

Joy

MARCH 2016

What's Happening for Women

March

- 12th– Easter Springtacular
- 20th– Palm Sunday
- 25th– Good Friday
- 27th– Easter; Services at 8am, 9:30am and 11am
- 31st– Girls Craft Night Out, Chapel, 6:30pm– 9pm
We will be making “Stained Glass” designs out of fabric. Please bring fabric shears if you have them.

April

- 7th– Working Women’s Luncheon, Bay Oaks Country Club, 12pm– 1pm
- 16th– Right at Home Moms Baby Bargain Sale

UBC Groups for Women

Tuesdays

Journey to Joy Bible Study, 10am– 12pm, EB 226
EB 228 - led by Karol Peters, 7pm

Wednesdays

Right at Home Moms - 9:30am-11:45am, 3rd Floor Lounge

Thursdays

Precepts- 9:45am– 12pm, EB 226
Crossing Cultures– 9:45am– 12pm, EB 222
Study of 1 John– 9:45am– 12pm, EB 210

Sundays

9:30am, EB 202 -Second Wind led by Pamm Muzslay
11 am, EB 209 - The Lydia Group for Working Women led by Angie Reeves
11 am, EB 102 - Journey to Joy led by Debbie Hampton

New Study beginning Thursday, March 24th!

9:45am– Noon

Living in Truth

Confident Conversation in a Conflicted Culture
Written by Mary Jo Sharp, Led by Jenny Verghese and Antoinette Witwer

6 weeks

\$20

Room EB 210

NEW!! Girls Craft Night Out

- March 31st, 6:30pm– 9pm; fabric “stained glass” collage
- June 9th, 6:30pm– 9pm; pillowcases
- Sept. 22nd, 6:30pm– 9pm; cork pumpkins
- Nov 17th, 6:30pm– 9pm; food gift mixes

Connect with us

Facebook: Women of UBC

Pinterest: UBC Women

Twitter: @ubchouston

Need to talk to someone? Contact Lora Doremus at lora.doremus@ubc.org or 281-488-8517.

Questions about programs? Contact Lisa Stiles at lisa.stiles@ubc.org.

Want to contribute to future newsletters? Let us know!

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Easter Promise

By Jenny Verghese

“...so that you may know you have eternal life.”

The elderly apostle John penned these words in his first epistle, a letter written to believers who were letting their faith be made fuzzy by a band of Gnostics; people who were raising doubt about whether Jesus had risen from the dead *bodily*. Like, with skin and bones. Blood flowing. Breathing air. Eating food. That He wasn't just a spirit.

I have been studying 1 John this spring, and I've learned the reality of what John is saying is absolutely foundational to our faith. And the foundation of our faith is MIND BLOWING.

John starts off his letter reminding these early believers that he and James and Peter and Paul - any many, many more - were eye witnesses to the resurrected Jesus. Eye witnesses. Eye witnesses. “We heard Him. We saw Him. We looked at Him and touched Him with our hands. He is the Word of LIFE. The life is ETERNAL.”

In chapter 4, John said that when we confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in us, by way of the Holy Spirit living in us (see 1 John 4:13-15). Paul said if the Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead lives in us, that same Spirit will give life to OUR mortal bodies (Romans 8:11).

Ok, now, I'm getting a little excited. I have put my faith in Jesus, the Son of God. I KNOW what a sinner I am and how much I need God's wrath appeased. You'd better believe I believe. That means the Holy Spirit lives in me. Because He lives in me, my mortal body is going to defeat death? Just like my Savior did?

In chapter 3 of 1 John, he said the children of God will become like Jesus when we see Him (verse 2). I wanted to know more about what THAT meant. Here's what I learned:

- we will bear the image of the heavenly (1 Corinthians 15:49)
- our humble bodies will be transformed into conformity with the body of HIS GLORY, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself (Philippians 3:21)
- we have been granted precious and magnificent promises, by which we will become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust. (2 Peter 1:4)

I want that!! And John didn't want these early Christians to be led astray by false teachers into believing the resurrected Jesus was anything less. “These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you many know that you have eternal life” (1 John 5:13).

That eternal life is already in us. And we will be transformed - bodily - like He has been.

Happy Easter, indeed.



The Word

He has saved us and called us to a holy life— not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time. (2 Timothy 1:9)

For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age. (Titus 2:11-12)

So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him. (Hebrews 9:28)

Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.” (Mark 10:27)

Carrot Cake for Easter

By Katy Ernst

My husband's favorite cake is carrot cake, in fact he loves it so much that it was the groom's cake at our reception. To make it look more traditional the standard cream cheese frosting was tinted brown, making it look like a chocolate cake. To this day when the subject of our wedding comes up with friends and family everyone expresses how disappointed they were that it wasn't a chocolate cake despite looking like one! This cake will feed and please a crowd!

