

Maquoketa United Church of Christ

God is still speaking

The Uniter

April 2021



a just
world
for all
ucc.org

HOLY WEEK



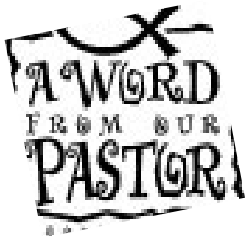
SCHEDULE

April 1: Maunday Thursday (service will be available through email)

April 2: Good Friday

April 4: Easter Sunday Service 10 am via ZOOM





Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

As we celebrate this Easter season with joy and renewal, I think of all of the many things this congregations have to look forward to. We have journeyed the long 40 days of the Lenten season, some of us using the new labyrinth in the recreation room; others have challenged themselves trying new ways of living—removing habits or starting new ones, entering into another wilderness of both our religious season and CoVid. All of us aware that Christ has gone with us.

It seems in many ways we have been preparing ourselves for “what will happen next?” This past Lent has been a devastating season and another of learning. Cameron Trimble a religious educator and devotional writer says: “The past year has been one of unveiling vulnerability – to disease, financial insecurity, racism, sexism, authoritarianism, insurrection, injustice. It also unveiled human decency, hope for a better world, a celebration of diversity, and inspiring kindness.”

Gladly, we are entering the season of Spring, where hope does “spring eternal,” and the freshness of brighter, longer days, new birth, and all kinds of anticipation. We match these days with our religious beliefs of resurrection and joyful anticipation of eternal life. Easter begins with Mary Magdalene and other disciples finding the empty tomb, and then discovering Jesus soon after, alive in and around the community. These next 50 days are a celebration of Jesus, new life after the devastation of Holy Week.

May each and every one of you be safe and find an Easter celebration this spring. If you need me, I am only a phone call away.

Peace and Blessings to you All! Pastor Maxx

SANCTUARY PROJECT UPDATE

If dust and commotion and things not where they are supposed to be are indications of progress, we are in good shape! Joel from Church Interiors has indicated that work is progressing as planned with no big issues and that their work should be finished about the third week of April. By the time you receive this Newsletter, the painting of the walls, wainscoting and gold trim around the windows will be completed. Next will be a light refinishing of the wood in the Sanctuary and refinishing the wood floor. In preparation for refinishing the floor, the pews had to be removed from the Sanctuary. Yes, you read that right! There are now some pews in the parlor, some in the back hallway and most of them in the dining room. They are everywhere, but in the Sanctuary! A crew led by Barry Francois disassembled some of the pews, removed the screws and moved all the pews as well as dusted and washed the pews. We are so grateful to all who volunteered their time and muscles and we hope they will come back when it is time to carry the pews back, reassemble them and clean them once again! We especially appreciate Barry's expertise and time every step of the way on this big project.

By the time you receive the May Newsletter, the project will be nearly finished. Each day brings progress, and increased anticipation of watching a beautiful new sanctuary emerge. And, as the project nears completion, there will be opportunities for help with cleaning and bringing final order from the chaos we see today, so stay tuned!

A NOTE FROM THE SANCTUARY PROJECT COMMITTEE

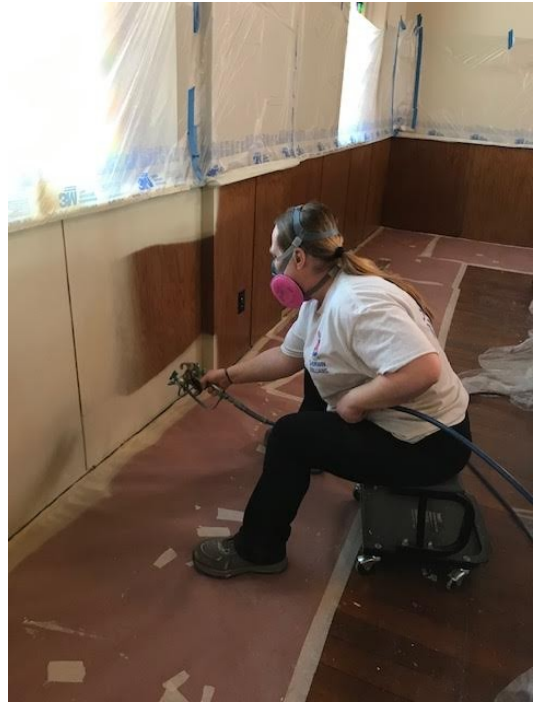
We are so grateful for the way our church family has supported this project financially. As of March 19, 2021, we have received \$59,472.15 toward our goal of \$69,888.00 leaving \$10,415.85 yet to raise cover the contract expenses with Church Interiors. If you have not yet given to our Sanctuary Project, please consider making a contribution, to help put us over the top. Despite all of the activity of the Sanctuary Project, as well as the restrictions of COVID-19, The activities of our church go on. The Labyrinth is available to walk until after Easter. Al-Anon, AA and Karate continue their weekly meetings. Items for the next Treasure Sale are accumulating. Virtual church services are held live on Sunday mornings and later made available on your computer. Committees and Council are making decisions. We feel that God has been with us each step of the way and with God's guidance we look forward to worshiping with our church family in our beautiful new Sanctuary.

