

# Contact

April 2017 Edition



Warwick United Church of Christ P.O. Box 120491 Newport News, VA 23612 www.warwickucc.com 757-599-5164

Where ever you are on your journey, you are welcome here.



## *The Easter Way: Rituals and Relationships*

*You and those you know are invited to participate in times of reflection and celebration, particularly in Holy Week. Like Jesus', your life is a journey, not a destination. Like Jesus, you don't live alone – you travel with others. Our hope is that you will engage in this time, as you are able and that you will invite others to join with us.*

*Liturgy and the Arts POP*

### *Palm or Passion Sunday or in 2017 Purge Sunday – Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>*

- 11:00 AM Celebrate clearing the way for you to have new order and freedom in your life.  
12:00 PM Easter Egg Hunt

### *Maundy Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>*

- 6:30 PM Come for a Seder Meal where we will eat what Jesus and the disciples most likely ate at their Last Supper together.

### *Holy Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>*

- 7:30 PM Come to the sanctuary for a short Tenebrae service of extinguishing the lights AND the beginning of our Easter Vigil.

### *Holy Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>*

Beginning at daybreak, we will clear out the dead shrubs outside our social hall and plant our Butterfly Garden!

### *Resurrection Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>*

- 7:00 AM Sunrise Service. Sing the resurrection hymns. Share the resurrection story. It's time to rise again! Then enjoy breakfast with friends at a local restaurant.  
11:00 AM Easter Cantata: "Calvary's Love" (see page 5), followed by light refreshments.

*For details and information on how to participate more fully in this time of reflection and celebration, please see page 2!*

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Have a photo or news item you want to share in the next issue of the CONTACT?

Send your info to  
**wuccupdates@gmail.com**

**Due by April 24!**

## Holy Week Schedule

### ***Palm or Passion Sunday or in 2017 Purge Sunday – Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>***

Celebrate clearing the way for you to have new order and freedom in your life. We will process in and out of our sanctuary, waving our palm on the way in and carrying our bags of ‘clutter’ out to be repurposed with others. They will line the hallways, and as we end our service, we will carry them to an awaiting trailer with a final blessing of them as they leave us and go forth to others.

**Action:** *Bring your bags to church from where you’ve decluttered your home and increased its orderliness. Items that are particularly needed are furniture and household items, professional clothes, clothes of all sizes including kids, toys and educational supplies. Clear bags are available in the hallway, beginning on April 2.*

*Worship will be followed by an Easter Egg Hunt on the lawn!*

### ***Maundy Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30 PM***

Come for a Seder Meal where we will eat what Jesus and the disciples most likely ate at their Last Supper together - including the four ‘zips’ of wine (juice) that commemorated the history of the Jewish people’s exodus from slavery. We will do handwashing, instead of a footwashing.

**Action:** *Volunteer (Sign up on wall nearest sanctuary) to bring bone in grill chicken pieces (legs?), eggs, wine, grape juice, horseradish, lettuce leaves, shelled walnuts or pecans. Also needed is someone to create purple table cloths (we have the fabric), bring oil lamps, an old fashion bowl and pitcher, white hand towels and small plastic wine glasses.*

### ***Holy Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:30 PM***

Come to the sanctuary for a short Tenebrae service of extinguishing the lights AND the beginning of our Easter Vigil. We will name privately for ourselves, those areas of our lives that might need to extinguish, so our whole selves might be resurrected. Together we will go to the fire, and begin anew to receive the strength we need to overcome our darker sides so we might rise again. You will not be left in the dark. The ‘wait’- our first Easter Vigil - will begin.

**Action:** *Bring yourself to service. Beforehand, sign up to sit ‘vigil’ any of the time slots available for a time of prayer and quiet. Sign up is outside the sanctuary. IF you have small firewood, you could bring that to the church any time. See pile by the shed.*

### ***Holy Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>***

Beginning at daybreak, we will clear out the dead shrubs outside our social hall and plant our Butterfly Garden. Hopefully, the work will be done by lunch. You do not need to stay the whole time. We need muscle and we need planter’s hearts and hands! Sign up if you want to be part of the creation for generations to come.

