



THE COCHRAN CHRONICLE OUR LIFE TOGETHER

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FROM OUR PASTOR

Those who know me well know that I am a big fan of Duke University's men's basketball team, better known as the Blue Devils. Having won five national championships since 1991 and played in eleven championship games and appeared in 16 Final Four match-ups, Duke is one of those elite college sports programs that can be easy to hate precisely because of their success.

I didn't go to Duke as a basketball fan. I don't play the sport. I have difficulty telling the difference between defensive arrangements. I can't tell you what a point guard and a power forward do. I just learned to like to watch the guys play because they play at a very high level. And I especially like to watch them during tournament season when they play in the Atlantic Coast Conference and NCAA tourneys, which television hypes as "the road to the Final Four."

March Madness as it is known usually coincides with Lent, which has its own progression, its own road. But instead of teams squaring off against each other for round ball dominance in the world of college athletics, Lent features Jesus squaring off against the forces of worldly—and other-worldly—power for the sake of this world. Having announced the coming of God's kingdom, inaugurated it in his preaching and teaching, and embodied it through his ministry of compassion and justice, Jesus runs squarely into the social, religious, economic, and political powers of this world, who see in Jesus a threat to their very existence.

Throughout his public ministry, Jesus is on the road to a final showdown with those powers, a conflict that culminates in the arena of public opinion, the chambers of his religious tradition's ruling council, and in a makeshift courtroom in the Roman governor's palace. He was convicted of sedition, of claiming to be a king, and sentenced to die by crucifixion. "By a perversion of justice he was taken away. ... [H]e was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of [the] people" (Isa. 53:8). Being publicly executed, died, and buried didn't look like much of a victory for Jesus or the forces of God. But Easter would change all of that.

I invite you to make the Lenten journey with me, to walk the road that Jesus walked along the way of the cross. We can do it daily through Bible reading and prayer. Our bishop is reading one chapter of Mark's Gospel every day throughout Lent, and you might like to embrace that practice. Sunday worship services will tell the story of that journey, which begin in Jesus' temptations and his call to self-denial and following him. Many of us are giving up pleasures or taking on good deeds as Lenten disciplines. Holy Week will bring several opportunities for worship: a Stations of the Cross experience on Tuesday, March 27; Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday (March 29); and a Service of Tenebrae on March 30, which will recount the story of Jesus' trials, crucifixion, and death through music and candlelight.

We can fully enjoy Jesus' Easter victory only if we have traveled with him on the road to suffering, the way of the cross. Don't sit on the sidelines. Enter the fray.

Peace,

Jeff

MARCH EVENTS



Palm Sunday – March 25
10:15 AM in the Sanctuary

Stations of the Cross – Tuesday, March 27
7:00 PM in the Sanctuary
A narrated journey through Jesus' Passion as
depicted in twelve works of Cochran Chapel artists

Maundy Thursday – March 29
7:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Good Friday – March 30
7:00 PM in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday – April 1
Celebration! Christ Has Risen!

Easter Brunch – 9:00 AM
Meaders Hall, CCUMC and New Day

Easter Egg Hunt – 9:30 AM
Lawn Between Meaders and Cochran House

Easter Service
10:15 AM in the Sanctuary

Easter Monday – April 2
Church Offices Closed

AN EASTER POEM STILL WITH US

BECAUSE OF THE CRUCIFIXION
AND BECAUSE OF HIS FATHER'S WILL
THE LOSS AND PAIN WERE NOT IN VAIN
FOR HE LIVES AMONG US STILL.
YOU SEE HIS FACE IN THE DAWNING
AS THE SUN IS ABOUT TO RISE
HIS THE GLIMMER OF INNOCENCE
WE SEE IN OUR CHILDREN'S EYES.
HE IS THE LOVE IN MARRIAGES
THAT LAST FOR UNTOLD YEARS
IT IS HE WHO COMFORTS THE BEREAVED
WHEN THE OCCASION CAUSES TEARS.
HE IS THE SOFT AND GENTLE TOUCH
IN A TENDER, LOVING HAND OR FACE
HE IS THE PRESENCE YOU FEEL IN CHURCH
BUT HE'S PRESENT IN EVERY PLACE.
THE BIBLE SPEAKS OF HIS SPIRIT
IT'S WORD DOES NOT DECEIVE
HE WALKS AMONG US DAILY
WE KNOW THIS BECAUSE WE BELIEVE.

