

The Current of The River of Life

The Congregations of
First Congregational Church

&

River of Life United Methodist Church

the
**Risen
Christ**

join together in presenting
an Easter Musical Celebration

Saturday, April 6, 7:00 pm
Sunday, April 7, 10:00 am
First Congregational Church
801 Bushnell St, Beloit

A free will offering will be taken
with the proceeds being shared by the music ministries
of First Congregational Church
and
River of Life United Methodist Church

Easter Cantata see page 4

March 24, 2019

<http://www.rolumcwi.com>

Vol. 16 Issue 3



United Methodist Church in Beloit and Clinton

Loving People Into Taking Their Next Step with Jesus

BELOIT CAMPUS

2345 Prairie Avenue
Beloit, WI
608.362.8866

OFFICE

2375 Prairie Avenue
Beloit, WI
608.362.8866
Fax 608.362.0554

CLINTON CAMPUS

402 Church Street
Clinton, WI
608.676.4646

LAY LEADERSHIP 2019

Chairperson Shellie Olson
Lay Leaders
 Ken Byerley, Tracy Maxwell, Shellie Olson
Ad Council Chairperson
 Shellie Olson
Annual Conference Lay Members
 Bob Scheets Carol Scheets
Board of Trustees Chairperson
 John Butchart
Building Committee Chairperson
 Brian Maxwell
Decorating Committee Chairperson
 Tracy Maxwell
Finance Chairperson

Homeless & Human Trafficking Chairperson
 Beverly Osborne
Hospitality Chairperson
 Diane Gemignani
Memorials and Wills Chairperson
 Marietta Axmear
Missions & Outreach Co-Chairpersons
 Diane Gemignani & Ellen Butchart
Nominations Chairperson
 Pastor Dave Carlson
Nurture and Discipleship Chairperson
 Karen Parssinen
Staff Pastor Parish Relations Chairpersons
 Julie Hartje & Ann Williams
Stewardship Team Chairperson
 Tom Alverson
Tech Team Chairperson
 Aaron Weber
United Methodist Women Chairperson
 Marlene Erickson

CLERGY STAFF

David Carlson, Pastor 608.362.8866
 dcarlson@rolumcwi.com
 Retired Pastor Keith Putney 515-315-9502
 Missionary in Kitwe, Zambia Paul Webster
 pwebster@wisconsinumc.org

CHURCH OFFICE

608.362.8866

Christina Bergh Office Manager
 cbergh@rolumcwi.com
 Tom Alverson Worship Leader
 talverson@rolumcwi.com
 Bonnie Moore Receptionist
 bmoore@rolumcwi.com

MUSIC STAFF

Lois Ulvin Director of Music
 Judith Paddock Organist
 JoAnn Medernach Organist
 Marge Johnson Pianist

We Gather Together...

Sunday

9:30 am Worship (Beloit)
 10:00 am Worship (Clinton)

Wednesday

1:30 pm Adult Bible Study (Clinton)
 5:30 pm WATR (Dinner & Classes)

Saturday

5:30 pm Service

Our condolences to the Family and Friends of...

*Marian Olsen,
Doris Nelson*

**Watch Us Online
Every Sunday!!**

www.rolumcwi.com
Wander on our web.....



**Welcome
Everyone!**

**Fellowship
Food
Fun
Friends**

Thursday, March 28
11:00 am
Sophia's
3201 S. Riverside Drive



Come join our fellowship



Enjoy our Friendship!

People we have prayed for....

Chrissy Bergh's Mom, Gwen,
Peggy Lund,
Kathy Smith's Aunt Janice & twin sister Janet,
Jeanette & Leon Waite,
The Leaders of the General Conference

The Risen Christ

This year's Easter Cantata will be presented on Saturday, April 6th at 7:00 pm and on Sunday, April 7th at 10:00 am at 1st Congregational Church, 801 Bushnell in Beloit.

The Risen Christ shares the events of Christ's life during His ministry years and the last few weeks of His time on earth. This work has four narrators: The Reverend Joy Baumgartner, Richard Wanninger, Bruce Cawkins, and Dan Kreisman. Delivering their lines in the format of a "reader's theater," they tell the story through the eyes of Mary, Jesus, Peter and John. The choir is incorporated throughout the entire cantata.