**Action:** *Come and help do the work. Bring tools to dig, aerate and plant. Funds are also needed for bags of dirt and the designated plants. See chart on our Liturgy wall and do the parts you can do.*

### ***Resurrection Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>***

7 am Sunrise Service. Sing the resurrection hymns. Share the resurrection story. It’s time to rise again! Then enjoy breakfast with friends at a local restaurant.

11 am Easter Cantata with our Amazing Choir! (“Calvary’s Love”) then enjoy Light Refreshments for All on the Lawn!

**Action:** *Bring your family and friends! This will be a day to listen and watch and stop waiting! If you’d like to arrange for Hot Cross Buns or help set up, please let us know.*

**QUESTION TO PONDER AS YOU WONDER:** *“What is your resurrection story?”*



## Pastor's Message

This is the time of year, when people begin to practice hope. It is the season to plant, to believe that growth will come and you can help that happen. The truth to a good growing spring and summer is a deep winter. Sometimes, the earth confuses itself - there are apple blossoms, covered with snow. There are snow plows lined up to work on a sunny day. The storm that was going to be the decades worst, moves out to sea.

Our lives and our life together as a congregation feels like this to me. The image sometimes used in congregational development is of one of birthing - you carry the baby, not knowing its future, but eventually there is a delivery. That one doesn't seem to work. Neither do mission statements or ten year organizational plans. So as we are

preparing for our third Easter together - I look for deaths and resurrections. I look for the journey we are taking together. I look for the callings of Christ on your lives - and I look for your responses.

Many of you are at difficult places in your life. I pray for you warmth in that cold, hard place and lots of wisdom. Some of you are beginning new jobs, new families - finding new passions, I pray for you wisdom to see truly your whole self and enjoy these times. Some of you are sitting in the nursery, rooted in a small hump of rich soil - waiting to be planted. I pray for you partners to see your beauty and join with you to create beauty in new places.

All of you, created by a loving God - creator of the good universe we live in together - are called in this time to this place, to be together.

It is my privilege to be in your midst. I feel I am the dirt. I have some rich experiences that could be helpful to your growth. But I am of no value to you, unless you use me in ways that grow your life. I am willing to help you to establish your root system. I am willing to hold you as you grow, I am willing to be aerated - you can plow me, turn me upside down, agitate me - whatever it takes to get fresh air into this life we share. I am firm in my commitment to support you as you bloom into all the beauty God has given you to give this world.

As you approach this Easter, may you find your own images that help you know yourself, may you stay firmly planted in the teachings of Jesus, may they bring you new life in this new spring. Amen? Amen.

Grace always,

*Sallye*

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## Call for Volunteers

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Interested in Ministry with Elders?

***Volunteers Needed!***

Serve Communion with a short service at local nursing homes.

One afternoon a month beginning in May.

Contact Brenda Tagge or Rev. Sallye.



## Upcoming Events

April 2	Communion Sunday, Sermon: "The Walking Dead" - 11 AM
April 4	Communion to Nursing Homes
April 8	EVA Spring Youth Event
April 9	Palm/Passion/Purge Sunday, Sermon: "Who is This?" - 11 AM Easter Egg Hunt - Noon-ish
April 13	Maundy Thursday Service - 6:30 PM
April 14	Holy Friday Service - 7:30 PM
April 15	Holy Saturday (in the garden) - Daybreak
April 16	Resurrection Sunday, Sunrise Service, Sermon: "Empty Again?" - 7 AM Easter Cantata "Calvary's Love" - 11 AM
April 18	Adult Supper Club - 6 PM
April 23	Sermon: "Know It All" - 11 AM Council Meeting - Noon-ish
April 24	Contact Deadline - Send items to <a href="mailto:wuccupdates@gmail.com">wuccupdates@gmail.com</a>
April 26	Book Club - 1:30 PM
April 28-30	Mother's Retreat - Johns River Valley Camp - See page 11
April 30	5th Sunday
June 22	52nd Annual Gathering of Southern Conference UCC



## Adult Supper Club



Kiln Creek Shopping Center  
1215 George Washington Memorial Hwy  
Yorktown, VA.

