



Holy Covenant UMC Newsletter

Seek with God's heart **Grow** in God's word **Serve** all God's people

In This Issue

Message from Pastor Carol

**Holy Covenant 3rd Annual
Arts & Craft Fair**

Parents' Night Out

**Youth Choir Breakfast
Fundraisers**

**Whispers of the Passion on
Palm Sunday**

Easter Lilies

Maundy Thursday Worship

Good Friday Worship

**Walk with Jesus and Egg
Hunt**

Easter Sunrise Worship

Easter Worship

FREE Karate Camp for Kids

Blood Drive

Junktique

Shop With Scrip!

**Early Childhood Development
Program**

Issue: #107

April 1, 2014

Message from Pastor Carol



Hello Church,
With the imposition of ashes on our foreheads March 5th, we began a 40 day journey crossed by six Sundays to Easter, April 20th. So, we are in the midst of our Lenten journey. How is it going for you? How have you faced the temptations? How have you handled defeat? What have you learned about God? What have you learned about yourself? Tough questions for sure but we are better for having asked them. Lent is not just a Christian exercise on the calendar of darkness and sacrifice. It is also a time of discovery, intimacy and hope! The more we engage this spiritual process, the more we

come to know God and be known by God.

Holy Week is another opportunity to submit to the process of spiritual transformation. Paying attention to the power of the events of the last week of Jesus' life has the potential to open our spirits for reflective meditation on Christ's perseverance to and release from the cross, the fear and response of the political and religious leaders, and the difficulty of the disciples to maintain allegiance to a martyred leader. These events of the past become profoundly contemporary as we recognize God's commitment to love us at all costs and the fragility of our resolve to be faithful.

Following is a proposed progression of the events of Holy Week as found in three of the four gospels. There are many more details and happenings but this is designed to give you a focal point for your time of prayer and meditation. (Matthew 21+;

Children's Ministry



Children's Sunday School

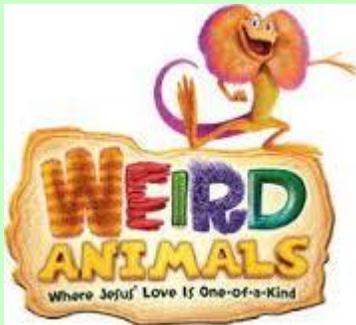
Sundays at 9:45 am

K-2 is in Room 202

3-5 is in Room 206

Preschool is in Room 105

Toddlers are in the Nursery



Save the Date!
Vacation Bible School
July 7 - 11, 2014
 with a One-of-a-Kind
 celebration
Sunday, July 13

Youth Ministry



7th- 12th Grade

Mark 11+; and Luke 19:28+) I look forward to watching your faith grow through these scriptures and your conversations with God. What a celebration we will experience as we come through these experiences to stand confidently on Easter Sunday morning to sing the alleluias to a risen Lord victorious over hatred and fear! We will truly be ready to receive the unfailing love of God that cannot be eradicated.

Sunday: Jesus entered through gates of Jerusalem riding on the colt of a donkey. The people spread their garments on the road, waved palms and cheered "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Monday: Once inside the city walls, Jesus went directly to the Temple and turned over the tables of the moneychangers. "Because you are cheating those who came to offer sacrifices to God, you have turned my Father's house into a den of thieves!"

Tuesday: Jesus returned to the temple to teach. The Jewish leaders asked questions of him in order to trick him into saying something so they could have him arrested.

Wednesday: Judas plotted with the priests to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver.

Thursday: Jesus met with his disciples in the upper room for the Passover Feast. At the end of the meal, Jesus served his disciples by washing their feet (John 13:1-17) and offering bread and wine as symbols for his body and blood. During this meal, Jesus predicted Peter's denial and Judas' betrayal. Later that evening, Jesus went to the garden to pray and the authorities came and arrested him. Jesus stood before Caiaphas and was declared guilty of blasphemy.

Friday: Jesus went before Pontius Pilate. When he found him without guilt, Pontius wanted to free him to fulfill the Passover custom of freeing one prisoner but the people called, "Crucify him!" Jesus was beaten, forced to carry his cross and then hung at Golgotha. In the afternoon, Christ released his spirit to God and died.

Saturday: Jesus' family and friends mourned his death.

Sunday: Mary Magdalene entered the tomb where Jesus was placed and it was empty. Christ spoke to her and she realized that Christ had risen!!

Palm Sunday 8:30, 11:00 am April 13th

This service embodies the sharp contrast of Holy Week. With the children entering waving the palms, we experience the joyous demonstration of loyalty to Jesus as he enters Jerusalem and then we are confronted by the story of Jesus' passion through the reading of scripture and the sermon.