The Risen Christ features the songs of Keith and Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend and is arranged and orchestrated by Dave Williamson. The choir last performed this work in 2012.

THE CHANCEL CHOIR HAS A NEW LOOK!



We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to the anonymous donor who made a most generous gift of purchasing new robes for the choir. You will see them first at our Easter Cantata on April 6/7.

Pictured here are Carol Aillen and Diane Gemignani who helped pack up our old robes. Midwest Missions picked them up Monday. We hope the robes live on in others who share our love of music.

The Chancel Choir

HAPPY Birthday

April 3

Bob Parssinen

April 5

Carol Allen

Tom Alverson

April 6

Carol Scheets

April 7

Kim Kuska

Paige Parish

Pam Parish

April 8

Dan Cornford

April 9

Frankie Ward

April 10

Ashley Cornford

Helen Mason

Sarah Parsons

April 11

Sarah Buckler

April 12

Sheryl Horvath

Avery Polzin

April 14

Betty Jo Bussie

JoAnne Edge

April 15

Donna Hammett

April 16

Alexis Garetson

Ray Hartje

April 19

John Butchart

David Clark

Marvin Miller

April 21

Eva Andrews

Sandy Hays

Barbara Kuska

Julia Schwartz

Katherine Sibert

April 23

Joan Michels

Monica Schwartz

Krysta Smith

April 24

Kelly Clark

April 25

Judith Paddock

Phil Story

April 26

Hannah Buckler

April 30

Joanne Johnson



April 11

Dale & Diane Gemignani

April 20

Steve & Karen Knutsen



Easter Sunday, April 21

6:30 am

Sunrise Service & Brunch

at Clinton

Marian Olsen recently passed away, and her Service will be held at Daley, Murphy & Wisch on Thursday, April 4th.

JUST A REMINDER.....

If you are admitted through the emergency room, please have a friend or family member notify us. The hospital does not pass that information along.

If you are admitted to the hospital and would like to be called on by the pastor or a member of the clergy team, please be sure to tell them you are from The River of Life United Methodist Church. They will not call us, nor release that information unless you request it.

UMC CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRESS

March 2019

Photos provided by Lee Kuska



New kitchen cabinets



**New flow-through
dish washer**



Completed coat closet



**Sanctuary with new windows,
stone wall, carpet and
lighted cross**



Sanctuary with new siding



New side door to Sanctuary



New railing and carpet in balcony



Order Spring Flowers to help decorate our churches for Easter. See bulletin for your order form.

Mission News and Ministry Opportunities

*Please drop off your
pop tops
which benefits
Ronald McDonald's*

LOOSE



COINS

*We collected \$267.10 in loose coins
last month for
Bags of Hope and Blankets of Warmth
Thanks so much!
March coins will go to
Meals On Wheels*



TOP NEEDS ARE:

Feminine Hygiene Items
Baby Wipes
Shampoo
Cereal (unsweetened)

Please donate
Children's
Picture Books for



Caritas Little Free Library





**Adult Mission Trip to
Midwest Mission Distribution Center
Chatham, Illinois
Sept. 4 – 6, 2019
(Wed. – Fri. after Labor Day)**

Please join our team volunteering at the Midwest Mission Distribution Center! You can choose to stay on-site at the dormitory or stay 5 miles away at the Baymont Inn in Springfield, IL. We will leave Beloit the morning of Wed., Sept. 4, and carpool to Springfield, IL. We will work on Thurs. and Fri., and return to Beloit on Friday evening, Sept. 6.

If you stay in the dormitory, the cost of the trip is \$140 plus the cost of one lunch and 3 dinners at area restaurants. If you choose to stay at the motel, the cost of the trip is \$95 plus the cost your room at the Baymont Inn. The Baymont has a block of rooms under the name of "River of Life" for approximately \$70 per room per night. You are welcome to arrange to share a room with another person on the trip.

Please do NOT let the cost of the trip keep you from signing up! There is money available in a fund specifically to help people with the cost of participating in the adult mission trip. Please let Diane Gemignani know if you are interested in the assistance.

