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A MESSENGER FROM
THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LODI † WISCONSIN 53555

WEBSITE: www.LodiPresbyterianChurch.org † E-MAIL: office@lodifpc.org † PHONE: 608-592-4310 † FAX: 608-592-2332

FIND US ON FACEBOOK! FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LODI, WI

APRIL 2019

HOLY WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

LENT & EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SOUL CARE THURSDAYS - 7 P.M.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18TH
MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE - 7 P.M.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19TH
ECUMENICAL GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
AT WISCONSIN E-FREE - 7 P.M.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST
EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE - 6 A.M.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST
TRADITIONAL EASTER SERVICE - 9 A.M.

EASTER BRUNCH AND EGG JOUST

Following our Easter worship on April 21, plan to join us for the traditional Easter Brunch and Egg Joust. Sign up sheet is on the fellowship table. Bring your favorite brunch dish to share. Be sure to bring along those hard boiled eggs for the joust which will follow our potluck meal. Table service and beverages will be provided. Hope to see you there as we celebrate this glorious Easter morning as a church family.

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Join Us!

Soup'r Supper

Community Meal



Free-will offering

January 22nd

February 5th & 19th

March 5th & 19th

April 9th & 23rd



601 Clark Street
Lodi, WI 53555
ReachOutLodi.org



My friends,

We come to church for many diverse reasons, yet we share in common the dream of following Jesus. In our world today, as in the past, this path can be difficult to discern. Our own desires get in the way. We want to be in control, to feel safe, to understand, to know, finally, that we and our loved ones are going to be OK. Yet this path does not promise us this at all. Jesus calls us to 'take up our cross,' to 'forgive those who have harmed you 70 times 7,' to follow a path of deep, embedded nonviolence.

We can, and many have, twisted these words into a semblance that allows us to continue our self-preserving, self-promoting ways. But I believe that Jesus was calling us to an essential change in our way of living. He calls us to examine the stories we tell ourselves, the narratives that provide us with meaning and purpose, and to go beyond them. If you are like me, you have stories you have been telling yourself about what should have been, what ought to be, and how you are justified in feeling anger, outrage, bitterness—all that and more. Yet we are called to let go of these stories so that we can live bigger, broader, more abundant lives. We are called to live from our most essential origin story. We belong to God. It is God who breathed our first breathe into us, and it is God who will receive us when our story is done.

To follow Jesus and live from this place of nonviolence and deep, deep courage, remembering that the word courage comes to us as implying an open and vulnerable heart. To live into this path, this practice we must let go of our unkindness towards ourselves, towards others, towards those we don't understand, towards those we actively think ill of. As the world becomes more and more divisive we must live fiercely into this practice. We are called to practice the most generous assumption, meaning that when others have injured or frightened us, we give them the benefit of the doubt. We seek to understand outrageous behavior as desperate call for help and compassion. We give of ourselves, our time, our love, our tenderness to those who are in pain and hurting. We practice a fierce and determined hospitality. We reach out to those who feel excluded and ostracized, we remind them that God loves them, that God created them good. We seek not our own good, our own growth, but the good and the opportunity for those around us.

In Jesus' day, as in our day, all of this is controversial. The world will tell us that we ought to be afraid and we need to defend ourselves; we need to seek our own good because no one else is going to do it for us, but this is not the way of Jesus. This path is one which we learn by walking. It is a practice we learn by being mentored and supported by those further along than ourselves. It is not one which will allow us to stay just as we are, but one which transforms our lives and makes us into a 'new creation.' Anything less than this is too small for the gospel of Jesus.

Yet we do not need to be afraid as we walk this path and engage this transformation, for God is with us and God has given us each other. We will not walk alone, but are wholly embraced in the care, the love, and nurturing of God and community. We mustn't give up and accept the status quo, for God has good things planned for us.

