

MARCH 29, 2026

The Crossbeam

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR ST. JOHN'S PARISH MEMBERS
AND FRIENDS



Sunday, March 29, 2026 Sunday of The Passion, Year A

TODAY, WE ENCOUNTER THE PARADOX THAT DEFINES OUR FAITH: JESUS CHRIST IS GLORIFIED KING AND HUMILIATED SERVANT. WE TOO ARE FULL OF PARADOX: LIKE PETER, WE FERVENTLY DESIRE TO FOLLOW CHRIST, BUT FIND OURSELVES AFRAID, DENYING GOD. WE WAVE PALMS IN CELEBRATION TODAY AS CHRIST COMES INTO OUR MIDST, AND WE FOLLOW WITH TREPIDATION AS HIS PATH LEADS TO DEATH ON THE CROSS. AMID IT ALL WE ARE INVITED INTO THIS PARADOXICAL PROMISE OF LIFE THROUGH CHRIST'S BROKEN BODY AND OUTPOURED LOVE IN A MEAL OF BREAD AND WINE. WE BEGIN THIS WEEK THAT STANDS AT THE CENTER OF THE CHURCH YEAR, ANTICIPATING THE COMPLETION OF GOD'S ASTOUNDING WORK.



From the Pastor's Desk

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

5 LET THE SAME MIND BE IN YOU THAT WAS IN CHRIST JESUS,
6 WHO, THOUGH HE EXISTED IN THE FORM OF GOD,
DID NOT REGARD EQUALITY WITH GOD
AS SOMETHING TO BE GRASPED,
7 BUT EMPTIED HIMSELF,
TAKING THE FORM OF A SLAVE,
ASSUMING HUMAN LIKENESS.
AND BEING FOUND IN APPEARANCE AS A HUMAN,
8 HE HUMBLING HIMSELF
AND BECAME OBEDIENT TO THE POINT OF DEATH—
EVEN DEATH ON A CROSS.
9 THEREFORE GOD EXALTED HIM EVEN MORE HIGHLY
AND GAVE HIM THE NAME
THAT IS ABOVE EVERY OTHER NAME,
10 SO THAT AT THE NAME GIVEN TO JESUS
EVERY KNEE SHOULD BEND,
IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH AND UNDER THE EARTH,
11 AND EVERY TONGUE SHOULD CONFESS
THAT JESUS CHRIST IS LORD,
TO THE GLORY OF GOD THE FATHER.

“AFTER A GRUELING DAY AT WORK, A MAN PLOPPED HIMSELF DOWN ON THE
COUCH AND BEGAN WALLOWING IN SELF-PITY. HE MOANED TO HIS WIFE,
‘NOBODY CARES ABOUT ME. IN FACT, THE WHOLE WORLD HATES ME.’
WITHOUT LOSING A BEAT, HIS WIFE REPLIED, ‘THAT’S NOT TRUE, HONEY. THE
WHOLE WORLD COULDN’T POSSIBLY HATE YOU BECAUSE MOST OF THEM DON’T
EVEN KNOW YOU.’

HUMILITY BEGINS AT HOME.”

HOMILETICS, APRIL 10, 2022

PEACE AND BLESSINGS THIS DAY.

PASTOR V.



IN-PERSON WORSHIP

THE HOLY SPIRIT GATHERS PEOPLE AROUND THE MEANS OF GRACE—
THE SAVING WORD OF GOD AND THE SACRAMENTS.

FEATURED THIS WEEK:
SATURDAY SPOKEN WORD
5 P.M. - IN-PERSON

THE SUNDAY ASSEMBLY
9A.M.- IN-PERSON W/SCS
10:30A.M. - IN-PERSON SERVICE AND LIVESTREAM
BROADCAST ON OUR [FACEBOOK PAGE](#) AND ON OUR WEBSITE!



[This Weeks Bulletin \(click here\)](#)



SATURDAY MARCH 28 @ 5PM
VICKY WIENKE - ASSISTING MINISTER

SUNDAY MARCH 29 @ 9AM
NATHAN SETLOCK- ASSISTING MINISTER

SUNDAY MARCH 29 @ 10:30AM
NANCY KESSLER- ASSISTING MINISTER



SUNDAY MARCH 29 @ 9AM
KRISTEN HOCHULSKI- USHER

SUNDAY MARCH 29 @ 10:30AM
LAURA LOEHR- USHER

ALTAR GUILD FOR MARCH:
DEB FOX
RHONDA DREZEK



**ANNOUNCEMENTS &
UPCOMING EVENTS**

**MARCH 27TH @ 6PM
PALM CROSS MAKING**

**MARCH 28TH @ 2PM
EASTER EGG HUNT**

**APRIL 2ND
MAUNDY THURSDAY
SPOKEN WORD SERVICE @ 11AM
TRADITIONAL SERVICE @ 7PM**

**APRIL 3RD
GOOD FRIDAY
TRADITIONAL SERVICE @ 7PM**

**EASTER SERVICE
APRIL 4TH @5PM
APRIL 5TH
9AM @ 10:45AM**

**BIBLE STUDY @ 6PM
APRIL 9TH, 16TH**

**UPCOMING AGAPE MEAL DATES:
MAY 3RD**

EASTER BREAKFAST

COME STOP BY THE PARISH HALL ON SUNDAY APRIL 5TH BETWEEN
8:30AM AND 10:30AM FOR COFFEE, TEA, KEUCKEN, HARD BOILED
EGGS AND MORE!
ENJOY SOME FELLOWSHIP AND FUN.
SIGN UP IN THE FOYER

