

The Church Mouse

Newsletter

The First Presbyterian Church of Maywood
401 Maywood Ave, Maywood, NJ 07607

April 2021

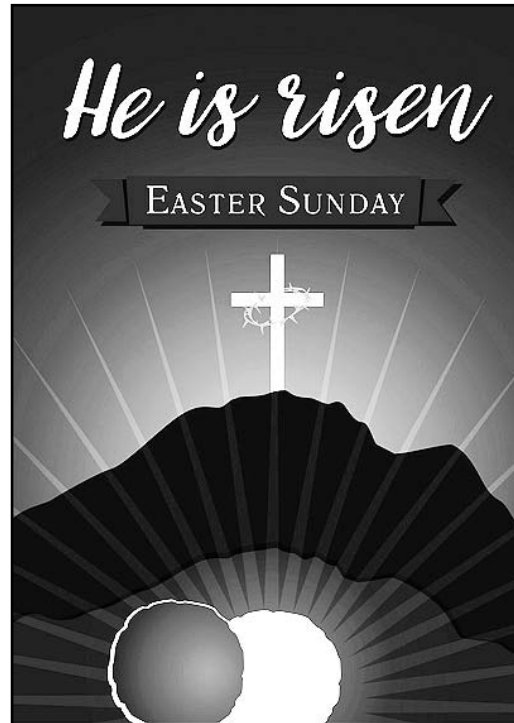


April Message:

Easter is early this year, **April 4th**. It is a “floating” type date based on the 1st full moon after the vernal equinox, March 21st, the beginning of Spring. Easter is not a fixed date as is Christmas, but it is on a Sunday between March 22nd and April 25th

Also, FYI, “April” is from the Latin word *Aperio* meaning “to open” as in plants, the signs of buds appear, a new beginning as it were/is. The origin of the word “**Easter**” is not very clear either. Some think it might be based on a derivation of “**Eostre**” who was an Anglo-Saxon goddess for whom a festival was celebrated each spring. Others believe words meaning “**dawn**” or “**rising**” or even “**east**” might have been a source.

Having said all that what really matters to us as Christians is that **Easter** is considered to be the most **important religious holiday** to celebrate. This is the time to celebrate the **Resurrection of Jesus Christ**, our Lord and Savior.



We must remember that Jesus went to Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish Holiday of Passover, which reminds the Jewish people how God freed them from slavery in Egypt. The Passover meal of unleavened bread, bitter herbs and lamb were to remind them of their suffering in Egypt. The lamb is a reminder of the sacrifice and that the blood was put on the doorframes so the Lord would “pass over” the homes so marked and the first born were not killed.

Jesus is our **Passover Lamb sacrificed for our deliverance from sin**. Many now question what is “good” about Good Friday, April 2nd this year. It’s the day that commemorates Christ’s death on the cross, the most painful of deaths. He was scorned and mocked and was spat upon. He was arrested and a “trial” took place (John 18 & 19) and eventually the Crucifixion. Good Friday does not have any cheerful hymns to be sung. It’s not like hearing joyful Christmas carols or anticipating the birth of Christ.

Good Friday is when Christ became obedient unto death on the Cross so we might believe in Him and have eternal life (Isa. 53:4 & O I Peter 2:24). And as difficult and painful that this is for us to recall we must remember that without Good Friday there would be no Easter Sunday. **The Lamb of God rose on the third day representing the triumph of good over evil and sin & death**. We must remember that Easter is not about the bunny, it is about the Lamb of God “to whom be praise and honor and glory and power forever and ever” (Rev. 5:13) Amen.

Happy Easter to one and all

With love and prayers,

Betty, CLP



April Birthday

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Donovan Carberry – April 20th

Fun & Happy birthday wishes, Donovan!



**“Thou, Lord, didst found the earth
in the beginning, and the heavens
are the work of thy hands”**

(Hebrews 1:10)

April 22nd is Earth Day! What more can we do, but,
take care of the earth that God has created for us?

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live
in it." (Psalm 24:1)

And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and
let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land,"
and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.
(Genesis 1:9-10)

Last month we marked one year that retail stores phased out the use of
plastic bags. That is a terrific beginning! Let's all do our best to recycle
plastic and paper, be aware of global warming and support programs
geared to solve it and pray for preservation and peace on our

one and only amazing home....earth!

Think Globally....Act Locally

There is still time to be a part of "People to People 2021"! The deadline for submission is **April 10th** Betty is
assembling poems, scripture, inspirations during the Pandemic and artwork. All are welcome for this second
edition! Mail submissions to **Betty Fetzer 652 Grant Ave. Maywood, NJ 07607** or **email** submissions to **Carol
Dass** at **dasscarol@gmail.com**. **Be a part of this fun and lasting project!** Copies will be mailed out to each
contributor!

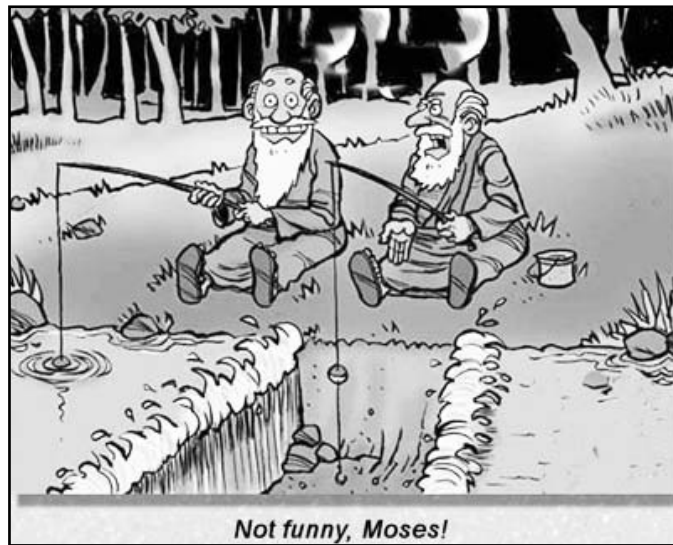
We are delighted to be enjoying Daily (Tuesday - Saturday) **Lenten Devotional services** prepared and
presented to us by **Pastor Kevin**. The virtual Devotionals began on February 17th and will conclude on April
3rd. If you would like to receive the link to our remaining Lenten Services via email or text contact Carrie
(201) 663-5524 or email **carrielwerner@aol.com**. We would like to thank **Pastor Kevin Kwon** for the time and
"devotion" it took to prepare these **meaningful daily inspirations** for us!

Now that we have resumed **in person Worship Services**, our *past* virtual **Sunday Worship Services** will
continue to be available to everyone via our **Church Web Site** at **www.maywoodpres.org**
Visit our web site for updates on events, past virtual worship services and current and past Church Mouse
Newsletters too!



We can all enjoy the beautiful signs of Spring! Watch for
daffodils and tulips, crocus, hyacinth and many other small
flowers that are blooming amid our health crisis. Complete
with beautiful colors and lovely scents, we can still witness
God's tender hand at work around us. The trees and
bushes are showing signs of budding with light green
leaves that can bring us hope as the season changes.

☺ Just for laughs ☺



Thought for the month:
"Life is a promise. Fulfill it."
...Mother Teresa



Happy Easter

