of Pioneer Girl Sunday on March 19! Twenty-one girls and their families were able to join us! The beautiful crafts displayed in Lyons Hall were enjoyed by all who saw them, the sweet breads made by the Pathfinders and Trailblazers were gobbled up, and girls did a wonderful job greeting and singing “Be Strong and Courageous” during the service. It was a busy morning that blessed everyone who participated.

Spring is finally here and with it comes the GRAND FINALE to the Pioneer Girls’ calendar year: Final Awards Night and the Sleepover... combined!



We look forward to honoring the girls for the work they have done throughout the year. At the conclusion of the Awards Night, Gal Pals, friends and family members will say “good night” and leave their Pioneer Girls at church to enjoy the annual Sleepover, full of games, crafts, snacks, laughter and surprises. Saturday morning, May 13, after a delicious pancake breakfast, the girls will be ready to be picked up bright and early at 8:00am. It will be a fantastic way to end a truly wonderful year of Pioneer Girls!

On Monday, April 3, all PG Leaders and Committee members will meet in the church library at 7pm for a Planning Meeting focused on the Awards Night and Sleepover.

Please continue to pray for the Pioneer Girl ministry as we begin to wrap up our year together. God has blessed us all year long and we know He will continue to do so!

Happy Spring!

We cordially invite all Pioneer Girl parents, Gal Pals, friends and families to join us on Friday, May 12 from 7:00-8:30pm for our Awards Night Celebration.

PIONEER GIRL CALENDAR FOR APRIL

April 3 at 7:00 pm: Leader/Committee Planning Meeting in the Library
April 5 Club
April 12 Club
April 19 NO Club – School Vacation Week
April 26 Club

ROCK SOLID NEWS

We will meet every Sunday night in April except Easter Sunday, April 16.

Rock Solid is looking forward to celebrating our risen Savior with the congregation at the Sunrise Service at 6am on Easter morning, followed by a continental breakfast.

Upcoming Event: Coffee House on May 13. We will gather with several other church youth groups in Lyons Hall to have fellowship and share our talents together.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Eligible student applicants must be graduating high school in 2017, active in West Church, and entering college or training school in the fall. Applications will be

available in the church office the first Sunday in April and must be submitted by Sunday, May 7.



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Several opportunities to serve are in the planning stages by the Missions Committee. Please contact the Office if you are interested in joining one of these opportunities.

1. GLOBAL AID NETWORK (GAIN) LOGISTIC CENTER PROJECT TRIP (JUNE 20-24).

The Missions Committee is gauging interest in a group trip

to the GAIN Logistics Center (GLC) in Mount Joy, PA. But since their October project (which

we attended for many years) now conflicts with the church schedule, we are considering whether their June project would work for our people. Work tasks are geared to many age and ability levels but all combine to meet the material and spiritual needs of people around the globe. Volunteers sort, pack, and store items to prepare them for shipment. When requests come from GAIN field partners, GLC staff members load requested aid onto containers, and the shipping process begins.

- To learn more about this ministry visit:

www.gainusa.org

2. PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT (PID) TRIP TO GUATEMALA (possibly in the fall or in winter Jan-Feb time-frame). The Missions Committee is considering another trip to serve in Guatemala where Abby Sawyer de Morales is the PID Field Director. Possible ministry includes VBS ministry to kids, medical, and construction project. We would like to see if there are people interested in this opportunity, and if so, in what time-frame this would work for the majority of the people.

- To learn more about this ministry visit:

www.pidonline.org

CHURCH SOFTBALL TEAM

Softball is about to start for the 2017 season. Our team is open to both men and women, and young people at least 16 years old. If you are interested in joining in on the fun, fellowship and recreation, please contact the office.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 10-14 | 9am – 12:30pm

Grab your telescope and get ready for Galactic Starveyors VBS!

Against the backdrop of the final frontier, kids will search the skies, encounter amazing things designed by a Creator who is even bigger than the vastness of His creation, and discover that the God who created everything there is wants a relationship with them! At Galactic Starveyors, we'll spend a life-changing week Searching the Visible and Discovering the Invisible.

Our curriculum this year comes to us from LifeWay. If you'd like to take a sneak peek at the adventures awaiting us, visit www.lifeway.com/vbs and take a look around. The short promotional video will start your star-gazing, creative juices flowing.

