

The Creekside Connection

A publication of

**Creekside
Church of the Brethren**

Office:
60455 C.R. 113
Elkhart, IN 46517-9183
574-875-7800
574-875-7885 fax

website:
www.creeksideconnected.com

David Bibbee
Pastor

E-mail: pastordavid@creeksideconnected.com

Cindy Harman
*Administrative Assistant
& Editor*

E-mail: office@creeksideconnected.com

The Creekside Connection is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of church programs and to report news about the people of Creekside Church.



60455 C. R. 113
Elkhart, IN 46517-9183

• Rooted in God • Growing in Jesus • Bearing Fruit in the Spirit

The Creekside Connection

MARCH 2008

Pastor's Ponderings

As I sit at the keyboard composing some thoughts about Easter, two trucks are plowing the church parking lot. They are clearing six inches of beautiful, heavy snow that fell during the night. Looking at the white sight makes me think I should be writing something about Christmas instead. It doesn't look like our celebration of Jesus' resurrection will coincide with the blooming of the crocuses this year. With the extra-early arrival of Easter I am not ready do deal with the resurrection.

But as I think about it, the people who shared in the drama of Jesus' last days weren't ready, either. The disciples didn't jump for joy when he appeared before them at their hideout. They nearly jumped out of their skins thinking he was a ghost. They were not ready. Early Sunday morning the women were on their way to the tomb to pay their respects and anoint Jesus' body. They wanted to be sure he got a descent burial so a period could be placed at the end of the sentence that was his life. When they arrived they found the stone rolled away, the tomb empty, and a man-in-white who said, "He is raised. Go tell the disciples." Mark 16:8 says, "... They said nothing to anyone because they were afraid." The women weren't ready. In John's Easter gospel, Mary didn't know with whom she spoke. She mistook Jesus for a gardener. Mary wasn't ready.

Along the way Jesus dropped clues about what was to happen, but they didn't get it. How do you prepare for what never happened before? By its very nature resurrection isn't natural. It is not like plants that lie dormant under the snow and then burst to life come spring. They knew the cold, hard truth that when we die, there is no coming back. Dead is dead, and death dictated the end to their relationship with Jesus. Going on meant going back to what they had done before Jesus invited them to follow him on their improbable journey. After the shock wore off they would retrace their steps and get back to where they belonged—a life that was hard, but at least predictable.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

No one was ready. No one saw it coming. Since then we have had to reshuffle our deck of notions about what is possible. When Holy Week comes we will be ready as far as the worship services are concerned. We will be ready to tell the story in word and song of God raising his son from death to life. But will we be ready to receive it? "Where I am you shall also be." Jesus said that. He went way down to the depths of death and God brought him back to point us to heights we never considered climbing. Jesus died. He came back to tell us God planted a seed inside every person that will not die, whether we're ready or not.

There is no stopping people who are ready. Jesus' resurrection gives them the audacity to believe that they can do much—move mountains, wage peace, banish fear, and change the world. For them, the resurrection isn't confined to the miracle that comes after death has done all it can do. Readiness doesn't mean patiently waiting for the end. The power of the resurrection is the power to do what God wants done now.

A verse from a poem by Wendell Berry says, "Practice resurrection." He didn't say, "Question it, prove it, solve it, or argue about it. He didn't say, "Intellectualize it, psychologize it, discuss it, vote on it, or reduce it to something vague like, "Hope springs eternal." The best way to be ready for resurrection is to practice it.

God has planted a seed in us that nothing can kill. Let's thank God for his inexpressible gift. Let's get ready for Easter by practicing resurrection now. Ready. Set. Go!

In Jesus' love,
Pastor David

NOTE: The **Upper Room Devotionals** have increased in price: \$1.25 for large print and \$1.00 for regular.

Due to an accumulation of funds in the Building for Christ account, Creekside has made a \$10,000 payment on the principle of the loan.

30 Hour Famine

Please mark your calendars—Youth 30-Hour Famine will begin on April 6th and end on April 7th. Details to follow.

GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD

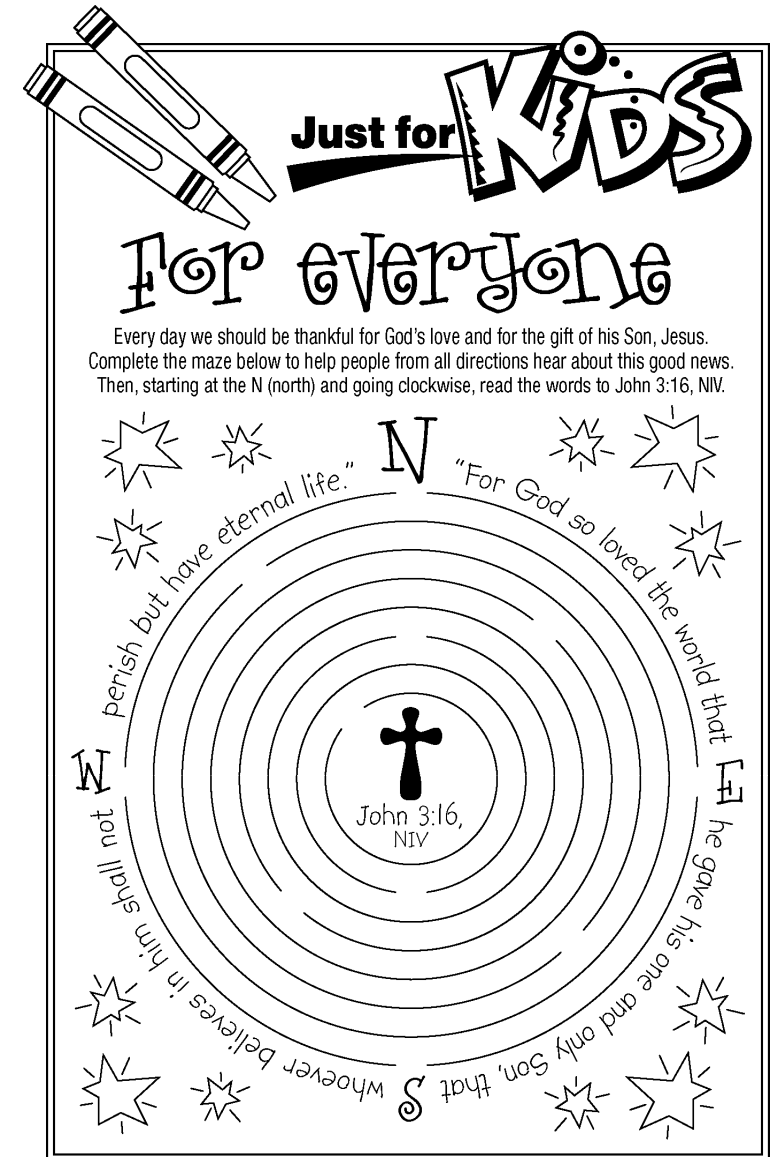
This craft is a reminder of God's love for the world and of Jesus' sacrifice for everyone.

What you need:

- Two pieces of 8 1/2" x 11" white or light-blue construction paper
- Circle shape that fits paper (plastic lid or paper plate)
- Black marker or crayon
- Masking tape
- Shallow box, box lid or old cookie tray
- Blue and green paint
- Two paper plates
- Two marbles
- Two plastic spoons
- Scissors

What you do:

1. On one piece of paper, trace the circle shape.
2. Using two pieces of masking tape, make a cross in the center of your circle.
3. Place your paper inside the box, box lid or cookie tray.
4. Pour blue paint onto one paper plate and green onto the other. Place one marble in each color of paint.
5. Using a spoon, take out one marble at a time and place on your paper.
6. Roll each marble back and forth, around and around, alternating between colors.
7. After your circle looks like the planet Earth with lots of blue and green, cut out the circle.
8. Glue the circle onto another piece of paper.
9. Around the circle, write the words to John 3:16, NIV: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
10. Take off the masking tape and see the cross that's left. Keep your artwork as a reminder of how much God loves you!