Senior Sunday, May 4th

Our high school seniors will lead us in worship.

Change the World Challenge**Saturday, May 17**

We will work with South Park YMCA, painting their building and helping in their garden.

Stock Sales

Be on the look-out for the Youth Stock Sale brochure. Instead of having to buy a product or service, each year we invite the church membership to buy "stock" in the youth. This allows us to provide Summer opportunities in the way of Confirmation Mission trip, Youth Mission trip and Youth Choir tour that are both transformational AND affordable to families. We believe up to 50 youth will benefit from the trips we take and hundreds of Texans will know Holy Covenant's name and mission.

**Jr./Sr. High Mission Trip
June 22 - 27**

We're going together as one group to Quest Ranch in San Marcos to build walls for cottages for low-income families. We'll enjoy homemade food and an opportunity to meet the family who will receive the cottage we are working on. This will be a great opportunity for any youth 7th-12th grade to put their faith in action and grow closer to God.

Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm April 17th

We call the Thursday of Holy Week, "Maundy Thursday". The word maundy comes from the Latin word *mandatum novum*, which means commandment. For this service, we will remember Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples in which he instituted Holy Communion through the offering of the bread and wine and he wrapped a towel around his waist and washed the disciples' feet. By doing both of these things, his sacrifice became the sign of the new covenant God was making with humanity and with this new covenant came a new commandment. "Love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34).

Good Friday Service 7:00 pm April 18th

This service scripturally walks us through the passion of Christ. Each of us will be confronted by the sacrificial love of Christ and how we often find ourselves running in the opposite direction of that love.

Easter Services Sunrise 6:30, 8:30, 11:00 am April 20th

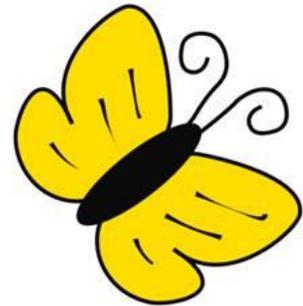
He is ALIVE! This service focuses on the resurrection of Christ. It is a joyous day of celebration and jubilation that Christ has overcome death!

Holy Covenant 3rd Annual Arts & Craft Fair**Save the Date!****Saturday, April 5th - 9 to 4**

Local art work including stained glass, crafts, jewelry, clothing & much more

Lunch and snacks at Covenant Cafe - plus Charity Bake Sale

Come shop and eat. This is a great show and a lot of fun. Please invite your friends.

**Parents' Night Out****Saturday, April 12
6 to 9 pm**

Bring your kids ages Infant-5th Grade. Email Heather Hinton hhinton@hcumc.org to make a reservation. A snack will be provided. Cost is \$5/child.

Adult Ministry



Finding the Light: A Small Group for Young Adults

Sundays 9:45 am

All are invited for study and fellowship in Room A (NE Sanctuary). We are studying *Listening to God*.

Music Ministry



Music and Worship Arts Week

Summer Opportunity for All ages and Interests

June 22-27, 2014

Lake Junaluska, North Carolina

Check out this opportunity in the beautiful North Carolina Mountains.

Debbie is planning to go and would love to have company! There are activities for all ages. Let Debbie know if you are interested! The deadline for early registration prices is April 30!

Debbie has brochures in the choir room or click here for more information

[Music and Worship Week](#)

Youth Choir Breakfast Fundraiser

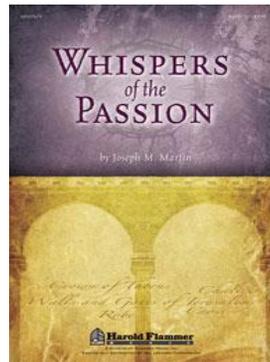
**Sunday, April 13
7:45 to 10:30 am**

Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast before and after the 8:30 worship service.

Support our summer tour to rural North Texas churches.



Whispers of the Passion



Palm Sunday, April 13

8:30 and 11:00 Worship

Presented by our adult choir and orchestra. Children are invited to process into worship with palms.

Easter Lilies

Cost \$12

Purchase a lily in honor or memory of a loved one and help adorn our sanctuary this Easter. Sign up in the narthex.



Maundy Thursday Worship



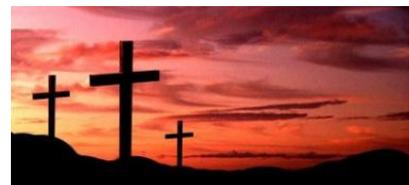
April 17 at 7 pm

A Taize service of Holy Communion featuring the Revelation choir, soloists and instrumentalists.

