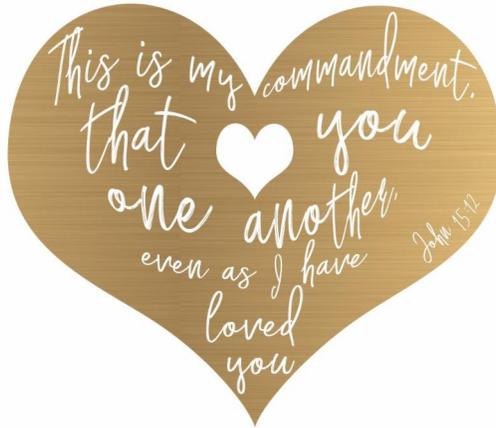


**CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

9191 WOODWAY DRIVE WACO, TX 76712
(254) 754-3544 CPCWACO.ORG



On this **Holy Thursday**, which we call **Maundy**, let us remember Jesus' command:



Come tonight at 7 to receive and follow this new commandment at the Lord's Table.



This **Good Friday at Noon**, come to listen for God's voice; to feel God's commitment, love and sorrow; to contemplate the suffering and release of Christ; to remember Jesus.

As the world reels at the loss of the Notre Dame Cathedral, note that the crown of thorns was saved. As we reach the end of our journey to the cross, though suffering still exists, the beauty of love and grace and generosity always gains victory over death. May this Good Friday bring you true Joy even in times of sorrow, that we may continue in Christ to resurrect life from the ashes.

Men's Gathering Early Easter Morning



Calling all men! There will be a gathering of the men from Central at 7:00 am on Easter morning at Poage Park for fellowship and to prepare food for the church breakfast.

We are hoping for a large turnout that will mean less time in prep, more time in fellowship!

Rev. David Rodgers will share a brief resurrection message for the men, and all will enjoy some early morning fellowship.



**Join Us For
Breakfast**

8am Easter Breakfast at Poage Park

Come out to Poage Park for Breakfast Fellowship! Bacon, scrambled eggs (with and without cheese), little smokies (pork sausages), milk and orange juice will be provided (please bring your own hot beverages). We would welcome any who come bearing fruit, muffins, pastries, other juices, and such! We expect around 30 folks to attend, and Rev. Judith March Hardie will provide prayer and a brief reflection on the empty tomb. Many thanks to all of the men involved in the planning, shopping and cooking!



Flowering of the Cross

10-10:45 am Easter - Please bring fresh flowers

Butterfly Release

immediately following Easter service in the Memorial Garden



Churches resurrect an old Easter custom-Holy Humor Sunday!



Many American churches are resurrecting an old Easter custom begun by the Greeks in the early centuries of Christianity-"Holy Humor Sunday" celebrations of Jesus' resurrection on the Sunday after Easter.

For centuries in Eastern Orthodox, Catholic and even Protestant communities, the faithful observed "days of joy and laughter," hosting parties and picnics to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Churchgoers and pastors played practical jokes on each other, drenched each other with water, told jokes, sang, and danced at gatherings from Easter all the way to Bright Sunday (the Sunday after Easter).

The custom was rooted in the musings of early church theologians (like Augustine, Gregory of Nyssa, and John Chrysostom) that God played a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. The early church called this *Risus paschalis*, or "the Easter laugh."

In the late 1980's a movement to resurrect Bright Sunday celebrations (renamed "Holy Humor Sunday") began with the slogan: "Jesus is the LIFE of the Party." It was and is clearly a movement of the Holy Spirit to shore up belief, and express JOY, in the New Life we have because of Jesus' victory over death.

Since this is our first Bright Sunday at Central, we will be dipping our toes into the pool. Some jokes and riddles will be provided, and you are invited to think of your own to share. All are all invited to dress with Joy...come the Sunday after Easter to celebrate Jesus as the LIFE of our party!

Central plans to begin a partnership with MidwayISD's after school program, Panther Kids. Mentors are needed to serve once a week for 20-30 minutes (at a time convenient to the mentor) between 3:00-5:30. We would like to start with 3 mentors for the last few weeks of school with a commitment to continue with the same students in the Fall. Additional mentors can join in the 2019-20 school year. Please contact Angela at 254 339 3097 or at angelaceccatopierce@gmail.com to schedule training or request more information.



Thanks for helping us encourage local Waco & Woodway Elementary Students!!



One person heard an idea and shared it with another, over and over, until this project came to full blossom! After realizing how powerful this method of discerning and responding to God's call to serve (organically and outside of our usual committee structure), our service committee has decided to try on a new name and identity--**Community Involvement Team**. Watch for ways you can get involved in playing for or cheering on this team! **Update: We will be making new cards of encouragement after Easter for testing in early May.**



April 18 - Maundy Thursday service, 7 pm

April 19 - Good Friday service, noon

April 21 - Easter Sunday!

- **Easter Breakfast** at Poage Park from 8-9 am. Church will provide eggs, sausage, bacon, milk and orange juice. If you have a favorite food or drink not listed feel free to bring that with you.
- **Fellowship** back at church. No Sunday School before worship.
- **Flowering of the Cross** 10-10:45 (please bring flowers, possibly fresh from your garden)
- **Celebration** of the Resurrection with Communion, 10:45
- **Butterfly release**, in the Memorial Garden following worship

Please update your contact information!

Please let us know if your address, phone number, or email address has changed since the last directory printing. Please email changes to office@cpcwaco.org

Celebrating Birthdays

Ken Smotherman - April 24

Stephen Rehrig - May 1

June Bryngelson - May 3

David Groman - May 13

(We are missing many birthdays in our database; please let us know yours! We need the year to enter the date in the database, but will never print it!)