Creekside Church of the Brethren Treasurer's Report & Comparisons

January 2008

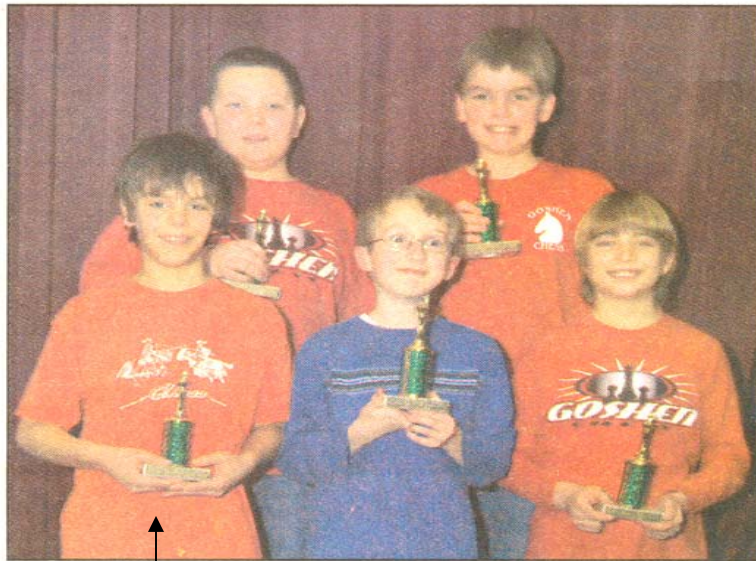
Income	\$15,705.48
Expenses	\$18,415.07

SAVE THE DATES!

World Day of Prayer—March 7th at Greencroft Senior Center

Haystack Supper to benefit The Window—March 27th at St. Mark's Unit Methodist Church

Local chess teams take top honors



Joel McFadden

Photo Provided

DUNLAP — The Scholastic Team Practice Tournament on Feb. 2 drew about 150 student chess players to Concord Junior High School. Three local teams won first-place honors.

Chandler Elementary A from Goshen won first place in the sixth grade and under section. Team members are (front row, from left) Joel McFadden, Evan Judson and Joel Byler; (back row) Logan Cross and Brooks Chupp.

Note: A team from Warsaw took first in the third grade and under section.

Student Aid Grants

Student grant applications for the 2008-2009 have been sent to seven youth and young adults. The deadline for submitting applications is Friday, March 28. Anyone attending a church related college or seminary is eligible to apply for this grant. There is also a one-time grant for those attending non-church related college. If you would like an application, contact Cindy in the church office at 875-7800.

NOTE: For those of you who received the scholarship letter, I apologize for the errors. The deadline **IS Friday March 28th instead of February 29th** as stated on the application. Sorry for the confusion.



MARCH Birthdays

- Mar. 1 Pauline Arnold
- Mar. 2 Mary Lou Martin
- Mar. 3 Ted Noffsinger
- Mar. 3 Ned Hostetler
- Mar. 4 Lee Markley
- Mar. 4 Darren Vance
- Mar. 8 Miranda Chris
- Mar. 8 Marjorie Kirkdorffer
- Mar. 8 Missy Zimmerman
- Mar. 8 Katy McFadden
- Mar. 10 Miriam Erbaugh
- Mar. 16 Frances Billet
- Mar. 16 Stephen Berkebile
- Mar. 19 Alex Harney
- Mar. 21 Betty Yoder
- Mar. 23 Norma Pletcher
- Mar. 23 Walt Gilliland
- Mar. 27 David Hoke
- Mar. 29 Jeff Cripe
- Mar. 30 Laurie King



MARCH Anniversaries

- Mar. 8 Dick & Eileen Rohrer

ATTENDANCE NUMBERS

DATE	Worship	Sunday School
2/3	109	64
2/10	83	56
2/17	90	44
2/24	92	49

MEN'S CHORUS

The Men's Chorus will rehearse on Wednesday April 9th at 7 p.m. in the worship center and sing for Sunday morning worship on Sunday April 13, 2008.

All male voices are welcome to join us.

If you have questions contact Cary Kelsey.

**Big
Thank
You!**

Thanks to everyone who helped out in any way while I was out for my recent surgery. It was so comforting to know there were others who stepped up and took over.

Thanks again. It was very appreciated.

