

Backyard bird watching with Harry:

by Harry Johnson

Presidential bird watchers
Now that we're in the mist of a presidential race, I thought I would talk about past presidents who like to bird watch. I didn't know bird watching was a love of several presidents. Perhaps the most well known birder-in-chief was Theodore Roosevelt. As a young boy, Teddy wanted to be a naturalist more than anything else, developing a strong interest in birds and other wildlife. Throughout his life, he authored numerous articles and books about his travels and experiences in wild places. His account of watching a flock of wild passenger pigeons in Virginia in 1907 is often cited as the last recorded sighting of the now extinct species.

During his presidency, Teddy would sometimes stand conspicuously on the White House lawn, peering up into the trees, bird watching. He himself once remarked that passersby no doubt thought him insane. Roosevelt kept a list of the birds he saw and heard around the White House yard. It was an impressive 93 species, including many of the birds one might expect to find there today, such as gray catbird, song sparrow, white-breasted nuthatch, tufted titmouse, eastern bluebirds and over 20 species of warblers. Another bird watching president was Franklin D. Roosevelt, who shared his distant cousin Teddy's love for the outdoors and birds in particular. FDR spent his childhood exploring

the woodlands around his family home in Hyde Park, New York. The birds in FDR's backyard included the black-capped chickadee, magnolia warbler, redheaded woodpecker and pine grosbeak. His interest in birds continued into adulthood, even polio paralysis and his increasingly demanding political career didn't prevent him from spending time in natural areas. Some presidential bird watchers not named Roosevelt include Thomas Jefferson, who produced for Virginia what may have been the first published state checklist of birds. The list appears in his book, "Notes on the State of Virginia." Jefferson was particularly fond of northern mockingbirds and kept a few as pets, as did Grover

Cleveland and Calvin Coolidge. Jimmy Carter, along with his wife Rosalynn, discovered the joy of birding shortly after leaving the White House. Since then the Carters have watched birds in many regions throughout the United States and the world. They have volunteered with breeding bird survey in their home state of Georgia. Jimmy Carter once wrote about bird watching in the Rio Grande Valley for the "Bird Watchers Digest" magazine. Other (non-president) famous bird watchers: -Prince Philip; noted for his bird photographic work and his book, "Birds from Britannia." -Sir Paul McCartney wrote his

song, "Blackbird" when listening to skylarks as a child. -Laura Bush -Daryl Hannah -Mick Jagger -Fidel Castro -Agatha Christie -Albert Einstein I hope you enjoyed this article about our presidents and their love of bird watching. If you want to email me, you can reach me at birdwatching@frontiernet.net. *The above is brought to you by Harry Johnson in O'Brien and many sources on the internet.* **Harry Johnson O'Brien**



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Church News

Community Bible Church

Anastasias
John 12:3-5, 7 (NKJV) 3 Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil. 4 Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, 5 "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" 7 But Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial."
The last week or so of Jesus' earthly life must have been a confusing time for His followers. Jesus' statement to His disciples that the oil Mary anointed Him with was "for the day of My burial" must have caused them to wonder: What burial? Then the next day when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the back of a foal of a donkey (*Luke 19:30*) and the crowds shouted, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel!" (*Psalms 118:26*), the comment about being buried was probably all but

forgotten. However, Jesus did some intense teaching of His disciples before His crucifixion. It's recorded in *John chapters 13-17*. One reoccurring theme through the teaching was that He was going away. How could this One who had just ridden into Jerusalem surrounded by a joyous, shouting crowd – this one who had shortly before raised Lazarus from the dead be going away? I believe at this point the disciples still believed that Jesus was about to set up the Kingdom. This is possibly the reason Peter drew his sword to fight when Jesus was arrested, but they all deserted Jesus as He was arrested. The next morning they must have watched Jesus' trial, torture and crucifixion in muted disbelief. The time between Jesus' death and that early morning visit to the tomb a couple of days later must have been like an eternity in itself. But then they heard these words from *Luke 24:5b-8*, spoken by the angels at the tomb, "Sb "Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He is not

here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, 7 saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.' " 8 And they remembered His words."
Anastasias is the Greek word for "rising up", and that's what Jesus did – He rose from the dead. Jesus' death and resurrection is the foundation of the Christian faith. Everything, yes, everything rests upon Jesus' resurrection. Everything Jesus taught, all He did, would be worth nothing if He had not risen from the dead as He said He would – for in that act He proved the defeat of death and not just for Himself, but for all those who trust Him as Savior. May you come to believe in Jesus, the Christ. He, by His own words, is the only way to God (*John 14:6*). Why don't you go to church this Sunday and celebrate Jesus' resurrection! **In Christ, Pastor Dave**

Ministry at CBC

Wednesday, March 23
No A.W.A.N.A.

