

PARTNERSHIP PRESS



@Partnership Place



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



St. John's
United Church of Christ

APRIL CALENDAR

1 - NURTURE MEETING 10 AM

WORSHIP MEETING 4 PM

CENTERING PRAYER WITH YOGA 5:30 PM

2,9,16,23,30 - YARNS & CRAFTS 10 AM-12 PM PRAYER ROOM

2 - KIDS ACTIVITIES AT JACKSON INTERFAITH SHELTER 5:15 PM

6 - SJUCC CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP
EASTER FLOWER ORDERS DUE

6, 13, 27 - BOOK STUDY *HOW WE LEARN TO BE BRAVE* 11:15 AM

9 - SJ COUNCIL MEETING 5:30 PM

13 - PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10 AM

16 - KIDS ACTIVITIES AT JACKSON INTERFAITH SHELTER AT 5:15 PM

17 - MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP WITH POTLUCK 6 PM

18 - FOOD PANTRY AND BABY SPRINKLES 10 AM-12 PM

22 - COMMUNITY DINNER 6 PM

24 - THOUGHT PARTNER ZOOM 6 PM

26 - COMMUNITY DANCE 7-9 PM

27 - SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS FOLLOWING CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

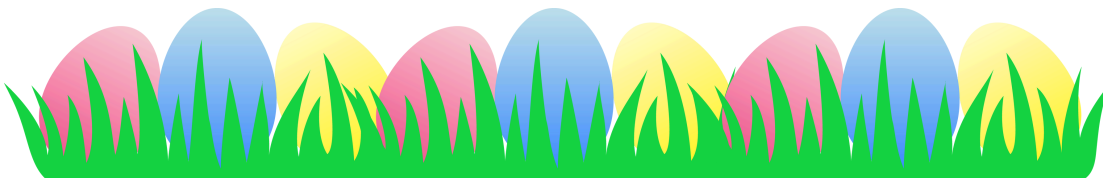
April 2025

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a just
world
for all
ucc.org



Mission Updates

Our **March Food Pantry** served 110 people, representing 326 family members. 6000 pounds of food were distributed. The Community Dinner served 30 people on March 25. Donations of plastic shopping bags are appreciated. - Contributed by Carl Robinson

The March Baby Sprinkle served 36 families and 60 children. We always enjoy interacting with moms, grandparents, and children. We are close to being able to order diapers and wipes from the State of Michigan's program for low-income parents; that will allow us to serve our families better. We get a lot of requests for Pull Ups which are not included in the diaper program. Donations of Pull Ups would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

- Contributed by Donna Benedict

The **Samaritan Fund** provided assistance for four utility payments in March totaling \$300. Eleven individuals received emergency food, and 23 unhoused people used our church showers.

- Contributed by Michele Wilson

We met with eleven kids at the **Jackson Interfaith Shelter** the first and third Wednesdays in March. We did crafts and provided snacks. If you would like to help out, contact Michele Wilson or Cindy Osborne. Volunteers are always welcome.

- Submitted by Cindy Osborne



The **Jackson Personal Care Ministry** served 220 guests in February and 238 in March. If you would like to help with this worthwhile ministry, please let us know at jfense@icloud.com.

- Contributed by Margo and John Fenstermaker

The **Community Dance** was attended by 180 persons from our community! Many thanks to Linda Miller and her team for their tremendous outreach. The next dance will be Saturday, April 26, from 7 - 9 PM. Donations of food and funds are always welcome. Come join the fun! Contact Linda Miller.

Our **Clothesline Ministry** has provided warm clothing items throughout the winter months. Now, we are collecting plastic rain ponchos. Many thanks to Bob Neustifter and Gloria Frederickson for this ministry!

Thank you to all who donated sock to our **Save a Sole** mission project. The socks will soon be distributed to those in need.

