



LoveJoy United
Presbyterian Church
THE OBSERVER

Dear friends,

On Wednesday nights this Lenten season, we have been gathering for supper church, a format of worship, prayer, and formation that resembles how the early church worshipped. We begin each meal by blessing the communion bread. After a time of fellowship over dinner, we read and talk about the scripture for the day. This season we are reading passages about care for creation. The first week, Karen Wilson shared about her journey to begin eating more locally sourced food, rather than food that must be shipped from around the world. The following week, Lynn Engelman taught us about composting and invited us to plant seeds indoors that will later go in our garden. We also put together a new composter for the garden. Last week, Peggy Hagaman taught us about a Japanese practice called Shinrin-Yoku, or 'Forest Bathing,' which is a meditative practice of communing with nature. Finally, we bless our cup - giving thanks for God's presence in our lives and in the world.

I hope you'll be able to join us for one of the remaining gatherings at 6:30 PM on Wednesday April 2, April 9, or Thursday, April 17 at 6 PM for our Maundy Thursday (potluck) supper church gathering. Look for details soon about an informal worship and work gathering on Good Friday in our garden - bearing witness to how the burial of seeds gives birth to new life. Finally, we look forward to celebrating the central claim of our faith on Easter Sunday, April 20 at 10:15: Christ is risen from the dead, and all creation with him!

Lenten Blessings,

Pastor Daniel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHED FOR YOU: Stewardship of our Bodies by Richard Sisk

We may belong to God, but we have been entrusted into the care of Christ. He is our shepherd, our teacher, our guide, our inspiration and our protector. In short, he's our steward. And, as our steward, he has never let us down, not once; even to the point of shedding his blood and giving his life for us so that we may have resurrected and everlasting life in God's kingdom.

"The blood of Christ which is shed for you..." This is a phrase we hear every time we partake in communion. It is said in part to remind us of the selfless sacrifice of Jesus and his boundless love for us. It is the ultimate act of stewardship; giving one's life, shedding one's blood so that others may live. Rarely are we called upon to make such a sacrifice, but we can approach that level of love and stewardship. The shedding of our blood can mean the gift of life for those in need, when we donate to the American Red Cross. It is a Christ-like act of stewardship, of caring for others. As quoted from the Singapore Red Cross, but just as true for us:

"Donating blood is an incomparable act of selflessness, quite simply granting the gift of life as we have been granted the gift of life."

You have a chance to live into the love and stewardship of Christ on April 10, 2–6 PM at our "Spring Blood Drive." Sign up now at lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps.

Grace be with you all.



Garden Project "A-Peel"

Yes, that is correct, the Garden Project Committee is making an appeal for your banana, apple and orange peels, along with your other fruit and vegetable scraps, leaves, shredded newspapers, etc. (see Guidelines below) for our composting experiment.

We now have a small rotating compost bin, that was put together at our first Lenten Wednesday Dinner, so we can create our own compost to nourish our garden, as well as keep food scraps, which contribute to making methane gas, out of our landfills. If you are willing to contribute to the church composting efforts, please "lettuce" know by signing up at Lovejoy.org/nextsteps or the sign-up sheet in the Narthex and we will provide additional information and instructions. If you need a bucket for those food scraps to accumulate, let us know. In the meantime, here is some basic guidelines on the type of materials appropriate for composting. (Sorry for the food puns). You can sign up on the table in the Narthex or go to lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps.



PLENTIFUL

TENDING TO THE BOOK OF NATURE

LENTEN SUPPER CHURCH

Join us at **6:30 pm on Wednesdays** during Lent for a shared meal, worship, fellowship, and conversation, as we explore connections between faith, creation, and spiritual renewal. Through Scripture, reflection, and hands-on practices, we will learn how tending to God's earth deepens our faith and invites us into God's abundance.

THE BOOK OF NATURE

From the early church mothers and fathers to the Protestant Reformers, Christians have recognized the many ways God reveals Godself to us. The Book of Scripture is our primary source of God's revelation. But creation also reveals God to us. Psalm 19 begins, "The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork." This 'Book of Nature' bears witness to God, too.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

- **March 5, Ash Wednesday Worship at 7 PM.** No dinner provided

DINNER DATES & TOPICS

- **March 12, 6:30 PM,** Planting Seeds
- **March 19, 6:30 PM,** Feasting with Earth's Rhythms
- **March 26, 6:30 PM,** *shinrin-yoku* or 'Forest Bathing'
- **April 2, 6:30 PM,** Bread Baking
- **April 9, 6:30 PM,** Fasting from more than Food

HOLY WEEK GATHERINGS

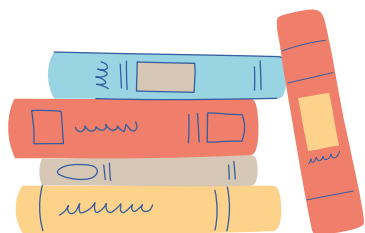
- **April 17, 6:30PM,** Maundy Thursday Worship & Meal
- **April 18, Time TBD,** Outdoor Good Friday Worship & Work in the Garden
- **April 20, 10:15 AM,** Easter and Earth Sunday

CARE FOR CREATION

As an Earth Care congregation, we acknowledge that we have sinned in our failure to care for God's creation. Our call to discipleship includes a call to care for the Earth, our common home.