There's room for you on the Galactic Starveyors Crew! In order to make this star-gazing adventure possible, we need 75 Crew Members. Please prayerfully consider how you might participate in VBS. God has already called 44 of the Crew Members we need! The current openings are:

- Nursery Worker – 1
- Pre-K Helper – 1
- Kindergarten Assistant Teacher – 1
- Kindergarten Helper – 1
- 1st and 2nd Grade Teachers – 4
- 3rd and 4th Grade Teachers – 5
- 5th and 6th Grade Teachers – 2
- Craft Helpers – 8

Contact the office to see how you can spend a life-changing week *Searching the Visible and Discovering the Invisible*.

KINGDOM KIDS

A big **THANK YOU!** to all the volunteers who have signed up to care and guide our children toward Christ! You are greatly appreciated! The updated schedule has been posted on the website as well as on the bulletin boards outside of the nursery and preschool areas. If you haven't signed up and are still interested in helping, we have some openings:



- Sprouts (2&3 yrs. old): 2 openings in the 8-week rotation
- Easter Sunday: We are in need of 7 volunteers willing to serve during the worship service. (All four groups are available. If you have a preference, please note that when you sign-up.)
- Seedlings (0-2 yrs. old) On-Call list: We would like to have 3 more volunteers to be called upon to help on an as needed basis when a third person is required to help care for our nursery babes.

If you willing to serve in one of these capacities, please contact the office to volunteer.

EASTER DEVOTIONAL RESOURCES

Amazing Grace a devotional booklet from *Our Daily Bread*, with ten Easter Reflections will be available on the tables in the Upper Narthex.

Lifeway Kids Easter Devotional Guide will be available in the Lower Narthex at the Parent Station. This guide provides daily family devotions for Holy Week (April 9 – 16).

LOOKING AHEAD

- Scholarship Application Due: May 7
- Pioneer Girls Awards Night: May 12
- Rock Solid Coffee House: May 13
- NS Christian Men's Choir Concert: June 3
- Sunday School Closing Program: June 11
- Vacation Bible School: July 10-14

SPRING QUARTER ADULT CLASS

April 23, 2017 to June 4, 2017

Course #1 Eternity 103 (Women's Class)

Upper room

Facilitators: Various West Church Women

This course is a continuation of Eternity 102.

Have you ever wondered . . . What Heaven is really going to be like? We will be watching and discussing the teaching of Heaven on a DVD course called Eternity 101 taught by Randy Alcorn.

Course #2 The Pillars of Christian Character

Lyons Hall

Teacher: Pastor McDonnell

The class will be following the book *The Pillars of Christian Character: Essential Attitudes of Living Faith* by John MacArthur. The study will consist of looking at foundational inner attitudes of the heart that are marks or evidences of a true believer. Pillars such as faith, obedience, humility love, forgiveness, self-discipline, gratitude, and worship will be covered. Having the book is not required for the class, but encouraged. The goal will be to stir one another to be more like Jesus Christ. The class format will include lectures, class discussions and times of group prayer.



MEMORIAL EASTER LILIES

On Easter Sunday, April 16, we will decorate the sanctuary with Easter lilies as we have in past years.

If you would like to provide a lily in memory of a loved one, please fill out the form in the Sunday bulletin or call the church office at 978-535-4112 with your order. The cost of each lily is \$13.50. All flower orders need to be in the church office by **Palm Sunday, April 9.**

The lilies are yours to take following the Easter Worship Service. Plants that are left will be distributed to the sick and shut-ins of West Church by the Deacons.

MINISTRY PRAYER CALENDAR

Please use the information below to daily pray for the ministries of West Church.

Sunday

- Commitment to Pray for Outreach
- Kingdom Kids & Nursery***
- Rock Solid***
- Sunday School***
- Ushers & Greeters***
- Worship Team***

Monday

- Every Man a Warrior
- Gideon Ministry
- Haven from Hunger*
- Nursing Home Ministry***
- Pulpit Search Committee**

Tuesday

- Board of Deacons & Deaconesses*
- Board of Trustees*
- Community Outreach Committee*
- Nursing Home Ministry***
- Prison Ministry

Wednesday

- Christian Service Brigade***
- Girls' Growth Group***
- Pioneer Girls***
- Vacation Bible School
- Women's Bible Study***

Thursday

- Christian Education Committee*
- Missions Committee*
- Home Fellowship Groups**
- Missions Prayer Watch*
- Food Pantry

Friday

- College and Career Ministry *
- Compassionate Ministries
- Media Team
- Young at Heart

Saturday

- Gain Sewing Ministry*
- Marriage Builders*
- Nominating Committee
- Potpourri
- S.A.L.T.*

*And **pray** for us,
too, that God may
open a door for
our message, so
that we may
proclaim the
mystery of Christ. ..
Colossians 4:3*

* Meet 1x per month
** Meet 2x per month
*** Meet Weekly