

*He is not here; for  
He is risen,  
as He said.*

*Matthew 28:6a*



## ***Holy Week and Easter at Friendship Church***



### **Palm/Passion Sunday**

***Sunday, April 9, 10:00am***

Join the celebration of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem where the six symbols of Holy Week will be introduced.

### **Holy Thursday Tenebrae Service**

***Thursday, April 13, 7:30pm***

A contemplative service of candles, scripture, and readings of the Jesus' last night ending in complete darkness.

### **Good Friday Service entitled "Poured Out"**

***Friday, April 14, 7:30pm***

An interactive service depicting the six elements of Holy Week – oil, water, wine, blood, tears, and light through dramatic readings and special music.

### **Easter Worship**

***Sunday, April 16, 10:00am***

Christ is Risen! Hallelujah! Join us for music, scripture, Holy Communion, and a special Easter message from Pastor Anna!

The service will be followed by an egg hunt for children of all ages!

Pick up an invitation from the information station to invite your friends and neighbors!

## Reflections from Pastor Anna Shin

“I have asked **one thing** from the Lord—it’s all I seek: to live in the Lord’s house all the days of my life, seeing the Lord’s beauty and constantly adoring his temple. Because he will shelter me in his own dwelling during troubling times.” (Psalm 27:4-5)

David prayed for ‘one thing’ which was his focus in his whole life.

The Apostle Paul said in Philippians 3:13-14, “I myself don’t think I’ve reached it, but I do this **one thing**, I forget about the things behind me and reach out for the things ahead of me. The goal I pursue is the prize of God’s upward call in Christ Jesus.”

What is **one thing** that you want in your life? What is **one thing** that we can dream of being as a church and how would we help people to get there?

These are the questions that a group of us have been searching for an answer for last several months. You may say, “to love God and to know what God wants through us, for us; to teach our children that they are the beloved children of God; to care for people who need our help; to find caring community and friends.”

Thom Rainer and Eric Geiger in *Simple Church: Returning to God’s process for making disciples* offer that one thing we are called to be and do is **to build lives**. And each church is called to have a process of building people’s lives from being hurt, lost, and displaced to becoming loving, generous, joyous, in other words, mature followers of Christ, called disciples.

And we may discover a clear and simple blue print from our Master Jesus Christ.

According to the Gospels in our bible, Jesus called disciples to himself. He provided them with opportunities to experience Him. He ate with them, went fishing with them, hung out with them for several years. Also he provided them with opportunities designed to build their faith. He provided them with opportunities to cross the boundaries that the society generated and challenged them to do critical thinking by offering alternative views on how to be compassionate, how to be neighbors, and how to lead a good life here and now. Then He provided his disciples with opportunities to grow by serving. He sent them out to serve and heal people. He sent them out to bring Good News to people.

Is this what you have pictured in your mind when you joined Friendship Church? I would like to envision with you, how different we would look if we engage faithfully into the life through Friendship UMC in our personal life and in our public life as well a year or 3 or some years from now on.

Paul reminds us in his letter to the Philippians 1:27 “standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, working side by side for the faith of the gospel.”

What is one thing that you think our life-together needs to be built around?

Looking forward to hearing from you,



Pastor Anna Shin



# Children and Family News



## April 2017

April 2, 9, 23, 30 at 10:00am  
Sunday School

April 16 - Easter Sunday -  
No Sunday School

April 5, 26 - Friendship Café  
NO Café April 12, 19

## Candy for Easter Eggs

Small individually wrapped pieces of candy (no lollipops or hard candy please) are needed for our Easter Egg Hunt again this year. Small trinkets that would fit in the eggs are also welcome. Please bring your contributions to the church office by April 12<sup>th</sup>!

Thank you for your generosity!



## Easter Egg Hunt

The Children's Ministry Annual Egg Hunt will be on Easter Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 A.M.

Children will hunt for eggs around the church grounds following the worship service with their friends and family!

Everyone is invited!!  
Bring your Easter baskets!!



## Choralier and Alleluia Choirs

Thanks to the children and youth who made beautiful music for our congregation during the worship services this past year!

As you can see rehearsals are filled with hard work and with fun times too!

Here are our special and lovable children last month during rehearsal!

Enjoy your spring and summer and we will see you all again when rehearsals resume in October!!



## Vacation Bible School 2017

### Hero Central!

Discover your strength in God!

July 24-28

9:00-11:30 A.M.

The children (3 years old through incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade) will take an adventure and learn that God's heroes have Power, Heart, Courage, Wisdom and Hope! There will be music, science, crafts, recreation and Bible stories to help the children and their leaders discover their strength in God!

Bring your friends, neighbors and relatives and join the fun each morning!

Put the dates on your calendar now!!



# Youth Happenings



## Middle School Sunday School-Sundays @10am

6th-8th graders are invited to explore the meaning and mystery of the Bible through readings and discussion as they study God's creation, God's calling, and the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Teachers will follow the "Seasons of the Spirit" curriculum. Students will have the opportunity to join worship on the first Sundays of each month.