LOVEJOY UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LYCEUM LINKS FOR APRIL

The Lyceum Book Club selection for April 16 will be *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng. This novel tells the story of the intertwined fates of the picture-perfect Richardson family and an enigmatic mother and daughter who move to town and upend their lives. The story explores the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, the ferocious pull of motherhood – and the danger in believing that following the rules can avert disaster.

For April only join us on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. rather than at 7:15. Note: during Lent Zoom Evening Prayer group is on hiatus.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Sunday Morning Live at 9:00 a.m. led by Richard Sisk is an informal, conversational class that seeks to connect scripture, theology, and faith to our lives and world. This group meets in the Love Room and on Zoom. The current discussion is on *The Revelation of John*. Sign up at lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps.
- The Adult Bible Class began the “Embracing Life” series on March 2. The lessons for Lent are a study of the Beatitudes, and the theme of “Living Water” will continue through the Easter Season. The study leader for the spring quarter is Sandy Monroe. Join the class at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday morning in fellowship hall or on Zoom and bring your Bible!
- Lectionary Bible Study meets at 10:15 a.m. on Wednesdays. Join pastor Daniel either in-person or on Zoom for a discussion of the scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday’s worship service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April Birthday's

1	13
Austin King	Justin Carnes
Susan Musgrave	Michael Baum
2	14
Evie Bristow	Mary Trudell
Hayden Lindquist	15
Jill Goewey	Hayden Panyik
3	17
Diane Alford	Emmett Cunningham
JoAnn Moss	20
6	Ashley Panyik
Sebastian Panyik	Lucy Manker
Debbie Suerig	22
Joey Gremling	Chase Bauer
8	26
Herbert Peel	Lenda Cozy Lindquist
Julie Spurgeon	Sherry Davis
10	28
Mackenzie Cerny	Addison Plummer
Amy Manker	Paige Jacquin
Valerie McCoy	Joyce Fleming
11	30
Phyllis Pierson	Tony Levan
12	
Dan Miller	
Ryne White Blair	

February 2025 Financial Notes:

Checking Account Balance as 2/28/2025 \$83,050.31
Savings Account Balance as of 2/28/2025 \$19,322.25
Ending Balance as of 2/28/2025 \$102,372.56
Pledge Income Received:
YTD Pledge total \$38,622.21
Mission Market Fund: The current amount in the fund \$126,191.55. The interest rate is holding at 2.10 %

For questions, please contact Sarah Carnes or Tom Wyatt.

2025 LoveJoy Lyceum Book List

4/16/25 Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng
5/23/25 The First Ladies by Marie Benedict, Victoria Christopher
6/18/25 Clear by Carys Davies
7/16/25 James by Percival Everett
8/20/25 The Hidden Life of Trees by Peter Wohlleben and/or Overstory by Richard Powers
9/17/25 Blood Sisters by Vanessa Lillie
10/15/25 Absolution by Alice McDermott
11/19/25 Peace Like a River by Leif Enger
12/17/25 Prodigal Summer by Barbara Kingsolver



Food Pantry Needs:
Peanut butter and pasta sauce.

Poem

Light In or Not light in

On or off?

On or off?

What shall it be?

The light is bright.

For the light shows all.

