

Our Lenten Journey 2019

United Church of Christ East Goshen

1201 North Chester Road West Chester, PA 19380 610-692-2951 www.UCCEastGoshen.org

Rev. Angelee Benner-Smith, Pastor Marty Meyer, Interim Organist Phyllis Kinser, Administrative Assistant LENT is the season of our liturgical calendar when we celebrate and remember Christ's incarnation and humanness and prepare

our hearts for his death and resurrection. To be human is to be limited, finite and sinful. Christ came to join us in our humanity and to redeem our sins so we could live eternally with God. Lent is a time of repentance, reflection and renewal in preparation for our Easter Resurrection!

You are invited to join with the Church Universal in celebrating the season of Lent with the following activities here at our local church!



March 6, Ash Wednesday

7:00 pm Service of Communion & Distribution of Ashes

The imposition of ashes reminds us of our humanity, "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust." The imposition of ashes is an Early Church tradition which symbolizes our humanity and our need for redemption as we begin the Holy Season.

March 9, Saturday

5:30 Roots & Roofs Service

March 10 - First Sunday in Lent (Daylight Savings Time Begins)

10:00 Worship 11:15 Fellowship

March 12, Tuesday -

8:30 am Senior Breakfast at W.C. Sr. Center 10:30 – 12:00 Café Script Bible Study

March 13, Wednesday

6-7 PM	Lenten Soup & Song
7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal

March 16, Saturday

5:30 Roots & Roofs Service

10:00 11:15	 Second Sunday in Lent Family Worship Fellowship Confirmation Class with Sponsors
March 18, Monday 7:00 pm	Council Meeting
March 19, Tuesday 10:30-12:00	r Café Script Bible Study
March 20, Wednes	day
	Lenten Soup & Song Choir Rehearsal
March 22, Friday 6:45 pm	Jewish Worship Service at Temenos Retreat Center for Confirmation Class
March 23, Saturda 5:30	y Roots & Roofs Service
10:00 am	– Third Sunday in Lent Worship Service Fellowship Confirmation Class
March 26, Tuesday 10:30-12:00	r Café Script Bible Study
March 27, Wednes 6-7 PM 7:00 pm	Lenten Soup & Song
March 30, Saturda 5:30 Roots	y & Roofs Service
10:00 am 11:15 12-2PM	 Fourth Sunday in Lent Worship Service, Infant Baptism Fellowship Roots & Roofs Planning Meeting
April 2, Tuesday	

10:30-12:00 Café Script Bible Study

April 3, Wednesday		
	Lenten Soup & Song	
7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	
April 4, Thursday		
	a Meal for the Salvation Army shelter	
4-6 pm	Surrey Services Open House	
April 5, Friday		
1:00 pm	Lunch Bunch Meets	
April 6, Saturday		
3:30-5:15	Confirmation Class	
5:30	Roots & Roofs Service	
April 7, Sunday		
10:00 am	Worship & Communion	
11:15	Fellowship	
April 9, Tuesday		
8:30 am	Senior Breakfast at W.C. Sr. Center	
10:30-12:00	Café Script	
April 10, Wednesday		
	Confirmation Class	
•	Soup & Song	
7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	
April 13, Saturday		
•	Egg Decorating & Cookie Decorating	
5:30 Roots	& Roofs Service	
Dolm to Docaton Sunday		
<u>Palm to Passion Sunday</u>		
April 14 Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday		

April 14, Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday

We re-live and celebrate Christ's entry to Jerusalem, focusing on the events of the last week of His life among us. 8:30-9:30am Pancake Breakfast hosted by the Men's Group in Fellowship Hall. A free will offering will be received. 10:00 am Worship Service Our palm branches wave and songs are sung as we hear the scriptures of Jesus' triumphant entry to Jerusalem. We move toward Christ's journey to the Cross.

11:15 am Fellowship

April 17, Wednesday

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

April 18, Maundy Thursday

6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Dinner and Worship Join around the table to experience the Last Support. Hand-washing, a meal, a meditation and communion will be shared. Sign up to provide an element of this sacred meal You are invited to bring food items from the sign-up sheet found in the Narthex.

7:00 pm Worship Service, Holy Communion shared.

April 20, Saturday

5:30 pm Roots & Roofs – A Lenten walk in East Goshen Park. Meet at church.