LAURA SUE PERRENOT

MARCH 26, 2005

EASTER OPPORTUNITIES

EASTER LILY ORDERS AND BETHLEHEM CENTER

Easter Sunday affords two opportunities to honor and remember those people who have a special place in our hearts while supporting the work of the church. One way to is place lilies in the sanctuary in honor or remembrance of loved ones.

Lilies are \$17 each and must be ordered by Wednesday, March 21.

Your gift will be recognized in a special insert included in the bulletin on Sunday April 1, and you will be welcome to take home your lily(ies) after the Easter Sunday service.

The other option is to donate money (any amount is appreciated) to Bethlehem Center, a United Methodist-related ministry serving the Fair Park neighborhood. DBC works to create a brighter future through education, food security, empowerment, and neighborhood development.

If paying by check, please write in the memo line: "lily" and/or "Bethlehem." Also, please remember that donations may be made online.

For all orders, please include:

- Your name
- Your contact number
- The number of lilies requested
- Total amount given
- In honor of:
- In loving memory of:



If you have questions, please call our church secretary, Sandra, at 214-352-4889.

COCHRAN CHAPEL HISTORY

STORIES IN STITCHES: SANCTUARY ALTAR CHAIRS REPRESENT THE FOUR GOSPELS

BY MARTHA DEMPSEY

Almost 40 years ago Martha Dempsey and a handful of other church members joined forces to design and carefully needlepoint CCUMC's four beautiful altar chairs. The chair covers are based on Revelation 4:6-8: "And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal and in the midst of the throne, and round the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind. And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle. And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, 'Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty which was, and is, and is to come.'"

St. Matthew Chair

The winged man is used to represent St. Matthew, because his gospel deals with the human genealogy of the Lord. Throughout the book, Matthew emphasizes Jesus' manhood. The needlepoint back of the St. Matthew chair was done by Linda Haralson Stewart and Leslie Haralson.

St. Mark Chair

The winged lion represents St. Mark. The allusion in Mark 1:30 to the "voice of one crying in the wilderness" is symbolized by a lion. The lion also signifies the royalty of the kingly office of Christ. Beneath the shield of the winged lion is the combined Alpha and Omega, the first and the last letters of the Greek alphabet, symbolizing Christ as the "beginning and the end." The needlepoint back of the St. Mark chair was done by Martha Dempsey.

St. Luke Chair

The winged ox represents St. Luke, whose gospel treats the atoning sacrifice of Christ. An ox or calf is the most common symbol of sacrifice. Under the shield of the ox is the Chi Rho monogram. Chi and Rho are the first two letters, XP, of the word "Christ" in ancient Greek capital letters, XPICTOC. Gladys McKee did the needlepoint for the back of the St. Luke chair.

St. John Chair

The eagle, which soars higher than any other bird, is the emblem of St. John. His gospel expresses the divine nature of Christ in the most exalted terms of the New Testament. Evelyn TerMeer executed the needlepoint of both the back and the seat of the St John chair.

The other three chair seats were done by Christine Salter, Ilah Merriman, Linda Stewart, Leslie Haralson, Jim Dempsey, and Opal Alexander. Mary Elizabeth Montgomery designed all four chair covers, and upholstery was done by Baxter Seals.

For those interested in statistics: there are approximately 54,400 stitches in each of the tall chair backs and 40,000 stitches in the short backs. The chair seat covers are even larger, requiring more stitches. To fully appreciate the craftsmanship of each chair, step closer for a better view of the hundreds of thousands of carefully executed stitches.