**April 18 at 6 :00 PM.**

Contact Bucky Holmes for information.

## Book Club

### "The Handmaid's Tale"

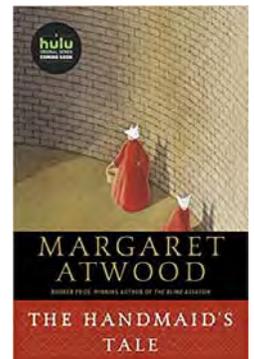
by Margaret Atwood  
will be discussed

**April 26 at 1:30 PM.**

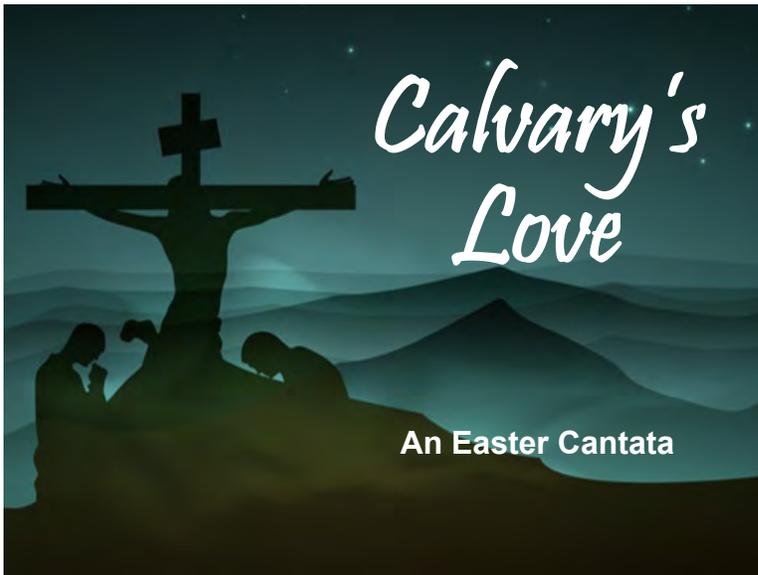
All are welcome.

Contact Brenda Tagge for more  
information.

**PLUS** A movie outing is being  
planned!



## Choir Notes



On April 16<sup>th</sup> at the 11AM morning service, the Warwick United Church of Christ Chancel Choir will present an Easter Cantata entitled “Calvary’s Love”. This wonderful work for the Easter season was written by Greg Nelson, Tom Fettke and Phill McHugh. I will create the orchestration for this cantata.

Don Cason (former President of Word Music) describes this cantata best:

“A young, poor carpenter was tortured and killed one day nearly two thousand years ago, in a land that was, and still is, known for hatred and war. His death was just another violent incident in a land known for its violence. How is it that millions of people have based their deepest faith on what happened to Him just outside Jerusalem on a dusty

rockpile called Calvary? Why have they surrendered their very existence to this man called Jesus? It’s because they, like so many of us today, have become convinced that this was God’s Son...driven up that hill not by the lashes of whips or the kicks of soldiers’ boots, but by His love. Love for people He’d never even seen... people not yet born... people like you and me. Surely, this was the ultimate act of love.”

Throughout this cantata (Calvary’s Love), we have attempted to take a deeper look into the qualities of Christ’s love. At the core of it we have found that “grace” and “mercy” are among its most endearing attributes. As Christ dealt with individuals whom He encountered, His expressions of grace and mercy seemed to be evident in all His actions. Such was the case with the woman Jesus met at the well in Samaria, with Nicodemus and with Peter. And those same expressions of grace and mercy are evident in what Christ did for all of us through His death on the cross. This musical focuses on that love.

I sincerely hope that you will attend to hear this great blessing through music entitled “Calvary’s Love” on April 16<sup>th</sup> during the 11AM morning service.

Rudolph Wilson – Director of Music

## Youth Choir

The Youth Choir will rehearse on April 2nd at 10 AM in the choir room.

