

Holy Week plans

The week between Palm Sunday and Easter is a special week in the life of the church around the world. We want at Mountain View to give seize the opportunity to remember what happened between Palm Sunday and Resurrection Sunday because the events of that week shape the gospel that we orient our lives around at Mountain View. You will notice this weekend that Mary Jean Carnevale has set up a very special “Journey Through Jerusalem” at the back of the worship center. Hopefully you can be intentional at some point in the next couple of weeks to walk through that display and be reminded of Jesus and His steps through that final week.

On Palm Sunday, March 25, we are planning to remember that triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem – a day that was both sweet and sour. I am going to be teaching that morning from Luke 19:41-44, a poignant Palm Sunday passage that gives us an intimate look into the heart of Jesus on that day.

On Maundy Thursday evening, March 29, at 6:30 PM, we are planning a Maundy Thursday remembrance. It was on that Thursday evening where Jesus established the Lord’s Supper in an upper room, and did some teaching that we now refer to as “The Upper Room Discourse” (John 13-17). It was also late that night that He agonized in Gethsemane. During this special service we plan to look ahead to the cross on Friday, and we plan to share together around the Lord’s Table. We are a fellowship that affirms that the message of the cross is at the heart of the gospel message we embrace and announce. The term “Maundy” comes from the Latin, “mandatum” which refers to the mandate that Jesus gave His disciples that evening. In John 13:34 Jesus said, “A new commandment I give you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.” The tone of this service is going to be meditative and reflective as we remember the passion of Jesus.

On Sunday, April 1, we plan to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus! This is going to be a celebrative service with music and media and a message taken from I Peter 1:3-9. The theme of the service is that hope is alive – with the resurrection of Jesus, we have a living hope we can build our lives around. I want to encourage you to invite family members and friends who do not have a church home to consider joining us for our celebration that day!

I also encourage you to look for a guide that is being prepared for Holy Week. It accompanies the Journey through Jerusalem at the back of the worship center, but it can be a tool that you use devotionally during Holy Week. I urge you to make plan to seize the opportunity to look closely at Jesus as He moves through those final days of His earthly life, and then through resurrection Sunday as His triumph is confirmed! The devotional guide offers Bible passages and brief commentary as you move through the days of Holy Week remembrance.