INSIDE THE CHURCH

SUMMARY OF

FEBRUARY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Board of Trustees – Received updates on status of talks with outside groups asking to use our facilities on a rental basis. Discussed need to replace two AC units in the education building and the need to review the Campus Service / Maintenance Manual. Identified a need for a comprehensive campus security/emergency situation plan.

Finance Committee – For lack of a quorum, the committee met informally to receive a brief orientation and review current financial situation. No other action taken.

Nominations and Leadership Development

Committee – Members of the team are working with Pastor Jeff to provide orientation for all of the church's working groups to better understand the roles and responsibilities of each area and member.

North Dallas Shared Ministries

March Need: Pancake Mix and Syrup



Please leave your donations of Pancake Mix and Syrup under the North Dallas Shared Ministries sign in our atrium or, if you prefer not to shop, checks can be made out to CCUMC, noted for NDSM or donations can be made online.

Thank you for helping those less fortunate.

Cochran Kitchen Update

In January, Cochran Kitchen:

- Served 55 guests 145 plates of food
- Distributed 40 Bags of Grace (non-perishable food items) to guests
- Provided showers for 9 guests
- Gave 26 guests bus passes
- Offered dozens of bags of hygiene products and items of clothing.

Former guest Eddie provided dining music, two Sudie Williams students helped serve meals, and almost one dozen CCUMC volunteers helped host.

VOUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Cochran Kitchen – volunteers needed to set up, serve guests, chat with guests and clean up. **The next dinner is March 28.**

3:00 to 4:00 PM – “dress” tables, place condiments

4:00 to 5:00 PM – set up stations (shower, clothing, drinks, greeting); wash fruit, wrap flatware with napkins, welcome guests

5:00 to 5:30 PM – Greet, talk with and listen to guests

5:30 to 7:00 PM (or until food runs out) – serve meals, listen to/talk with guests

6:30 PM until Meaders has been cleaned

For more information, please contact the church office at 214-352-4889 or email office@cochranchapel.org

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY



What is PTSL School for the Laity?

Perkins Theological School for the Laity (PTSL) is a three-day event of one-day and half-day courses for anyone wanting to enhance their understanding of God, the Bible, and spirituality. These courses are taught primarily by Perkins School of Theology faculty.

What should I expect at PTSL?

Participants should expect compact, but intellectually rich, sessions centered on carefully selected topics intended to provide attendees with a deeper concentration than that experienced during a sermon or Sunday morning class. No formal knowledge is needed, just a willingness to learn and an open mind.

Where is PTSL held?

All courses take place in Prothro Hall, Perkins School of Theology, on the campus of Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

What courses will be offered?

Thursday, March 22, 2018 1:30-4:30 PM

- "Bible Study from Scratch" - Jack Levison
- "Agreements Between Science and Religion: Evolution and Creationism" - Theo Walker

Friday, March 23, 2018 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM

- "Evangelism for the Non-Evangelist" - Mark Teasdale
- "Land Matters: Geography and the Bible" - Jaime Clark-Soles

Saturday, March 24, 2018 9:30 AM – 4:15 PM

- "Will the Real God of the Universe Please Stand Up?: The Book of Job" - John Holbert
- "Parables: Not the Stories You Think They Are" - Wes Allen

OR 1:15-4:15 PM

- "The Bible and Yoga" - Susanne Scholz

How does one register?

Register online: https://www.smu.edu/Perkins/PublicPrograms/LaySchools/Dallas/PTSL_2018

How much will it cost?

Full-day courses are \$75 before March 15, 2018, \$90 at the door. Half-day courses are \$35 before March 15, 2018, \$50 at the door. First-time participants receive a \$25 discount with a full-day course registration.

Is lunch provided?

Lunch is available on Friday, March 23rd and Saturday March 24th for \$15/day. Or, a number of restaurant options are available in the area for those who would like to go off-campus instead.

For more information, contact: theoexternalprograms@smu.edu, or call 214-768-2390.

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE – MARCH

Knitwits – meets Tuesdays, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM; Brown Bag lunch 12:00 noon – all are welcome (members and non-members, knitters and non-knitters, men and women), Fellowship Hall: March 6, 13, 20, 27.