On Sunday April 16th, the Youth Choir will warm up in the Sanctuary at 11AM and later perform two songs for the congregation during the service.

The Youth Choir will not practice on April 23rd or April 30th.



# Financial Update as of March 29, 2017

Data provided by Terry Costello

INCOME	
Total Expected Income - 3 Months	\$ 20,873
Received - Year to Date	\$ 19,788 (as of 3/29/17)
Expected Offering Income - 3 Months	\$ 18,923
Received - Year to Date	\$ 16,856 (as of 3/29/17)
EXPENSES	
Total Expected Expenses - 3 Months	\$ 20,873
Spent - Year to Date	\$ 23,946 (as of 3/29/17)
MISCELLANEOUS	
Amount sent to any outreach/mission work to date:	\$ 50 *
*Pass thru – what we get we send out – not part of dedicated funds. Includes UCC Special Offerings.	
Boiler Loan: Funds collected to date : \$ 5,150	Left to repay: \$ 3,100

## Building Update

Here is a quick update of some of the things that have been happening in and around the church building:

- The Kitchen sink is unclogged. In summary, the sinks had been clogging for quite some time and then it was noticed that water was draining under the concrete outside of the kitchen. Plumbers were called, estimates were taken and one was hired (Mason & Mason). The issue was our “grease trap” which no one knew we had because it was under the concrete walkway outside on the Matoaka side of the building. Now there is caution tape at the site because the concrete was broken up to access the grease trap. Problem solved but we need to dispose of the broken concrete. Volunteers?
- Did you know the church has 5 fire extinguishers? In all my years coming to the church I’ve never noticed 1, never mind 5. Anyway, we had a recent fire inspection and several violations were found. One was our fire extinguishers. Cintas was called and they came to the church to inspect what we had. FYI – we have 2 in the church hallway, 1 in the kitchen, 1 in the Narthex (behind the tree) and 1 in the boiler room. Two had to be replaced and one needed recharging, but we are all good to go now. Please take note of the extinguishers next time you are in the building.
- The kitchen has been scrubbed to include under the refrigerator, the inside of the refrigerator, the fronts of the cabinets and the counters. The kitchen gets A LOT of use and sometimes things are left undone – food left on the counter, spilled sugar on the counter, dirty cutlery in the sink and most of all, food in the refrigerator. Please help our Kitchen POP by cleaning up after yourself and EVEN wiping something up that you see. Also, please take items you brought to the church home with you. There are several things in the kitchen and we have no idea who they belong to – this includes food in the refrigerator.

Barbara Harvey

## Children's Events

### April 9 - Easter Egg Hunt Party 12:00pm

Come and be a part of our Easter Celebration after the Sunday service! We will be having a cookout style lunch, as well as, an Easter Egg Hunt with goodie bags and games for the kiddies! Contributions for the goodie bags are greatly appreciated for the youth department, to help reduce the sugary intake of candy! If you would care to donate or contribute to the event please let Robin Mansfield or Courtney Walden know!



### May 28 - A Family Movie Event 4:30pm

We will be having a family movie night featuring; "The Secret Life of Pets" with a simple, kid friendly dinner of chicken tenders and French fries for everyone. We will be putting up a signup sheet by the first week of April. All are welcome!

### June 25 - Summer Kickoff

Let's kickoff the Summer with an event for the community as well as the congregation! There will be activities for children and adults to enjoy, along with a pleasant Summer cookout with ice cream! Stay tuned for more details to come in the next CONTACT.



### July - VBS Camp/Weekend Edition

A new and special way for VBS this Summer! Keep your eyes and ears open for the information to come!

### **An Update from Our Previous Events:**

We happily and readily want to let the congregation know that the "Parent's Day Out" event was a success! We had a full house, both with the volunteers and the children that attended the event! The children were fed a healthy lunch, snack, and dinner and we had plenty of games, crafts, and movie to occupy the children and balance the down time with the active!

This past Sunday, we also had a "Teachable Moment Seder Meal," for the children and the adults! It was a wonderful event that enlightened the families of what each item in the Seder meal represents! We also put a modern twist on it too, with ice cream! We taught the families a way to make their own type of meal to remind them what God has given to them -both sweet and bittersweet!



