



TRICON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EVENTS, PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES APRIL 2010

From the desk of...

Holy Week and Easter ... while these two Christians seasons are acknowledged and celebrated separately we often tell them as one story as the understanding of one depends heavily on the other. In short, we should never share the beginning without including the joyful ending. After all, Jesus' resurrection is the core of Christianity.

But let's face it, relating the story of Jesus' last week on earth as a mortal man can be difficult for children to understand, and possibly even upsetting. Remember it was just three short months ago that we all rejoiced in Jesus' birth. We are just getting to know him, learn about the love he had for *all* people and the miracles he performed and then ... BAM.

What is particularly difficult for parents is explaining what happened on Good Friday, the day Jesus was crucified. It was a violent death according to the accounts of the Gospels. He was beaten, flogged, a crown of piercing thorns placed upon his head, and then nailed to a cross. But as awful as it was, it was a crucial event in Christ's life that can't be ignored when discussing our Christian faith. (Your child might ask, as I have been asked, why is it called Good Friday when something so bad happened that day? The short answer is we know what he went through for us and the outcome of his death was his resurrection. It is a Good Friday for us.)

So, it is important not to change the story. Instead simplify, simplify, simplify. Do not give your child more information than they have asked for. You can say that Jesus did suffer. It was not a fun way to die. Jesus was innocent, but he was willing to be punished, he was willing to accept responsibility so that we wouldn't have to. You can throw in a parental image that there are a lot of things that we as parents will do that are not fun, but if it's to save our kids, we'll do it. Place the main focus on Jesus' Resurrection. Somehow it all equals out in their minds that something bad happened, but something unbelievably wonderful happened too.

On Palm Sunday, March 28th, during the Children's Gathering with the Kindergarteners through 4th Graders, I will be talking about the events of Holy Week and Easter. We will be exploring and learning about one of God's most important messages ... hope.

Peace,

Carrie

APRIL

Sunday, April 4th

Easter Sunday Worship 9:00AM
11:00AM
Childcare up to age five offered at both services
Easter Egg Hunt 10:00AM

Monday, April 5th

Liaison Meeting 7:00PM
CE Committee Meeting 8:15PM

Sunday, April 11th

Church School 10:00AM
Childcare up to age five

Sunday, April 18th

No Church School
Childcare up to age five

Sunday, April 25th

Burma One Room Schoolhouse 10:00AM
Childcare up to age five

Trinitarian Congregational Church

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C.E. Office Hours
Mondays, Wednesday and Thursdays 9-3PM



Easter Egg Hunt Easter Sunday, April 4th

Easter Day is not complete without an Easter Egg Hunt! We are thrilled to once again offer this fun event following our 9AM Easter Sunday worship service. Our hunt is geared for kids walking age up to 4th Grade and will take place outside weather permitting. (If the weather does not cooperate we will have the hunt in the lower level.) Thank you once again to our Senior Youth Group for stuffing and hiding the eggs and providing support during the event. We are lucky to have Dave Braunegg lead the festivities again this year.



Burma One Room Schoolhouse Sunday, April 25th



The Kanpetlet Home in northern Burma cares for 54 orphaned or homeless children. TriCon member, Jeannette Taylor, who has visited Kanpetlet, will present a slide show of the home and the children and will share what life is like for these special kids ... specifically looking at how the Burmese children care and help one another. Jeannette also brought home from Burma a large collection of Burmese marionettes. Our kids will work in small groups and create a skit, which they will share with the rest of the class. Each participating Church School family will receive a special take home gift from our Burmese friends. We need two more adults to help with this fun morning.

Happy April Birthday Wishes to...



Reid Monahan	Allie Winstanley	Lu-lu Krauss
Jane Fulshaw	Dalton Macres	Charlotte Olney
Luke Randle	Willie Page	Arianna DiRomualdo
Nina Olney	Andrew Upham	Tucker Winstanley
Avery Monahan	Sophia Kauffman-Tharp	

8th Grade Bibles Sunday, May 16th

In celebration of their "graduating" from Church School and in preparation for Confirmation, we are pleased to present the 8th graders with their own personalized copy of a New Revised Standard Version Bible. This edition has many helpful features including a dictionary and concordance, subheadings and references within the text and maps. Our hope is that they will use their Bible throughout their lives.



We need to know how you would like your child's name to appear on the Bible cover and if your child will be at church on the 16th to accept the Bible. Please email Carrie at triconcob@aol.com. In order to include enough time for personalizing we'll need your child's information by Friday, April 9th.

TRI-CON CHURCH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

It is our mission to intentionally provide to all of the children in our Church School program the following:

Provide our children with a foundation in Christian education such as learning the stories of the Bible, the history of Christianity and what it means to be a UCC member, and the components of worship.

Provide our children with many opportunities to participate in our church community and programs outside our community.

Provide a safe, caring and nurturing environment with other children and adults.

Teach our children the important faith traits such as generosity, responsibility, courage, joy, stewardship and humility so that they will include and apply them to their daily lives.