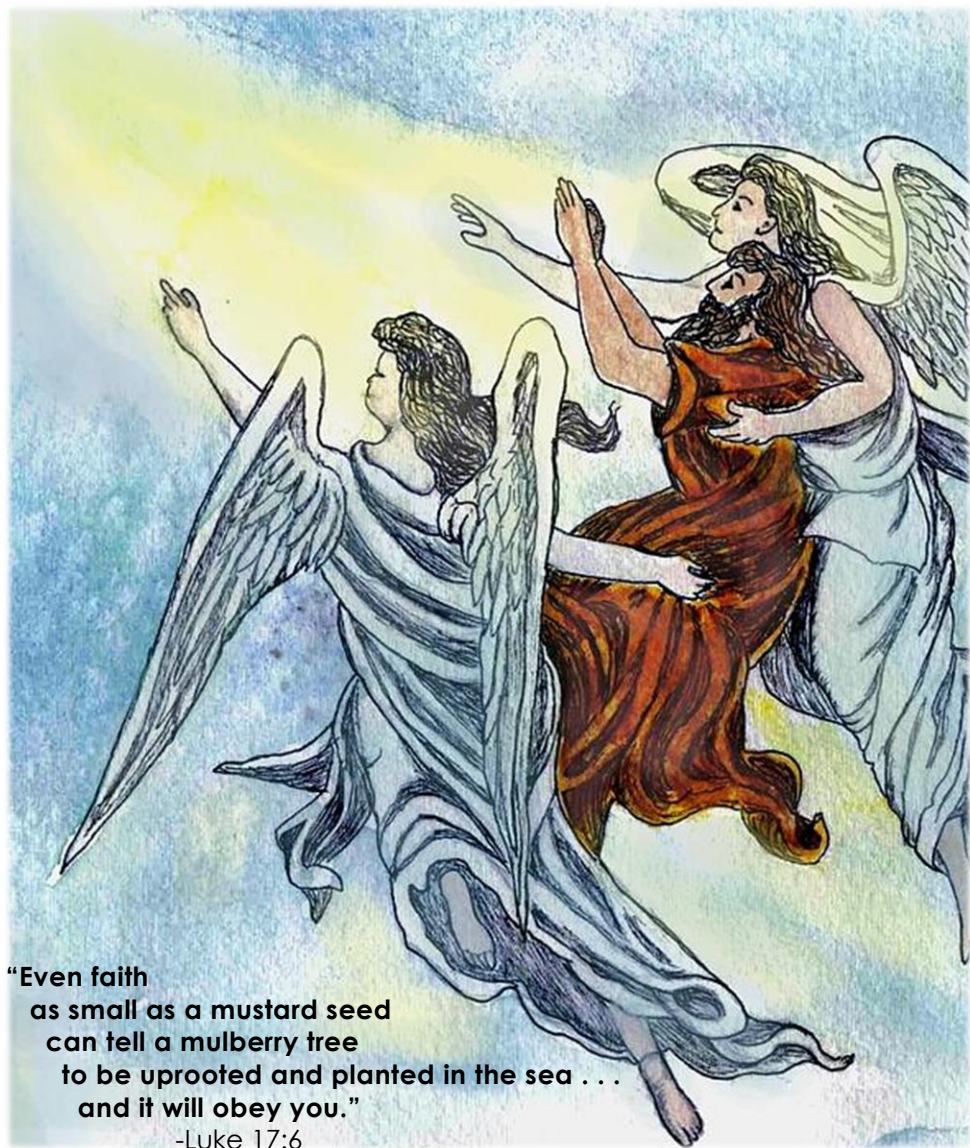


# *Fifth Sunday in Lent*

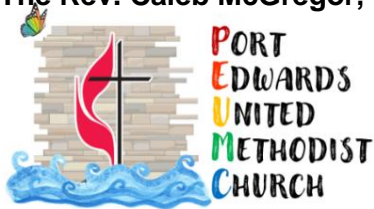
Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025 ~ 10:00 AM



“Even faith  
as small as a mustard seed  
can tell a mulberry tree  
to be uprooted and planted in the sea . . .  
and it will obey you.”