Contact Information

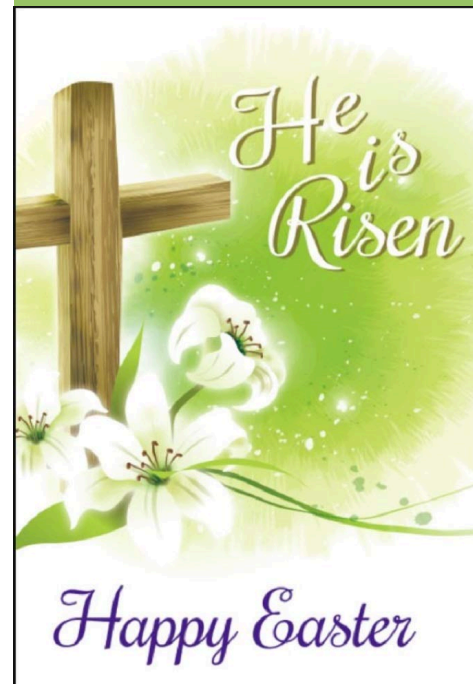
To receive the Zoom link for Sunday services, please visit partnership.place and click "Subscribe". You will receive the Partnership Place Weekly Digest with the Zoom link.



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Rev. Judy Goodrow

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judy.goodrow@partnership.place

kjgoodrow3kids@gmail.com

Happy Re-Birthday!

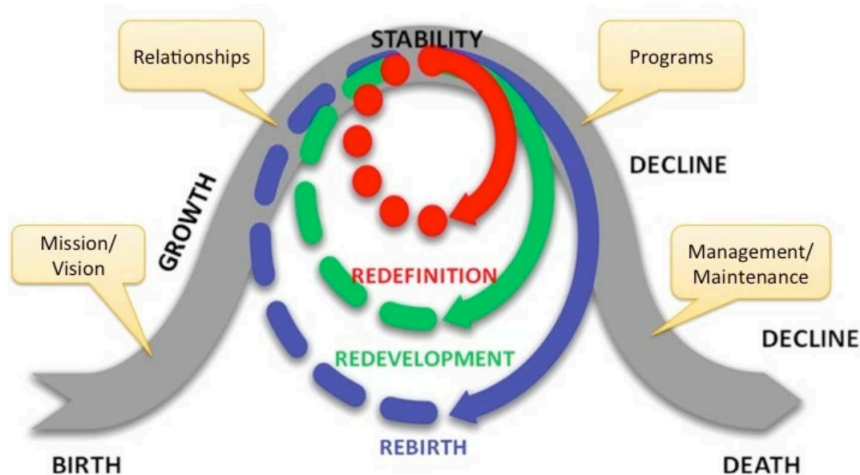
Easter is a time for rebirth. The songbirds are home, the daffodils are blooming again, and the maples have flowered and dropped their red blooms to make way for green leaves. It's a time of hope and growth, and our spirits feel renewed.

We are also filled with hope here at Partnership Place. With all that has happened here in the past few months, we have accomplished something very few churches can do: Rebirth.

When we look at the lifecycle of the church (image below), we can see that both St. John's and Westminster were sliding down the "decline" side of the bell graph. The initial Joint Witness Agreement set us on course to redefine who we are here at Partnership Place. Our Thought Partners, Partnership Board, and consultants continue the work of redevelopment: How does this new creature engage and act? As we approach our one-year anniversary as a combined congregation, we're being born anew!

Rebirth will surprise and amaze us. It will disrupt and annoy us. It will cause both joy and pain. I encourage everyone to stay with the process, because rebirth will send us across the graph directly to **growth**. What a lovely place to be!

Thank you all for your patience, persistence, compromise, prayers, and plain old hard work. Prepare for a growth spurt! Pastor Judy



Children's Activities at Jackson Interfaith Shelter



Blessed be the
God and Father
of our Lord
Jesus Christ! By
his great mercy
he has given us a
new birth into a
living hope through
the resurrection
of Jesus Christ
from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3

BE THE BLESSING

SOMETHING FOR
EVERYONE!