Cindy



PANCAKE/SAUSAGE BREAKFAST

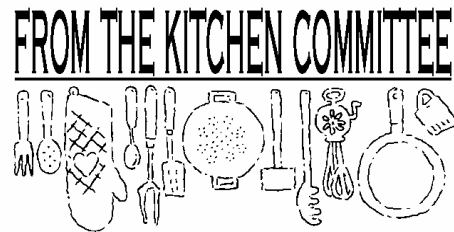
**Saturday, March 8
7:30 to 10:30 a.m.**

ALL YOU CAN EAT!

Adults - \$5

Children 6-12 years - \$3

6 & Under - Free



KITCHEN REQUEST:

Our kitchen is for everyone to use, however it is important for everyone using the kitchen to be sure to check to see that all appliances have been turned off before you leave the area. Recently the oven was inadvertently left on. When appliances are left on we have a safety issue, and also a waste of expensive energy.

The Fellowship Team

WOMEN'S RETREAT

RUNNING ON EMPTY:

Slowing Down,

Tuning In,

Speaking Up



Saturday, April 19, 2008

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Women's Retreat sponsored by the Fellowship Team of Creekside Church will be both educational and experiential.

Beginning with a light breakfast at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 19, the retreat will break for lunch together around noon and be completed by 3:00 p.m.

Cost - \$10.00 for meals with pre-registration. \$15.00 at the door.

Leadership provided by Pat Martin, Marriage and Family Therapist.



Questions:

Do you drop everything when a family member needs you?

Is it easy to get swallowed up in your loved ones' problems and forget to take care of yourself?

Is your emotional, spiritual or physical tank in desperate need of refueling?

Do you keep silent to keep the peace?

Are you tired of being all things to all people?

Have you given up on ever getting your needs met?

If you answered "yes" to two or more of these questions, this may be the retreat for you!

Brochures and registration forms are available at the Welcome Center to invite friends and family to participate.

District News Notes

- 1) **Coaching 4 Clergy Workshop** is scheduled for May 1, from 9 am - 4 pm at Camp Mack. The cost for this event is \$30 and includes the workshop, workbook, lunch, snacks, and a conference call (30-90 days post-conference) from speaker Val Hastings. Deadline to register is April 1; this is to insure receiving the workbook prior to the May 1 date. Pastors are encouraged to invite other clergy, as this event is open to other denominations. The workshop will be worth 1 C.E.U. once complete. To register, contact the district office by phone 574-773-3149 or by email; or mail \$30 (per person) to Northern Indiana District Office, 162 E. Market Street, Nappanee, IN 46550, with each participant's name, phone #, email, address, and congregation (brethren/non-brethren) listed. *(This workshop is being sponsored by the Northern Indiana District Pastoral Support Task Team.)*
- 2) **Floyd Priser**, father to **Yvonne (Priser) Riege**, passed away on February 12, 2008. Yvonne is the pastor at Goshen City Church and her husband, **Mark Riege**, pastors the Camp Creek congregation. Services were held Saturday, February 16, in Bluffton, IN. Our prayers and sympathy are with Yvonne and her family.
- 3) **Missing Resource!** The resource "Reducing the Risk II" (book and DVD) is missing from the Resource Center. If you have this resource, please contact the District Office as soon as possible. Thank you!
- 4) A violent out break swept through six states on February 5-6, killing at least 57 people in Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky and Alabama, the deadliest tornado system since 1985. More than 2200 homes were damaged or destroyed. An initial grant of \$7,000 from the **Emergency Disaster Fund** is supporting **Church World Service** relief efforts, including shipments of blankets, hygiene kits; training and project development; and financial support for local long-term recovery groups. **Brethren Disaster Ministries (BDM)** staff has been in touch with denominational representatives in the affected regions to gather in Ohio and Indiana has been re-flooded as well. The good news is, BDM volunteer numbers increased 22 percent in 2007, and hours served increased 35 percent.
- 5) The camping season will begin soon and the campaign committee and visitors are working hard to build a better Camp Mack to serve more people. In Philippians 1: 6b; "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus". The **Campaign Committee for "On the Way Continuing in Faith"** is praying hard and appreciates your prayers and support. Sixty percent of the Tier I and Tier II contacts are completed and significant donations have been made. About 25 % of our goal has been reached and we need much more support to build a stronger Camp Mack. Please pray that this phase will be completed and all visitors will be able to call and make their appointments and will enjoy their contacts and there will be many more strong commitments. In late February and March, Phase III of the campaign will begin. Please pray that the contact with all church boards and church leaders will be a positive learning experience and that each congregation in Northern and South Central Indiana will be involved. We hope that all believers will see the future vision of the camping program and will support camp in addition to the strong support of their local programs. "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do"; Ephesians 2: 10.