Grateful to serve you and serve with you,

Pastor Cyndi

WORSHIP LEADERS

Apr. 7	Diane Lukins
Apr. 14	Open
Apr. 21	Open
Apr. 28	Open

Check our website
for schedule updates at
lodipresbyterianchurch.org

USHERS

Apr. 7	Greg Manning & Dudley Mehltrittter
Apr. 14	Richard and Vonda Lee Schmidt
Apr. 21	Jim and Marcia Brown
Apr. 28	Joe and Jean Spataro

GREETERS

Apr. 7	Open
Apr. 14	Open
Apr. 21	Open
Apr. 28	Open

Check our website
for schedule updates at
lodipresbyterianchurch.org

COUNTERS

Apr. 7	Open
Apr. 14	Open
Apr. 21	Open
Apr. 28	Open

Check our website
for schedule updates at
lodipresbyterianchurch.org

ACCOMPANISTS

Apr. 7	Rana Hughey
Apr. 14	Jean Mulcahy
Apr. 18	Jean Mulcahy
Apr. 19	A'capella
Apr. 21	Rana Hughey
Apr. 28	Alternative worship

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN APRIL!

We'd like to wish the following people a Happy Birthday! If your birthday is in April and your name is not listed, please let the office know the date of your birthday so that it can be entered in the computer.

4/6	NATHANIEL BALLWEG
4/9	SARA MORGAN
4/11	CATHERINE SMITH
4/19	JEFF LECKWEE
4/22	DAN RICHARDS
4/23	DAVE HEEBNER
4/29	GABE TOBIN
	TIM HEINS



(NEW) NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

Deadline for the **MAY** Newsletter is **WEDNESDAY, April 24th at 9 a.m.** If you would like an article in the newsletter, you can e-mail the Church office at office@lodifpc.org or leave it on the desk in the church office.



COMING SOON!! ANNUAL LODI GARAGE SALES

**AN ALL-CHURCH EVENT
SATURDAY, APRIL 26
AND SUNDAY APRIL 27**

Start saving your “treasures” so we can fill our fellowship hall again for the annual spring garage sale that we host each year. This is an all church event. We will also be serving brat and hot dog lunches and extending our hospitality to the community as in the past.

Items can be dropped off prior to the sale and put in the old kitchen down in the church basement. Please, no electronics. It is helpful if you include a price on as many items as possible.

Also, be saving plastic and paper grocery bags which can be left downstairs as well.

Set up will take place well in advance as we are short of volunteers. Keep an eye on the emailed Weekly News as well as your bulletin for further updates on how you can participate.

NO SHANTYTOWN THIS YEAR

Plans have changed and Shantytown 2019 which was scheduled for May 4-5 has been cancelled for this year. There seems to be a declining interest. We are working to reshape the look of our youth engagement in order to focus more on our mission of homeownership and repair rather than homelessness. Watch for upcoming events in 2019 that will include opportunities for service and volunteering as well as education.

Thank you for your past participation. We look forward to connecting with you in the future.

SOUL CARE THURSDAYS AT 7 P.M.

Soul Care Thursdays began as a response to a need in the community for a contemplative practice of prayer and meditation. Primarily this consists of sharing a reading or two, sitting in silence together, before we reflect and pray for one another. Although there has not been a great response to this, we will continue to hold this space for those who need it. We will continue to invite the broader community, those of faith, those of no faith, all genders, all gender expressions, to come and sit with us, pray with us, and meditate on the Word of God. This practice is part of our exploring where our love of God meets the deep need of our community. All are welcome, always.

FORGIVENESS AND LOVE:

**BY MARCI WHITEHURST,
PROGRESSIVE
CATTLEMAN MAGAZINE**

Forgiveness brings freedom for us and others. Holding on to offenses doesn't make us better; it makes us bitter. Maybe you know the saying:

Holding on to bitterness is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die.

We have teens in the house, so we are often hearing about common trends or funny memes. Super Puncher, anyone?