April 21, Easter Sunday

6:30 am	HE HAS RISEN INDEED!
	Resurrection Celebration with an
	outside sunrise worship at our Church
	with sweet guitar accompaniment. Holy
	Communion shared. Following our
	worship, please join us inside to warm
	up with coffee and sweet rolls.
10:00 am	Worship as the sounds of organ and
	voice sing the news, "The stone was
	rolled away. No longer death, but life."
	Holy Communion shared.
11:30 am	Special Fellowship with sweets and
	finger foods. Children are invited to an
	Easter Egg Hunt for eggs and candy in

the Church yard. Candy bags will be exchanged for eggs found.

Everyone is welcome to join us for all our events. We are an open and affirming congregation. We are praying for your presence in these Lenten journey offerings.

EASTER FLOWERS

Please look soon for the order forms that will be available in the Narthex for ordering flowers this year. You may order pots of tulips, hyacinths and lilies. They will be delivered to



the church for the Easter Sunday service and your dedications will be printed in that day's Bulletin. It is a wonderful way to honor a loved one, provide a beautiful addition to our Easter celebration, and brighten someone's days for weeks afterward.

Lenten Soup & Song

On Wednesday evenings during the season of Lent, we offer a simple soup/bread supper in Fellowship Hall. We will be exploring Lenten hymns through their history, scripture and themes. A sign up for soup and bread is in the Narthex. Please join us for this time of fellowship and worship!



Our Saturday Worship Service

United Church of Christ East Goshen has been enjoying a new service on Saturdays at 5:30 pm. We pray that folks seeking a Saturday evening worship experience will come to know the unconditional love of God that is presented every Sunday morning from our pulpit, but in a different way to worship.

We had a busy and exciting February!! Our Theme for the series was, "You May Say I'm a Dreamer". We looked at the lives and dreams of various figures from the Bible and from our history. We learned how to see God's hand at work in the frustration of unfulfilled dreams and in the promise of fresh dreams! During the course of the month we welcomed 10 visitors!

As we enter the Season of Lent we will observe the season with a Seven Week Series entitled, "Walking through Lent: Personal Journeys". We will hear and discuss the faith journeys of a variety of folks. Special guests will share their walks through identity, activism and religion (among other topics) and we will look to our own journeys that bring us though confession and repentance to glorious resurrection. Each gathering will also include opportunity to add to an on-going work of art, to sing inspiring music and to break bread with the community. We would love to have you join us for lively discussion, sonorous singing and fabulous food!

Follow us on Facebook.com/RootsandRoofs.

Shop With Script

Support our church by buying your gift cards each month through our *Shop With Script* program. Whether you are ordering physical gift cards or electronic ecards, have your order information in to Todd Speece or Charity Harter by noon on the 3rd Monday of the month (next date is March 18), and we'll have them by the next Sunday.

Mark Your Calendar!

Blessing of the Animals will be held on April 28, at 1:00 PM.

On <u>May 18</u>, at 11:00 AM, we will celebrate the life of Rev. Robert Pauli with a **memorial service** and lunch at our church. Please join the Pauli family as we remember Bob.

Confirmation – Our 4 confirmands will be received into membership at our 10:00 AM Service on <u>May 19</u>.

Nursing School for Natalie

During Lent we will have several opportunities to support Natalie, our young girl sponsored by our church for over 10 years, who lives in Peru. Natalie entered Nursing School this year and our financial commitment has increased. Look for opportunities to purchase small crafts and food items made by our young people to raise needed funds.

Surrey Services to Use UCCEG facility

The church will be providing space for Surrey Services' (www.SurreyServices.org) activities. This non-profit provides services and activities for senior citizens. They will be using the Fellowship Hall, kitchen, bathrooms and multipurpose room on Tuesdays and Thursday from 9AM to 3PM beginning April 2. Our members are invited to an open house on Thursday, April 4 from 4 to 6PM.

Please be aware of their activities when using the church for our own purposes. Keeping the areas they will be using neat and orderly will help in adjusting to this new and exciting arrangement. This is a wonderful opportunity for outreach into the community. Thank you for your support in making this a successful partnership for both Surrey Services and UCCEG.

Steve Yost, Rental Coordinator

Palm Sunday Breakfast: The men of the congregation invite everyone to join them for a pancake breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 14. Breakfast is served from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in fellowship hall. It's a great time to enjoy a tasty buffet AND the company of the community. There's no charge, but free-will gifts will be received. Kick off Holy Week in the best way this year!