May God bless you, Val Kline & Dan Snider.

UPDATE FROM BALDWINS

Dear Family and Friends,

What a beautiful 9 inches of snowfall awaited us this morning when we awoke. It's melting from the trees quickly, but is absolutely gorgeous. Jean-Luc has the day at home and is enjoying being lazy. He's really enjoyed the many school delays and cancellations this winter.

We're writing to share that we have another trip coming up and would appreciate your prayers for it over the next few weeks. The three of us will be traveling to Kigali, Rwanda, once again. We leave one month from today and will be focusing on the work with street children and the poor there. Some of you are aware of this work from our sharing in your Churches recently. But if you haven't heard, and want to know more, just write us. Chuck will also be touching base with his EE team there.

Any extra resources we are able to take with us will be a great help to those in need we will be working with. Thank you for praying with us for an abundance to feed hungry street children during our work trip in Kigali. Giving can go through Go Ye Fellowship marked 'Baldwin Ministries'.

God bless you.

Love in Jesus, Debby & Chuck

- April 2- 9:00 a.m.—Volunteer Fellowship
- April 2 - 7:00 p.m.—Choir Practice
- April 3—6:30 p.m.—Church Board
- April 4—9:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.—Fiber Friends
- April 6—Choir Sing
- April 6-7—30 Hour Famine for Youth
- April 9—7:00 p.m.—Men's Chorus Practice
- April 13—Youth Lock In
- April 16—7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
- April 19—Women's Retreat
- April 20—Choir Sing
- April 20—Jr. High—Lunch & Bowling





JR. HIGH NEEDS YOU.....

Help the JR HIGH "**Go Green**". Bring in those catalogs you no longer want to receive and we will see that they get canceled. Remember if you don't have all of the catalogs, just give us the name of the catalog along with your name and address and we will cancel them that way. Please have everything turned in by March 16. Thanks!!!!

March 16th will be the "**Go Green**" Party at Mastic's. The Jr. High will be leaving immediately after Sunday School. Lunch will be provided and kids can be picked up around 3:30 p.m.

The Jr. High will enjoy **Lunch & Bowling** immediately following Sunday School, Sunday, April 20th. More information to follow, but please mark your calendars.

Giving Opportunities

One Great Hour of Sharing March 9, 2008

"Do not neglect to do good
and to share what you have."

-Hebrews 13:16a

Camp Mack is seeking a part time cook and food service worker. Weekends and evening work necessary. Prior food service experience helpful. Some benefits included. Send resumes to Camp Mack, PO Box 158, Milford, IN 46542.

Thanks for your helpfulness!