Payment Schedule is:

\$20 deposit* due when you sign up

\$50 payment* due Sun., May 5

balance* due Sun. Aug. 11

If you have any questions, contact Diane Gemignani (608-290-5274 or dianenegem23@gmail.com). If you would like to sign up for the trip, fill out the slip below, include the non-refundable \$20 deposit, and mail it to Diane Gemignani, 1005 Milwaukee Rd., Beloit, WI 53511. **The deadline to sign up is July 10, 2019.**

I am interested in joining the Adult Mission Trip to Midwest Mission Distribution Center on Sept. 4 – 6, 2019. (I understand the \$20 deposit is non-refundable, but it is transferable if someone else can take my place.)

Name

email

address

Home phone

Cell phone

* Please make checks out to ROL-UMC with "Adult Mission Trip" in the memo.



UMW 'WOMEN IN MISSION'

One of the most important missions, we as a church are involved in is **KNOWLEDGE FLOWS TUTORING PROGRAM**. God has blessed us and gifted so many in our church who care deeply about children and giving them a head start. Knowledge is so important and helping children, in their early years, to get the basics, is all important in their life journey. Learning never stops.

The program started in January of 2014 and we pray it continues well into the future. We started with McLenegan Elementary School fourth and fifth grade students, under the direction of Bryanne Tudor and Karen Parssinen. Sessions were held after school, Mondays and Wednesdays, from 4:00-5:30 in our Fellowship Hall. Karen walked the students over to our church, a very important and safe way for the students to come to the program. At the time she worked as a Reading Interventionist at McLenegan. There were as many as 20 students who began the tutoring/mentoring session.

As with all youngsters, hunger sets in after school so of course our thoughtful leaders brought snacks for them. We all are now aware that nutrition plays such an important role in our ability to learn. So if you have it in your heart to provide money or snacks for this program it would be greatly appreciated. The students chat for a while then move into individualized work in areas of reading, writing and math, which includes practice with multiplication facts. The final fifteen minutes concludes with math games such as Monopoly, SkipBo, Cennet4, Tan grams and GeoBoards. The games are probably something most of us older folks know nothing about unless you have learned of them through your grandchildren.

When Bryanne moved from the area, and McLengan closed. The program continued with Aldrich Intermediate School, involving students in fourth through sixth grades (with one or two seventh or eighth graders attending as well). It was at this time that tutoring was held only on Wednesdays (because Karen was working in Rockford) and they added geography to the curriculum, with the goal of memorizing all fifty states and their location on the map. Also Lois Ulvin became involved, instructing the students in music, during the last portion of the afternoon. She incorporated games, instruments and numerous styles of music and songs. Youth Director, Josh Rebelak, later, took over, intermingling music with team games.

Currently, there are thirteen students who are in regular attendance. At least half of them stay for WATR meal, followed by a short church service, and Youth Group. Who knows? It just may be that some of these young people will become members of our church. Jesus was a teacher, and has gifted all those tutoring to be His disciples by helping God's young children. All of us thank them for that.

The **KNOWLEDGE FLOWS TUTORING PROGRAM** could not be the success that it is, without amazing tutors and our Aldrich liaison, Carolyn Lynch. Although there have been more than twenty-five tutors who have worked with the program in the past (consisting of ROL members, high school and college students, and friends of ROL members), those with us this year are Marg Johnson, Joanne Johnson, Diane Gemignani, Tracy Maxwell, Claire Parsons, Becky Grace, Mike Grace, Wes Brill, Carol Connors, Steve Austin, Brian Lutzow and Aubrey Maxwell. These tutors, both past and present, not only work with the students in academic areas, they also talk to them about things that are happening in their lives, they give, advice, they take the time to listen, they teach life skills such as working together as a team and getting along. They write Christmas cards and letters to vets. They will also bring in their own materials to provide additional learning about the world, they tell stories about their childhood, play cards, bring in and serve snacks and go out of their way to talk to students when they see them outside the church. **They are more than tutors. They are mentors; they are friends.** God has blessed them, the students and our church.

