



THE MUSTARD SEED

Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree... *Matthew 13:32*

Presbyterian Church of Ruston PCUSA

May 2017



EASTERTIDE OR EASTER SEASON

Easter isn't just a Sunday. It's a season. The season of Easter begins on Easter Sunday and goes for 50 days – seven weeks. These 50 days include the festival of the Ascension of the Lord and ends with Pentecost. This year Pentecost is June 4.

Easter is not a fixed date but a day determined by a system based on the lunar calendar. The Council of Nicaea in 325AD, created by Constantine, was the first ecumenical council, and its purpose was to come to a consensus on the Christological issue related to the relationship of God the Father and the Son of God. This Council brought us the Nicene Creed which we often use on communion Sundays.

The other thing that happened at this council was an agreement of when to celebrate Easter. The Feast of Easter was established in the second century but there was a dispute between the Eastern and Western Churches over the exact date to observe Easter. The Eastern wanted it on a weekday but the West wanted to have Easter observed on Sunday regardless of the date.

The early church used the season of Lent as a time for new converts to learn about the faith and prepare for baptism on Easter Sunday. The purpose of the Easter season was to continue the faith formation of new Christians.

Today, we can use this season as a time to remember our baptisms and how we are to live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

THE SEASONS OF THE CHURCH YEAR

The Church Year begins with Advent in November/December. We are presently in Year A.

Year A: 2016-2017

Year B: 2017-2018

Year C: 2018-2019

The Church Year

Advent Year A - November 27-December 18, 2016

Christmas - December 25, 2016 - January 5, 2017

Epiphany and Ordinary Time until Lent– January 6 - March 4, 2017

Shrove Tuesday or Mardi Gras - February 28, 2017

Ash Wednesday - March 1, 2017

Lent - March 5 - April 15, 2017

Holy Week - April 9 - 14, 2017

Maundy Thursday - April 13, 2017

Good Friday - April 14, 2017

Easter - April 16, 2017

Pentecost - June 4, 2017

Ordinary Times - June 7 - December 2, 2017

Advent (Year B) December 3 - 24, 2017

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Newsletter Online www.rustonpres.org



LUNCH ON US CONTINUES TO ROLL ON—

PCR is now in its 13th week of offering bagged lunches on Wednesday mornings. We began February 1 with 30 lunches and the need has grown: we now load 42 bags. A standard lunch consists of a ham and cheese sandwich, including condiments, 2 cookies, 3 mini carrots, an apple or a banana, a bag of chips and a bottle of water.

Last week, a random poll was taken from those who have consistently been fed. We felt the need to know if what we were offering was what folks were enjoying. A resounding “Yes” was the answer. The response of gratefulness continues each week. Without fail, many of the recipients give money to offset the cost of their meal. This is not required, but it is their way of offering thanks.

The actual cost of each bag, including food and packaging, is around ninety-five cents. Funding for this ministry comes from several sources. The Session voted to provide start up funds of \$500 from the EA Dickey Fund. Presbytery of the Pines gave half of their offering from the February meeting. Gifts have also come in from people in the community who have heard about Lunch On Us and from members of our congregation. In addition, the Fellowship Committee designated additional monies from the Lenten suppers to be given to L.O.U.

Each Tuesday and Wednesday morning around 10:30, folks gather to prepare, load and deliver the bags. It is a happy place on those mornings with lots of chatter and laughter. Any Tuesday or Wednesday morning, if you need a task, come and join us. There is no need to be on any list—just come to the kitchen and fellowship hall.

There is always something to do and we welcome all!

CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL For Summer

The children will be having Sunday school this summer, but Mallory will not be here.

To provide for our precious little ones, we need two volunteers for each week. We have a wonderful, faithful group who work with Mallory each week during the school year, but we need others who are willing to be with the children during the summer.

Please let Diane know if you can help. At baptisms, we have promised to guide and nurture children by word and deed with love and prayer. It takes a church (village) to raise our children.

Edith

FREE JAMBALAYA LUNCH

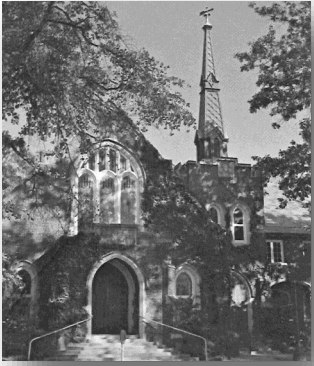
The Sunrise Kiwanis Club is having its annual fundraiser, a jambalaya lunch, on Friday, May 12 from 11-1:00. Lunches can be picked up at Super One. Edith has 20 tickets to give away to those of you who would like to have a ticket (or more than one). If you would like to have a ticket, and therefore a free lunch, stop by the office and get a ticket from Diane.

MAY 2017

S T W T F S

	1  Greg Hilburn	2 9:45 Parlor Prayer Group	3 11:30 Lunch On Us 6:00 Choir	4	5	6 9:00a.m. Workday at Church
7 10:00 Doug Jenkins Class 10:45 Worship 11:00 Children's S.S. 12:00 Lunch -Worship & CE Committees	8	9 9:45 Parlor Prayer Group	10 11:30 Lunch On Us 2:00 Bennie Kendall Circle	11	12  Jim Nelson	13  Rhonda Boyd  JN Walpole
14 Mother's Day 10:00 Doug Jenkins Class 10:45 Worship/ Communion 11:00 Children's SS	15 6:00 Session	16 9:45 Parlor Prayer Group  BJ Fagan	17 8:00 Men's Breakfast 11:30 Lunch On Us	18	19	20 1:00 Memorial Service for Mary Beth Huddleston
21 10:00 Doug Jenkins Class 10:45 Worship 11:00 Children's SS 12:00 Birthday Celebration  Shyenne & Shyla Hilburn	22  Virginia Cook	23 9:45 Parlor Prayer Group	24 11:30 Lunch On Us  Barbara Sharp	25	26	27
28 10:00 Doug Jenkins Class 10:45 Worship / Congregational Bouquet 11:00 Children's SS	29 Memorial Day Office Closed  George Butler	30 9:45 Parlor Prayer Group	31 11:30 Lunch On Us			

NOTES:
 May 7 Worship at 10:45 with Reverend Bryan McDowell
 Robin Dickens Circle: Date To Be Announced
 June/July Newsletter deadline for articles May 22



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