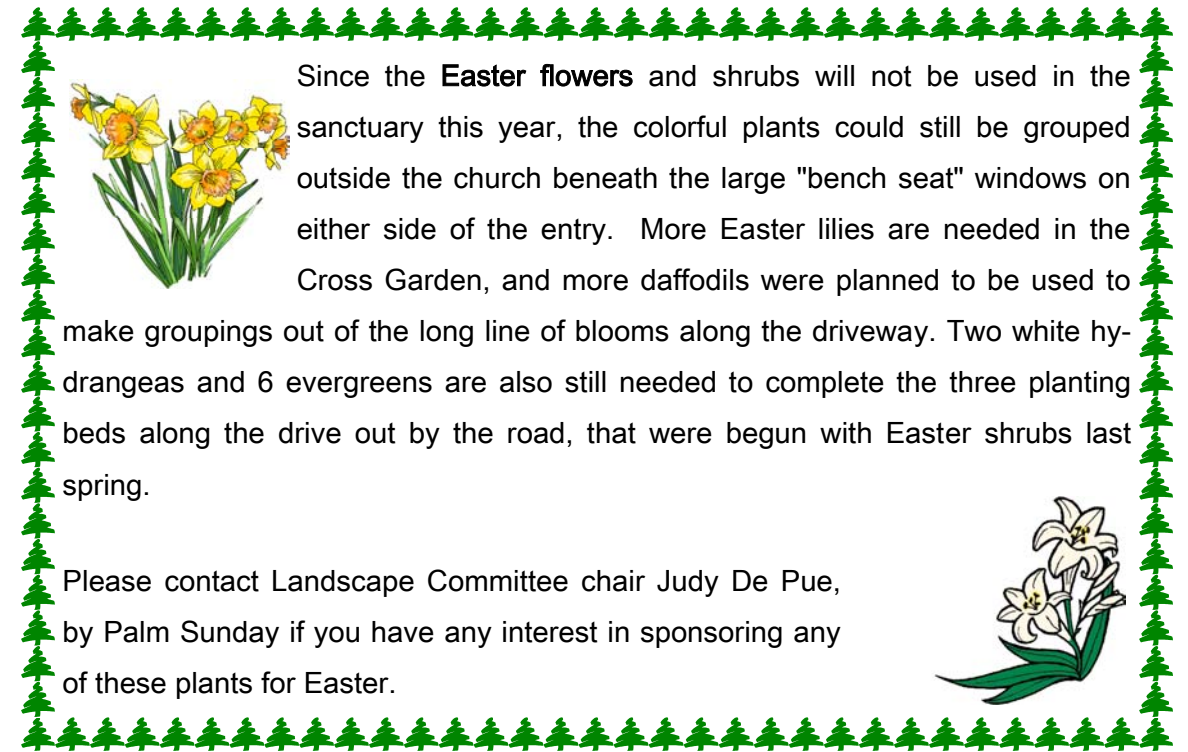
Blessings!
Phyllis Leininger
Camp Mack Office Manager

Why Palm Sunday?

Palm branches are mentioned in only one of the four Gospels (see John 12:12-15). So why do we call the first day of Holy Week Palm Sunday?

Tradition plays an important part in church history. During Jesus' time, Rome was the world's leading power. Whenever the Romans were victorious in battle, citizens traditionally threw palm branches in the returning heroes' path.

This was the accepted custom of reception. So when Jesus rode into Jerusalem, it was appropriate that he receive a hero's welcome. One week later, he would be victorious over death.



Since the **Easter flowers** and shrubs will not be used in the sanctuary this year, the colorful plants could still be grouped outside the church beneath the large "bench seat" windows on either side of the entry. More Easter lilies are needed in the Cross Garden, and more daffodils were planned to be used to

make groupings out of the long line of blooms along the driveway. Two white hydrangeas and 6 evergreens are also still needed to complete the three planting beds along the drive out by the road, that were begun with Easter shrubs last spring.

Please contact Landscape Committee chair Judy De Pue, by Palm Sunday if you have any interest in sponsoring any of these plants for Easter.



Nails symbolize Jesus' passion and suffering because they were used at his Crucifixion. They are often depicted in groups of three because two nails were used to secure Jesus' hands, and a third was used to secure his feet. Three nails are also used to identify Jesus as a member of the Holy Trinity.

HOLY WEEK and EASTER at Creekside

Please take note of the following activities of the following activities at Creekside as we move through Holy Week and into Easter. Your prayers for those who plan and lead worship are always appreciated, and your support of these programs helps us as a community to walk together through the events of death and resurrection that are Christ's story and our story.

Palm Sunday March 16, 2008 9:00am
Morning Worship Members of each Sunday School class will be invited to participate in a palm processional at the beginning of the worship service. Participants should meet in the gathering area at 9:00am. There will be Sunday School as usual.

Love Feast/Tenebrae Thursday, March 20, 2008 6:30pm Love Feast will begin with a fellowship meal in the gathering area, and will include scripture reading, singing, feetwashing and bread and cup communion. All ages are invited to attend and to participate as they are able. Childcare will be provided for both Love Feast and the Tenebrae service.