-Luke 17:6

**The Rev. Caleb McGregor, Pastor**



Leo T., Lay Leader

Judy M., Accompanist

Colby G., Media Technician

Kathy Mc., Liturgist

Rose W., Greeters

Pat Mc., Usher

Kathy Mc., Guest Relations

## THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

"The Church exists for nothing else but to draw others into Christ and make them 'Little Christs.' God became human for no other purpose." –C.S. Lewis  
"Effective evangelism requires relationships." –Nabeel Qureshi  
"Jesus appointed 72 others and sent them out to every town before Him." –Luke 10:1

**Please silence your mobile devices. Thank you!**

L – Liturgist / M – Minister / **P – People** / † - words are on the TVs / \* – stand in body or spirit  
UMH – The United Methodist Hymnal      TFWS – The Faith We Sing

(1) *The Body of Christ gathers to worship God!*

WORDS OF WELCOME  
FOUNDATIONAL STATEMENTS

~Time of Centering~

†\*HYMN OF PRAISE: *I Love to Tell the Story*      UMH 156



(2) *We listen to what God is saying to us!*

SCRIPTURE    † Psa. 84:1-3, 10-12 (read) / \* Luke 17:1-6    ("Beautiful")

SERMON      **Go and Offer Them Christ**

(3) *We respond to what God is saying to us!*

SHARING OF CONCERNS, with Prayers of the People  
INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

† Confession / † Assurance / \*The Peace of Christ  
HOLY COMMUNION *(The Great Thanksgiving – Musical Setting)*

**ALL are invited to partake! Christ invites you!**

(4) *We prepare to leave and be doers of God's Word!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

†\*HYMN OF MISSION: *We've a Story to Tell*      UMH 569

\*CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

\*A BLESSING AND GOING FORTH

(You are invited to place any offerings in the **Offering Box** as you leave the sanctuary;  
you may also give online at **peumc.org/donate** or use the **QR Code** in this bulletin.)

## **Prayer List:**

**Pray for these members & friends throughout April:**

**Chris La. Mansavages Ann De. Candy P.T. Hernesmans**

**Korbin Bo. Mat & Gracie Fa. Laura & Mark Fl. Pastors Caleb & Doug**

**Our Shut-Ins:** Mabel J.; Jim H.; Mary & Ed H.; Chris L.; Lynn R.

**Our Children:** Addisyn, Brynlee, Eliza, Ella, Gabriel, Gabrielle, Gracie, Sawyer, and Symphony.

**Our College Students:** Michaela W.; Ethan B.; Danial H.; Carson P.; Melanie & Lilyann S.

**From 3/9:** Prayers for my good friend, **Lois**, who is recovering from serious foot and ankle surgery (Sue T.); prayers for our daughter, **Gracie**, as we try to figure out what makes her so sick, she has more sick days than good ones (Nikki); JOY: my friend, **Gordy**, celebrated his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday (Sandy).

**From 3/16:** Prayers for our daughter's friend and colleague, **Ryan**, who has non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and is in serious condition right now (Sue T.); prayers for those who received storm damage in S. Ill and S. Ind., like Neoga (IL) High School (Pastor).

**From 3/23:** JOY: **Emma Michelle Mc.**, niece of my son & daughter-in-law, was born on Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>; baby & mom are both healthy (Candy).

**From 3/30:** Prayers for this week's **elections**; prayers for **Thailand**; prayers for **Rhonda**; prayers for reports of **those being 'disappeared.'**

## **Daily Scripture Readings** (based on Sunday's Scripture)

**Monday (4/7):** Luke 18:31-34

**Tuesday (4/8):** Luke 18:35-43

**Wednesday (4/9):** Luke 19:1-10

**Thursday (4/10):** Luke 19:11-28

**Friday (4/11):** Luke 20:1-8

**Saturday (4/12):** Luke 20:9-19

**Sunday (4/13):** Luke 19:29-40 & Luke 19:41-21:38

## ***Sermon Notes & Prayers from Today:***

### **April Mission Project:**

Collect **reading glasses, composition notebooks, and playing cards** for inmates at the Wood County jail (jail ministry).