In America, something is always trending. Clothing, music, books ... it's a never-ending cycle. Sometimes we think this isn't as true in agriculture; I mean check out the clothing trends in men's Western wear:

- 1980: Wrangler jeans and a pearl-snap shirt
- 1990: Button-down shirt and Wrangler jeans.
- 2000: Wrangler jeans and a button-down shirt

You get the idea ...Joking aside, agriculture does have significant trends. Some of which arise due to those with opinions different from ours: sage grouse and grazing, logging and habitats, and predator control issues, to name a few. There's a new one expected to gain momentum and attention in 2019: fake meat. I'm not kidding. Experiments have produced meat for consumption in a lab setting.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - ROOM USE REQUEST FORM

Event: _____

Are you a member or an outside organization? _____

Responsible person: _____

Phone # _____ Email address: _____

Alternate responsible person: _____

Phone # _____ Email address: _____

Number of anticipated participants: _____

Your meeting date or dates: _____

Start time: _____ End time: _____

Room or rooms requested: _____

Person requesting use of our facility is responsible for all setup needed and at the end of your event you must return the room or rooms to the way you found it.

You are responsible for cleanup, you are required to wash/ wipe off the tables, vacuum and take out the trash. If you are granted use of the kitchen all the equipment used must be cleaned and sanitized. If you use the facility on multiple dates you must remove ALL your items after each event, you cannot store your equipment or items here.

Cleanup fee may be assessed if you do not leave the facility clean and ready for the next group.

Usage fee may apply as per the Building Usage Guide

Fee Required : _____

Requester's Signature: _____ Date _____

Building use approved by: _____ Date _____

To date, it has not yet approved by the FDA. But it is something producers will need to be aware of, even if we don't agree with it.

Isn't it ironic how the things that could shut us down also have the potential to raise us up? I mean, if we are pessimistic, we could think: "What is the point of continuing in agriculture when the odds seem stacked against us?" On the flip side, it's the challenges that often bring about sustainable and profitable change – things that make the industry better.

Recently, my hubby and I have been talking about diversifying our ranch. We've discussed options with heifer retention and bulls for terminal sire or herd growth. When we discuss these things, we take note of current trends, but we also consider them in light of long-term growth.

We also joke about starting our own trends like monkey farms or underwater basket weaving classes. Maybe cow cuddling will really catch on, and we'll all have a second stream of income.

There are two topics, though, that have been trending for millennia: forgiveness and love.

Valentine's Day has passed, but I'm still feeling sentimental. I'm also feeling thankful. You see, I'm not perfect. And neither are my children. Nor is my husband ...

Despite what impression our Christmas card or Facebook posts might have given. Once, when we were young and immature (OK, two years ago) we entered into a land deal that went very south. We did our best to honor the agreement, but it didn't end well. It cost us a lot.

Beyond the financial burden, because of a year of constant stress, tempers and attitudes weren't ideal. We had multiple other life stressors in addition. Things not only didn't go as planned but leapt to a nightmarish state pretty fast. We tried really hard to be kind. Yet, worse than tempers in a branding pen, our family stood on pins and needles. It was exhausting. But then something happened. We prayed.

Not a blanket prayer or a casual grace-before-a-meal prayer, although those prayers are good. We really sought what God wanted us to know about the situation. And you know what He said? Forgive. - Forgive the person about the land deal gone south. Forgive past hurts from family members. Forgive tempers from each other. Forgive poor listening attitudes. Forgive words said.

We went through and dug up past wounds and let them bleed all over again. Then we forgave. It doesn't happen overnight. We don't always feel like forgiving – it is usually a choice. Once the choice is made, often, but not always, the emotions follow.

Life is a sobering journey. None of us make it unscathed. Many of us have hurts from our past that still affect the way we think and the decisions we make. And you know who the hardest people to forgive are? Ourselves. Maybe you recognize the internal dialogue.

"I should've known better."
"I should've done this differently."
"I should have ..."

Enter forgiveness.

It's a beautiful thing. Forgiveness brings freedom for us and others. Holding on to offenses doesn't make us better; it makes us bitter. Maybe you know the saying: Holding on to bitterness is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die.