Tenebrae, or the "Service of Shadows," follows the scriptural account of Jesus' trial and crucifixion, and includes singing, silence, and darkness. It is a solemn way to enter and consider the events of Good Friday. It will be held in the worship space immediately following our observance of the Love Feast.

Easter Sunday March 23, 2008 He is risen! He is risen indeed!

Sonrise Service 7:30 am

Come share the excitement of the first disciples who found the tomb empty on Sunday morning. This service will be held in the worship space, and will include singing, scripture, and drama. A hot breakfast provided by Fellowship Team will be offered afterward in the gathering area.

Morning Worship *9:30am* Alleluia!

This celebration of the resurrection is for everyone—Creekside members, family, and friends. We will conclude the service by inviting anyone who wishes to join the Creekside Choir in singing Handel's "Halleluia Chorus." If you wish to practice with the choir before the service, you may join us at 9:00am in the worship space. Prelude will begin at 9:20. We will not be using live flowers on the chancel because of allergy sensitivities, so there be no sale of Easter Flowers or memorial listings in the bulletin (see next page for details).

*Please note the later start time of this service. There will be **no** Sunday School this day. We will return to our normal schedule of worship and Sunday School on March 30th.

Thank you for your support and participation. May these observances of Holy Week be a blessing to you and a way to reach out to others.

Rosanna McFadden
for Worship Team



NEW
CHURCH
DIRECTORY

There are new directories* in each mailbox and there are extras on the right hand side of the mailboxes. You may need your sunglasses when you look at them!

Let me know if you would like a large one.

Cindy

*ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO NEW DIRECTORY:

Eric & Sharon Houser – Phone #825-7031.

Ned & Jerry Hostetler—Address should be:

#24 The Willows, Goshen, IN 46526

David & Sue Bibbee—Anniversary—11/24/07

Tim & Diane Lund—Anniversary—6/13/81

Tim Lund—Birthday—9/8

Diane Lund—Birthday 4/27

Andrew Lund - Birthday 10/12

Kate Schrock—New Address:

1300 Greencroft Dr., Goshen, IN 46526

Change **Pastor David's** phone number on the inside cover to his new number—295-6147.



Our very own Dick & Eileen Rohrer were recently crowned King & Queen for Valentine's Day at Woodland Manor. Following is a note we recently received from Eileen.

Dear Creekside folks,

Just wanted to let you know what is happening at Woodland Manor. I sent the bulletin that had about what the memorial fund of Jenny Davis was being used for to Jenny's niece.

Dick and I were King & Queen for Valentine's Day. My crown was small but Dick's made him look like the Pope.

I'm still crocheting. I have lots and lots of yarn. I make pieces for the Red Cross and people put them together and give them to the poorest of people. If any of you would like to crochet those, I've got plenty of yarn.

They just came in to my room and told me that a baby was born and that I had crocheted the baby blanket, hat and booties.

God bless you all,
Eileen & Dick Rohrer

MARCH



2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10:00 A.M. —WORK DAY AT CHURCH
2 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School 5:00 p.m.—Lenten Movie Night CHOIR SINGS	3	4 7:00 p.m.—Worship Team	5 9:00 A.M. - Volunteer Fellowship	6 6:30 p. m. - Board at Church	7 CINDY OUT OF OFFICE 9:30 A.M. - 3:30 p.m.—Fiber Friends 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.—Pancake Sau- sage Team Mtg.	8 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.— PANCAKE SAUSAGE BREAKFAST
PASTOR DAVID ON MISSION TRIP						
9 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School Drop In—Carney's K-5 Card Making & Lunch	10	11	12 7:00 p.m.—Choir	13	14	15
16 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School “Go Green” Sunday Jr. High—Mastics CHOIR SING	17	18	19	20 6:30 p.m.—Maundy Thursday Service, Tenebrae & Love Feast	21 OFFICE CLOSED	22
23 CHOIR SING 7:30 a.m.—Sunrise Service 8:15 a.m. Breakfast 9:30 a.m. Worship NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	24	25	26 DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER	27	28 Scholarship Deadline	29
30 HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY	\$20 CAMP MACK DISCOUNT FOR SUMMER CAMP ENDS					