
April 2017: Outlaw's Bridge Universalist Church

Welcoming Congregation



The Bridge

***10:00 a.m. each Sunday: Intergenerational Devotional**

***10:10 a.m. Religious Education for all ages**

*** The adults are studying the Old Testament.**

April 2: The Remarkable Activist Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks - Reverend Lois Cavanagh-Daley - The remarkable life of activism of Mrs. Rosa Parks. We may think of Mrs. Parks as a demure seamstress who refused to give up her seat to a white person on a Montgomery, Alabama bus and started the Civil Rights movement, but her example is so much more than that one act. She dedicated her life to bringing equality to African-Americans. Come and hear her incredible story.

April 9: "Palm Sunday: Showing Up" - Reverend Claudia M. Frost - It's the day we remember Jesus showed up for the most challenging week of his life. Heralded into Jerusalem with shouts of praise and the waving of palms, what did a ministry of showing up mean in Jesus's time? In an era when fewer people attend church on a regular basis, what does showing up mean for us? We welcome you to join us for worship and find out.

April 16: "The Power of Presence" - Reverend Claudia M. Frost - Join us for an Easter message of the power of presence to transform lives. From the power of Jesus's presence in his ministry, the loving and unwavering presence of the women in the final days, the lack of presence among the disciples, there is so much to learn and understand. Join us for an Easter message of transformation, liberating love, joy and hope.

April 23: Living Easter Every Day of Our Lives - Michael Mozingo - Michael will focus on how we can live more abundantly by having an "Easter" mindset above and beyond the bunnies, candy, and bonnets. To live Easter fully, we must understand some basic tenants of life: *Know that God is good; *Cast out Fear; *Prayer always and everywhere; *Live like you believe in Jesus.

April 30: "Throw Kindness Around Life Confetti" - Ann Malpass-Kelsey Gryniewicz of Random Acts of Kindness foundation says "But that's the power of kindness-it just takes one person, one act. You don't need money or a ton of time." Let's talk about how.

Dates to Remember

April 6: Roadside Trash Pickup: 9:00 a.m.

April 9: Covered-dish lunch and Board meeting following services.

April 13: 11: 30 a.m.: meet at the church for Dutch-treat lunch at Johnny's Seafood followed by AUW meeting at 1:00.

April 16: Easter Breakfast/ Egg Hunt

April 27: Musical Concert at 7:30 p.m. following covered-dish supper at 6:30 p.m.

May 14: Homecoming

May 19-21: Universalist Convocation 2017, Liberty Universalist church, Louisville, MS



Claudia's Comments

Officially, Spring is finally here. We all know the weather has been trying to declare Spring for over a month with flowers and trees blooming early, only to be nipped by a week here and there of freezing night time and early morning temperatures. Clouds of yellow pollen still hang over the trees and roadsides.

Easter is only two weeks away. Have you found time to pause each day for reflection on our special Lenten word selections? My hope is that developing a spiritual practice of reflection on the daily words will bring each of us into closer relationship with the pulse of life and what is most important to you. Taking time for reflection can help us get rid of the non-essential for a little while so we can have moments of wholeness and grace...moments where our inner and outer life meet...time for taking stock...clearing up our act of mindlessly or frantically floating through our "to-do" lists...making time for renewal as we approach Easter Sunday.

Taking time for a personal spiritual practice during Lent disrupts our routine, causing us to pay better attention. If you're good with a camera...perhaps you've documented your journey with pictures that exemplify the daily words.

Just in case you've misplaced your word list, here are the word reflections remaining that mark our journey to Easter:

April

1 Freedom

6 Help

11 Art

2 Understanding

7 Support

12 Doubt

3 Inspiration

8 Awe

13 Worship

4 Sacred

9 Hospitality

14 Peace

5 Loneliness

10 Heart

15 Faith

16 Easter: rejoice

Clearing your heart and mind in readiness for renewal and the joyful hope of Easter, I hope you can spend some time outdoors during these beautiful days when new life is blooming all around us. I'm looking forward to seeing you Easter Sunday. We'll start our celebration with our traditional breakfast, followed by the children's egg hunt and the worship service. Bring a friend to church. Our rejoicing will be enriched!

Also a special "Thank You" is in order to everyone who participated in the series of "Vision for the Future" Task Force meetings. Our report will be shared at the April Board of Trustees meeting as the next step in our process.

With Love, Hope and Joy,

Claudia