<u>Saturday, April 13 – 1- 2:30 pm</u>

Bring 1 dozen hard boiled eggs and meet with Pastor Angelee and others to dye and decorate eggs, read stories and decorate cookies at church! Sign up in Narthex. All ages are invited.

One Great Hour of Sharing

OGHS offering from the UCC special appeals will be collected on March 31, during our worship service. On March 17 coin boxes will be available for you to collect daily for this important appeal. One Great Hour of Sharing® is the Lenten Offering of the United Church of Christ that supports disaster, refugee, and development activities. Those who have faced hurricanes, floods, fires, tornados, or losing home, farm land, resource and belongs have been helped by OGHS! Where there are disasters, the offerings we give support caring for God's people among the ruins of loss and life.

SALAD SUNDAY

On Sunday, March 31, we will be having Salad Sunday at hospitality after service. Please bring a salad to share! Thank you. So we don't end up with 20 chicken salads, please follow the instructions below, if possible.

If your last name is

A to G, please bring a leafy green salad or vegetable salad H to M, please bring a fruit salad

N to S, please bring a salad with protein (chicken, tuna, egg, tofu) T to Z, please bring a starchy type pasta or rice



Community Breakfast: Tuesday, March 12 8:30-10:00 am

Breakfast is Served! At the West Chester Senior Center, 530 E. Union Street, West Chester. All ages are invited...a full meal is \$4.00!

Some Easter Facts

The English word, "Easter" may have come from *Eostre*, the Teutonic (ancient German) goddess of spring, or from the Teutonic festival of spring called *Eostur*.

The word "Easter" is not found in the Bible.

Eggs represent the new life that returns to nature around Easter time.



Early Christians of Mesopotamia were the first to use colored eggs for Easter. In some European countries people colored eggs red to represent the joy of the resurrection.

From a Christian perspective, Easter eggs are said to represent Jesus' emergence from the tomb and resurrection. Decorating eggs



for Easter is a tradition that dates back to at least the 13th century, according to some sources. One explanation for this custom is that eggs were formerly a forbidden food during the

Lenten season, so people would paint and decorate them to mark the end of the period of penance and fasting, then eat them on Easter as a celebration.

The largest Easter egg ever made was over 25 feet high and weighed over 8,000 pounds. It was built out of chocolate and marshmallow and supported by an internal steel frame.



The lamb is one of the symbols of Easter. The symbol comes from the Jewish *Pesach* (Passover) holiday. The Jewish Passover celebration is a partial re-enactment of the events of the Exodus when Jewish families killed a lamb and sprinkled its blood on their doorposts.

The date of Easter varies from year to year. It falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon following March 21 (the vernal equinox). So, Easter could be any date between March 22 and April 25. The first Nicene Council (325 A.D.) determined the method for setting the date to observe Easter.

Lenten and Easter Questionnaire for the Seeking Christian of All Ages

(If you fill out correctly by Easter Sunday Pastor Angelee will have a special treat for you!)

- 1. What kind of Cloth was used to wrap Jesus' body before he entered the tomb?
- 2. Jesus body was placed in a sepulcher and a rock was rolled to cover the opening. What is a sepulcher?
- **3.** Who made the statement, "Take ye him, and crucify him, for I find no fault in him?"
- 4. How many angels were guarding the sepulcher?
- 5. Which disciple is not present when Jesus goes to see them after his resurrection?
- 6. At the Last Supper, what food did Jesus liken to his body
- 7. Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. After his crucifixion, Jesus rose from the dead how many days later?
- 8. Which prisoner was released instead of Jesus?
- **9.** What animal did Jesus ride on when he entered Jerusalem the week before his death?
- **10.** Who wrote the popular Easter hymn, "*Christ the Lord is Risen Today*?"
- 11. The Easter sunrise service, a distinctive Protestant observance in North America, comes from what Biblical event?
- **12.** What church colors are associated with Easter? Do you know what the colors represent?
- 13. How much did the world's most expensive egg sell for and who made it?

- **14.** Who held the first egg roll on the White House lawn and in what year?
- 15. What is the name of the Charlie Brown Easter Special?
- 16. Easter is a "movable feast" one that is set according to the phases of the moon – so the dates are different each year. Does Easter always occur between March 22 and April 25?

Some Facts of Easter: More than 90 million chocolate Easter bunnies are manufactured each year. The most famous Easter parade is held in New York. The first Easter eggs were colored red, in memory of the blood Jesus shed during his crucifixion.

May this season teach us, strengthen us, and offer us Christ's renewal!