HERALD



Please join us online or in person this weekend as we continue our sermon series "Conflicted." We hope to see you soon.

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 38

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2025

571870

Maundy Thursday:

Passion, Conflict, **Sacrifice**

Thursday, April 17 | 7 p.m. Sanctuary

very year on Maundy Thursday, White's Chapel attempts to bring the story to life: The Last ■ Supper, the washing of the disciples' feet, the betrayal by Judas, the pain, suffering, and ultimate death of Christ. History's most dramatic story is told on this night predominately through music. For me, this is the most personal story to my Christian faith. It always makes me understand what Jesus went through specifically for me. And for many, it is a service that is not to be

MAUNDY cont'd on page 3

The Greatest of These Is

By Dr. Nina Rios-Doria, PhD, LPC

astor John once shared during a sermon that he had struggled the week before concerning his sermon topic. He said he had a mental block and I believe it was Pastor Judy who texted him and offered him some encouragement. As always, Pastor John shared an inspirational message.

LOVE cont'd on page 2



CONFIRMATION

White's Chapel Co-Pastor John McKellar reviews the vows of confirmation last Sunday to one of twenty confirmands confessing their faith. The spring confirmation students have attended classes since January 19.



Editor's note: Lessons from Lent is an annual series of reflections on the six-week Lenten Season. A daily devotional guide, "Conflicted," is available at various kiosks at White's Chapel, or at the administrative building front desk. Written by White's Chapel Co-Pastors Drs. John McKellar and Todd Renner, the guide is available at no charge.

Forgiving Life & Circumstance

"Forgiveness says you are given another chance to make a new beginning." - Desmond Tutu

his life is uncertain. For every mountaintop there is a valley; and for every good day, there's a bad. Sometimes, though, it feels as though the

LENT cont'd on page 3

April 17

Spring Project Offers Generational Opportunity

Women's Workday | Saturday, April 26 9 a.m. to Noon

t is incredibly rewarding to serve our neighbors, especially those who physically can no longer do certain things for themselves.

On Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to noon, White's Chapel Women will serve the Grapevine Housing Authority community on W. Worth Street. Volunteers have found that simple things like weeding, mulching and cleaning up yards is such an uplifting event for those who physically cannot work in their yard.

WORKDAY cont'd on page 2



By Dr. John McKellar

s we prepare to enter Holy Week, beginning this weekend with Palm Sunday, I remember a wonderful remembrance I received several years ago from one of our delightful members, Gerti Phillips. She grew up in Germany, and was writing down her reflections of how she experienced Holy Week as a child:

MUSINGS cont'd on page 2

HOLY WEEK

- * Livestream available at whiteschapel.org
- Additional Events: Varying experiences available at the Prayer Labyrinth, SPELL Chapel, The Foundry, The Gallery, and The Parlor. (For full details, please visit whiteschapel.org.)
- Shuttle Service available from Carroll High School 800 N. White Chapel Blvd. 7 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.



White's Chapel Methodist Church 185 S. White Chapel Blvd. Southlake, TX 76092 (817) 481-4147

PALM SATURDAY

Easter Eggstravaganza 10 a.m. - Noon

Palm Saturday Service *

5:30 p.m. | The Foundry

PALM SUNDAY

Brunch April 13

8 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Evans Hall

Traditional Service * 8:20 a.m. | Sanctuary

Triumphal Entry * 9:30 & 11 a.m. | Sanctuary

EMBODIED April 14-18

Lenten Prayer Experience * Monday - Thursday | 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday | 10 a.m. - Noon (Various locations across campus) MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday Service * 7 p.m. | Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY

Come-and-Go Prayer April 18 12 - 3 p.m. | Grace Chapel

EASTER SERVICES

6:30 a.m. | Amphitheater

Contemporary Easter Worship Service * April 19 5:30 p.m. | Sanctuary

Sunrise Easter Service April 20

> Traditional Easter Worship Services 8, 9:15, 10:30 & 11:45 a.m. | Sanctuary

Celebration of Resurrection

Following Last Service | Columbarium



INSIDE THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

WC Missons & Outreach Update David Phelps Concert Information



Palm Sunday Ride the Bus April 13 | See Page 4

Musings

Cont'd from page 1

Hirschhorn is a very old medieval town in SE Germany with lots of traditions, some of them stemming from old Franconian tribal times. The town is predominantly Catholic. After the war, people were quickly ready to bring these customs back. Boxwood bouquets (no Palms available) were attached to this 1 meter pole and fancily decorated with multicolored ribbons paraded thru town in a procession which was led by Jesus sitting on a donkey and his disciples. Children with their colorful poles were following Jesus on a donkey, singing and calling hosanna. It was absolutely awesome to be old enough to take part in this procession... even... our Lutheran friends were invited... which was not often the case...

Grown-ups had less fancy bouquets. The procession ended on the market square in front of the Church and all the people, bouquets and pole bouquets were blest by the priest. This blessing saved you, your family and your house from lightning and fire for the rest of the year. The pole was attached in the attic and some of the boxwood branches placed behind a crucifix. These small boxwood branches behind a

crucifix are still visible in homes and auesthouses today.

Monday started the week of somberness. On Saturday evening pretty much the same crowd would get back together, of course on the same market square and sit around an Easter Fire awaiting the announcement from the priest "Christ is Risen" "Der Herr Jesus Christus ist auferstanden." Christ is Risen indeed!

I was struck by the traditions that stuck with Gerti from her childhood. I hope we are aware of the new traditions that we are beginning in our families that will become our legacies through the years.

Every day of Holy Week, I hope we will pause and remember what Jesus was doing that day. Our Lenten devotional book, "Conflicted," has hopefully been a great guide to help us. These books are still available on campus as well as on the website under the media heading. When we will pause and reflect, our hearts will become tenderized to receive the glorious message of resurrection! I hope you will take advantage of all our worship offerings this week... and that we will all be mindful to not just worship with our heads... but open our hearts to receive the miracle of God's love that will be so on display! Pastor Todd and I look forward to seeing you at our powerful times of worship!









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WOMEN #4

"This is an amazing

opportunity to gather

grandmothers, mothers,

daughters, aunts,

cousins, small groups

and friends to come

together and serve."

Workday

Cont'd from page 1

"We started this volunteer project in 2021 because people were still hesitant to go on mission trips due to Covid," explained Rev. Joy Roberson, who serves as WC Women's Pastor as well as Missions and Outreach Pastor. The project is a perfect blend of both areas of her job. The workday has become an annual spring volunteer event.

"We work with a staff member from Grapevine Housing Authority," Roberson said. "She shares it with the community, and they self-select if they want their yards done."

Participants will divide into teams on the morning of the event. Then,

everyone will begin with a devotional and a prayer over the group, the homes and the residents.

Simple tools such as work gloves, trowels, shovels, rakes, wheelbarrows, garbage bags, and a water bottle would be helpful to bring. Leaders will have extras if someone needs to borrow.

The activity is open to all who can do yardwork or sit and talk with clients. "We have had a girl scout troop, a grandmother, daughter and granddaughter team, and many women who don't know anyone else, but know they like to garden and work in a yard."

Roberson believes that in both groups— clients and volunteers— this

mission renews faith in humanity, in each other and in God. "Serving tangibly for someone else can be one of the "thin places" between heaven and earth because God's presence is there."

"It is wonderful," she said, "to see women of all generations working together. It is wonderful to see the looks on the client's faces when the yard is done. But it is most wonderful when the clients and the volunteers make connections and pray together."

Roberson laughs at some of the

memories made. "One of the neighbors of a client that we were working with came out to see what was going on. She asked if we could do her yard, so I went over to talk with her. We had a delightful conversation and by the end of the talk she told me she wanted me to officiate her funeral.

I laughed and told her I'd rather just come and visit her next year when we came to clean up yards again. She was very sweet."