## THE FOUNDRY

### Saturdays, 7-9pm

Youth ages 6th-12th grade are invited for a time of worship, devotions and of course, youth group games!

The praise band "Band of Bread" will rehearse from 6:30 to the start of the evening at 7pm.

Contact Miss Melissa  
mell0cell0@aol.com

## Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser!



Purchase one chair for \$55 or two for \$100 to help the Youth raise money for their trip to Kentucky in June. See Melissa Schoonover or Tom Marsh for more details and to place an order.



Follow us on twitter @friendshipout2

## Friendship Career Scholarship Fund



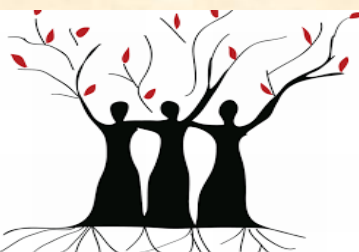
The scholarship application is now available on our website: [friendshipchurchumc.org](http://friendshipchurchumc.org). Please download, complete, and return the completed application no later than April 14. A copy of the application can also be obtained in the church office.

This scholarship was started to help church members with the cost of education. It is for a graduating senior who is an active member of Friendship United Methodist Church. The scholarship award can be used for college or trade school. Donations to the scholarship fund can still be made. Please use the Friendship Career Scholarship Fund envelopes available at the information station.

## Caregiver Support Update

The support group monthly meetings have been suspended and will resume at a future date. Caregiver Guides will continue to be available upon request at any time. The Friendship Caregiver Guides are Fern Deatrick and Jody Hargett. The guide is someone who listens to, prays with, and points the way to possible resources for the caregiver. Please check in with either Fern or Jody or you can contact the Caregiver Support Team through the church office, or the caregiver email ([hisgrace4caregivers@gmail.com](mailto:hisgrace4caregivers@gmail.com)) and a team member will contact you.

A weekly caregiver devotional is available and can be found in the folder bin marked: **“Caregiver Support Devotionals”** on the Information Station table at church. Share a devotional with a caregiver today!



## Women of Purpose~ New Group at Friendship Church

This is a new group formed by women of Friendship Church who are concerned about

issues of today. We hope to become informed about social topics facing all of us- locally, nationally and globally. Gatherings will include pertinent speakers, information about available resources and trips of interest.

Our first meeting will be Friday, April 28th at 6:00 pm at the church. We'll get to know one another, share our vision for the group and have some refreshments. The evening's speaker will be Friendship's very own David Olsen. Dave is an elected Illinois representative from Downers Grove District 81 and serves in Springfield. He'll be our civics teacher of the evening, acquainting us with how both local, state, and national government ticks! Please bring your ideas, questions and concerns.



## Save the Date! - Tuesday, May 2, 6-7:30pm

FMSC offers volunteers a one-of-a-kind experience. You'll hand-pack rice, soy, dried vegetables and a nutritionally complete blend of vitamins and minerals into bags which are then sealed, boxed, placed on pallets and shipped to our incredible partners working hard to reach the neediest children around the world.

Through volunteering at FMSC, you'll get the chance to impact hundreds of kids in just two hours per packing shift. You'll experience what it's like to make a tangible difference—today. Contact the church office 630.972.1011 or [churchoffice@friendshipchurchumc.org](mailto:churchoffice@friendshipchurchumc.org) to sign up!



# First Friends Preschool



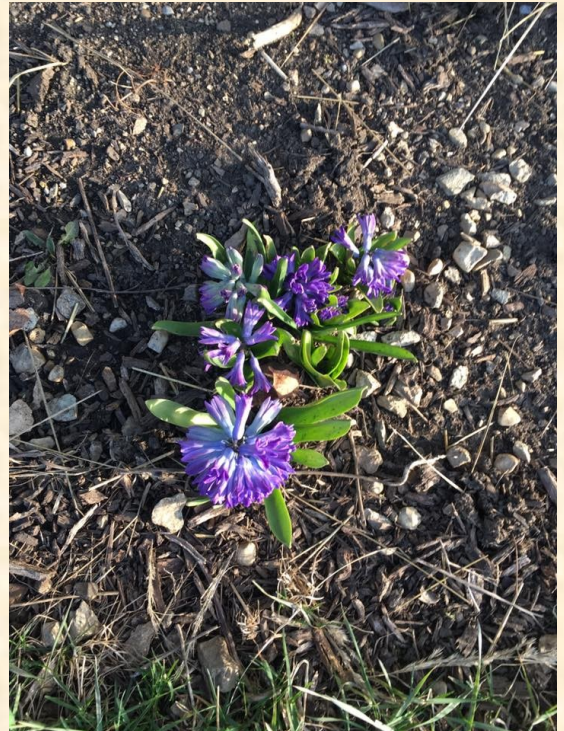
First Friends took a field trip to the Willowbrook Wildlife Center on March 29. The forest preserve Ranger presented a program on animals. Parents and their children enjoyed a day learning about local birds, mammals and reptiles and amphibians. They even got to examine a birds' nest!



