



# The Connection

Seeking to Link Person to Person And All to Christ

April, 2014

Christ United Methodist Church  
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[www.christmethodist.org](http://www.christmethodist.org)

Christ Church gathers in the name of Jesus Christ to worship God, & to seek, nurture, & send Christian disciples into the world.

## The Pastor's Pen

Greetings! It is so good for me to write "Happy Spring!" Enjoy these days of springtime. In a few weeks, we will be celebrating Easter. Even when Easter comes early in the spring, it is seen as "new life" coming off winter. Flowers are blooming, trees are budding, and birds are busy at work. Easter is our celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the grave. Jesus' new life affirms our new life in him. We are "Easter" people. For us, death does not have the last word. Our hope is in Jesus who conquered death on a cross.

I want to personally invite you to enjoy the choir cantata *Requiem* on Palm/Passion Sunday (April 13th), to attend our Last Supper drama on Maundy Thursday (April 17th), to Walk with Jesus and worship at the Tenebrae service on Good Friday (April 18th), and to celebrate our risen Lord on Easter Sunday (April 20th). (See page 2 of this newsletter for times, locations, and descriptions of these events.) These special services and activities are designed to help you get closer to the Lord. We can best enjoy Easter when we experience what Jesus went through during his last weeks. Jesus' resurrection first meant that he died on a cross for all of us, and God did not keep him in the grave.

A lot of people over a long time have tried to ignore the cross. But we can't! The cross is an emblem of suffering and shame. But the cross is also a sign of hope. The cross connects us to eternity. The cross is the bridge by which we can get closer to God. Jesus' death on the cross was because we sin, mess-up, and fall short; *his* resurrection is *our* new life. That is why Easter is so very important. Jesus' Easter is now our Easter. Celebrate that!

In May, we will be preaching from John 14. This is the second of three scriptures our Church Council wanted the church to study. Also, on Wednesdays in May, I will lead a study of the Psalms from May 7th to May 28th. Please join me at 6:30 pm in the Disciple Room, just off Ascension Hall. I'm also excited about the formation of a Visitation Team. We have 14 persons who are regularly visiting those who have been unable to attend church due to health reasons. Our newly formed Communications Team has redesigned our website (Kudos to them!), & the team formed to discover our Core Values is very close to presenting them to the congregation. A Vision Team will begin working this month to study our church and examine our needs and strengths in order to make recommendations to the Church Council.

Christ Church is not here simply to maintain what has been. We want to be obedient to what God is asking us to be and do. It pleases me greatly to be a part of God's work here.

*Peace and love, Pastor David*



# Holy Week at Christ Church

## *Easter* at *Christ Church*

APRIL 13 - PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:30 AM & 7:00 PM  
CHOIR CANTATA: 9:45 & 11:00 AM

APRIL 17 - MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00 PM LAST SUPPER DRAMA  
AND COMMUNION

APRIL 18 - GOOD FRIDAY

4:30PM "WALK WITH JESUS"  
INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE OF JESUS' WALK  
FOR CHILDREN, PARENTS, AND CAREGIVERS  
7:00PM TENEBRAE SERVICE

APRIL 20 - EASTER SUNDAY

6:30AM SUNRISE SERVICE

*\*on Southern Village green*

8:30AM WORSHIP & COMMUNION  
9:45 & 11AM CELEBRATION WORSHIP  
WITH BRASS & ORGAN

*\*please bring cut flowers to*

*8:30, 9:45, and 11am Easter Services*

## EASTER LILIES

Help us decorate our Church sanctuary for Easter by purchasing Easter lilies to the Glory of God in honor or memory of a loved one. Easter Sunday morning, the church bulletin will include a list of those who have given a lily & in whose honor or memory it was given.

Cost: \$15.00/each. **Please mark your checks clearly by writing "Lilies" on the memo line.** Attach your donation to the form & place it in the designated basket on the Narthex table, or mail it to the church office.

### PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

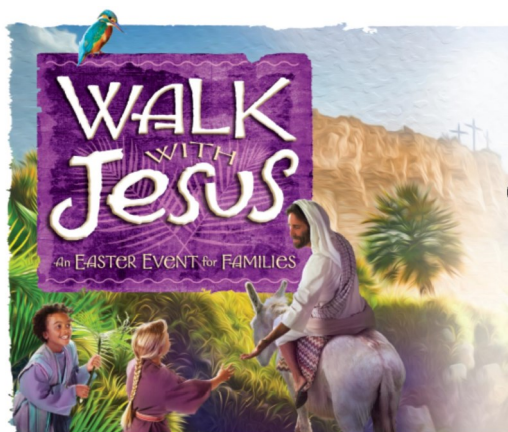
In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Easter Lilies: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00

Amount of Check: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Any extra money will be put toward beautification of our worship spaces throughout the year. If you have questions, please contact the church office (969-8820).



Walk with Jesus through a powerful, interactive, & multi-sensory event starting at 4:30 pm on Good Friday, April 18 in the church office building at 105 Market Street. Families will journey through five stations, following Jesus' footsteps during his last days on earth. We will travel to Jerusalem for Palm Sunday, sit down for the Last Supper, pray in the Garden of Gethsemane, re-discover the sacrifice of Good Friday, and celebrate Jesus' resurrection at the empty tomb.

While designed specifically for parents/caregivers and their elementary age children, this activity is open to all ages and will help you discover the events leading up to Easter in a way you'll never forget. You will feel, hear, see, smell, and even taste some of what Jesus experienced! Please come anytime between 4:30 to 6:30 pm, and plan to spend about 45 minutes. Childcare will be provided for very young children. Questions? Contact Catherine Neal ([cneal@christmethodist.org](mailto:cneal@christmethodist.org); 969-8820, x 208).

**Please Note: There will be no 7 pm service on Easter Sunday.  
The Church office will be closed on April 21 and 22.**

# Holy Week FAQs



## 1. Why is Easter on a different day each year?

In 325 AD, the Council of Nicea set the date for the celebration of Easter as the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox. For this reason, the date will change each year and can fall anywhere from March 22 to April 25.

## 2. What is Maundy Thursday? Maundy Thursday is an alternate name for Holy Thursday, the first of the three days of solemn

remembrance of the events leading up to and immediately following the crucifixion of Jesus. The English word "Maundy" comes from the Latin "mandatum", which means "commandment". As recorded in John's gospel, on his last night before his betrayal and arrest, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and then gave them a new commandment to love one another as he had loved them (John 13:34). This is why services on this night generally include the washing of feet or other acts of physical care as an integral part of the celebration. While John's gospel does not record the institution of the Lord's Supper among the events of this night, the other gospels do. Christians therefore keep this night with celebrations both at the basin (foot washing) & the Lord's Table (Holy Communion).

## 3. What is Tenebrae service?

The word "tenebrae" comes from the Latin meaning "darkness". The Tenebrae is an ancient Christian Good Friday service that makes use of gradually diminishing light through the extinguishing of candles to symbolize the events of that week from the triumphant Palm Sunday entry through Jesus' burial. This increasing darkness symbolizes the approaching darkness of Jesus' death & of hopelessness in the world without God. The service concludes in darkness, sometimes with a final candle, the Christ candle, carried out of the sanctuary, symbolizing the death of Jesus. A loud noise may also sound symbolizing the closing of Jesus' tomb. Worshipers then leave in silence to ponder the impact of Christ's death and await the coming Resurrection.

Still have more questions about Lent & Easter? Check out the UMC's new website for answers at

<http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/faqs-lent-easter>.

When You're Just Plain Tired of the Sacrifice . . .



## Why does the Last Supper Really Matter?

Have you ever just wanted to say, "I've had it! I'm done . . . for the day, the week, the month, forever!"? In the following article, Whitney Daughtery, who blogs for *Good Morning Girls* ([www.goodmorninggirls.org/](http://www.goodmorninggirls.org/)) shares honestly about the sacrifices we make as parents, friends, sons/daughters, employees, and church members . . . and how all of those – no matter how grand - pale in comparison to the sacrifice Jesus made for us.

~ ~ ~

**I had had it.** I was *done* with a capital D. So much so that I even let the words slip out of my mouth in frustration to one of my kids. It had been one of those weeks. One very sick little girl had spent three full nights awake with a high fever, who was kept company by a brother who kept waking up claiming that he "just couldn't sleep" (which I'm sure was legit, but oh.my.goodness). Another was seriously trying my patience in the obedience department, and the fourth sweet child just wanted me to listen for hours on end to the long list of inventions (mostly involving jet propulsion and duct tape) that had been forming in that brain of his that never stops.