"This is an amazing opportunity to gather grandmothers, mothers, daughters, aunts, cousins, small groups and friends to come together and serve," said Roberson. "If students need to get service hours, this is a great way to do it."

White's Chapel Women is multi-faceted. Anyone can get involved through ongoing Bible study or one-time events.

"We have a place for every woman to get involved. We have mission trips, large events, small group activities and Bible studies. All are welcome!"

Love

Cont'd from page 1

I was also having a mental block on what I wanted to write about that would be encouraging today. As a counselor, I listen to stories of worry, stress, and frustrations to name a few. I do know one thing that can help us through all of it. And this is what I believe the Lord wants me to share with all of you. It's LOVE.

If we slow down to examine the things we do each day, we will find that the things we often do are for love. Let me give you an example: My husband enjoys working out at the gym. He's dedicated. I said, "Why do you go to the gym?" He said, "To stay fit and healthy." I said, "Why do you want to stay fit and healthy?" He said, "So that I can live a long life." I said, "Why do you want to live a long life, for what purpose?" He said, "So I can be around for Jazzy and spend time with her and soon with her family." and why? Because my husband loves her as I do too.

Each day, consider pausing and reflecting on what you are doing and start asking yourself the WHY questions. You will notice that beneath all of what you do, you will find love.

In Brene Brown's book "The Gift of Imperfection," she studied people that lived wholehearted lives. One of the guideposts to wholehearted living that she mentions in the book is experiencing love and belonging. And if we want to experience this, we must also believe that we are worthy of love and belonging.

After collecting thousands of stories, she believes that a deep sense of love and belonging is an irreducible need of all women, men, and children. When those needs aren't met, we don't function...we break, we fall apart, we get numb, we get sick... the absence of love and belonging will always lead to suffering.

It starts with self- love. Practicing this means learning to treat ourselves

also with kindness, respect, and selfcompassion so that we can offer this more to others too.

Kristen Neff is a longtime researcher of self-compassion, and she created three elements to practice self-compassion in life

- 1. Self-kindness: Learn to speak to yourself with warmth, kindness, and understanding when you make mistakes or struggle. Be aware of your own hurts and emotional pain and comfort yourself with supportive and encouraging words. Imagine your best friend going through the exact same situation and what you would say to them.
- 2. Common humanity: Recognize that you are not alone in your suffering. It is a shared part of the human experience and this can help reduce feelings of isolation. When you're struggling, it's comforting to remember that everyone faces challenges and difficulties.
- 3. Mindfulness: Being mindful involves staying present with your feelings. It allows you to acknowledge them without allowing yourself to get overwhelmed or overly identified with them. Additionally, it allows you to acknowledge you are hurting and to comfort yourself during this time.

As Easter season is upon us, let us also remember the "why" Jesus died for us. He loved us.

When Jesus was asked, In Matthew 22:36-38, "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself."

I hope today you can learn to practice more self-love and show more love to those around you.

God bless you all and Happy Easter! nrios@whiteschapel.org





Feed Our Kids June 2-6, June 9-13 & June 30-July 4 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. GRACE Ticknor Terrace (837 E Walnut St, Grapevine)

Looking for a fun and rewarding way to serve this summer? Look no further—White's Chapel is again supporting "Feed Our Kids," a GRACE summer weekday program providing lunches for approximately 100 to 120 kids per day. In Grapevine, the group usually feeds about 35,000 kids.

This year, White's Chapel is looking for volunteers to fill the first two weeks of June (Week One: 6/2-6; Week Two: 6/9-13) as well as the first week in July (6/30-7/4). Volunteers will hand out meals (and sometimes small items such as books, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, or toys) at the GRACE Ticknor Terrace location from 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. each weekday for all three weeks.

Teams of volunteers will sign up for a day to serve. Each team is responsible for buying food and then making and serving the meals. WC Kids fifth and sixth graders will make lunches for the kids as part of their mission activity during the week of VBX (June 9-12).

For additional information or to sign up to help, contact Carrie Schoof at carrie.schoof@gmail.com.