## The Faces of Friendship



## Signs of Spring at Friendship





## Friendship Community

### Prayer Chain:

Please email your requests to [prayerrequests@friendshipchurchmc.org](mailto:prayerrequests@friendshipchurchmc.org). If you don't use email please call the church office and the request will be forwarded. If you do not have access to a computer and wish to join the prayer chain, please advise the church office or see Kathryn Bulman, prayer chain coordinator. Please be mindful that even though prayer requests may be common knowledge, it is our responsibility to maintain confidentiality.

### Celebration offerings



The tradition of the Celebration Offering came to us from our African Fellowship.

On the first Sunday of each month as we celebrate God's abundant gifts on our lives, a special offering is taken in addition to the general offering.

It's a chance to celebrate the blessings God has bestowed upon our lives. Look for the special offering envelope in the bulletin. There is a place to mark if you would like to share your story with the congregation during a Sunday worship.

We have been blessed continuously with generous sharing and giving from our church families to share their moments of thanksgiving and joy with others who need an extra encouragement.

This month we received 10 envelopes for a total of \$110 in celebration of a beautiful Sunday; the birth of the Mikulcik's 19th grandchild (!); God's grace upon family and children; and for being well cared for by God.

May God continue to bless you richly as your compassionate heart grows daily!

Blessings,

Pastor Anna

### DAYBREAK

Serving at *Daybreak* is a long standing tradition at Friendship. On the third Friday (and following Saturday morning) we donate food, cook and serve two meals. Watch inserts in 2nd Sunday bulletins for details on how to donate and get involved in serving at the shelter.

*Dinner on Friday, April 21 @ 5:30 pm*

*Breakfast on Saturday, April 22 @ 5:00 am*

Richard Guzman, Coordinator

### SENIOR BIBLE STUDY & LUNCHEON

Is open to all senior adults. It meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:15am. The study is led by Pastor Anna and is followed by a delicious luncheon. If you would like to attend, contact the church office at 630-972-1011.

*Study & Lunch: Thursday, April 20 at 11:15am*

### AA & GA

Friendship is a place of help and hope for those struggling with addictions. Meetings are open to all.  
**AA Meetings:** Saturdays @ 9am & Sunday @ 5pm  
**GA Meetings:** Fridays @ 7:30 pm

### ANXIETY/PANIC ATTACK SUPPORT GROUP

Meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month from 7—9pm. Open to all.

### STUDY CLUB

Wednesdays 4-5pm (During the school year)  
Mentoring students from WoodView School.

### DONATIONS FOR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES:

**7th Day Adventist Pantry**

**POWER Connection**

1st Sunday of every month

### FIRST FRIENDS CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL MONDAY-FRIDAY

**9:00am-12:00pm**

Contact Chris Bosacki, Director,  
for more information.

[chrisbosacki@firstfriendspreschool.info](mailto:chrisbosacki@firstfriendspreschool.info)

# April 2017 ~ Friendship Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> 10am Worship & Sunday School 1pm Hindu Temple Visit 5pm AA	<b>3</b> No School-Election Day 10am BPC Ministry 7pm Church Council	<b>4</b> No School-Election Day 10am BPC Ministry 7pm Church Council	<b>5</b> 10:30am Women's Bible Study 4pm Study Club 5:30pm Friendship Café 6:30pm Children's Choirs, Boy Scouts, Adult Bells 7pm Confirmation 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>6</b> 10am Worship Planning 7pm Leadership Meeting	<b>7</b> 10am BPC Ministry 6:30pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm GA 7pm Synagogue Visit	1 9am AA 7pm The Foundry 8 9am AA 7pm The Foundry
<b>9 Palm/Passion Sunday</b> 10am Worship & Sunday School 5pm AA 5pm Gujarati Worship	<b>10</b> 5:30pm Girl Scouts <b>No Preschool - Spring Break</b>	<b>11</b> 10am BPC Ministry	<b>12</b> 6:30pm Adult Bells, Boy Scouts 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>13 Holy Thursday</b> 7:30pm Worship	<b>14 Good Friday</b> 7:30pm Worship 7:30pm GA	15 9am AA 7pm The Foundry
<b>16 Easter Sunday</b> 10am Worship <b>NO SUNDAY SCHOOL</b> 11am Easter Egg Hunt 5pm AA	<b>17</b> 5:30pm Girl Scouts 7pm Staff Parish Committee	<b>18</b> 10am BPC Ministry	<b>19</b> 4pm Study Club 5:30pm Friendship Café 6:30pm Boy Scouts, Adult Bells 7pm Confirmation 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>20</b> 11:15am Sr. Bible Study and Lunch	<b>21</b> 10am BPC Ministry 6:30pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm GA	22 9am AA 7pm The Foundry
<b>23</b> 10am Worship & Sunday School 5pm AA	<b>24</b> 5:30pm Girl Scouts	<b>25</b> 10am BPC Ministry	<b>26</b> 5:30pm Friendship Café 6:30pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>27</b> 7pm Anxiety Support	<b>28</b> 10am BPC Ministry 6pm Women of Purpose 7:30pm GA	29 9am AA 7pm The Foundry
<b>30</b> 10am Worship & Sunday School 11:30am Sacred Conversations 5pm AA						