Chancel Choir rehearsals – meets every Wednesday, 7:00 PM in Choir Room. March 7, 14, 21, 28.

2nd Sunday Potluck Lunch – offered second Sunday of the month, meets in Fellowship Hall right after Worship Service, March 11.

Finance Committee – meets the third Tuesday of the month, 6:00 PM. March 20.

Board of Trustees – meets the third Tuesday of the month, 6:45 PM. March 20.

Deadline for The Cochran Chronicle: Our Life Together – March 22 is the last day information can be submitted to be included in our February newsletter. Either email office@cochranchapel.org with your information or leave a hardcopy of your text in the church office with contact information should there be questions. Thank you.

Reading Group – meets fourth Thursday of the month, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome. March 22.

Cochran Kitchen – meets on the last Wednesday of the month in Meaders Hall. Doors opens 4:00 PM. Volunteers always welcome (see Volunteer Opportunities). March 28.



March Birthdays

1 – Shirley McLean	19 – LaJuana Garrison
6 – Taylor Lowry	22 – Ilah Merriman
7 – Martha Dempsey	23 – Ben Gilliam
9 – Harmony Hall	23 – Jennifer Sutcliffe
16 – Jeri Cerwinske	

You Are Invited

To Join KnitWits!

KnitWits is a group that meets every Tuesday in Fellowship Hall.

At 12:00 noon, KnitWits and non-KnitWits gather for a brown bag lunch.

“Officially” at 1:00 PM the knitting/crocheting begin; though KnitWits come and go.

All (church/non-church members, men/women, knitters/crocheters) are invited to join us – we do lots of talking and laughing, no one has to work on projects. And we share our stash of chocolates.

Come join us!

FINAL THOUGHTS



ANGELS AMONG US



Special Thanks go to:

- The anonymous person(s) who donated \$1,250 to our Missions Team so that CCUMC could support a Project Transformation intern this summer, making a difference in the life of a college student learning the art of ministry.
- Will Smith, Chris Tuveng and Pastor Jeff for “fixing” the church elevator one Sunday morning. And to the Open Door Sunday School Class for being flexible and meeting on the first floor.
- Peggy Vickrey for organizing a “thank you” card shower for Phil and Linda Rolen. Cards were made available during the January Cochran Kitchen for guests to sign in appreciation for the hours and hours of volunteer time Linda and Phil put in.
- Pastor Jeff, David Ricketts, Jim and Martha Dempsey, Karen Watts, Bryan Long, and Peggy Vickrey for helping make the First Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner a success. Using Pastor Jeff’s mother’s delicious pancake recipe, attendees socialized and enjoyed good food. Those mentioned prepared the pancakes, sausages, and fruit, decorated Fellowship Hall, made coffee and more coffee, and cleaned up.
- Brian Powell for recording Pastor Jeff’s sermons and posting them on Facebook. Check it out.
- Rev. Dr. Mark Stamm for sharing with us that our Rev. Dr. Jeff Hall earned his Doctor of Ministry degree with honors! Congratulations Pastor Jeff!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Nursery: 9:00 AM; RM 100 for children 3 years of age and younger.

Children’s Sunday School: 9:00 AM: Class meets on 1st floor of Education Building for children ages 4 years of age and older.

Open Door: 9:00 AM in RM 201: Led by Neil Bickley. All adults are welcome.

Seekers: 9:00 AM in RM 203: Led by Pastor Jeff. Class is studying Mark’s Gospel. All adults are welcome.



FACEBOOK

Cochran Chapel UMC is on Facebook!

One easy way to spread the good news about God’s love and our welcoming church is to “friend” CCUMC on Facebook, then “share” when there is a posting.

Thanks to Brian Powell, who suggested, then implemented live streaming of Pastor Jeff’s sermons, those who “friend” CCUMC can watch Sunday sermons as they are being preached and/or can click on them at a more convenient time.

Please always share these posts so that our good news can be spread to many more.