Mission Health Center Dental Clinic Volunteers Needed

over 2,300 patients since it's opening in

June 2017 and provided over \$3.5 Million

in free dental care. The MHC is a mission

of White's Chapel Methodist Church and

The Mission Health Center Dental Clinic offers free dental care for the working uninsured who live in the Southeast Fort Worth community. The clinic has seen

is active today because of the efforts of White's Chapel members. The need is great. All MHC Dental Clinic patients receive excellent dental care from our experienced and certified dentists, who volunteer their time and expertise. We greatly appreciate your support! For more information, contact Dr. Greg Wright at wrightsmiles@earthlink.net.



WC's Refugee Initiative

WC's Refugee Initiative "meets, greets, and completes" the cultural acclimation refugees

rely on to become contributing members of our society. Combining our own volunteers with those of neighboring faith communities, we mentor arriving families; tutor students; enhance adults' language skills; assist with resumes and job interviews; help with securing driver's licenses and finding doctors; and host programs for American and refugee youth to share their life experiences, insights, and dreams. Our outreach has a place for every talent, age, and time constraint. "Hope is to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."— Desmond Tutu. For more information, contact Ann Davis (Refugee Initiative Director) at davis.ann.k@gmail.com.



Patriot House Monthly Birthday Celebration Last Thursday of the Month 4 to 7:30 p.m. Patriot House in Fort Worth

Patriot House in Fort Worth

Help us make birthdays special for homeless veterans who live at the Patriot House, a transitional housing facility offered through the Presbyterian Night Shelter system in Fort Worth. The monthly celebration offers a time to interact and converse with veterans who are in transition. Adult volunteers can meet at the church to ride the bus or drive separately and park in the gated lot behind Patriot House. The bus will return to the church around 7:30 p.m. Register online. For more information, contact Alec Knight at alec@txrestaurant.org.







I HAVE DECIDED

It was a cold day for an outdoor baptism! 10 adults, 10 students and 10 confirmands committed to immersion baptism last Sunday.



Maundy

Cont'd from page 1

missed if the beauty of Easter is to be truly experienced.

"I think music transcends words, intellect, and moods," said Shaunna Fuller, White's Chapel Co-Director of Music and Worship. "It cuts straight to the soul and tenders our heart to help us enter the passion of Christ and the experience that is Holy Week. It sets the mood and draws the listener into that moment."

Musicians have worked on nine choral selections for the three services of Holy Week. Some favorites include "The Cross Medley," and "You are Worthy" for Palm Sunday, and Dan Forrest's "'And Can It Be" and Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" for Easter. Ken Nelson will again deliver "Oh Happy Day" for the Resurrection Celebration.

Maundy Thursday is probably the most reflective and introspective service of the week. Participants feel as though we are present at the last supper when Jesus invokes the new covenant. We feel His agony in the garden and when He suffers on the cross. His death becomes real as He is speared and taken to the tomb.

At White's Chapel the script is rewritten each year, often highlighting a different perspective of the well-known story elements. This year the story will intersect with the 2025 Lenten series, "Conflicted." Jacob Serrano will return in the role of Jesus.

"Judas will be more in focus than in years past," said Clint Blalock, Co-Director of White's Chapel's Music and Worship. "While we don't want to romanticize any of his poor choices, we do see a relatable story that fits in well with the "Conflicted" theme of our Lenten series. Drs. McKellar and Renner give special attention to Judas in this year's Lenten devotional and it's no coincidence that the reflection on Judas' story will fall one day before Maundy Thursday."

"Judas is often portrayed as a character that we love to hate," said Blalock. "But hatred is corrosive and usually burns the person who holds it. This year, we believe there is an opportunity to share some of what makes Judas' conflicted story one to which many of us can relate."

Drs. McKellar and Renner make the point in the Lenten devotional that little is actually known historically of Judas' life. "It's clear that he didn't fit in with the other disciples," said Blalock. "Judas may have had very misguided motives that led to the betrayal, but he certainly regretted the way things played out. He was overwhelmed by the weight of his sin, but his eyes were fixed on the wrong person."

