

Easter 2006

For this purpose God called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. - 2 Thessalonians 2:14

Dear Friends in Christ,

Spring, filled with new life and new possibilities, is just around the corner. The warmer brighter days this month are a sign that better weeks are ahead of us. Which seems strange since the winter was not that bad.

In fact, I think it was one of the most mild, gentle winters I have ever seen with very little snow and very little cold. Yet despite all of that, the arrival of spring this year is still just as welcome and just as important as the arrival of spring after a long, hard winter.

That first Easter, the message that Jesus was alive was greeted with great joy by the disciples. The crushing weight of despair was lifted from them as they realized that the death of Jesus was not the end. For those disciples, the announcement of the resurrection changed their mourning into celebration. It was just what they needed in life.

But for those who had not experienced what they had, the message of the resurrection was still important. For the empty tomb meant that their lives were changed as well. Because the grip of sin and fear had been broken for all people. The promise of a new tomorrow extended beyond the original disciples of Jesus.

The good news of Easter is not restricted to those whose lives are in utter chaos or for people crushed under guilt and sin. The message that Jesus has risen and death has been overcome is one which touches all of us. For the good news of Easter is that God is changing our lives. The power of God's love and grace is reaching into our world to change death and despair into life and hope. And that is a joyful message for everyone to experience and celebrate.

So no matter what your situation in life, I invite you to join with us in worship this Holy Week and Easter as we celebrate together the great things God has done for us through Jesus Christ our Lord. May God bless you and your family this Easter season and may God continue to bless our church.

Yours in Christ's Service,

The Rev. Peter A. Smith



Services: Holy Week and Easter

April 9, 2006, Palm Sunday -

10:00 am We shout our Hosanna's as Jesus enters Jerusalem.

April 13, 2006, Maundy Thursday -

7:00 pm in MacDonald Hall. Come gather around the Table as together we remember and re-experience the meal Jesus shared in the Upper Room.

April 14, 2006, Good Friday -

10:30 am at St. David's United Church. We remember and recount the meaning and mystery of the cross through scripture and music.

April 16, 2006, Easter Sunday -

6:30 am at Meehan's Cove Beach. As the sun rises, voices and prayers blend to give thanks for the rising of the Son.

10:00 am Easter Celebration with the sharing of Holy Communion.





Who decides when Easter will be each year?

Unlike Christmas which is always the same day on the calendar, Easter moves from year to year. That's because the early church tried to keep it close to the time described in the gospels as being near the Jewish festival of the Passover. The exact method of deciding the date of Easter is quite complicated but basically it usually works out that Easter falls on the Sunday after the first full moon in spring (and when the first full moon is a Sunday it's the next Sunday). That means that Easter can come as early as March 22 and as late as April 25. Normally though our celebration of the resurrection of Jesus falls on the first week of April.



**THE PEOPLE OF GOD AT
WORSHIP
WORK
WITNESS
IN AND THROUGH
QUISPAMSIS UNITED CHURCH**



QUISPAMSIS UNITED CHURCH
2006 EASTER LETTER
FOR

Family: _____

MINISTER: Rev. Peter Smith
Organist: Angela MacLean

Your Elder: _____
Telephone: _____