# A Call to Discipleship:

(refer to this list throughout the week to keep you accountable!)

- ☐ **Prayer theme:** Pray that an opportunity will open up for you to share some life-giving words to someone in need (a friend? Strange?)
- ☐ **Consider:** Consider all the things you don't like about the practice of evangelism: unsolicited advice, door-to-door knocking; how can you be a 'mainline' evangelist of compassion in your community today?
- ☐ **Action:** Empower someone with a sharing of Christ's Good News.
- ☐ I will invite these person(s) to church: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I will visit/call these person(s) this week: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to a mission/charity/cause this week.
- ☐ Set aside \$\_\_\_\_\_ for my church offering next week.
- ☐ Volunteer at Neighborhood Meals; food pantry; Meals on Wheels.
- ☐ Sign up as a greeter / usher / liturgist for a future service.
- ☐ Pray over the prayer list in this bulletin.
- ☐ Read a daily devotional, like the *Upper Room* (take a copy; it's free!)

## Sunday Services – 10a

Today - April 6<sup>th</sup>

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT - COMMUNION**

**9:15A – Choir Practice (1 of 3)**

(Scriptures: Rich Man & Lazarus)

April 13<sup>th</sup>

**PALM-PASSION SUNDAY**

**9:15A – Choir Practice (2 of 3)**

**Second Sunday Refreshments**

**Leadership Council – 11:20a**

(Jesus on a Donkey + Suffering of Jesus)

April 20<sup>th</sup>

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**8:30a – Potluck Breakfast**

**8:45a – Simple Early Service**

**9:15A – Choir Practice (3 of 3)**

**10:00a – Regular Service**

(Script.: Jesus Rises from the Grave)

April 27<sup>th</sup>

**EASTER.2**

(Script.: Jesus Appears to 2 Disciples)

## Wednesday Lenten Services

**Noon Lenten Study/Service – continues THIS WEDNES. (5 weeks)**

12:15-12:45 PM – Centralia Center – bring your lunch!

**Evening Lenten Services – continues THIS WEDNES. (5 weeks)**

7:00-8:00 PM Theme: "Meeting Jesus at the Table"

4/9 – at Port Edwards

4/2 – at Nekoosa

**LIVE LAST SUPPER SERVICE – Marshfield Wesley UMC**

\*Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm

(\*we hope to take a group on Monday) Free event.

# WEEK 6 (WEEK OF 4/6)

## 46 DAYS OF KINDNESS

### A LENTEN CHALLENGE

*Directions: Keep 1 per person—couple should not share!*

*Put this in a prominent place in your home!*

☒ *each challenge that you complete.*

*They do not have to be completed on the day listed.*

**RETURN THIS TO CHURCH BEFORE THE END OF LENT!**

*Goal: Each week, after all cards are collected,  
we will total up the number of “acts of random kindness”  
or “ARK” from our cards.*

*Our congregational Lenten goal is 350 acts!*

*(You do **\*not\*** need to put your name on this.)*

<input type="checkbox"/>	33	4/6 (Sunday)	Pray for our local community, our village administration, police & fire, public works, and schools.
<input type="checkbox"/>	34	4/7 (Monday)	Write a positive post online OR help a church member this week.
<input type="checkbox"/>	35	4/8 (Tuesday)	Hold the door open for someone.
<input type="checkbox"/>	36	4/9 (Wednesday)	Thank someone in service ( <i>custodian, cook, military, social services</i> ).
<input type="checkbox"/>	37	4/10 (Thursday)	Call the village office with a compliment. (*they are keeping track of complaints vs. compliments)
<input type="checkbox"/>	38	4/11 (Friday)	<i>Your choosing. List details:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	39	4/12 (Saturday)	Count all your blessings all day long.

