

THE DISCIPLE



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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April 2026

Rev. Daphne Gascot Arias, Minister

Carol Clifford, Editor



**“From death came
life, from sorrow
came joy;
this is the hope
of Easter.”**

A LOO DENISH OBIERO



*“Called to be the presence of
Christ in our community”*

Karen's Korner



As I write this, Dan and I have completed our third No Kings Protest and our second in Chicago. It is nice to take a concrete action to express our dismay at the direction of the nation. It also is wonderful to be surrounded by so many people standing up with us!

Wow, April is here, which will bring our son and family back from all their winter travels. We will have a busy household again!

With April we also have Easter! I hope everyone is planning on joining us for the joyous season! We will be celebrating Maundy Thursday with a seder dinner at 6:00 pm April 2nd. We will share soup, bread, fruit and wine. On Easter, February 5th, we will have an Easter Breakfast at 8:45 am followed by service at 10:30 am. We will also have an Easter egg hunt for the kids.

Adult Sunday school is also continuing Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. We are continuing our study of Men of the Bible. It is an interesting study with lively discussion. Join us!

April will also include a fellowship opportunity. On Sunday, April 24th, we will be having a Game Night at 5:00 pm. It will be a fun time with ping pong competitions, video games, board games, and good fellowship! There is a sign-up in Fellowship Hall, so please indicate if you can join us and if you can bring snacks and/or games!

Monday Intercessory Prayer (MIP) is meeting all Mondays in April. We have a faithful group and many answered prayers! Please consider joining us on Mondays from 6-7 pm by calling 607-374-1123 and entering code 390193 at the prompt. It is a peaceful time, during which we share our joys and concerns for personal needs, our church, our community, our nation, and the world. Also, please continue to share your prayer concerns.

Looking forward, we have an opportunity to be a host for the virtual general assembly July 10th and July 11th. We would provide online access to the assembly for those in the area wishing to attend. It would be a great opportunity to easily attend a General Assembly. To host, we will need people to attend to welcome guests, help with the projection of the assembly, provide a continental breakfast and snacks and coordinate box lunches. There is a sign-up sheet to let us know who can help. Please prayerfully consider joining us!

Faithfully yours,
Karen

Women's Tea ...



Our Annual Women's Tea will be held on Saturday, May 23 from Noon to 3 p.m. Leslie Goddard's program this year will be "Audrey Hepburn". We are all going to learn many things we did not know about her life, her acting career and her humanitarian works around the world.

Tickets go on sale Sunday, April 19th after church services. Ticket price of \$15 is a bargain in today's economy. Proceeds from this year's Tea will benefit the Church's Outreach Ministry.

Our Volunteers have always been the reason for our successes! Important volunteer dates are Thursday afternoon, May 21 (time to be determined later), food set-up the morning of the tea and Waiters for the tea. For information on other ways to help contact Alice Dornan as Sue Huizinga will be on vacation.

Any questions, see Alice.

Did you know...? By: Bobbie Dean



Interesting facts about **Puerto Rico**:

*The official languages of the island are Spanish and English, although Spanish is the most widely spoken by residents.

*The official currency is the U.S. dollar, referred to as “peso” or “dolar” by locals.

*Puerto Rico has warm, tropical weather year-around, with the temperature generally staying between 70 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit throughout most of the island.

*The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, as it’s officially named, is located in the Caribbean Sea, west of the British and U.S. Virgin Islands and east of the Dominican Republic. It consists of the main island of Puerto Rico, Vieques, Culebra, and several smaller islands.

*The island is densely populated, with approximately 3.2 million inhabitants in its 5,515 square mile.

Puerto Rico is around the size of Connecticut and has the third highest population density in the U.S.

*The first inhabitants on the island were the Taínos, an indigenous group of people who lived on the island for centuries before the arrival of European colonists. The Taínos named the island “Boriquen.”

*The name “Puerto Rico “ (rich port) refers to the abundance of gold that Spanish colonists found on the island.

*The Catedral de San Juan is the final resting place of Juan Ponce de León, known for leading the first European expedition to Florida and being the first governor of Puerto Rico.

DIRECTORY ADDITION



Please make the following change to your new church directory.

B.J. and Megan Barlow's new address is:
4232 W. Hanover Street, Janesville, WI 53548-9204



HOLY WEEK Schedule

Thursday, April 2,

6 pm Maundy Thursday Seder
Dinner and Worship Service

Friday, April 3

Good Friday

Sunday, April 5

Easter Sunday
8:45 am Eater Breakfast
10:30am Worship

*“Easter is the only time when it’s
perfectly safe to put all your eggs
in one basket”*

Evan Esar


Church Chuckles

By Bobbie Dean



The minister had given a stirring message about the blessing of forgiving others based on the forgiveness we have so freely received. "Who here is ready to pray with me to forgive all those who have sinned against them?" asked the minister. Everyone but one elderly woman raised their hand. "Miss Lucy, please tell us why it is you feel you don't have anyone to forgive?"

Miss Lucy replied, "Because I have outlived all those heathen sinners, that's why!"



"Every crack has the ability to let the light in. We sometimes speak of a crack in our lives, an area where we are struggling or would like to improve. From God's point of view we say that this light has the ability to penetrate our deepest darkness.

This is what Easter is all about. Even if we don't fully understand the Resurrection we know it's the hinge on which we rest everything. Darkness and evil can never win the battle.

This Easter invite God's light into all the cracks in your life."

Fr Paul Formosa sdb

www.universeoffaith.org

Easter Symbols



Easter symbols, blending religious and secular traditions, signify new life, resurrection, and spring. Key symbols include eggs (fertility/resurrection), bunnies (fertility), lilies (purity), the cross (crucifixion), and lambs (sacrifice). Others include candles (light), butterflies (transformation), and palms (triumphal entry).

Common Easter Symbols and Meanings

- **Easter Eggs (Pysanka, Dyed Eggs):** Represent the empty tomb and resurrection, symbolizing new life.
- **Easter Bunny/Hare:** Historically tied to pagan traditions (fertility goddess Eostre), representing fertility and new life in spring.
- **Easter Lily:** Its white color represents the purity of Christ and the new life associated with resurrection.
- **The Cross/Crucifix:** Represents the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, acting as a reminder of his victory over death.
- **The Lamb:** Represents Jesus as the sacrificial "Lamb of God".
- **Paschal Candle:** Represents Jesus as the "Light of the World".
- **Butterflies:** Symbolize the resurrection through the transformation from chrysalis to adult.
- **Hot Cross Buns:** Represent the cross of the crucifixion, often consumed on Good Friday.
- **Palm Branches:** Symbolize Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



Apr. 2	Joy Claffey
Apr. 9	Torin john
Apr. 26	Richard Sladek
Apr. 26	Ethel Hayes

SERVING SCHEDULE



ELDERS

Lectern

Table

Apr. 5	Sue Huizinga	Bob Reese
Apr. 12	Bob Reese	Barb Bates
Apr. 189	Daphne Hayes	Bill Cook
Apr. 26	Becky Daigle	Karen Johns

DEACONS

Prep and Serve

Serve

Apr. 5	Gail Reese	Galilee Flores
Apr. 12	Galilee Flores	Eli Sanchez
Apr. 19	Larry Carley	Lisa Johnson
Apr. 26	Dave Kijowski	Kristi Kijowski

