

“THE TALK OF TOWNLEY”

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Holy Week

Palm/Passion Sunday is, by design, a day of drama and paradox, of triumph and tragedy. As the service begins, a crowd gathers, waving branches and shouting “Hosanna” (Hebrew for save us), and wanting to crown Jesus as king. But as the story of Christ’s passion unfolds, the shouts of praise turn into demands for his death. Jesus is handed over to be mocked, tortured, and killed; the crown he receives is one of thorns.

The Three Days: Maundy Thursday | Good Friday | The Great Vigil of Easter

Maundy Thursday proclaims Jesus’ new commandment to love one another as he has loved us. It celebrates Christ’s example of humble service and self-offering, represented by the washing of feet and the sharing of communion.

Good Friday proclaims the good news of salvation through the paradoxical suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. The center of this liturgy is the reading of the passion narrative from the Gospel of John, in which Christ is lifted up on the cross as a sign of God’s great love for the world.

The Great Vigil of Easter proclaims God’s victory over sin and death through Christ’s resurrection.

Traditionally, the Easter Vigil begins at sunset, in keeping with the ancient Jewish/Christian understanding of evening as the start of a new day.

April 2019 / Issue 16

INVITE

In January, I presented a simple model for ministry and a call to action: **Connect = Serve = Invite = Give**. By putting these single words into phrases makes it clearer to see what deeper engagement with our mission looks like: **Connect** = Choose a Group to be involve with / **Serve** = Join the Mission / **Invite** = Bring a Friend / **Give** = Give Generously of Yourself.

Last month’s focus was on **Serve** – as in serving. We were encouraged to Join the Mission, volunteer with the group, and make ourselves available. This month, let’s focus on **Invite** – as in bringing a friend. To bring a friend means we must *be a friend*.

Consider these 4 Essentials for being a friend to those around us:

- 1. Rekindle your flame.** Renew your conviction that the Good News is truly good news. Then seek to build relationships and work alongside your neighbors for the common good.
- 2. Pray.** We know this, yet we don't do it often enough. The more we pray and seek God for opportunities, people, and power, the greater the movement of God will be in and through our church.
- 3. Go to the broken places.** The gospel often finds greatest response among those who are hurt, oppressed, or broken. Where are people suffering within your community?
- 4. Be present.** We already interact with lost people throughout the week. We are already on mission. Eat with and pray for your neighbors, looking for what God is already doing in their lives.

Jesus told his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. (Luke 10:2)

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

Please mark your calendars! Townley church’s spring rummage sale will be Friday, May 10, 2019 and Saturday May 11, 2019. Please plan to help with set-up, clean-up and on days of the sale. It is a lot of work and everyone’s help is always appreciated. *Invite a friend to work with you.* More info to follow. If you have any questions, please see Linda or Janet.



Mark your calendar!

Contact Us

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Townley Church

APRIL DATES

Prayer: Every Monday 4:00-5:00 PM

April 7

- Fifth Sunday in Lent
- Holy Communion

April 10

- Bible Study 6:30 PM

April 13

- Roadhouse: 7:30 PM

April 14

- Liturgy of the Passion
- Delaire Nursing Home Visitation 2:00 PM

April 17

- Bible Study 6:30 PM
- Session Meeting 7:30 PM

April 19

- Good Friday
- Last Sayings of Christ Service – Pastor Ron is a participant
- Siloam Hope/Frist Presbyterian – 12 Noon – 42 Broad St. Elizabeth

April 21

- Resurrection of the Lord

April 28

- Second Sunday of Easter

TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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