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO
TO BE A BLESSING:

INVITE FRIENDS TO CHURCH

OFFER YOUR MUSICAL GIFTS

SIGN UP TO BE A GREETER,
USHER OR CANDLE LIGHTER

SUPPORT OUR MISSIONS

SIGN BIRTHDAY CARDS

PRAY

NOTICE WHO'S MISSING,
AND REACH OUT WITH LOVE!

Partnership Place Website

We hope you have visited our new website!

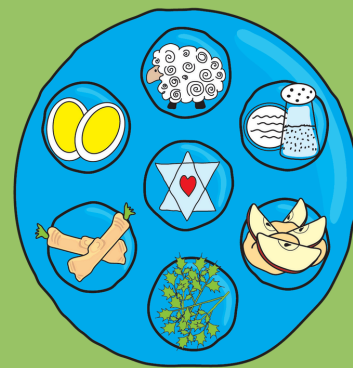
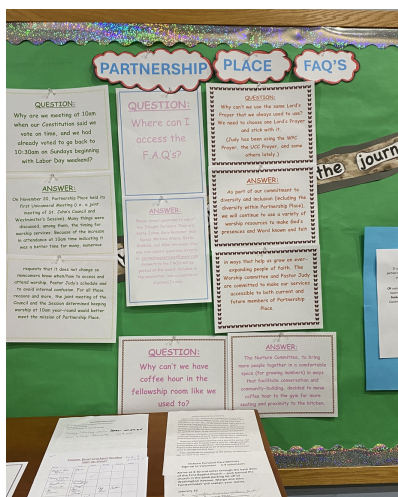
Our new website is <https://partnership.place>. A link for scheduling showers is also available, and a new calendar link has been created so we can keep up with all the events at Partnership Place.

- Contributed by Evelyn Park

Partnership FAQ's

Please continue to add your questions to the list in the Community Room and/or email your questions to:

jointwitnessproject@gmail.com. All questions are archived on our website. If you need to revisit a question and answer, you can find them all by clicking on 'Pages' and 'FAQs' at <http://partnership.place>. We will be adding new questions and answers to the board soon.



Maundy Thursday

All are welcome to attend a potluck dinner and hand-washing service on Maundy Thursday, April 17, at 6 PM. Celebrating Jesus' heritage, we will tell the ancient story of the Exodus, Israel's redemption from bondage. Sign up in the Community Room for attendance and if you can bring a dish to pass.



Lent Book Study Continues

Our study of the book *How We Learn to Be Brave* by Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde will continue during April (except Easter Sunday). We have changed our location to the Fellowship Room to include our Zoomers. Everyone is welcome to attend these discussions. We begin at 11:15 AM.

Sunday School Begins

The Nurture Committee is excited to resume Sunday School at Partnership Place. However, we need two more volunteers to teach Sunday School so that each team will only have to be available one Sunday each month. The curriculum and supplies for each week will be provided, so the only prep work is to become familiar with the weekly Bible story and activity. We estimate that Sunday School will last approximately 30 minutes. Please help make Sunday School a success by volunteering to teach one week per month. Contact Rev. Judy or Pat Baumgartner for more information or to volunteer. Thank you!

Easter Breakfast

On Easter Sunday we will breakfast together at 9 AM. Please bring your favorite breakfast food to share. Leftovers will be served at coffee hour following our Easter worship.

Meijer Simply Give

The Meijer Simply Give program is designed to help feed the growing number of hungry families in our community. The Food Pantry at Partnership Place receives funds from Meijer each year when we take gift cards from the display here at church and purchase the card at our local, east side Meijer for \$10 or more. When the campaign ends on June 28, Meijer will match our contributions and award an amount for our Food Pantry.

For our food pantry to receive credit, the Simply Give cards must be taken to our partnering Meijer store (3333 E. Michigan). The best day to make a contribution is Double Match Day on June 14. For each \$10 we contribute, Meijer will match \$20, resulting in a \$30 gift for our Food Pantry. Please mark this day on your calendar and pick up a Simply Give card at our display in the Community Room. Questions? See Carl Robinson or contact the church office.