**Jesus help me.** I signed up for this, I know full well. **And I am blessed beyond measure to be sure.** And truly, all these years later, I expect the unexpected & the sacrifice that comes with kids. I really do. Oh, I know it in my head, but when my flesh and my heart are weak, *Jesus help me.* In my flesh, I'm not naturally built to handle this kind of sleep deprivation on a regular basis and still practice any resemblance of patience at the end of a long day.

(See "Sacrifice", p. 4)

# Looking Forward . . . to the Season of Easter

(“Sacrifice” from p. 3)

At our weakest moments, if we’re completely honest, I’m guessing that we’ve all been here about *something* at *some* point in our lives. **Deep down in our core, we’re just plain tired of the sacrifice.** Maybe you’re the honest, loyal employee who fails to get recognized while others cheat their way to the top. Maybe you’re the church worker who has faithfully, quietly served behind the scenes without an accolade in years. Maybe you’re the caregiver who provides selflessly, or the patient who fights endlessly. Or maybe you’re the *friend, daughter, sister, wife, mom...* who always seems to be on the giving end, but rarely on the receiving one. *Maybe*, you’re just really, really trying to live for Jesus, and the *giving up* of the things of this world seems like an overwhelming price to pay.

The world and a thousand self-help books will tell you to quit. That the sacrifice is too much. That you should look out for you. But Jesus came with a counter-cultural message that would change the world. And He didn’t just preach it. He actually lived it.

**He served in the suffering...** When Jesus gathered with His disciples at the Last Supper, He had every right to demand to be treated like their King. His body was surely tired from some of his last grueling days of ministry on earth. He had selflessly served – over and over feeding the poor and healing the sick - yet the Jews continued in their unbelief that Jesus really was the Messiah, even after witnessing miracle after miracle. This *man of sacrifice* served *even* with the knowledge that some of his closest followers would soon betray and deny Him.

**No other King in history has given more and received less. But then again, He wasn’t just any other King...** And if that all wasn’t enough, in the midst of His serving, He carried the heavy weight of His imminent death.

**And He could have cried out, “Father, I’m done. The sacrifice is too great.” But instead, he put Himself aside, and He humbly stooped down to wash the feet of sinners.** Please don’t let the repetition of this story or the simplicity of this act distract you from the profound mystery that is Christ. Instead of wallowing in the dark days which were upon Him, Jesus demonstrated that he came not to be served, but to serve (Matthew 20:28). *He would even kneel down and serve the very one who was about to hand Him over to be killed.* That is unthinkable in human terms. It was far from a job fit for the King of Kings, but it was a profound example of how those of us who are in Christ should live our lives.

**You see, in Christ, everything looks different.** Those sleepless nights, and those hard days when I feel like I’m just plain tired of the sacrifice? It all looks different because of Jesus. And with His strength, I can serve instead of seeking to be served. I can sacrifice even in the midst of suffering, and I don’t have to wait until I’m appreciated or in a good season to reciprocate love, encouragement, and generosity to others. I can humble myself and not expect earthly recognition, knowing that it is far better to treasure Christ.

**Why does the Last Supper matter? Because it begs us to take our eyes off of ourselves, and to NEVER FORGET the willing sacrifice that Jesus made for you and for me. And when we really re-member deep down to our core, then we can say... No sacrifice is too great.** Father, not my will, but Yours be done...

*"Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you."*

~ John 13:14-15



## CHECK IT OUT!

Christ Church has a new & improved website we know you will love. Check it out at [www.christmethodist.org](http://www.christmethodist.org). To have your announcement or event published on the website, contact Mary Saou ([mdaysaou@christmethodist.org](mailto:mdaysaou@christmethodist.org)).

Would you like to **GIVE ONLINE** or use the **ONLINE CHURCH DIRECTORY** to find a member’s contact information? Sign up for *Access CUMC* today! It’s easy & free! Just click on the **GIVE** button on the website’s home page, or call the church office for help getting started (969-8820).