Forgiveness makes room in the heart for what we all are desperate for anyway: love. We love our family, our God, our cattle. Yet even those who oppose us – yes, those who advocate for fake meat – need it.

We don't have to drop our ideals to do this; we simply recognize others as human beings. Granted, this is difficult when they are defending vegetable rights, but the advancement agriculture needs to have on the war against production will likely happen with strategies originating from hope and creativity, not resentment.

It isn't easy. We don't always want to do it. But forgiveness changes things for the better. Plus, forgiveness and love never stop trending.

Well, that and Wranglers.

Forgiveness brings freedom for us and others. Holding on to offenses doesn't make us better; it makes us bitter. Maybe you know the saying:

Holding on to bitterness is like drinking poison and expecting the other person to die.

Article from the March Progressive Cattleman Magazine

APRIL 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			Brown Bag Bible Study, 11 a.m.	Soul Care Thursday, 7 p.m.		
7 Worship Service 9 a.m. Fellowship-10 a.m.	8	9 Soup'r Supper at Reach Out Lodi 4 p.m. (See Page 2)	10 Brown Bag Bible Study, 11 a.m. Deacons, 6:30p.m. Committee, 7 p.m.	11 Soul Care Thursday, 7 p.m.	12	13
14 Worship Service 9 a.m. Fellowship-10 a.m. Palm Sunday	15	16 Session, 6:30 p.m.	17 Brown Bag Bible Study, 11 a.m.	18 Maundy Thursday Service, 7 p.m.	19 Ecumenical Good Friday Service at Wisconsin E-Free 7 p.m. Good Friday	20
21 Easter Sunrise Service, 6 a.m. Worship Service 9 a.m. Easter Brunch and Egg Joust Easter Sunday	22	23 Soup'r Supper at Reach Out Lodi 4 p.m. (See Page 2)	24 Newsletter Deadline, 9 a.m. Brown Bag Bible Study, 11 a.m.	25	26 Lodi and Church Garage Sale	27
28 Worship Service 9 a.m. Fellowship-10 a.m.	29	30				

May 2019

March 2019

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Family Order Form

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Lodi First Presbyterian Church

See WWW.SHOPWITHSCRIP.COM for a list of ALL vendors. Please CALL & ASK if you have any questions. Most vendors have higher amounts than what is listed. Check out the SPECIALS tab online for short term promotions on higher rates!--Martha 608-220-5592

Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total
Ace Hardware \$25.00	4%		\$	iTunes® \$25.00	5%		\$	Qdoba Mexican Grill \$25.00	7%		\$
Amazon.com \$25.00	2.5%		\$	JCPenney \$25.00	5%		\$	Quality Inn \$50.00	4%		\$
Applebee's® \$25.00	8%		\$	Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores \$25.00	6%		\$	Red Lobster \$25.00	8%		\$
Arby's \$10.00	8%		\$	Kmart \$25.00	4%		\$	Roundys (IL and WI only) \$100.00	4%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$25.00	8%		\$	Kohl's \$25.00	4%		\$	Roundys (IL and WI only) \$50.00	4%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$25.00	13%		\$	Kwik Trip \$100.00	4%		\$	Sears \$25.00	4%		\$
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25.00	7%		\$	Kwik Trip \$25.00	4%		\$	Sentry \$50.00	3%		\$
Best Buy® \$25.00	4%		\$	Kwik Trip \$50.00	4%		\$	Shopko \$25.00	3%		\$
Best Western International \$25.00	12%		\$	L.L.Bean \$25.00	16%		\$	Shutterfly \$25.00	9%		\$
BP \$50.00	1.5%		\$	Lands' End \$25.00	16%		\$	Speedway \$25.00	4%		\$
Build-A-Bear Workshop \$25.00	8%		\$	Macy's \$25.00	10%		\$	Staples \$25.00	5%		\$
Burger King \$10.00	4%		\$	Marathon \$25.00	3%		\$	Starbucks \$25.00	7%		\$
Cabela's \$25.00	11%		\$	Marcus Theatres \$25.00	9%		\$	Steak 'n Shake \$10.00	8%		\$
Chili's Grill & Bar \$25.00	11%		\$	Menards \$25.00	3%		\$	SUBWAY® Restaurants \$10.00	6%		\$
Comfort Suites \$50.00	4%		\$	Michaels \$25.00	4%		\$	SUBWAY® Restaurants \$50.00	6%		\$
Copps (WI only) \$100.00	4%		\$	Mobil \$50.00	1%		\$	SuperAmerica \$25.00	4%		\$
Copps (WI only) \$50.00	4%		\$	Noodles & Company \$10.00	8%		\$	T.J. Maxx/Marshalls/HomeGoods \$25.00	7%		\$
Cousins Subs \$10.00	9%		\$	Office Depot / Office Max \$25.00	5%		\$	Taco Bell \$10.00	5%		\$
Cracker Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$	Old Chicago \$25.00	6%		\$	Target \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Dairy Queen \$10.00	3%		\$	Olive Garden® \$25.00	7.5%		\$	Texas Roadhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$	Outback Steakhouse \$25.00	8%		\$	TGI Fridays® \$25.00	9%		\$
Disney \$25.00	3%		\$	Panera Bread \$25.00	8%		\$	Visa® Five Back™ Gift Card \$50.00	1.25%		\$
Domino's \$10.00	8%		\$	Papa Murphy's Pizza \$10.00	8%		\$	Walgreens \$25.00	5%		\$
Dunkin' Donuts \$25.00	3%		\$	PetSmart \$25.00	5%		\$	Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Family Video \$10.00	12%		\$	Pick 'n Save (WI only) \$100.00	4%		\$	Walmart \$50.00	2.5%		\$
Fandango \$25.00	4%		\$	Pick 'n Save (WI only) \$50.00	4%		\$	Whole Foods Market \$25.00	3%		\$
Festival Foods (WI) - Skogens \$25.00	3%		\$	Pier 1 Imports \$25.00	9%		\$				
Foot Locker \$25.00	8%		\$	Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL only) \$100.00	3%		\$				
GameStop \$25.00	3%		\$	Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL only) \$25.00	3%		\$				
Gap \$25.00	14%		\$	Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL only) \$50.00	3%		\$				
GNC \$25.00	8%		\$	Pizza Hut (Not AK or HI) \$10.00	8%		\$				
Home Depot \$25.00	4%		\$	Pizza Ranch \$25.00	8%		\$				
HomeGoods \$25.00	7%		\$								
Hotels.com \$100.00	6%		\$								

Make Checks Payable To: *Lodi First Presbyterian Church Scrip*

Total Due All Columns:

\$

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

258 Lodi Street
Lodi, WI 53555
Phone: 608-592-4310
Fax: 608-592-2332

PASTOR: CYNDI WUNDER

E-Mail address: pastor@lodifpc.org

Choir Director: Position Open
Custodian: Lori Harrenstein
Church Secretary: Pat Craig
Financial Secretary: John Griffing
Church Secretary's Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday
9:00 a.m.
Nursery Available

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
(DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR)**
10:15 a.m.

Newsletter Graphic Design: Jim Salzman

THE SESSION

Class of 2019

Mae Stocks
Herb Damsteegt
Zack Dachel

Class of 2020

Diane Lukins
Jean Spataro
Ron Nelson

Class of 2021

Dudley Mehltrittter
DeAnn Richards
Jeff Leckwee

DeAnn Richards, Clerk of Session

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2019

Patty Seiler
Jane Jones
Pam Odorizzi

Class of 2020

Marcia Brown
Sandy Deselle
Dave Heebner

Class of 2021

Gale Nelson
Bobby Hanson
Laurie Fryman



Lodi Presbyterian Church

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
258 LODI STREET
LODI, WI 53555