SANCTUARY PROJECT COMMITTEE

Jane Bentrrott, Carol Breuch, Caroline Bybee, Lin Redling and Barry Francois







Picture Identification:

Page One:

1. Sanctuary Looking South - in process
2. Sanctuary Looking North - painting finished
3. Moving day -pew going down South stairs from sanctuary
4. Moving day -pew going outside
5. Moving day -pew coming back in
6. Moving Day -pew going downstairs to basement

Page Two:

1. Tired workers taking well deserved break
2. Pews in parlor
3. Pews in back hallway
4. NW Piano corner of sanctuary: Was this old doorway?
5. Shape of woodwork above the South stairway
6. Another shape of woodwork across the Southwest corner

Note for pictures 5 & 6 on page 2: There are notes in Jeanne Jorgenson's Historical Book as follows:

"One gas light installed in choir Loft" dated 1909. Look closely in picture #6 to see the outline of the woodwork.

" The new church was built after a Gothic style and finished in most excellent taste. The rich stained glass windows were contributed by Will C. Boardman as a memorial to his deceased wife. The building is heated by furnaces and lighted by gas furnished by the Colman method." dated 1878.

Page 3:

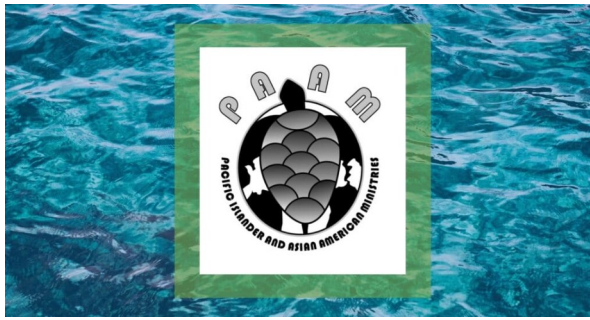
- 1, 2, contractors at work
- 3 supplies

April 2021

Service Committee: Sue Sandberg and Lin Redling

Maquoketa United Church of Christ

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Maunday Thursday Service Available through email	2	3
4 EASTER CELEBRATION SERVICE 10 am zoom	5	6 Pastor Maxx Vacation 6-12	7 Pastor Maxx Vacation 6- 12	8 Pastor Maxx Vacation 6-12	9 Pastor Maxx Vacation 6- 12	10 Pastor Maxx Vacation 6-12
11 WORSHIP 10 AM ZOOM	12 Pastor Maxx Vacation 6-12	13 Pastor Maxx at Clover Ridge 9 am	14 5:30 Eat, Play & Pray Zoom	15 MAA 9am Church Council 5 PM	16	17
18 WORSHIP 10 AM ZOOM	19	20	21 5:30 Eat, Play & Pray Zoom	22	23	24 Katie Nichols Memorial Service 2 PM
25 WORSHIP 10 AM ZOOM	26	27 EIA assoc. noon	28 5:30 Eat, Play & Pray Zoom	29	30	



UCC PAAM: Hate has no place here!