THIS WEEK 3/29 - 4/4

TODAY:

9 A.M. WORSHIP W/SCS
10:30 A.M. WORSHIP
7 P.M. TRY AGAIN (AA)

MONDAY:

10 A.M. SPROUTS
1 P.M. ARTHRITIS WALKING GROUP
6 P.M. SPROUTS
6:45 P.M. ZUMBA
7:30 P.M. AL-ANON

TUESDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
12 P.M. TAI-CHI
6 P.M. ROCK VOICES
6:30 P.M. SA BUFFALO

WEDNESDAY:

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS EXERCISE GROUP
7 P.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL

THURSDAY: MAUNDY THURSDAY

11 A.M. SPOKEN WORD SERVICE
POTLUCK FOLLOWING
12 P.M. NA
5 P.M. ZUMBA
7 P.M. TRADITIONAL SERVICE
7 P.M. NA

FRIDAY: GOOD FRIDAY

10 A.M. ENJOY LIFE (NA)
10 A.M. SPROUTS
7 P.M. TRADITIONAL SERVICE
7:30 P.M. GARDENVILLE GROUP (AA)

SATURDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
5 P.M. WORSHIP

UPDATED ADDRESS:

DIANA SLOMA
1185 ISABELLE PLACE
THE VILLAGES, FLORIDA 32163



Altar Flowers

PASTOR VALERIE SUGGESTS WE PAUSE THE WEEKLY ALTAR FLOWER'S DURING THE LENTEN SEASON . WE WILL RESUME WITH FLOWERS AT EASTER SYMBOLIZING THE JOY OF THE RESURRECTION AND THEN EVERY SUNDAY AFTER.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR SUPPORT AT THAT TIME WITH OUR THANKS.

OFFICE CLOSED

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED STARTING FRIDAY APRIL 3RD AT 12PM THROUGH MONDAY APRIL 13TH
I WILL BE BACK IN ON TUESDAY APRIL 14TH

COLLECTION FOR BOOK AND JIGSAW PUZZLE SALE

WE ARE NOW COLLECTING BOOKS AND PUZZLES FOR THE SALE IN APRIL. LAST DAY TO DONATE WILL BE APRIL 5TH. THEY CAN BE LEFT ON THE PEW IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL. ALSO, NO ENCYCLOPEDIAS, MAGAZINES OR MEDIA.

BURRITO PROJECT

I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THEIR WONDERFUL GENEROSITY TOWARD THE BURRITO PROJECT. THE GREAT TURN OUT HAS CREATED A HAPPY PROBLEM. WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF ROOM TO STORE ALL OF THE SUPPLIES FOR THE HOMELESS. AT THE SAME TIME THERE ARE A FEW THINGS THAT WE ARE SHORT OF RIGHT NOW. THE SUPPLIES THAT WOULD BE MOST VALUABLE TO THE HOMELESS FOR OUR MARCH 31 VISIT ARE:

NAIL CLIPPERS
MEN'S UNDERWEAR
KLEENEX

STRING BACKPACKS
LADY'S UNDERWEAR
EMERY BOARDS

PLEASE ONLY DONATE THINGS FROM THIS LIST AS WE HAVE GOOD SUPPLIES OF OTHER ITEMS.
YOU CAN DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS IN THE COLLECTION BOX LOCATED IN THE FOYER.

THANK YOU FOR CARING.
JAY DELANEY

"Let the children come unto me...."

The UNYS Hunger Justice team has designated this spring's ELCA World Hunger synodical appeal for ministries focused on the care and feeding of orphans and vulnerable children. Each congregation is challenged to bring a gift of \$500 or more to our UNYS Spring Assembly, May 26-27.

As Jesus welcomed and embraced children, despite the Disciples' disapproval, so we, too, are called to respond to the plight of those whose families have been fractured, leaving children vulnerable to malnutrition and disease. Through our support of ELCA ministries of feeding, nutrition and health care, we are demonstrating Jesus' compassion for "the least of these", those alone and with no means to care for themselves.

We who serve on the UNYS Hunger Justice Team count on your faithful generosity and thank you for your advocacy of ELCA World Hunger in your congregation. Working together, we live in hope "that all the world may be fed".

Grace and peace,

Your Hunger Justice Team



EASTER FLOWERS

THE ALTAR GUILD IS OFFERING EASTER FLOWERS TO BEUATIFY
OUR EASTER ALTAR.

YOU CAN REMEMBER OR HONOR A LOVED ONE BY USING THE
ORDER FORMS FOUND ON THE COUNTER IN THE FOYER OR
ONLINE. THANK YOU!



EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

RED TULIPS \$9.00 _____

PURPLE HYACINTHS \$9.00 _____

WHITE LILLIES \$11.00 _____

PLEASE PRINT

IN LOVING MEMORY OF : _____

IN HONOR OF : _____

GIVEN BY: _____

ORDERS DUE BY MARCH 29TH
CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO ST. JOHN'S ALTAR GUILD