

# LIFE @ FIRST

## On the Journey

VOLUME 14  
ISSUE 10

The fruit of righteousness is peace  
~Isaiah 32:17

MARCH 9, 2021

## Worship

**Focus Statement:** We are looking at the events during Passion Week, and now we come to Wednesday, the day before the Last Supper, two days before Jesus is crucified. Jerusalem is deeply divided. One crowd cries out "Hosana, blessed is the King," while the other crowd is ready to cry out "Crucify Him, Crucify Him!" The religious leaders are desperate to kill Jesus, the disciple's faith will soon be stretched to the breaking point, the crowd is anticipating a revolution, and the Palace is on high alert. It appears as though there is so much that needs be done yet. There are people wandering the streets of Jerusalem, looking for Jesus, looking to be healed. There is so much that should be taught yet, one more good sermon just may go a long way in diffusing the situation. Judas is about to do his hideous deed. But on Wednesday, Jesus rests! Can you believe it? With all of the needs in Jerusalem, with all

that could be done,  
Jesus rests! How  
could He?

On Wednesday, the day  
before 'The Last  
Supper' Mark tells us  
that Simon the Leper  
throws a dinner party  
for Jesus, and some

woman anoints Him, but that's it. That is all the Scriptures tell us that took place on that Wednesday. It appears as though Jesus rested most of the day. Why? HE could have done so much good.

Jesus knew that His first priority was to take care of His own soul (there is an important lesson in itself!), and to prepare for what was before Him the next two days. The weight of the sins of the world was about to be dumped onto Jesus. There would be another confrontation with Satan. And He must be prepared. Maybe rest is far more important than we ever imagined it to be.

### Sermon Title:

In Praise of Rest

### Text:

Mark 14:1-3

### BIRTHDAYS

Selena Kurtz	3/10
Ruby Bontreger	3/15
Jake Schwartz	3/23
Linda Miller	3/25
Bernie Miller	3/28
Michelle Mullet	4/1
Al Yoder	4/3
Sam Graber	4/6
Dave (Patty) Yoder	4/10
Jim Wyse	4/12
Bill Johnson	4/14
Dorothy Miller	4/15
Marge Miller	4/15

*First Mennonite Church*  
*PO Box 508*  
*Middlebury IN 46540*  
*574-825-5135*

*Our mission is to extend  
grace, build peace, and  
share love within & beyond  
our faith community*

*Worship Service*  
*Sunday 9:00 am*

*Office Hours*

*Pastor Phil*  
*Tuesday 9:30a—1:30p*  
*Thursday 1:00p—6:00p*

*Business Office*  
*Monday and Tuesday*  
*8:00a—5:00p*  
*and Fridays by chance*

*The church office is closed on*  
*Wednesdays*

## ● Outreach

### FMW Sewing Project

March will benefit **MCC**,  
with **Infant Care Kits**.

Please drop your item(s) off by  
**March 11!**

Specifically we are collecting:

NEW items sized 3-12 months

3 gowns / sleepers (flannel or  
similar)

3 undershirts / onesies (short  
or long sleeve)

1 receiving blanket

(light fleece or flannel, min 30  
x 30 or larger)

4 large heavy duty safety pins

1 large bar mild soap (leave in  
wrapper)

1 pair of socks

**Don and Bernie Miller** sent an  
email to the church office  
asking me to "thank everyone for  
their thoughts and prayers  
during the time of our power  
outage. Hopefully, it will  
be a long time before we have  
another! Missing everyone  
there...."

**Edna Hochstetler**  
wishes to thank everyone  
for their prayers  
and

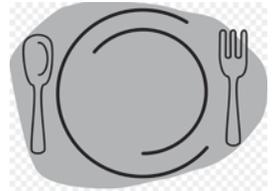
**Kathy Troyer** also  
expresses appreciation  
for the prayers  
on her behalf.

Thank you...



## ● Community Life

If you would be  
willing to take a  
meal to Jim &  
Arlene Schrock,  
please call Jim at  
574-370-5795 to  
arrange a time.



### "Operation ♥" Project

Contemplate setting a goal for yourself to  
make contact with a certain number of  
people each day, week or month.

This week consider praying for and / or  
reaching out to your church family, but  
especially remember

**Whomever God Prompts**

If you visited the church recently  
(before noon Monday) and had your  
engine area to the north of the  
doors under the East canopy,  
please check your fluid levels  
(oil, transmission etc) for  
possible leaks. **There is a  
significant leak on the pad there**,  
it's about a 12 inches in diameter  
and was fresh yesterday when I  
noticed it around noon, and  
starting to dry  
today. I let it  
set overnight  
under the off  
chance it might be  
condensation /  
water, I do not  
think that's what  
it is, and I can't  
say if it was  
there in the  
morning or not.



## Administration

### Stewardship Report for March 7, 2021:

Money Given to Budget  
\$ 6,941.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget  
\$ 5,417.78

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget

\$ 132,439.00

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget

\$ 146,220.01

## Worship

We continue to **live stream** our worship service every Sunday. We also record it on video and on a CD. After the service, the live stream is deleted because it has breaks in it, but the recording of the service is seamless without breaks, and it is uploaded onto our YouTube channel at "FMC INDIANA." But the upload procedure takes at least a half hour, so it is not available immediately after the service. It is generally available by 11:00 AM on Sunday or very soon thereafter on the YouTube channel, and it remains there indefinitely for whenever it is convenient for you to watch it.

### SUNDAY WORSHIP - 9:00 AM

(You must pre-request a printed bulletin & Please DO NOT sign the attendance sheets)

- Call to Worship
- Worship Songs
- Congregational Sharing and Prayer
- Sermon
- Song
- Sending Words
- Sending Prayer
- Dismissal

You can now join in the live stream of Sunday sermons by clicking onto You Tube, then typing in FMC INDIANA in the search box. We begin at 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings

All newsletter submissions need to be in to the church office by noon on Monday.

We are planning a **Maundy Thursday Service** at our church on April 1. Here are some details.

6:00 PM - A meal will be served using distancing protocols (similar to what restaurants use)

7:00 PM - There will be a service in the Sanctuary. It will be live-streamed so those at home may join in.

Juice and Bread will be available to pick up at the church on Tuesday (March 30) from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM if you would like to participate from home. Or, you may prepare your own juice and bread if you prefer.

There will be no foot-washing this year.

There will be NO Community Good Friday Service this year.

Tonight we move the clocks ahead one hour and spring forward.



After the winter we've had, I'm all for anything with the word "spring" in it!

Visit Jim Hunt at [facebook.com/huntcartoons](https://facebook.com/huntcartoons)

### SPRING FORWARD

Remember to set the time ahead one hour Saturday night as you go to bed so we don't miss you happy faces at church on Sunday morning!! This is also a good time to change your smoke detector batteries!