UMW SPRING, 2019 RUMMAGE SALE AND BAKED GOODS FUNDRAISER

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!! Please bring in any rummage sale items and/or baked goods you have for our Spring Sale. Many volunteers are needed for one of UMW's biggest fundraisers of the year for missions locally, nationally and globally. Sign up with **ROBIN AUSTIN** to work. **SHE WILL BE IN FELLOWSHIP HALL AFTER CHURCH on SUNDAYS.**

APRIL 3 - Wednesday

Volunteers are needed at 7:00 p.m. to set up tables and accept, sort and arrange rummage sale items brought into fellowship hall. We pray the Trustees and/or other men of the church will bring and set up tables brought from Clinton as they have in the past.

APRIL 4 - Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 Rummage sale items may be brought into fellowship hall. Many volunteers are needed to assist with carrying items in, sort, price and arrange tables. There have never been too many volunteers to help in this short window of time before the doors open for business.

12:00 - 5:00 Doors open for business. Volunteers are needed to work the floor, help customers carry out items if needed, answer questions and straighten up the tables. We need 3 volunteers at all times, however, you may work fewer hours than the five hours we are open for business. We will also need 2 volunteers to cashier and 2 volunteers to bag and help customers to carry items out when possible.

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 bake sale items may be brought in. **From 12:00 - 5:00** we will need volunteers to sell the baked goods. Thursday. We will also need a volunteer from 9:00 a.m. Friday until we are sold out. Volunteers may work fewer hours as long as we have coverage for the entire time that we have baked goods.

APRIL 5 - Friday

Doors open at 9:00 a.m. for business. Regular sales from 9:00 a.m. -12:00 and bag sales at \$3/bag from 12:00 - 4:00. We need 3 volunteers at all times working the floor, help customers when needed, answer questions and straighten up the tables. You may work fewer hours than the 3 hours in the a.m. or the 4 hours in the p.m. We also need 2 volunteers to cashier and 2 to bag and help customers to carry out when possible.

Volunteers are needed to pack up what is left after 4:00 (or earlier for lack of customers) for delivery to Goodwill; books will go to the Beloit Public Library on Saturday.

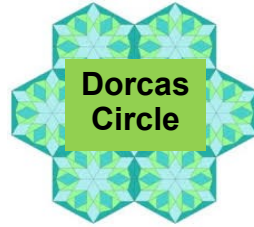
APRIL 6- Saturday

We pray our Youth will again help us as well as adults to load left overs for delivery to Goodwill and the library. Volunteers with trailers or pickups are needed for delivery.

**PLEASE LET ROBIN AUSTIN KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP
OR HAVE TRAILERS OR PICKUPS FOR DELIVERY.**

**MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY AGREED TO WORK AND
TO THOSE WHO HAVE YET TO SIGN UP.**

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU - FROM MEMBERS OF UMW!!!!



Wednesday, April 17th at 1:00 pm

Tuesday, April 2nd, 9:30 am


Wednesday, April 17th at 9:30 am
Fellowship Hall
(see article below)

The Canine Comfort Dog Mission is sponsored by St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Janesville, The Canine Comfort dog interacts with people from churches, schools, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, hospitals and disaster response situations.

The comfort dog, Mary, brings a calming influence and allows people to open up their hearts and receive help for what is affecting them. Meet Mary, the Comfort Dog, and her Handler, Cheryl Skelly, who will talk about training and mission.

You are all invited to join Martha Circle Wednesday, April 17th at 9:30 am in Fellowship Hall.

-Sandra Long



Longer days
Bluer skies
Flowers bloom
Spring arrives!



UMW S.E. DISTRICT SPRING ENRICHMENT EVENT

Saturday April 13, 21019

West Allis First UMC, 7520 W. Lapham St., West Allis

WORSHIP LEARNING FELLOWSHIP

Deadline for Registration: April 5th

Registration & Fellowship: 9:30 a.m.

Lunch: included in Registration Fee of \$20.00. Scholarships available.

A.M. Topic: Local Islam From a Feminine Perspective by: Bushra Zaibak from the Brookfield Mosque. Bushra was born and raised in Chicago. She is of Palestinian decent and was raised Muslim. She and her husband opened an independent pharmacy in Milwaukee in 2011. By 2019 they have expanded to fifteen pharmacies within Milwaukee and the surrounding areas. Bushra served on the council of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee in Brookfield as the outreach chair for four years. She currently lives in Brookfield with her husband and three children.