Good Friday Worship

April 18 at 7 pm

A Service of Darkness featuring handbells and adult choir.



L.I.F.T.



Ladies in Fellowship Together
Thursday, April 24
6:30 pm

**at the home of
 Kathy Parker**

For more information, go to www.hcumc.org. Bring a snack or covered dish to share. We will enjoy food, fellowship, and a short devotional.

Missions



God Sighting Spawn from Basketball Camp!

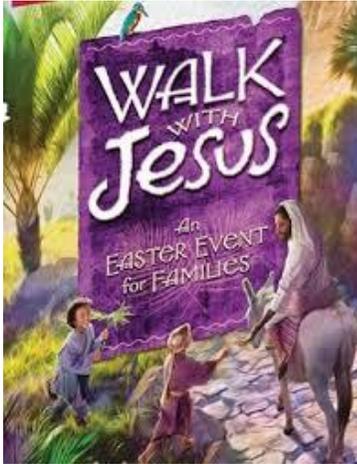
HC hosted another successful basketball camp on March 15 with 18 kids participating. Everyone had a fun time and enjoyed the pizza lunch (of course).

God sighting: Four children from the same family attended the camp for the first time.

What an incredible feeling to see the same four children at church and Sunday School the next morning!

Thank you to everyone who helped make the event run so smoothly. We are very blessed to have members with such big servants' hearts! Thanks again and God bless our volunteers!

Walk with Jesus and Egg Hunt



An Easter Event for Families
Saturday, April 19
2 pm

Walk With Jesus is a multi-sensory and interactive event for the whole family. Children and Families will:

- Travel to Jerusalem for Palm Sunday
- Sit down for the last supper
- Pray in the Garden of Gethsemane
- Discover the sacrifice of Good Friday
- Celebrate freedom from sin at the empty tomb that first Easter

morning.

It is an event designed for families to experience the adventure together and discover Easter and the events leading up to it in a powerful way you will never forget!

Want to be a part of this powerful experience? Contact Heather Hinton - hhinton@hcumc.org

Easter Sunrise Worship

April 20 at 6:30 am

Worship led by youth. We will gather in the sanctuary and process to the cross on the east lawn. Followed by a Potluck Breakfast in the Covenant Center.



Easter Worship



Sunday, April 20
8:30 and 11 am

Celebrate our risen Lord with your friends and neighbors! Invite someone with no church home to worship with us. Join us as we praise God together with bells, organ, brass and voices!

Project Transformation

Again we will support this summer tutoring program by giving support to a summer intern and by volunteering our time for four days during the summer. The April 6 Communion offering will resource this project.

Details: Mary Jane VanHorne

mjj1128@verizon.net

S. A. S. Project

Saturday, May 10

Metrocrest and Senior Adult Services will provide us with an assignment to assist a senior citizen who is in need of help with house repairs and yard care. Contact John Mayer john_mayer@yahoo.com

The Change the World Challenge

For this challenge volunteers from Holy Covenant will provide painting and yard work for YMCA. Jason Redick jredick@hcumc.org

Food Pantry Needs**Peanut Butter and Reusable Bags**

Please drop off at the church office.
Thank you!

FREE Karate Camp for Kids

Saturday, April 26

11 am to 1 pm

Covenant Center

SideKicks Karate will provide instruction in this art for children grades K-6. A snack and photos will be provided.



For more information, please contact Mike Lovell lovellmike50@hotmail.com

Blood Drive

Sunday, April 27

9 am to 1 pm

Covenant Center

Lend an arm and save a life!

Junktique

Saturday, May 3

7:30 am - 3:30 pm

The Junktique is coming soon and the Spiritual Journeymen request your new and gently-used treasures for this annual event. Your donated items will be sold from our parking lot and the monies raised will go toward local and global good works.



There are plenty of volunteer opportunities both before and on the day of the sale. Please see a Journeyman for details on how to get involved.

The Journeymen will begin accepting donations at the Covenant Center after 2 pm on Thursday, May 1 and on Friday, May 2.

We are looking for sellable, unbroken items that you may not need, want, or have the space to store any longer: items including furniture and accessories, tools, clothing, kitchen gadgets, knick-knacks, decorations, books, etc.