**My weekly total is (circle):    1    2    3    4    5    6    7**

*\*You will receive “Week 7” (the last one) in next week’s bulletin. If you know you will be gone on any of the upcoming Sundays, you can pick up that week’s challenge card right now on the front table near the main entry. If you miss a week, you may go back and get a previous one, too.*



# Job Opening – Media Technician:

Colby G. is graduating in May.

After multiple attempts by family and pastor to get him to stay (like, repeat his senior year), he is determined to be off on new and wonderful things in the fall. Oh well!

*So we are looking for his next replacement!*

The Media Technician (MT) operates the computer & software in our sanctuary during our services for our live-stream ministry.

- (1) *Do you know of anyone (high schooler or not) who may be a good fit for this position? A neighbor? A friend? A family member?*
- (2) *Do you think YOU would be a good candidate?*

- The position pays \$25 a service.
- Additional services, like Lenten services, weddings, funerals, etc. would also pay \$25.
- Apply by date: May 1<sup>st</sup>
- Start date: June 1<sup>st</sup>

Call the church office for an application.

## Port Edwards Community **Easter Egg Hunt**

**Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> – 10:15 AM**

(immediately following the Lions' Club hunt at the park)

**on the**

**Port Edwards United Methodist Church lawn  
(411 Wisconsin River Drive)**



❖ Special egg hunts for toddlers!

❖ Candy-filled eggs and Golden Egg prizes!

**RAIN DATE:** The following Saturday – same time.

# The Evangelical Tradition: Discovering the Word-Centered Life

*from Richard Foster, adapted by Pastor Caleb*

The Evangelical Tradition of Christian life focuses upon the proclamation of the *evangel*, the Good News of the gospel. We are enabled by the power of God to take the Word of the gospel into our hearts in such a transforming way that others, seeing this, want it for themselves. This faith stream addresses the crying need for people to be reminded of the good that is in the world, its potential inside each one of us, and to see this Good News lived out practically and hear it proclaimed.

For a biblical paradigm of the Evangelical Tradition I (Richard) choose the Apostle Peter. The reason is simple: above all else, Peter was a proclaimer of the evangel, a preacher of the Good News. Peter was everywhere and in every way a fisher of people. He understood his supreme task to be making disciples for Jesus Christ.

On the day of Pentecost, the disciples – now 120 strong – had waited as instructed. The Spirit came as promised. The disciples spoke in other tongues so that the crowds gathered from the nations of the world heard them in their own languages boldly praising God. *So what did all this mean?*

Seizing the moment, Peter explained what it means. He first explained the supernatural behavior going on as a fulfillment of Joel's prophecy that the Spirit will be poured out upon all flesh.

The Spirit struck home with Peter's message: the people were "cut to the heart" and cried out "What should we do?" Peter is ready to answer: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ" (Acts 2:38). That day, 3,000 received saving grace and immediately moved into God's new community: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayers" (Acts 2:42).

After His Resurrection, the Risen Christ took Peter aside and asked him three times, "Do you love me more than these?" From then on, we see a different Peter. Never perfect, of course. At one point, for example, Paul had to rebuke Peter for withdrawing from the Gentile Christians at Antioch (Galatians 2:11-14). But the spiritual substance of Peter's life had been established. He had a

new firmness in life, and we see this most clearly in Peter's ability to proclaim the Good News. Whether he is preaching in Solomon's Portico or before the Sanhedrin or in the home of Cornelius, we see someone who is constantly and consistently "holding forth the word of life" (Philippians 2:16). This is what makes Peter a faithful representation of the Evangelical Tradition.

In the two letters that have been traditionally attributed to the hand of Peter, we see the same faithfulness in gospel proclamation: "By a great mercy, God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3b).

This man who began as a fisherman on the Sea of Galilee ended up fishing for people in the greatest urban center of the world: *Rome*.

In considering a contemporary model for the Evangelical Tradition, one name rises head and shoulders above all the rest: Billy Graham. Billy Graham proclaimed the gospel to monarchs and millions alike all over the world. He traveled to more places and preached to more persons than anyone in the history of Christianity.

