

Easter Sunday – April 4

Worship

Our two services will be held at:

6:15 AM on the south lawn of the Manning House; dress warmly!

10:00 AM Joyous Easter Worship for all ages in our Sanctuary, featuring special choir music and the Nottingham Brass.

Breakfast

You are most welcome to gather for an Easter Breakfast that will be served from 8:15 – 9:30 AM, in Fellowship Hall. We look forward to seeing you on this festive morning.

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Room to Share

The Board of Christian Outreach invites you to observe the Lenten discipline of fasting, by sharing your food with the hungry. We are asked to bring one food item each time we attend an activity at Brookside, beginning with Ash Wednesday. This is a Lenten observance that is above and beyond our gifts to Loaves and Fishes, and the assembling of the Easter Baskets in April. Please make sharing your food with those less well off a priority this Lent.



Alleluia!

The Season of Lent, 2010 Brookside Congregational Church United Church of Christ

~ Room to Grow, Room to Serve, Room for You ~

Have you noticed the many books that offer 40 days with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. or 40 days to enrich your marriage or 40 days to lose weight? From 40 days with a great spiritual guide to 40 days to instill new habits of the heart, it is no coincidence that 40 is the common number. Forty is deeply ingrained in our psyche and culture from biblical stories: 40 days and nights it rained in the story of Noah; 40 years in the wilderness the Israelites wandered; 40 days Jesus was tempted in the wilderness. If you count the days, excluding Sundays, between Ash Wednesday and Easter, you come up with 40! The number 40 in biblical texts signifies a time of testing and discernment of vocation.



You are invited to join in the 40 day journey of Lent through worship, Biblical study on forgiveness, and practices that enrich our lives and relationship with God and each other. *Forgiveness is a door to peace and happiness. It is a small, narrow door, and cannot be entered without stooping* (Johann C. Arnold). *Forgiveness doesn't consist of soft-headedness. It is not a way of denying, ignoring, condoning, or tolerating wrong. It begins by recognizing and naming the wrongdoing and, if at all possible, bringing it to a halt* (L. William Countryman).

February 28, 11:30-1:00, *The Power of Forgiveness*, a movie you and your family will not want to miss. Bring a sandwich; soup, beverage, and popcorn provided. A movie will also be shown on forgiveness for children 5th grade and under.

Wednesday Evenings – *Room to Grow*



Soup, Bread, and Fellowship at 6:00 PM

Once again the Board of Deacons will host a simple fellowship meal each Wednesday evening throughout Lent. We will gather in the Dining Room of Manning House, and share a meal before we worship.

Weekly Worship in the Chapel at 7:00 PM

Adult Lenten Study, 7:30 – 8:30 PM

(or Wednesday Mornings in March, 10:30 AM – Noon)

The weekly worship service and the study will both focus on the following themes and readings:

Ash Wednesday – February 17

“*Forgive Us?*” Isaiah 58:1-12; Luke 6:20-23, 27-38

February 24

“*Forgiveness Is God’s Purpose*” Luke 5:17-26; Luke 23:34

March 3

“*Why Forgive?*” Luke 7:36-50

March 10

“*The Politics of Forgiveness*” Luke 19:1-10

March 17

“*But, What If We Are Right?*” Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



Agape Meal

Thursday, March 25, 6:00 PM

This is a re-enactment of a first century meal that would have been shared among the first followers of Christ. This is a wonderful opportunity for all ages to be together in fellowship and prayer. There will be a focus on *Forgiveness in a Wounded World* using Jonah, Chapter 4.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday – March 28, 10:00 AM

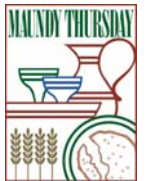
All Ages Worship. A time when we worship God and remember Jesus’ triumphal entrance into Jerusalem. Focus: *The Things that Make for Peace*.

~ *Gather on the front steps of the Sanctuary immediately following worship, for our annual photo.*



Maundy Thursday – April 1, 7:30 PM

Join us in the Sanctuary for a Candlelight Service of Tenebrae and a remembrance of the Last Supper. Tenebrae (meaning “darkness” or “shadows”) involves the symbolic extinguishing of candles, signifying the gathering forces of evil and the approach of Jesus’ death.



Good Friday – April 2, 7:30 PM

We will gather in the Chapel for this solemn remembrance of the three hours at midday that Jesus was on the Cross, and Darkness covered the earth. There will be an opportunity for anointing and healing as part of this service.

