

Seward United Methodist Church News Stream April 11th



Preparing for Holy Week

Happy Eastertide! From all the staff, we would like to say thank you to everyone who volunteered to make Holy Week the wonderful experience it was. Thank you to musicians and ushers and greeters. Thank you to communion preparers and sound/video technicians. Thank you to folks who moved chairs and tables and sound equipment, who set up tents, who served refreshments. Thank you to folks who helped decorate and who found beautiful silk lilies that are safe for those with allergies. Thank you to folks who ran errands and picked up supplies, who popped corn, put up banners, set out flags, and moved signs. Thank you to readers and liturgists. Thank you to folks who donated items and those who delivered donations -- 136 pounds worth of donations!! Thank you to everyone who participated in Holy Week worship experiences whether in person, on line, or outside. Thank you to the Sieberts who hosted our sunrise service at Junto Winery. Thank you to our childcare providers and cleaning crews. Thank you to our lawn care folks, cross erectors, and the mouse catchers. Thank you to every volunteer who helped out in whatever way you helped -- each little thing makes a big difference!

Love and prayers,

Mary Kay, Jo Ellen, Wess, and Terri

Encouragement from the Faith Community Nurses

All of us have some recovery to do after this past year of living through a pandemic. We may be suffering from depression, anxiety attacks and mood swings and need some mental recovery. We may be having worsening chronic health problems, changes in appetite, headaches, body pains, and stomach problems and need some physical recovery. Or we may be having difficulty sleeping, increased worrying and concentrating and need some spiritual recovery.

Please remember you are not alone, and your church family and friends are here to support you during this time. Resources are available. Please call the church and ask for Rev. Mary Kay, Pastor Jo Ellen or a Faith Community Nurse if we can help.

Prayer Request

Prayers for Carol Lavelle, her son from Garden City, Kansas died in an accident this week.

Pastor Jo Ellen Sabbath Leave Starts

I will be leaving for my Sabbath Leave on Thursday, April 15th. My last Sunday, for now, will be April 11th. I will be back on July 19th and look forward to seeing y'all again in worship. During my Sabbath; I plan to rest a lot, read a lot, take walks and bike rides with Jamie, spend time with loved ones, go golfing and fishing with Ander (I read and drive a cart at those, and just enjoy time with him), swim often (I will see you at the pool and the lake!), take a family trip out "west" to see the Tetons and Yellowstone (and fly fish for the first time on a special trip), read more, and lay in my hammock and enjoy the porch with Alexa. Near the very end of my Sabbath, I have a Duke class which begins again and I will look forward to learning more and growing in my walk.

While I am away, I will worship with Jamie with a variety of church families, and stop by Seward United Methodist Church Graduation Sunday, May 16th (Ander is a senior!).

Pastor Jen will be here part time, in my place, and will walk through this spring/summer season with Food Net, Worship, God and Me, time with BBCDC, and other areas Rev. Mary Kay will need her. Please help her feel welcome here, as I know you will!!! She is very nice and will love on you well.

Egg Hunt, Movie Night, Gift Bags Oh My



We had a super time at the Egg Hunt and Movie Night this past weekend. We had around 52 from the community, church family, and our BBCDC friends join us for a fun time gathering and watching. Little ones gathered in the courtyard and older ones gathered on the lawn. Many thanks to all who attended, brought friends, helped set up, popped popcorn and gathered water... to those who watched the movie on the HUGE screen in the sanctuary it was so fun to watch with you!!! We enjoyed our time together and thank all of you for your help!

Gift bags for all children were put together by our Godparent groups and the children enjoyed the treats. Additional bags were shared with all of our BBCDC friends to celebrate Easter.

Baking Jesus Biscuits

Many thanks to Shannon Robotham for cooking the Jesus Biscuits with me this past weekend and also to Wess for filming this! We received this adorable picture of the Forbes family as they made their delicious Jesus Biscuits this week. So cute and they reported they were yummy!

The recipe is in the picture below and the video is saved to our Seward United Methodist Church Facebook page... you can watch and bake anytime!

Love and prayers,

Pastor Jo Ellen



Welcoming the New Confirmands



Thank you to our confirmation students! Pastors Mary Kay and Jo Ellen enjoyed teaching confirmation with our ten students. We were delighted to welcome them into the Christian faith as professing believers and into the congregation as full members.

We also want to express our thanks for the lovely gifts that the students went together on -- we both received a beautiful cross which each student has signed on the back -- a beautiful and meaningful gift we will treasure. Thank you!!



Grace and Peace,

Pastor Mary Kay and Pastor Jo Ellen

Confirmation Service Welcomes Ten New Members

6:30am Sunrise Service

Max Briggs Romans 12:10

Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

8:00am Worship Service

Jake Opfer Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Zack Parra 1 Corinthians 6:12

"All things are lawful for me, but not all things are beneficial. All things are lawful for me,"but I will not be dominated by anything."

Daylon Salyer Luke 10:27

He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."

Braden Soester John 1:29-30

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

10:30am Worship Service

Ethan Anderson James 1:6

But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind;

Lawson Luebbe 2 Chronicles 15:7

"But you, take courage! Do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded."

Jena Eberspacher Proverbs 31:30

Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

McKenzie Martin Hebrews 4:16

Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Xander Foulk Psalm 23:1-3

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.*