



Senior Moments

with Emma Edwards

Eggs, baskets and other trivia

I'd promised to talk about the puzzle of when Easter arrives and, since Sunday is Palm Sunday, I'd better get with it.

But first, why do we call the Sunday before Easter Palm Sunday?

Be ready grandmas and grandpas; you will be asked that question.

The simplest explanation is from the Bible, Matthew 21:1-9 and Revelation 7:9.

"At the end of the Bible, people from every nation raise palm branches to honor Jesus," according to Wikipedia. "Palm Sunday commemorates the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem, when palm branches were placed in his path, before his arrest on Holy Thursday and his crucifixion on Good Friday."

When we were in a church in Red Bluff, Calif., I remember with awe that when we got to church on Palm Sunday there were no flowers. There were palm branches everywhere, along with other greenery.

We knew that on Easter Sunday the church would be bursting with blooms, flowers everywhere! Thinking about the meanings of both days, I understood!

Easter can fall anywhere between March 22 and April 25 (in 2008, Easter was on March 23 and won't be on that date again until 2160). This year, it's on April 21.

Last year, Easter was on April 1. Some of us had fun with that one as it gave us an opportunity to share that Good Friday (the death of Jesus) and Easter (the resurrection of Jesus) was no April Fool's joke and that it

really, really happened so that we could enjoy eternal life.

The official, more simple definition of Western Easter is that it takes place on the first Sunday after the first full moon on or after the vernal equinox.

I went to a children's site and gleaned some interesting facts about Easter.

It is a Christian holiday and its name is derived from a "goddess" named Eastre. She was the symbol of the rabbit and the egg.

From this site, used primarily by school teachers, I learned that many of the early Christians used to exchange red eggs to symbolize the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Facts, such as the myth of the Easter Bunny, date to an old German tale about a woman who used to decorate eggs and leave them for her children to find.

The story was based in a time when famine plagued the land; the eggs were considered a valuable and surprising gift.

As her children found the eggs, according to the legend, they saw a bunny hopping away and thought the bunny had left the eggs for them.

Easter baskets were designed to look like a bird's nest with eggs in them. From very early times, the egg has been considered a symbol of rebirth.

As we close, I simply cannot resist sharing this little riddle with you: Where does the Easter Bunny get his eggs? From eggplants, of course!

Easter: Churches, groups plan events this week

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ty Center, 170 S.W. Third St. Breakfast includes all-you-can-eat pancakes, plus sausage, eggs and beverages. Cost is \$5 for those 12 and older, \$3 for ages 6 to 11, and \$1 for those 5 and younger. All proceeds benefit Warrenton Community Center.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

• **Palm Sunday service**, 10 a.m., Pioneer Presbyterian Church, 3332 Patriot Way, Warrenton. The service will celebrate the humble, yet triumphant final entry of Jesus into Jerusalem with music by violinist and composer Kim Angelis, soprano Bereniece Jones-Centeno and pianist Jane McGeehan. The service includes Angelis' composition, "My Soul Magnifies the Lord," based on the Magnificat, which premiered at her "Music at Pioneer" concert last December.

• **Communion lunch**, 12:30 p.m., Calvary Assembly of God, 1365 S. Main Ave., Warrenton. Participants should bring a favorite side dish or dessert.

• **The clay-animation movie "Miracle Maker,"** which tells the story of Jesus, will be shown at 6 p.m. at Bethany Lutheran Church, 451 34th St., Astoria. The public is invited to begin Holy Week watching this reminder of what Jesus came to do.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

• **Simple soup supper**, followed by a traditional service of scripture, prayer and foot-washing, 5 p.m., Pioneer Presbyterian Church, 3332 Patriot Way, Warrenton. The service concludes by stripping the chapel of all decoration in anticipation of the passion and crucifixion of Jesus.

• **Maundy Thursday communion service**, 7 p.m., Bethany Lutheran Church, 451 34th St., Astoria.

• **Good Friday Service** with worship, scripture reading and communion, 7 p.m. Thursday (yes, Thursday), Coastline Christian Fellowship, 89386 Highway 202, Astoria.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

• **Good Friday service**, 7 p.m.,



Violinist Kim Angelis, left, and soprano Bereniece Jones-Centeno, below, will participate in Pioneer Presbyterian's Palm Sunday service. Special music also will be featured there on Easter Sunday.

Courtesy Pioneer Presbyterian Church

Christian Church of Warrenton, 1376 S.E. Anchor Ave.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

• **Barbecue with children's Easter egg hunt**, noon, First Baptist Church of Warrenton, 30 N.E. First St.

• **Community egg hunt** and visit with Easter Bunny, 10 a.m., Broadway Park, 1300 Broadway St., Seaside.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

• **Easter sunrise service**, 6:30 a.m., and Easter celebration with special music, 11 a.m., First Baptist Church of Warrenton, 30 N.E. First St.

• **Community sunrise service**, 7 a.m., Astoria Column.

• **Easter breakfast**, 9:15 a.m., followed by an Easter service at 10 a.m., Lighthouse Christian, 88786 Dellmoor Loop. An Easter egg hunt follows the service.

• **Easter celebration service**, 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., Christian Church of Warrenton, 1376 S.E. Anchor Ave.

• **Easter celebration** with special music by pianists Jane McGeehan and Kaisa Liljenwall, vocalists Cheryl Capellen, Terry Arnall and Wedgie Winchester,



10 a.m., Pioneer Presbyterian Church, 3332 Patriot Way.

• **Easter at the Liberty Theatre** sponsored by New Life Christian Church, 10 a.m., 1203 Commercial St., Astoria. Child care for infants through age 5.

• **Resurrection celebration** with special musical guests "The Morning Tide," 10 a.m., Coastline Christian Fellowship, 89386 Highway 202, Astoria. Baptisms will follow the service.

• **Easter services**, 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., North Coast Family Fellowship, 2245 N. Wahanna Road, Seaside.

Senior lunch menu

Monday, April 15: Parmesan chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, mixed greens, berry trifle.

Thursday, April 18: Ham, sweet potatoes, asparagus, tomato soup, cherry pie.

The Warrenton senior lunch program is at noon (doors open at 10:30 a.m.) Mondays and Thursdays at Warrenton Community Center, 170 SW Third St. Suggested donation is \$6 for ages 55 and older; \$7 for those younger. For more information, call 503-861-3502.