by Dick Hom | published on Mar 21, 2021

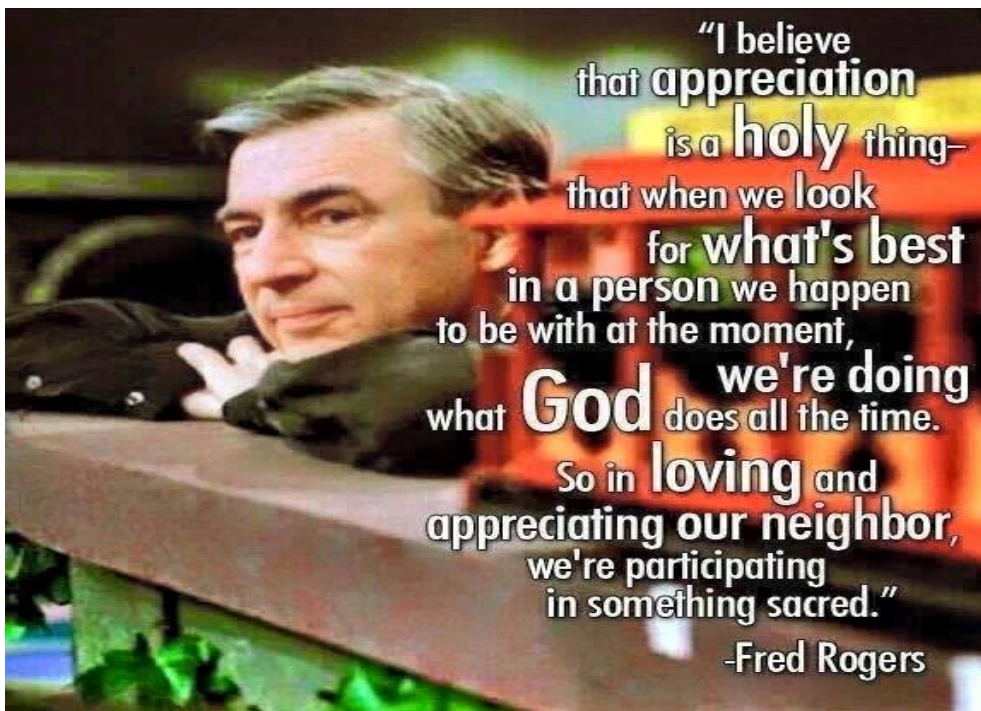
In light of the shootings in Atlanta and the surge in hate crimes against members of their community, the Pacific Islander & Asian American Ministries (PAAM) of the United Church of Christ has issued this statement:

Angry! Outraged! Upset! There are no words to reflect what is happening in our Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. Brutal attacks on the elderly and vulnerable are increasing. And these are not robberies. They are hate crimes and in broad daylight. The latest report from just one center monitoring AAPI crimes list over 3,700 incidents from March 2020 to February 2021.

Many bring up the fact that the previous administration encouraged this type of racial discrimination. “Kung Flu.” “Chinese Virus.” This might be true, but it is individuals who continue to perpetrate these crimes. And we, not only as Christians but also as human beings, need to stand up and support our AAPI community. Many have asked how they can help. Here is what is shared by Stop AAPI Hate:

Five Ways to Help If You Are Witnessing Hate

- Take action. Approach the targeted person, introduce yourself and offer help.
- Actively listen. Ask before taking any action and respect the targeted person’s wishes. Monitor the situation if needed.
- Ignore attacker. Using your discretion, attempt to calm the situation by using your voice, body language or distractions.
- Accompany. If the situation escalates, invite the targeted person to join you in leaving.
- Offer emotional support. Help the targeted person by asking how they are feeling. Assist them to figure out what they want to do next. The Pacific Islander & Asian American Ministries (PAAM) of the United Church of Christ has always called out and condemned all types of racism and xenophobia against all communities of color since 1974 and will continue to do so if this virus is among us.



Treasure Sale is Back!!

Good News, Donations have poured in and the Spring Treasure sale is being scheduled.

Thursday April 15

8:00 a.m.---5:30 p.m.

Friday April 16

8:00 a.m.--4:00 p.m.

Saturday April 17

8:00 a.m.--12:00 p.m.

Spread the word. There are lots of fun and interesting items.





Geni Carr's sister recently had surgery and is recovering in a rehab center. She received a prayer shawl knitted by our UCC ladies, and very much appreciates it, and she wears it every day. Thank you all, Geni Carr.



Tuesday–Friday 9 a.m.- 12 p.m.

**Maquoketa UCC
206 E Platt Street
PO Box 1177
Maquoketa, IA 52060
Phone: (563) 652-4296**



**Happy Birthday Blessings from
Maquoketa UCC !**

APRIL

Mara Nissen - 1
Elaine Tubbs - 2
Douglas Yarolim - 3
Garry Anderson - 5
Karen Manning - 5
Joe Claeys - 11
Lynne Quissell - 12
Jeanne Jorgensen - 16
Joyce Den Herder --21**(90)**

Special Birthday:

**April 21, 2021 is Joyce
DenHerder's 90th Birthday!!!
Please help her celebrate by
sending her a card or note
at Clover Ridge.**

Maquoketa United Church of Christ

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