Easter Sunday, March 27

6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service
Call church for details

10:30 a.m.
Special musical presentation:
"The Power of the Cross"

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Thy will be done...
The Bible lessons on Palm Sunday always leave me a little breathless. In what seems like the space of a heartbeat we go from Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem to seeing him lying dead in the tomb. Talk about a roller-coaster ride! Perhaps part of the motive is to make sure that everyone who only goes to Sunday service knows that Jesus was crucified before we see him resurrected Sunday on Easter. But it's more than that. I think part of the reason that the church puts these two events together on a single Sunday is to show us how quickly people change and to contrast that with the fact that God is unchanging: his purpose is the same yesterday as it will be tomorrow. And in spite of whatever obstacles

we humans might try to put in the way of its fulfillment, 'God's Will' will be done. The Luke version of the crucifixion that we see in today's reading seems more like a documentary and less like the blockbuster action movie we see in some of the other gospels. Unlike Mark & Matthew, Luke doesn't show us the powerful and agonizing detail of what death on the cross really means. Instead we seem to be watching a political movie about powerful and privileged people in the community who conspire with Roman officials to engineer the destruction of someone whose message, and popularity, pose a serious threat to their business-as-usual abuses. The picture it paints is far closer to watching "All the president's Men" than of the

"Passion of the Christ." It seems the whole thing is about power and manipulation; and Jesus is only a pawn. But in spite of all the maneuvering among the power players in the story, God's will is still accomplished; whether in spite of their Machiavellian strategies or because of them. We see God moving behind the scenes. This entire story is one of cosmic significance: having relinquished himself to his Father's will Jesus embraces a fate that mysteriously aligns with a divine design. But we also see reflections of our human responsibility for the death of the Savior. This blending of divine and human realities proclaims that even though Jesus' execution was the result of willful

opposition and tragic ignorance, his horrific death was necessary to God's Divine Purpose: without the sacrifice, we wouldn't have the Savior. In many ways, this story is all about whose "Will" will win, and how. It's a story that insists that, at the end, God's will is accomplished. Moreover, this will is accomplished by manipulating the powers and the structures of human society. No matter how corrupt or bent on self-preservation those forces are, God's will wins, nevertheless. The drama that we see playing out before us in today's Gospel has two sides: a political drama and a theological one. In the political drama, truth and justice are overwhelmed by the will of those

who reject Jesus, and by the will of a governor bent on exploiting Jesus for political gain. But when the story is done, neither the Roman Empire nor the temple establishments are the agents who ultimately are in control of meting out justice, at least not in Jesus' case. But in the second drama, the theological drama, God's will accomplishes itself not just in spite of, but through the course of human misunderstanding and political maneuvering. God's salvation will be accomplished even when humans oppose it. The crucifixion is the culmination of the rejection of God's Son; but it's also the route that the Messiah must take toward fulfilling his role in the salvation of the world. Jesus' rejection is messy:

the participants show us behavior that's both familiar and improbable; highlighting the fear and human misunderstanding that lie behind it. It's hard for us to understand why God chose such an ugly and unpalatable way to save the world. It somehow seems like there should have been a neater, cleaner, and easier way to deliver salvation. But anything less wouldn't have done the job. We cause suffering through sin, and we should expect that nothing less than suffering could possible pay for sin. But our blessing comes because Jesus was ready to accept that suffering in our place; that he was willing to accept death on the cross on the way to resurrection so that God's Will could, indeed, be done.

Places of Worship

BRIDGEVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH
5181 Holland Loop Rd., CJ
541-592-3923
"Come Join the Worship!"
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Sonny Moore
www.kbcc.us

7th DAY ADVENTIST
265 S. Old Stage Rd., CJ
Sabbath School - 9:30 a.m.
Saturday Worship 11 a.m.
Pastor Christian Martin
Church (541) 592-3218
Madrone Adventist School
541-592-3330

IMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
200 Watkins St., CJ
Phone 541-592-3876
Pastor Charles Chase
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 9:15 a.m.
Child-care for small children

Illinois Valley Praise Center
28569 Redwood Hwy. CJ
Non-denominational
Bible-believing Church
Sunday school - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Service - 10:30 a.m.
Thursday Seekers Meeting - 7 p.m.
Youth Group Thursday - 7 p.m.
www.ivpraisecenter.com

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
Pastor Dave Gordon
113 S. Caves Ave., CJ
Office: 541-592-3896
Email: cbccca@gmail.com
Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Christian Academy
Pre-K to 12th grade
Awana - Wednesdays - 6 p.m.

ST. PATRICK OF THE FOREST CATHOLIC CHURCH
407 W. River St., CJ
541-592-3658
Fr. William Holtzinger, Pastor
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m..
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sunday - 10:30 a.m.
Holy Days TBA

TAKILMA BIBLE CHURCH
10343 Takilma Road, Takilma
Pastor Dan Robinson
Bible Study / Prayer Time
9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m
Wednesday Bible Study
7 p.m.

First Baptist Church of Selma
18285 Redwood Hwy., Selma
541-597-4169
Pastor Monty Pope
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Worship - 11 a.m.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
East River Street & Lewis Court, CJ
Annemarie Richardson Lay Pastor.
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 10 a.m.
Church Phone: 541-592-2290
www.goodshepherdlutheraniv.net

VALLEY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
498 Laurel Road, CJ
P.O. Box 1248
Pastor Marvin Porter
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service - 11 a.m.
evfree@frontiernet.net
541-592-6160

FOUNTAIN OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
451 S. Junction Ave., CJ
541-592-3956
Pastor Mark McLean
Morning Worship
9:30 & 11 a.m.
Wednesday - 7 p.m.
Adult Bible Study

ST. MATTHIAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
25904 Redwood Hwy., CJ
541-592-2006
Rev. Bryant Bechtold
Sunday Worship
Service 10:30 a.m.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
209 S. Junction Ave., CJ
Sacrament Meet - 10 a.m.
Sunday School - 11:20 a.m.
Priesthood, Relief Soc. - 12:10 p.m.
Bishop
Larry Hammersmith
541-592-3919

Illinois Valley Baptist Church
541-592-6149
102 South Redwood Hwy (in the County Building)
Pastor Steve Root
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM
Wednesday Bible Study, Prayer & Youth Program 7:00 PM
Friday Ladies Bible Study 11:00 AM



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