The number and size of Graham's crusades, the multiplicity of countries and cultures he has preached in, and the reach of his elongated ministry simply stagger the imagination.

Mention must be made of the longest "crusade" ever held by Billy Graham: New York, 1957. Meeting in Madison Square Garden, Graham preached for sixteen bruising weeks with a closing rally at Times Square. It was the most broadly sponsored event Graham had had up to that point, and though it precipitated the final break with fundamentalist leaders unhappy with his growing ecumenism (working with other Christians), nothing could take away his thrill of proclaiming the gospel to overflow crowds in what Billy believed was "the most strategic center in the world."

Dare I mention the million-plus souls who gathered on Yoido Island in Seoul, Korea, in 1973? Billy Graham preached the gospel message of salvation in Jesus Christ as that solid block of humanity listened quietly, attentively, reverently.

Finally, the 1995 Crusade in San Juan, Puerto Rico perhaps became the most extensive single evangelistic outreach in the history of the Church – an outreach made possible by satellite technology that transmitted the meetings into 185 countries and territories. Graham's messages were simultaneously translated into



forty-eight languages as people listened in literally thousands of venues, from sports stadiums to refugee camps.

Anyone who looks at the life ministry of Billy Graham cannot help but be struck by how focused it was. Like the best of evangelists, he was highly specific and intently focused in his ministry: to proclaim the Gospel and call people to enter saving grace. Billy Graham is a lesson in clarity and simplicity. As Graham noted, "People soon found out that my theme was always the same: God's redemptive love for sinners and the need for personal repentance and conversion."

This is what Billy Graham contributed to the Evangelical Tradition:

- (1) Billy returned a sense of integrity to evangelism. He was known for his unimpeachable moral character and he worked hard to keep scandals out of his organization. He was deeply concerned over the entrenched cultural stereotypes of evangelists as "Elmer Gantry" charlatans.
- (2) Graham worked across traditions for the sake of evangelism and mission. He worked with a broad spectrum of the Christian community to reach as many people as humanly possible, just like John Wesley before him freely cooperated with church leaders of widely differing persuasions in order to proclaim the gospel to all peoples. In fact, it has often been noted that it is hard to "pin" Billy Graham religiously or politically. He was spiritual advisor to both Republican and Democratic presidents. He may have been Southern Baptist, but he was beloved by people of all faith traditions.
- (3) Graham also quietly worked for racial reconciliation: *"When true Christians look at each other, they should see 'no color, nor class, nor condition, but simply human beings with the same longings, fears, needs, and aspirations as our own.'"* At the 1957 New York Crusade, Billy asked Martin Luther King Jr. to lead a prayer, and later invited King to a team retreat to help them understand the racial situation more fully.
- (4) Billy Graham used literally every communications tool at his disposal in the task of evangelism. Billy had his first weekly radio program back in 1944, "Songs in the Night" leading up to his beloved "The Hour of Decision." Since 1950, Billy had written a daily newspaper column, "My

Answer.” He published his first of many books in 1953, *Peace with God*. In 1956, he launched a new magazine, *Christianity Today*, then *Decisions* in 1960. He established the film company, World Wide Pictures, produced an average of 4 primetime specials on television each year, and used cutting-edge satellite and internet technology to transmit his messages.

*“For all who are in Christ, they are a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”* This *euangelion*, this wonderful Good News, is that we no longer have to stand outside, barred from nearness to God by our sin and rebellion. Jesus Christ is the window into our ability to see and experience the presence of God already in our lives. Jesus Christ is *still* among us as the Living Word of God.

This is the core of the Evangelical Tradition: to offer people this Jesus, this Lens that enable us to experience God's love. It is the hope of the evangelist that this leads to lifelong discipleship to Christ, through which we learn how to live the abundant life of *“righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”*

## Need some house cleaning?

Call Kari LaBarge

715.323.8712

\$20 an hour

Monthly, weekly, one-time

House cleaning, windows,  
garage cleaning, spring cleaning,  
child cleaning, and junk drawers.

*All cleaning supplies provided.*