Ingredients

Cake:

- 2 Cups A.P. flour
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 2 Cups sugar
- 1 Cup vegetable oil
- 4 large eggs
- 4-6 large carrots, washed & peeled

Cream Cheese Frosting:

- 1/2 Cup butter, softened
- 1 8 oz. pkg cream cheese, softened
- 1 lb. powdered sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 Cup chopped pecans, plus extra

- (1) Preheat oven to 350°.
- (2) To make the cake, in a bowl sift first 5 ingredients together.
- (3) In a mixer combine sugar, oil, & eggs & mix till combined.
- (4) Add all dry ingredients & mix till smooth.
- (5) Grate 2 cups worth of carrots, add to cake batter & mix till incorporated.
- (6) Pour batter into well greased bundt pan & bake 40-45 minutes.
- (7) Turn cake out after letting it sit in pan for 10 minutes & let cool completely before icing.
- (8) To make frosting add first 4 ingredients to mixer & mix till fluffy & smooth, then add pecans & mix till incorporated.



Testimony: The Big Dig

We all know we should study the Bible, but where do we begin? How can we make the most of the few minutes we set aside each day to connect with God through His Word?

To help, the UBC Women's Ministry leadership team recently hosted the *Big Dig*; three workshops held over three weeks, designed to equip anyone to dig deeper into her study of scripture.

Each week, we excavated truth from the book of James by learning to ask ourselves the right questions and use online tools and resources to help find answers. We also had time to talk with each other to discover different ideas and points of view.

Here's some things participants had to say about the *Big Dig*:

"I liked the personal and diverse method of study. I loved the way leadership was shared - it was very insightful!"

"I liked having all the tools explained and learning how to look up words and commentaries. It led to a deeper, richer understanding of the passage."

"The group discussions gave me different points of view from my own. It made me more receptive to other interpretations."

"At first it seemed overwhelming, but once I adjusted to my style and brain, it was easier to comprehend. It made me consider journaling!"

Participants learned to ask themselves questions to direct their study; here were some of their favorites...

"What does it say?" Because I love not knowing anything and starting with a clean slate, and then digging in to unveil the layers!"

"What does it mean?" This is the area I had struggled with doing on my own at home, and now I have resources to help me."

"What should I do?" It makes me accountable for my actions and figure out what I truly need to do in my life."

A second Big Dig will be held this summer - a **Summer Dig!** We will be making some adjustments, based on the excellent feedback we received from everyone, but the aim will be the same: to equip you to make the most of your time in God's Word, and create space to fall in love with Him over and over again.



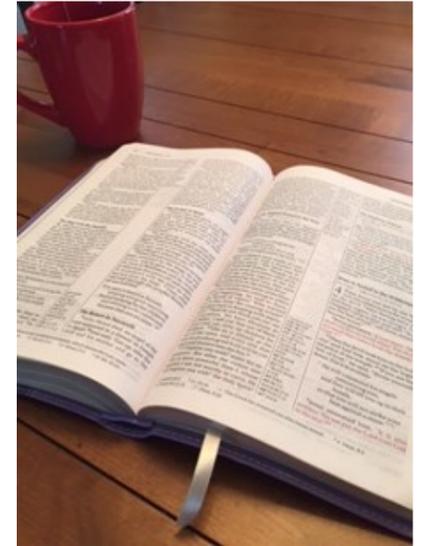
Gospel Bible Reading Plan

89 Chapters 27 Days

I'd like all of us to take up the challenge to read through the gospels in the days leading up to Easter. Please use this as a guide to help you on your journey. My prayer is that God would use this to remind us who Jesus is and what He calls us to do and to be as we read about his life and ministry, and most importantly his sacrifice for us and the hope we have in his resurrection. For He is Risen!

Read on Day:

1 Matthew 1-4	11 Mark 7-10	21 John 1-3
2 Matthew 5-7	12 Mark 11-13	22 John 4-6
3 Matthew 8-10	13 Mark 14-16	23 John 7-9
4 Matthew 11-13	14 Luke 1-4	24 John 10-12
5 Matthew 14-16	15 Luke 5-7	25 John 13-15
6 Matthew 17-19	16 Luke 8-11	26 John 16-18
7 Matthew 20-23	17 Luke 12-15	27 John 19-21
8 Matthew 24-28	18 Luke 16-18	
9 Mark 1-3	19 Luke 19-21	
10 Mark 4-6	20 Luke 22-24	



UBC Springtacular

UBC's Springtacular for Preschool families is Saturday, March 12th from 10am-12pm.

For many of us, our earliest memories of Easter center around egg hunts. My earliest Easter memories are pretty pink dresses, dying eggs, Easter services followed by lunch with my family and, of course, egg hunts. At UBC, our Easter Springtacular is an opportunity to come together and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus as a church community. It is also an opportunity to share the joy and hope that we have as Christians with the surrounding community.

There are many opportunities to serve before and during this event. You can volunteer your time at one of the many stations and booths, help stuff eggs, and, most importantly, you can pray for all the people coming to receive the hope of knowing that Jesus Christ is risen!

Springtacular events include egg hunts, bounce houses, a petting zoo, train rides, games, crafts, pony rides, hot dogs, popcorn, and more.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Janet Kuhlman at janet.kuhlman@ubc.org.