# News for Kids, Youth, and Adults



Congratulations  
*Confirmation*  
Class of 2014



L-R: Youth Pastor Rush Beam, Matt Streets, Luke Knowles, Henry Sawyer, Maggie McClanahan, James DePolo, Matt Campbell, & Pastor David Goehring

## Durham Bulls Fans! Don't Miss This!



Please join the littlest members of Christ Church at the ballpark. Christ Church Preschool (CCP) has partnered with the Durham Bulls for a fun-filled family spirit/fundraising event on **Sunday, April 27th at 5 pm**. Our seats will all be together, and we are working to ensure that CCP is a featured group on the scoreboard. And, if you can't attend the event, but want to support CCP, consider purchasing a game voucher for any Sunday through Thursday game later in the season. Tickets/Vouchers are \$9.00, and the Durham Bulls will donate \$4.50 per ticket back to the preschool. We look forward to seeing you. **Order forms are available in the Church Office.**

## The Vacation Bible School Team Needs You!

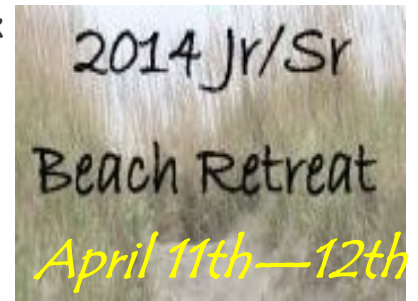
The VBS team is forming now, and we would love to have you join us! Our 2014 VBS will be as amazing and powerful as ever, but it does take some work. There are plenty of options for how you can get involved: leading songs, crafts, or outdoor games; decorating; and more! Please call or email Catherine Neal ([cneal@christmethodist.org](mailto:cneal@christmethodist.org); 969-8820, x208) if you're interested in sharing God's love with great children from CUMC and the community.



CUMC is recruiting for the position of **Part-time Children's Ministry Intern**. If you or someone you know would like to apply for this position (5-15 hrs./wk.), please submit a cover letter & resume to Catherine Neal ([cneal@christmethodist.org](mailto:cneal@christmethodist.org)) by April 28, 2014. Go to <http://christmethodist.org/resources/announcements/christ-church-childrens-ministry-intern-wanted/> for a position description.

# SUMMER INTERN!

Each spring, our high school Juniors and Seniors take a retreat to talk about the future, to pray, to worship and .... to relax. If you're in 11th or 12th grade, join us at Ocean Isle Beach for this special time just for upperclassmen. Send a \$75 check (payable to CUMC) & a medical release form to Rush Beam in the church office to secure your spot. The medical release form is available at <http://christmethodist.org/ministries/youth/>. (Click on forms.) Questions? Email Rush at [rbeam@christmethodist.org](mailto:rbeam@christmethodist.org).



**SAVE THE DATE!**

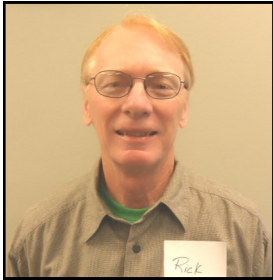
# Church Picnic

Sunday  
May 18th  
4:30-6:30 pm  
Southern Community Park

# Welcome New Members!



**Christ Church has welcomed a wonderful group of new members in the last several months. Now it's your turn to get to know them better. Pick up the phone & invite them to lunch, your small group, or a special event this spring at CUMC.**



**Rick Meath**

- ◆ Moved from Arizona
- ◆ Now lives in Carrboro
- ◆ 623-687-1202
- ◆ [rickthepick@gmail.com](mailto:rickthepick@gmail.com)

**Amanda Paya**

- ◆ Lives in Chapel Hill
- ◆ 352-857-3237
- ◆ [amandapaya84@gmail.com](mailto:amandapaya84@gmail.com)



**Erika Van Goethem**

- ◆ Lives in Carrboro
- ◆ 989-240-7573
- ◆ [evangoet@gmail.com](mailto:evangoet@gmail.com)

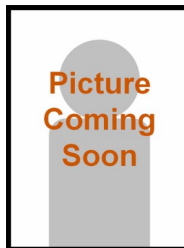


**Dennis & Dawn Streets**

- ◆ Sons Clark (19) & Matt (15)
- ◆ Live in Pittsboro
- ◆ 919-542-1812
- ◆ [dstreets@mindspring.com](mailto:dstreets@mindspring.com)

**Michelle Outlaw**

- ◆ Lives in Durham
- ◆ 972-365-7391
- ◆ [mhoutlaw@msn.com](mailto:mhoutlaw@msn.com)



**Trouble Hearing?**  
*Get in the Loop!*

Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" that can carry the signal from our audio system & transmit sound to your hearing aid, eliminating background crowd noise. Switch your hearing aid to the T-coil position & hear what everyone is talking about!



