

Lay Coordinator ♣ March 2010

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Columbus Olivet frames the Lenten Journey, "*Lent is the season to ask: What do I cherish in my life? What is it I hide from? Am I aware of what is missing or has been misplaced entirely? Have I given myself over to searching and finding those treasures? How can I recover what I hold dear?*" The journey to Easter has begun.



Paoli Zwingli will be holding a Lenten Study called Taken for Granted. They will view films and then discuss them. The film titles include *Food Inc* (how corporations control our food supply), *Burning the Future* (about the use of coal in the US), and *Is Wal-Mart Good for America?* among others. All of these films focus on how innocent human lives have been affected by our use of resources.

Belleville First UCC will hold a Lenten Study focusing on the various aspects of forgiveness based on resources from *The Thoughtful Christian*.

Sisterhood Saturday will be March 6 at **Monticello Zwingli**. Also coming up at Monticello Zwingli- get it on your calendar now, Kalberwurst Supper is April 17!

Here is another thing to get on your calendars and start thinking about putting together a team. The Bike for Habitat for Humanity is Saturday, May 15 starting in New Glarus. For more information you may contact Lois Meinert at 608-325-2292.

The Christian Fellowship Committee at **Sauk City First** is hosing a Chili and Soup Dinner on March 10, 4:30 to 7:00. In addition to soup and chili there will be homemade desserts and bread, yummy! **Paoli Zwingli** will hold their Chili, Soup and Baked Potato Luncheon on Sunday, March 7 10:30 to 2:00.

It is so great to see so many churches are planning trips to see the Dead Sea Scrolls now at the Milwaukee Public Museum. This is a "do not miss" opportunity! If you would like to do a little preparation before you go you can go to wpr.org (Wisconsin Public Radio) and listen to the Feb 4 program featuring experts talking about the scrolls.

Ladies at **New Glarus Swiss UCC** will get out the green on Wednesday, March 17th with an St Patrick's Day Luncheon and an afternoon of fun! Call the church office for more details and to make reservations.

Madison Community of Hope has long had a men's breakfast group, Pancakes, Puns, Proverbs and Politics. Now the women have one too! They meet the first and third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 am at the Hubbard Avenue Diner. Not to have the men outdo them, they will now have to come up with their own clever title for their group!

Middleton Community UCC is starting work on a 75th Anniversary Cookbook! It will include the best of the past but also reflect the reality of today's busy lifestyle with possible sections on crock-pot meals, make-ahead meals, healthy snacks and cooking with kids.

All seniors (and those who wish they were!) are invited to Senior Reflection Day at **Madison Lake Edge**, Thursday, March 25. The day begins at 9:30 and continues through 2:30 with lunch included.

Monticello Zwingli is offering an exercise class every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00 to 6:45 and on Saturday 8:00 to 8:45.

On Sunday, March 21 **Janesville First Congregational** will welcome Fran Coan-Meredith, a grief counselor, to offer a program on the various ways we feel grief in our lives and how to maintain appropriate expectations, rituals and remembrances. The program will begin at 11:30 am and will include lunch.

Platteville First Congregational is reading *The Girls from Ames: A Story of Women and a Forty-Year Friendship* for March and for April they are reading *The Sweet By and By*. Their Wednesday night adult study group continues their study of the origins of the gospels with the help of the PBS series, *"From Jesus to Christ"*.

The Tuesday Morning Women's Study Group at **Middleton Community UCC** are continuing their study of *"When Jesus Came to Harvard"*.

In addition to Lent and this being the time we are all ordering our lilies and spring flowers for the Easter sanctuary- it is also the month that many of us are doing our One Great Hour of Sharing collection. The theme this year is Feed My Sheep. Please remember as giving goes, this collection is hard to beat! 100% of what they collect goes to providing food, shelter, medicine and education. Please be generous.

Madison Orchard Ridge is doing a cool thing. They are putting page long profiles in their newsletter honoring those in their congregation with special needs. The profiles are being written by family and caregivers of the individual in an attempt to be a more inclusive congregation that is better able to understand the special challenges of these individuals and so folks can feel more comfortable in their interactions with them.



Speaking of Madison **Orchard Ridge**, lets close with some words from their newsletter- *Through stories from Scripture (the witness of God's people) and our own lives, we will acknowledge and remind one another of how we experience God. We're hoping that Lent be a "holy interruption" in our lives, to take the time to listen deeply to our own lives and the lives of others- in order to strengthen our faith and deepen our awareness of divine grace and justice.*

Go and Serve.

Nancy