"The hope that we can draw from Judas' story is that Jesus washed his feet and died on the cross for Judas as much as he did for you and me. We can be assured that there is no sin too big, stain too dark, or life too lost to be redeemed by the blood of Jesus. And there's no grave that could keep our Savior. Easter is coming!"

Music varies depending on where emphasis is placed on the story. The music is always eclectic: Some is modern or contemporary, while some is taken from the classics. All of it is somber, evoking the solemn mood that defines the evening of Jesus' journey to the cross.

Some of the music pieces have become fixtures: "Lord Have Mercy" sung by our own Terry Plemons is one that necessarily elevates the death of Christ to a personal level. "Munera Paris" from "Illuminare" is a new favorite from a respected composer, Elaine Hagenberg. Rutter's "Out of the Deep" will also be featured.

"These completely capture the darkness of His death, but also leaves us with that light of hope," said Fuller. "We always close the service in silence, with Communion out by the Jesus fountain."

Because this service is on Thursday, it is out of the norm for people to remember to add it into their schedule, especially those who have not experienced it before. And though the service will be streamed, it is the timing of the service that puts the experience into perspective.

"Maundy Thursday is the most moving service of our liturgical year," said Fuller. "The gripping story and the somber music combine to help us literally experience the passion of our Christ. Those who set aside an hour from 7-8 p.m. on that Thursday night will experience an Easter that is that much richer because you went into the tomb with Him. It is a family friendly service so bring the family and walk the Via Dolorosa together."

Lent

Cont'd from page 1

fates conspire, the stars align, and God has our name on the "zap" list.

We get beaten up. We feel beaten down. And, too often, in our vain attempts to pin down the culprit, all we can do is swing at the heavens. "Why, God?" we plead. "Why is all of this happening?" Or "Why isn't anything happening?" Stuck in the mire and the muck, we can easily give up. We can hunker down and resign ourselves to the dark unfairness of it all. And we can get so angry at God or at life, itself, that — like many of the prophets of old — we can utter those fateful words, "It would be better for me to die" than to keep on living like this.

These days call us to lift our eyes from the difficulties of our struggles to see the promise that lies ahead. It calls us to take our eyes off of all that we don't have to relish all that we do. And the key that unlocks the door to that beautiful new world is forgiveness. Rather than tilting at the windmills of fate, we're called to multiply our faith. We're called to own those things that, even from the ditches, we can do. We must refuse to see ourselves as the victims of our own stories. We must stop feeling "picked on" by circumstance and chance. We must pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off, and head valiantly towards the Light - one day, one moment, one bold step at a time.

Lent, though, calls us into a new reality.

Excerpt from "The He[art] of Doing," a Lenten study, published in 2016 and written by White's Chapel Co-pastors Dr. John McKellar and Dr. Todd Renner. All rights reserved.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



WC Open Golf Tournament Sunday, April 27 | 1 p.m. Shotgun Start Grapevine Golf Course 3800 Fairway Drive, Grapevine, TX

The 2025 WC Open will take place on Sunday, April 27. Come support our students as they prepare for summer mission trips to Little Rock, AR. This tournament is a 4-player scramble format with a 2 p.m. shotgun start, with lunch provided before the round begins. The cost to play is \$150 per golfer (lunch included). For information on sponsorship opportunities and player registration, please visit wc-open.com.

Jon Reeves | jreeves@whiteschapel.org



Thrive Parent Support Group April 27 | Evans Hall Lunch: 12:15 p.m. Meeting: 1 p.m.

Do you ever feel overwhelmed by challenges and wonder why God allowed

them to happen? This parent support group is for families with children who have additional needs. Everyone should be welcome in the church and know the love of Jesus regardless of abilities or disabilities. By providing necessary support and modifications, we are opening the door for people with additional needs and their families to experience Christ's love. This offering is available to families with children and students with disabilities (preschool-12th). Thrive kid childcare is available.