You are invited to join our Pastors and Prayer Team members to observe this year's **National Day of Prayer** on **Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**, at **12:15 PM** under the Bell Tower in front of the church. This event was first begun by President George Washington in 1789, honored by President Lincoln, and then signed into law by Congress in 1952. This year's theme is *"One Voice United in Prayer."* What a wonderful opportunity to lift up America in much-needed prayer! You are also welcome to pray on your own anytime during the day.



**Tuesday, April 29th**  
**CUMC Blood Drive**  
**11 am - 3:30 pm**

Schedule your appointment at [www.membersforlife.org/cbsr/schedule](http://www.membersforlife.org/cbsr/schedule) & enter sponsor code "10714", or call Julie Welge (919-542-1545).



# Serving Others at CUMC and Beyond!



**#1.** We are looking for Sunday Worship Servants. If you are interested in greeting, ushering, reading the scripture, or serving communion, we'd love to have you serve in this way at any of our four services. Please contact Jenny ([jknot@christmethodist.org](mailto:jknot@christmethodist.org); 969-8820, x200) for more information.

**#2.** Volunteers are needed for the Walk With Jesus event on **Good Friday, April 18**.

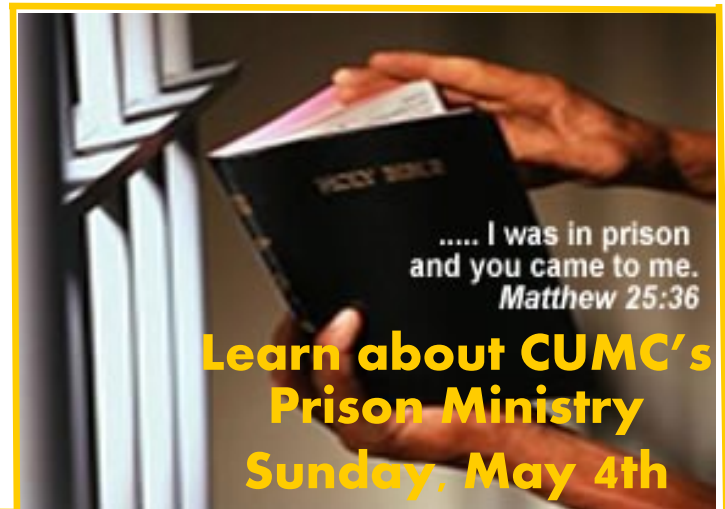
Help is needed to set up & to assist with the actual activity. Contact Catherine Neal to help (969-8820, x208; [cneal@christmethodist.org](mailto:cneal@christmethodist.org)).

**#3.** Ushers are needed for the 6:30am Easter Sunrise Service on April 20! The service will be held on the Southern Village Green. Contact Don Heineman ([dheineman@nc.rr.com](mailto:dheineman@nc.rr.com); 942-3027).

**#4.** Book Harvest works to provide a book-rich home environment for Triangle children in need. CUMC is collecting used books for this cause. Donation bins are located in the Preschool Hallway of the church & at the entrance to the Building 105 Sunday School rooms.