Sunday Worship Schedule

**8:30 and 11:00 am
Worship Services**

**9:45 am
Sunday School for all
ages**

Staff

Rev. Carol Sparks
Senior Pastor

Rev. Debbie Chapman
Associate Pastor, Music
Ministries

Jason Redick
Youth & Young Adult
Minister

Heather Hinton
Children's Minister

Beth McClure
ECDP Director

Carol Jones
Bookkeeper

Elise Webb Odell
Administrative Assistant

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

The McKee family; the Harris family; Robert Austin; Gary Feltner; Tina Ross; Brenda Jo Anderson; Nancy Cardenas; Valerie Roberts; Bill Henly; Linda Oakley; Rachel Millaway; Jenny Martin; Frank Esparza; Stephen Ministers; Betty Chapman; Sandy Bennett; Barbara Krueger; the Berks family; Susan Kiker; Michael Prees; Thomas Scarlett; Cyndi Benedict; John Bator; Carl Robertson; Bonnie Feltner; Pam Krause;



Items that cannot be accepted include: CRT monitors and TVs (non-flat screen), computers and printers, mattress/boxsprings, dirty or stained items, non-working items, hazardous materials/paint, and tires.

If you have items too large to get to the Covenant Center on your own, please contact Johnny Swaim at jldhswaim@gmail.com by April 30th and we will send a truck.

Shop With Scrip!

It's spring cleaning and project time. Earn rebates for your church and purchase cards for home improvements such as planting the garden, home décor, storage supplies. Shop from the many "Scrip cards available for purchase. Examples: Lowe's, Sears, Target, Home Depot, Bed Bath & Beyond, The Container Store, Crate & Barrel, Overstock.com, Pier 1 Imports, and more.



Shop for Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Teacher Appreciation and Graduation! There are many retailers who want to give our church money when you Shop With Scrip. Examples: Kohl's, Macy's, TJ Maxx, Gap Inc, American Eagle Outfitters, JC Penny's, Sears, Coldwater Creek, J Crew, Dillard's, Lane Bryant, Foot Locker, Stein Mart, Shoe Carnival, Payless Shoes, Old Navy, Applebees, Chili's, Walmart and Amazon, Starbucks.

All of this can be done from the privacy of your computer or phone. Go to www.shopwithscrip.com and check out the hundreds of retailers where you can shop your favorite brands to buy groceries, clothes, home improvements, gas, dining, medicines, gifts and more. Don't pay the activation fees when you purchase gift cards in stores, purchase them for face value through this program and the church receives a percentage of each card purchased. Our membership code is: 4C22878236641.

Early Childhood Development Program

Enrolling Now

Holy Covenant ECDP is still accepting registrations for the 2014-2015 school year as well as for our Summer Camps. Hours for the summer camps are 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Children 2 years of

Norma McCormack; Elizabeth Rudolf; JoAnn Wiggins; Kristin Nelson; Joey Crumpley; Jessica and Philip Stallings; Geraine Allen; Nita Sharp; Virgil Ronning; John Michael; Sheila Anderson; Jim Martinez; Stephanie Flangin; the Doane family; Joseph Millioto; Susan Parker; Jak Kinder; Philip Sorrell; Donna Crawford; Dennis Stringer; Stephen Booker; Lily Gosling; Bankston Potts; the Staab family; Emma Mambuca; Karen Bennett Lawler; Dr. Fe Cabrera; the Smithen family; Jon Broom; Gusty Pritchard; and Eddie Mae Washington.



age through beginning first grade are welcome. *WHOOSH!* is the summer camp for the week of June 9-12. Students will be learning about air: Where is it? What does it do? How can people use it? *Splish! Splash!* is the camp for the week of June 16-19. This week will be dedicated to experimenting with water and other liquids. It will be a week of science experiments and messy art! Your child will love it! Registration forms for summer camps and for the preschool can be accessed on the church's website, www.hcumc.org. Please call the ECDP Office at 972-492-1371 to schedule a tour or to have your questions answered. We're having a lot of fun learning at Holy Covenant!

Our loved ones in the military

C.J. Davidson, Zach Glass, David Hunt, Jake Oliver, Ashton Rudolf, Logan Vidrine, & Ashley Wert.



Carrollton West Pet Hospital

www.CarrolltonWestPet.com

Lynda VanAntwerp, DVM

Leigh-Anne Morris, DVM

Anna Osofsky, DVM

Diplomate, ABVP, certified in Avian Practice

Ashley Braniff Champagne, DVM

Jon Paa, DVM

3729 Old Denton Rd.
Carrollton, TX 75007
972-492-1828



Piano Lessons at Holy Covenant!

Jonathan Kaan is teaching piano lessons at Holy Covenant. You can contact Jonathan at jkaan@dcccd.edu or at 972-505-1833 for more information.

Jonathan graduated with honors from Baylor University with a Masters Degree in Piano Pedagogy and Performance.



We are welcoming and open to all people; black or white, yellow or brown, you are welcome here; rich or poor, young or old, you are welcome here, gay or straight, citizen or sojourner, you are welcome here.