

Things to Ponder: Easter

By Grant Williams

Springtime brings the warmth of sunshine and a variety of beautiful flowers. Fruit trees blossom and the air is filled with wonderful fragrances emerging from God’s glorious creation. It is the time of year when many children anticipate hunting for Easter eggs and stuffing themselves with yummy chocolate bunnies. It is also the time of year when Christians celebrate the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God’s one and only Son.

Jesus was brutally beaten, tortured, ridiculed, laughed at, spit upon, and crucified on a Roman cross. The place of Christ’s crucifixion was outside the city of Jerusalem on a hill named Golgotha. He willingly died on that wooden cross for the sins of the whole world. Many think He was foolishly martyred dying against His own will. But Christians believe He gladly gave His life to save those who put their faith in Him. While Christ was on

the cross the blood from many lambs was flowing freely from the temple mount during the Jewish celebration of Passover. Little did they understand the true Lamb of God was hanging on a cross, right outside the city limits, paying the penalty for all of humanities transgressions. From noon until three the sky was dark while Christ suffered all alone, forsaken even by His Father because He could not look on Jesus as he bore the sins of humanity. While hanging on the cross, Jesus asked His Father to forgive all those included in the plot to kill him by their horrendous actions.

Among those present that day was a man who came to understand the gravity of this crucifixion. Luke 23:47 records these words, “The centurion, seeing what happened, praised God and said, “Surely this was a righteous man.” He probably never heard Jesus preach or saw Him perform a miracle but he witnessed the grace of a man dying who was at peace with every one watching.

Jesus willingly gave up His life because it was God’s plan from the beginning to redeem all who would come to Him by faith through the power of Jesus’ precious blood. Everyone must come to their own conclusion regarding this man, Jesus. Is Jesus a liar, a lunatic, or the Savior of the world? On Easter Sunday, April 20th, believers from local churches will gather to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, our Risen Savior. Everyone is invited to join in the worship and celebration of the risen Lord Jesus at 7:00 AM at the Memorial Cemetery on Bridge St.

The Open Door services will be changed beginning Sunday, May 4th. We will be holding our service on Sundays at 6:00 p.m. On the first Sunday of each month we will gather for a potluck at 4:00 p.m. at the Grange. Please join us and bring your favorite dish to share. If you have any questions Pastor Grant can be reached at (503) 702-3553. God bless!

Sierra Service Project Returns to Vernonia

During a recent Weekend of Service in early April, Sierra Service Project (SSP) brought a group of twenty youth and six adults to continue their partnership with Vernonia. The group was a mix of Junior and Senior High youth from three different United Methodist Churches from Washington, Oregon, and California. The group was split into four work teams, which together completed four projects in a day and a half.

SSP served two local homeowners. Volunteers installed a sub-floor and new linoleum tiles in one home and provided a fresh coat of paint in another. At the Vernonia Museum, general beautification work was completed including weeding and planting in garden boxes and plots. Finally, the group installed mesh wiring around blackberry bushes planted by SSP volunteers last year, and removed dead trees and planted new ones at the Vernonia Schools Garden.

In Memory of... *continued from page 20*

as her own children. Maxine was a woman of a deep mature faith which she joyfully demonstrated in her love for everyone. Her family is deeply proud of her compassionate, caring spirit.

Maxine was a member of Pioneer Baptist Fellowship of Vernonia, Oregon. The family is planning a private graveside service, with a public Celebration of Life later this summer with a time and location yet to be determined. Notification will be provided prior to that event.

If anyone wishes to send remembrances, please send them in her name, to your preferred cancer research organization.

Bridge Street Bits

A VERY INFORMATIVE meeting for seniors was held at our Center April 7 on Stress and Your Body, which highlighted the mind-body connection and also the connection to what we eat. Thank you to Pacific University.

SOME OF YOU were in attendance of the Ground Breaking of the Vernonia Health Center recently. This is good news as progress is being made on their new future home here in town. We are also making progress as well on the new Vernonia Senior Center. Your input is always welcomed. Please join us on the second Friday of the month.