Alyson Bator | abator@whiteschapel.org



Disaster Response Team Training May 3 | 9 a.m. to Noon

The Disaster Response Team "DRT" volunteers are required to go through extensive training on how to assist in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. Teams are called to serve on an asneeded basis. Teams travel to affected areas and typically serve three or four days at a time. The next DRT training will be held on Saturday, May 3 in Rawlins Hall (AE Room 3103) from 9 a.m. until Noon. There is no cost for the training. Registration is required. For more information, contact Larry Smith.





Prayer List

Subha Akula, Bradley Anderson, Mike Anderson, Sandi Attwood, Bill Ayers, Corena Back, Shannon Bafaro, Jack Bair, Paula Baker, Brian Barnes, Steve Barrett, Gwenda Benton, Julie Bessire, Vickie Blalack, Susan Boelens, Nancy Bradley, Cheryl Brashear, Michaelann Bush, Carol Cafrelli, Bradley Carey, Jim Clancy, Avis and Bernard Cleghorn, Carolyn Cockerell, John Corder, Willene Corder, Leslie Craig, Barton Davis, Madeleine Diebels, Wilma Dykman, Ralph Evans, Sumali Fernando, Mark Fidler, Ed Foltz, Dorothy Fontana, Jim and Diane Fritzel, Steve Gardner, Landon Gaspari, Tim Gauntt, Buddy Hall, Tiffany Hall, Bob Harmon, Barbara Hays-Klein, Debbee Heldoorn, Dena Helo, Jose Hernandez, Kevin Hernandez, Doris Hockett, Dixie Hubbard, Judy Hurt, Evelyn Iszak, Tim James, Annette Jordan, Ann King, Mike Kopesec, Audry Kovach, Greg Kralik, Connie Lamb, Ashley Barret Leder, Luke Lunday, Maddie Marchand, Blake Martens, Lisa Mastropiero, Jim Maxwell, Dale McCauley, Virginia McCauley, Gay McWhorter, Matthew Mitchell, Doreen Mladenovic and Family, Roland Moore, Angie Moreno, Hernan Moreno, Karen Moreno, Paola Moreno, Marjean Nelson, The O'Connell Family, The Parish Family, Marilyn Pelep, Victoria Perez, Dee Perkins, Larysa Peterson, Reggie Peterson, Andy Prickett and Family, Terry Rhoades, Durrell Roddy, Johnnie Ruth Rogillio, Belkis Salazar, Nelsy Salazar, Ann Sawyers, Danny Searls, Jerry Sheffler, Larry Shirley Jr., Paul Sikes, Kay Slack, Joyce Smoot, Candace Stegint, Luke Strange, Ana Suarez, Steve Swanston, Peggy Sward, Tracy Thomas, Jeannine Tuggle, Gary Turner, Lukas Vivas, Sandra Vivas, Frances Votaw, Darles Watson, John Will, Vicki Winn, Barbara and Lew Zapko, Jake, Recent deaths: The Family of Tom Campagna, The Family of Freddie Charles, The Family of Peter Colvin, The Family of Shannon Cook, The Family of Tyler Dunn, The Family of Randy Fabrien, The Family of Rob Glover, The Family of Bill Oswald, The Family of Leslie James, The Family of Lorraine Love, The Family of Fred Luke, The Family of Paolo Natale, The Family of Jim Warsaw, Sandy Larson

Submit names via QR code or www.whiteschapel.org/prayers.html.

(Names will remain on this prayer list for two weeks unless otherwise notified via QR code or www.whiteschapel.org/prayers.html.)

and Family, The Family of Dick Williams.





Triumphal Entry Services | Palm Sunday, April 13 | 9:30 or 11 a.m.

Adult volunteers are needed to participate in our two Triumphal Entry Services on Palm Sunday, April 13. To participate in one or both services, please come to the Annex area (next to the Circuit Writers Bookstore) 15 minutes before the 9:30 or 11 a.m. service to get a costume and instructions.

Contact Tracy Christensen for more information.

Tracy Christensen | tchristensen@whiteschapel.org