Nancy Hackworth Literacy Update

The Nancy Hackworth Literacy Initiative (NHL) was started by the Hackworth family to honor Nancy Hackworth who dedicated her life to serving the community and the church. Her husband Darryl and son Andy brainstormed ideas on how to honor her. They decided to launch a reading tutoring program and library because it would have lasting impact. Their idea was met with open arms and tons of support by Pastor Judy and Bert Steck who runs the administrative side of operations.

The first tutor who joined the initiative was Susan Nawrot. Sue helped set the standard for the tutoring aspect of the initiative. Then Cindy Osbourne joined the initiative. With her years of bookstore experience, Cindy pulled the library together, making it what Darryl always envisioned. Kellie Hubbard, Jeff Wilkinson, Bette Watkins, and Cindy Spiess are the current tutors for the students. So far, students have benefited from 450 tutoring sessions.

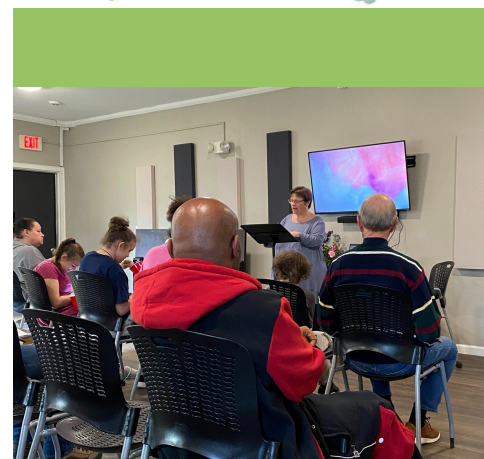
The NHL offers reading tutoring to students, story-time sessions, as well as a library located inside the church that has almost 100 books to choose from. The NHL needs help expanding its reach to children who are connected to members of the church. It is free and open to all members and children of the community. If interested, please contact Bert Steck or Darryl Hackworth.

-Contributed by Sara Vowler



He is not here!
He has risen, just as
he said.

Matthew 28:6a NIV



Partnership Place volunteers
serve with Dawn Depner at
the Interfaith Shelter



Easter flowers order form - Order by April 6

Easter Lilies \$14 each Tulips \$15 each

Name _____

Lily quantity _____ @ \$14 Total \$_____

Tulip quantity _____ @ \$15 total \$_____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Ridgeway News

The Westminster Session has approved listing the Ridgeway property and anticipates that Patriot Realty will begin showing the property in April. The building will be listed at its appraisal price of \$400,000. Presbytery will negotiate the sale and is assuming Ridgeway costs. Patriot Realty has handled the sale of several churches for the Presbytery.

-Contributed by Nancy Connell, Communications Chair

Welcome!

The Welcoming Committee is organizing "It's Just Dinner," a way for members of the congregations to get to know each other better. The get-togethers may be dinner, lunch, coffee break, or whatever, and they could be in a person's home, in a coffee shop, or some other place that a group decides. The gatherings will be held during Lent. To sign up to host one -- or to attend one -- contact Lynn Kenworthy at gipkenplace@yahoo.com or sign up in the Community Room.

-Contributed by Nancy Connell, Communications Chair

How to reach our staff

Here are our updated email addresses:

Evelyn Park	stjohnsuccjackson@gmail.com
Evie Meeks	evelyn.meeks@partnership.place
Carl Robinson	tadd66@live.com
Pastor Judy	judy.goodrow@partnership.place
	kjgoodrow3kids@gmail.com



Need Prayer?

Prayer Partners will be available after every worship service. If you would like one-on-one prayer, come forward to meet with a prayer partner in the front pew of the sanctuary. If you would like to be a prayer partner, please contact Jan Janke.

Contributed by Jan Janke



Just For Kids

Kids' Activity bags are now available in the sanctuary. Children and parents are welcome to pick up an activity bag to help occupy young minds during worship. Please return the bag to the back of the sanctuary following the worship service. Many thanks to Cindy Osborne for her contributions.

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Affix Address
Label Here

Love God ♥ Love People ♥ Serve Both

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