P.M. Topic: Compassion by Dr. Julie Bryson. Julie is a native Wisconsinite, who returned to her hometown of Milwaukee after time lived in Ohio and N.Y. during her graduate training. She has served as a certified lay speaker in the United Methodist Church for the past 20 years and recently earned her certification as a Lay Servant. She has led retreats for a number of churches in Wi. "Clothe yourselves with compassion..." Col 3:12b. It seems we are not always good at being compassionate with ourselves. Through presentation, reflection and discussion, this session will invite, through eyes of faith consideration of ways to be kinder to ourselves and how self-compassion affects our ability to tend well to others.

Conclusion at: 2:30 p.m.

Contact Marlene Erickson at 362-0830

or merickson1@charter.net

for an application form and scholarship assistance as well.

Thanks....for your patience in the recent transition in the Office. If you have any issues with your contribution statement, or general questions, please send me an e-mail: cbergh@rolumcwi.com

-Chrissy Bergh, Office Manager



Easter Week Schedule

RIVER OF LIFE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2345 PRAIRIE AVENUE

BELOIT

402 CHURCH STREET

CLINTON

Palm Sunday, April 14

9:30 am Beloit Service

10:00 am Clinton Service

Maundy Thursday, April 18

7:00 pm Communion Service Beloit

Good Friday, April 19

Noon Beloit hosting Ecumenical Service

Noon Clinton Ecumenical Service

First Presbyterian Church

312 Church Street

7:00 pm Clinton Ecumenical Tenebrae Service,
Jefferson Prairie
23184 Bergen Road
Poplar Grove

Easter Sunday, April 21

6:30 am Sunrise Service & Brunch Clinton

9:30 am Easter Service Beloit

10:00 am Easter Service Clinton

HE IS RISEN

Forgiven

For God so Loved the World

LAMB of God

love

He is Risen indeed

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

HALLELUJAH

Eternal Life

Redeemer

my savior



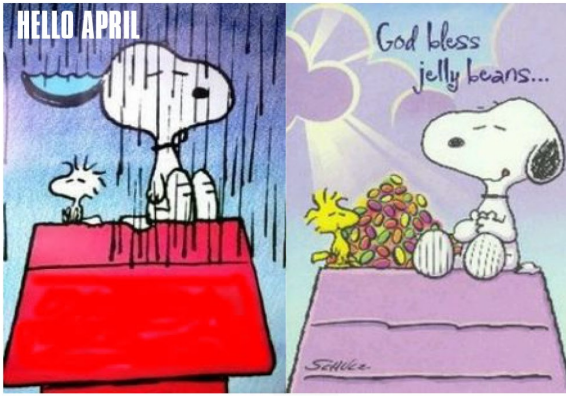
KNITTING WITH A MISSION GROUP

We meet the last Wednesday of the month at 1:00 pm
in the Office Workroom. We welcome all knitters,
no matter what skill level, and anyone wishing to learn.

Hope to see you!!



Please call
Sandy Ovist
with questions,
608-362-6583



Color Me



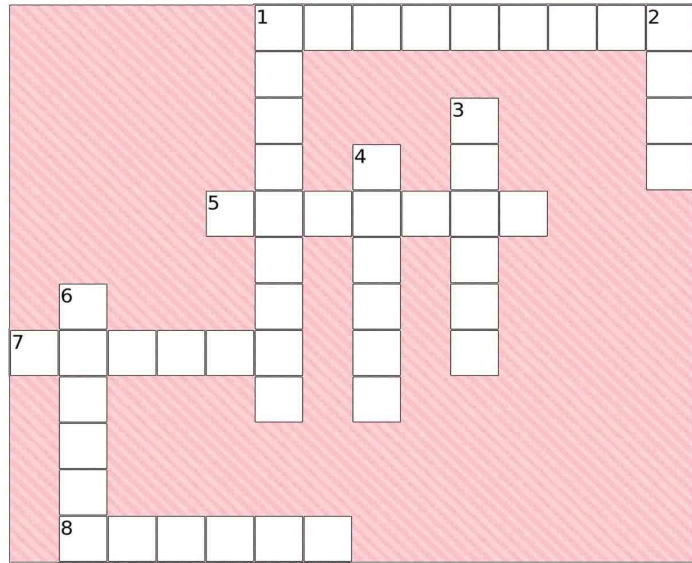
Fill in the Vowels

B _ N N _ _ S _ R _ B R _ W N
 B _ N N _ _ S _ R _ W H _ T _
 B _ N N _ _ S _ R _ _ L W _ Y S
 _ N _ _ S T _ R D _ L _ G H T