DON'T FORGET to join us for Bingo Night here at the Center on the second and fourth Saturday of the month.

MAPLE BARS for only \$1 are available here at the Center every morning. Sheila's great

lunches served Monday through Fridays. 60 and over on a donation basis, under 60 \$4, meals that are taken out, \$5.

COME IN AND ENJOY TOMMY'S TUNES here on Wednesdays... requests taken. The Golden Oldies Band still plays here on occasion.

COME IN and scope out the new look here in our thrift store. Thanks to Lila.

QUESTIONS ABOUT MEDICARE AND MEDICARE Rx? Contact the Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance Program. www.oregonshiba.org 1 (800)722-4134

FOR A BROCHURE on Tips for Consumers about Oregon's Assisted Living and Residential Care Facilities call 1-800-522-2602 Office of

the Long-Term Care Ombudsman

CONTACT Karen Miller/Community Action Team for information on Senior Services. Office phone is 503-366-6581.

SENIOR SIGN OFF: Many people suffer with ill health, not because of what they eat, but what is eating them.

LUNCH MENU:
4/18 Clam Chowder & Biscuits
4/21 Pork Stew
4/22 Chili Baked Potato
4/23 Roasted Herb Chicken
4/24 Fish Sandwich
4/25 Hamburger Stroganoff
4/28 Chicken Fried Steak
4/29 Bean & Bacon Soup w/ Biscuits
4/30 Meatloaf

Vernonia Senior Center • 446 Bridge Street • 503-429-3912

Church Directory (in alphabetical order)

Assembly of God
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Morning Worship: 11:00 AM
Sunday Evening Prayer: 6:00 PM
Wayne Marr, Pastor
662 Jefferson Avenue
503-429-0373
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Sunday Schedule:
Sacrament Meeting: 10:00 AM
Sunday School & Primary: 11:20 AM
Relief Society, Priesthood and Young Women: 12:10 PM
Marc Farmer, Branch President
1350 E. Knott Street
503-429-7151
Covenant Church Vernonia
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Worship Service: 11:00 AM
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 7:00 PM

John D, Murray, Pastor
359 "A" Street
503-860-3860
Grace Family Fellowship
Sunday School: 9:00 AM
Worship Service: 10:30 AM
Thursday Prayer: 6:00 PM
Greg "Mac" McCallum, Pastor
957 State Avenue
503-429-6790
Nehalem Valley Bible Church
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Worship Service: 10:45 AM
Wed. Ladies Bible Study: 10:00 AM
Wednesday Service: 7:00 PM
Sat. Men's Prayer Meeting: 6:30 AM
Gary Taylor, Pastor
Grant & North Streets
503-429-5378

Open Door Gathering Place
Service: Wednesday 7:00 PM
Grant Williams, Pastor
375 North Street
Pioneer Baptist Fellowship
Sunday School: 9:30 AM
Worship Service: 11:00 AM
www.pbfalive.com
John Cahill, Pastor
939 Bridge Street
503-429-1161
St. Mary's Catholic Church
Wednesday Religious Education: 3:15-4:30 PM
Sunday Mass: 12:00 PM
Rev. Luan Tran, Administrator
960 Missouri Avenue
503-429-8841
Vernonia Christian Church
Sunday School: 9:45 AM
Worship Service in Youth &

Family Center: 11:00 AM
www.VernoniaChristianChurch.org
Sam Hough, Pastor
410 North Street
503-429-6522
Vernonia Foursquare Church
Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 AM
Children's Sunday School
Carl Pense, Pastor
850 Madison Avenue
503-429-1103
Vernonia Seventh-day Adventist Church
Sabbath (Saturday) Services
Sabbath School: 9:30 AM
Worship Service: 11:00 AM
www.VernoniaSDAC.org
Larry Gibson, Pastor
2nd Ave. and Nehalem St.
503-429-8301