*But, turn off the light and their is darkness
one cannot see.*

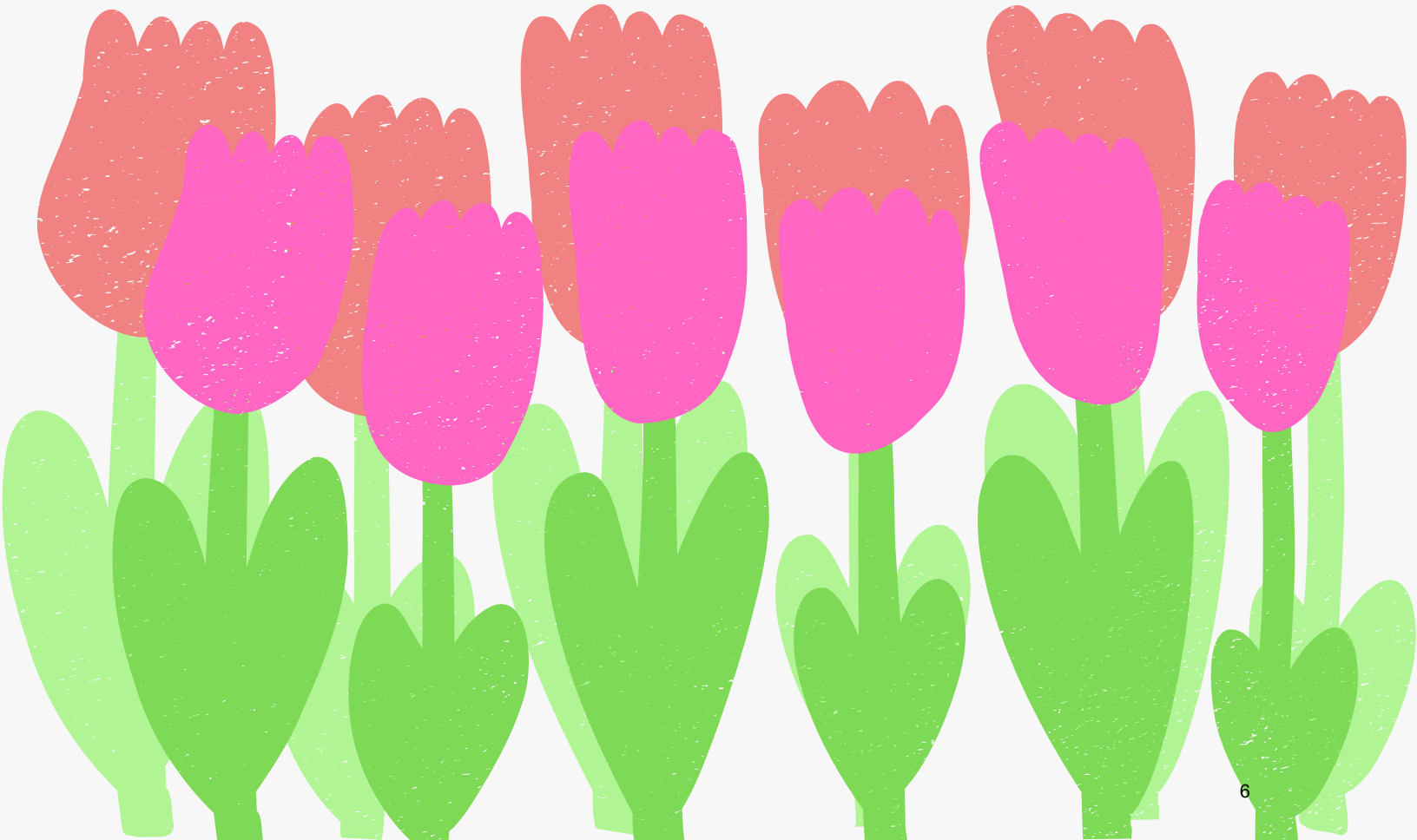
*One can trip and fall,
but that shall not happen.*

*For the light shall be on
inside and outside of us.*

The light is good.

Poet Laureate

Herbert J. Peel



April

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1</p> <p>9am -Bell Choir Rehearsal 11am - Staff Meeting 6:30pm - Mission and Outreach</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:15am -Lectionary Bible Study 11 :30am -Lunch Bunch 1 pm - Sewing and Craft Circle 6:30pm - Lenten Dinner 7pm - No Evening Prayer</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>8:45am -Choir Rehearsal 9am -Adult Formation: Bible 9am -Adult Formation: Sunday 10:15am -Worship 11 :30am -LoveJoy Children & Youth</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9am -Bell Choir Rehearsal 11am - Staff Meeting</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10:15am -Lectionary Bible Study 11 :30am -Lunch Bunch 1 pm - Sewing and Craft Circle 6:30pm - Lenten Dinner 7pm - No Evening Prayer</p>	<p>10</p> <p>2pm - Red Cross Blood Drive 6pm - Stewardship Committee 6:30pm - Children & Youth CE Meeting</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Palm Sunday 8:45am -Choir Rehearsal 9am -Adult Formation: Bible 9am -Adult Formation: Sunday 10:15am -Worship 11 :30am -LoveJoy Children & Youth 11:30am- Worship Committee Decorates for Easter</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9am - Food Pantry 10am - Mat Weaving Group 12:15pm - PEO Women's Group</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9am -Bell Choir Rehearsal 11am - Staff Meeting 6pm - Finance Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:15am -Lectionary Bible Study 11 :30am -Lunch Bunch 1 pm - Sewing and Craft Circle 7pm - Evening Prayer 7:15pm - LoveJoy Lyceum Book Club</p>	<p>17</p> <p>6pm - Maundy Thursday Lenten Dinner - Potluck</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Good Friday 2pm- ACE Committee Meeting</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Easter Sunday 8:45am -Choir Rehearsal 9am -Adult Formation: Bible 9am -Adult Formation: Sunday 10:15am -Worship 11 :30am -LoveJoy Children & Youth</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9am -Bell Choir Rehearsal 11am - Staff Meeting</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:15am -Lectionary Bible Study 11 :30am -Lunch Bunch 1 pm - Sewing and Craft Circle 7pm - Evening Prayer</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:30pm - Session Meeting</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>8:45am -Choir Rehearsal 9am -Adult Formation: Bible 9am -Adult Formation: Sunday 10:15am -Worship 11 :30am -LoveJoy Children & Youth</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9am - Food Pantry 10am - Mat Weaving Group</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9am -Bell Choir Rehearsal 11am - Staff Meeting</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:15am -Lectionary Bible Study 11 :30am -Lunch Bunch 1 pm - Sewing and Craft Circle 7pm - Evening Prayer</p>			



LoveJoy United
Presbyterian Church
A WELCOMING, NURTURING,
PRAYING COMMUNITY OF FAITH

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