Free printable courtesy of wasootch.com
 Note: For personal use only

<http://partysimplicity.com/2013/02/free-easter-printables-kids-coloring-pages-and-more/>

Easter Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 WHAT PEOPLE DO ON EASTER
- 5 RHYMES WITH SHOPPING
- 7 A WOVEN CONTAINER TO HOLD OR CARRY THINGS
- 8 A LONG EARED ANIMAL THAT HOPS

DOWN

- 1 A FAVORITE EASTER TREAT
- 2 THESE ARE DECORATED FOR EASTER
- 3 EASTER IS ON THIS DAY OF THE WEEK
- 4 ONE OF THE FOUR SEASONS OF THE YEAR
- 6 A HOLIDAY IN THE SPRING

Easter Word Search Puzzle

R S J O M M O F V H V F F W Q
 S M G W X I L Y A R W H E T L
 C P N G P D S C C I O L Y Y Z
 B B I B E T A T I L T N C L S
 X D R L M R I F I S N H D I H
 X G P Q U B W D F U Z E Z M U
 F L S R B T A C B O B Z R A N
 L U D A U Y O K A K D E C F T
 O P R C C H I C K S T I R X N
 W V T E K S A B G S R W L W T
 E U G J Z V E T A L O C O H C
 R C A N D Y B E L S B S K S M
 S Z Z G U J U S Q K I T D I K
 E I Y S U N D A Y L Z G G L E
 N O I T A R B E L E C E M R B

BASKET BUNNY CANDY CELEBRATION CHICKS CHOCOLATE
 DAFFODIL EASTER EGGS FAITH FAMILY FLOWERS
 HOLIDAY HUNT RABBIT SPRING SUNDAY TULIPS

WEEKLY EVENTS & MEETINGS

Monday

1:00 pm Card Club ((FH))

Tuesday

10:00 am Men's Coffee Hour @ Milwaukee Road McDonald's
1:00 pm 500 Card Club (Sr High Room)

Wednesday

1:30 pm Adult Bible Study (Clinton)
5:30 pm WATR (Dinner & Classes)
4:00 pm Tutoring (FH)
5:30 pm WATR Dinner & Classes

Thursday

4:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday

5:30 pm Service (FH)

OUTSIDE GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous
Thursday 7:00 pm (Room 1)

April

2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

Newsletter deadline

April 15th

The next issue of the Current will be available April 28th

SPECIAL SUNDAY OFFERING COMING SOON

March 31
UMCOR



Pick up your KRINGLES on March 31st

UMW Rummage/Bake Sale info on PAGE 13

Easter Week Schedule info on PAGE 14

- March 25 6:00 Trustees (Office Workroom)
- March 26 1:00 pm Memorial Committee (O)
4:00 pm Hospitality (FH)
6:30 pm Ad Council (FH)
- March 27 1:00 pm Knitting With A Mission (Office Workroom)
- March 28 11:00 am Lunch Bunch @ Sophia's, 3201 S. Riverside Dr.
- April 2 9:30 am Dorcas Circle
6:00 pm Nurture & Discipleship (H. Sch. Rm)
- April 3 NO Tutoring/NO WATR activities
UMW will begin setting up for Rummage/Bake Sale
- April 4 Noon to 5 pm Rummage Sale
- April 5 9 am to 4 pm Rummage Sale
- April 6 7:00 pm Easter Cantata @ 1st Congregational, 801 Bushnell St.
- April 7 10:00 am Easter Cantata @ 1st Con. (no 9:30 am Beloit Worship)
7:00 pm Confirmation Class (O)
- April 8 6:00 pm Building Committee (FH)

30-Hour Famine is April 27th/27th



Follow us on Facebook