

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sunday, March 9th**  
**Sunday Live Worship, 10 am, Sanctuary**  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/PiratesoftheColumbia>  
*(Click the "LIVE" link in the tool bar to see recent worship services, as well)*

**Saturday, April 5th**  
**Prayer Shawl Group, 9 am – Noon, Entry Way**

**Saturday, April 5th**  
**Holly Daze Workshop, 9 am – Noon, SWR**

**Saturday, April 12th**  
**Sr. UMY Dessert Auction, IP, 3-5 pm**

**Sunday, April 13th,**  
**Palm Sunday Parade at 9:45 am with a Worship Service at 10 am**

**Friday, April 18th,**  
**Good Friday Worship Service, 6:30 pm**

**Saturday, April 19th,**  
**Easter Egg Hunt, Outside, 9 am**

**Sunday, April 20th,**  
**Easter Sunrise Service, Columbia Park, 6:30 am**

**Sunday, April 20th,**  
**Easter Live Service, Sanctuary, 10 am**

## Friday News 3/14/25

*Peace, I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. –John 14:27 NIV*

Sometimes life and fiction overlap, and then fiction might have something to tell us, or perhaps it reminds us of truths we already know.

In the novel I am reading this week, the setting is England, 1999, although most of the story is told through memory from much earlier in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The narrator, whose name is Grace, is a woman in her 90s. She attended Sunday worship with her daughter and reports:

*It is Lent, the period of soul-searching and repentance that always precedes Easter, and this morning the church pulpit was draped in purple. The sermon was pleasant enough, its subject guilt and forgiveness... the minister read from John 14, beseeching the congregation to resist the scaremongers who preach millennial doom and to find instead an inner peace through Christ. "I am the way, the truth and the life," he read. "No man cometh unto the Father but by me." And then he bid us take our example from the faith of Christ's Apostles at the dawn of the first millennium. (The House at Riverton, by Kate Morton, © 2006 Washington Square Press)*

Do you remember how the last year of the 20<sup>th</sup> century unfolded? We called it Y2K. "Y2K" is a shorthand term for "the year 2000" and also referred to the widespread computer programming issue, the "millennium bug," that was expected to occur when computers misread the year as 1900 instead of 2000. There was great agitation and worry that when all the computers of the world

rolled over into the new millennia every process and machine connected to a computer would come to a halt. Banks would shut down, planes would fall from the skies, and life as we knew it would end. Great fear and preparations preoccupied so many of us.

Those first century disciples of Jesus were also preoccupied with great fear of what would happen if or when Jesus went to Jerusalem. Many disciples had let go of the lives they knew to follow this man Jesus who was being set up, by some of his own people, to take a great fall. There would be collateral damage; there always is.

Our current reality is not so different from 1999 or year 30 A.D. There is much uncertainty and accompanying anxiety as the events of the world take unexpected turns around us. But Grace's pastor reminds us to look for an inner peace found through Christ.

Whatever is happening in the world, God is still present and will make use of our current reality to do amazing things to fulfill God's reign. God used a Roman capital punishment tool to show us the resurrection of Christ and to usher in a new era for God's people. What God might be doing with our current circumstances is likely beyond our capacity to imagine. Our task is to trust God and to participate as Christ calls us. Step one: let the peace of Christ into our hearts.

Peace,  
Pastor Shirley

**3/16**  
**"The Temple: Risking Righteous Anger "**  
**Pastor Shirley DeLarme**  
**Scripture:**  
**Psalm 69: 1-18**

### **God's Fellows**

This is a small group of men who read devotional material and connect it with their own lives and faith. They meet every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month.

### **Pep's Bean Soup for Sale**

Pep's Bean Soup is for sale in the church office for \$9.00/bag. You can also buy a bag with corn bread mix for \$12.00/each.

**We are running low!**

### **Bread Tabs**

Please remember to bring your bread tabs to drop in the container in the lobby. This is for the Arc of Tri-Cities to buy a new motorized wheelchair!!

**Collection must be complete by May 2025**

### **Church Office Staff Meetings**

The Church Office meets for a Staff Meeting the first and third Tuesdays of every month from 10 am - Noon. The office is closed 10 am - 1:00 pm on those days.

### **Deadlines**

**The Monday before the following Sunday is the deadline for any announcement posted in the Sunday Bulletin.**  
**The Thursday before the following Friday is the deadline for any announcement posted in the Friday Email Letter.**  
**Thank you.**