**#5.** Household items are needed for CUMC's CIRCLES partner, a single mom with a two year old daughter. She's leaving the shelter with next to nothing, so your donation of household items will be of great help as she moves to her permanent home. See the list below, and contact Deanne Bradley ([ddabradley@gmail.com](mailto:ddabradley@gmail.com); 932-3377) with questions or to discuss your donation.

| <u>Furniture</u>       | <u>Linens</u> | <u>Appliances</u> | <u>Kitchen &amp; Cleaning Supplies</u> |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--|
| (Gently Used or New)   | Sheets        | Toaster           | Flatware                               |
| Arm Chairs             | Bedding       | Vacuum Cleaner    | Dishes (Set of 4)                      |
| Coffee Table           | Towels        | TV                | Glassware                              |
| Couch                  | Bath Mats     | Crock Pot         | Pots & Pans                            |
| End Table              | Pillows       |                   | Bakeware                               |
| Night Stands           | Blankets      |                   | Cooking Tools                          |
| Toddler Bed            | Mattress pads |                   | Trash cans                             |
| Full or Queen Mattress |               |                   | Hamper                                 |
| (Excellent condition)  |               |                   | Sponges                                |
| Dressers               |               |                   | Broom/Dustpan                          |
| TV Stand               |               |                   | Toilet Brush                           |
|                        |               |                   | Duster                                 |



On **Sunday, May 4th, at the 11am service**, CUMC's prison ministry team will highlight its work with the men at the Orange Correctional Center (OCC). The *OCC Ready Singers* will offer music at worship, and after the service, **a luncheon will be served at 12:15 pm in Ascension Hall**. You'll have the opportunity to meet the singers as well as men who have been involved with the Saturday Bible Study. A guest speaker will also join us.

In preparation for this special Sunday, please consider donating new toiletries to be shared with the OCC inmates. Many of these men have no family to send them money for these items, so Chaplain Nickel's office provides toiletries for them. CUMC would like to help, too. Soap, toothpaste, opaque powder-based deodorant, and lotion are especially needed, & Dollar Tree has all these items available. Items may be left in the box in Ascension Hall.

To attend the luncheon or become part of the prison ministry, contact Jeannie Browning ([sheba155@bellsouth.net](mailto:sheba155@bellsouth.net)) or Jo Anne West ([jogwest@mindspring.com](mailto:jogwest@mindspring.com)). We'd love for you to accompany us to the Saturday morning Bible study at the OCC to see what this special ministry is all about.

**CHRIST CHURCH**

United Methodist  
800 Market Street  
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



Circles Chatham invites you to

***Lights! Camera! Auction!***

Friday, May 16th

Governors Club - Northern Chatham County

**FANTASTIC AUCTIONS - FINE DINING - FABULOUS MUSIC**

**Featuring Dr. Daniel Steinert on piano**

6 p.m. - Registration, Silent Auction, Music

7 p.m. - Dinner, Live Auction

Each \$50 ticket includes a \$20 tax-deductible donation.

All proceeds will fund programming to help local families develop the skills and relationships needed to move from poverty to self-sufficiency.

Register at

<http://www.circleschatham.org/registration-form1.html>

Registration and payments must be received May 8th.

If you cannot attend, but would like to make a **Donation** to Circles Chatham, go to [www.circleschatham.org/donate.html](http://www.circleschatham.org/donate.html).

For an **Auction Preview**, go to [www.circleschatham.org/auction-preview.html](http://www.circleschatham.org/auction-preview.html).

Questions? Contact us at 919-533-9440 or at [auction@circleschatham.org](mailto:auction@circleschatham.org)



- ▶ CUMC Blood Drive—Tues., April 29; 11:00 am - 3:30 pm in Ascension Hall
- ▶ National Day of Prayer Event—Thurs., May 1; 12:15 pm under the Bell Tower
- ▶ Women's Book Club—Thurs., May 1 ; 7:00 pm in the Youth Room (Help to choose the books for upcoming months)
- ▶ First Friday Men's Fellowship Breakfast —Friday, May 2; 7:30 am at Carolina Café in Meadowmont
- ▶ New Sermon Series begins on John 14—Sunday, May 4
- ▶ Preschool Sunday—May 4 at 9:45 am service
- ▶ Prison Ministry Highlights—Sun. May 4 at 11:00 am; Luncheon & special guests/speaker in Ascension Hall at noon.
- ▶ Psalm Study with Pastor David begins—Wed., May 7; 6:30 pm in the Disciple Room
- ▶ Youth Sunday—Sun., May 18th at all services
- ▶ Church-wide Picnic—Sun., May 18th; 4:30 pm at Southern Community Park
- ▶ Mission 1:27 Skypes with Slobodskoi Orphanage—Sat., May 31; 8:30 am in Ascension Hall