Photo by Lysie McIlhinney

Our Church Family ...

## Parents and Childrens Seder



Photos by Lysie McIlhinney

## Fresh Air Fun



Photos by Lysie McIlhinney

PEOPLES CLIMATE

4/29 DC 2017

WE RISE  
WE BUILD  
WE RESIST

MARCH FOR JOBS,  
JUSTICE + THE  
CLIMATE

APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup> 2017  
WASHINGTON DC

PEOPLESCLIMATE.ORG+

The UCC Council for Climate Justice along with Justice and Witness Ministries are official co-sponsors of the climate march in Washington, DC. This march is being organized by the [People's Climate Movement](http://PeoplesClimateMovement.org) which spearheaded the 2014 march in New York City that had 400,000 in attendance.

#### Why are we marching?

On the 100th Day of the Trump Administration, we will be in the streets of Washington D.C. to show the world and our leaders that we will resist attacks on our people, our communities and our planet.

We will come together from across the United States to strengthen our movement. We will demonstrate our power and resistance at the gates of the White House. We will bring our solutions to the climate crisis and the problems that affect our communities to our leaders in Congress to demand action.

**Local “sister” marches are also happening in Richmond, Virginia Beach, and around the country.**

Visit the website or contact Barbara Harvey for more information.



**SOUTHERN CONFERENCE  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**KEEP HOPE ALIVE**



## 52nd Annual Gathering Plans Proceeding

The theme, "**Living Our Faith, Building On Hope, and Sharing Our Love**," will be the central expression of this gathering that will be held in Virginia Beach, VA. Our gracious host, the **Eastern Virginia Association**, will prepare and join with us for what will be a fun, festive, and joyful occasion.

A block of rooms in the **DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Virginia Beach** has been reserved for June 21, -June 25, 2017. The special room rate will be available until May 29 or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first. Please note that there is a two-night minimum stay required Thursday - Friday for each reservation.

Hotel reservations:

- Call [1-800-222-8733](tel:1-800-222-8733) and identify yourself as Southern Conference UCC
- On-line reservations: [Go to Hotel reservation site.](#)

SOC Annual Gathering registration:

- [Download registration form to register by check/mail](#)
- [On-line registration via Eventbrite \(click "TICKETS"\)](#)



1055 Niley Cook Road, Blowing Rock, NC 28605  
 828-264-1516 (o/h), 828-262-0701 (fax), 828-754-7067 (camp)  
 jrvc.org (web), stumb@boone.net (e-mail)

March 17, 2017

Life is a journey. We pick up fruits along the way to sustain our passage. Thankfully for many, JRVC has offered a place for persons to pause as we travel that path. A spring dusting of snow in the valley offered a refreshing glimpse at a Creator's work. The snow has already melted, but the place awaits a spring date we offer to you.

Retreat is on the calendar for April 28-29-30, 2017, and again offering an optional pre-event "day on the town." Following is a review of the registration information. The 2017 cost is based on lodging: \$145.00 (rustic cabins); \$155.00 (Mt. Zion Cabin - 12 bed total); \$160.00 (upper level bunk rooms in Living Units [Shmford & Black], and \$165.00 (lower level rooms in Living Units with full bed and a bunk bed). Optional bed & bath linens are available for the Living Units at \$5.00 / person. In response to requests from former participants, we are again offering an early arrival option on Thursday at 4:30 pm or later, with a dinner available at 6:30 and also breakfast on Friday morning, all for a mere additional \$20.00. Persons choosing this option are planning to tour/shop in the High Country, returning for dinner at the camp by 6:30 PM on Friday). A \$30.00 non-refundable deposit applies toward the total cost. (If you pay the full amount and are unable to attend, the difference would be refunded.) Direct registration and site related questions to me [Curly] via the office/home number or e-mail address. Refer program questions to Lisa Reece (Packbcker@aol.com). Given various options for lodging, Lisa or I will confirm and / or negotiate -- about a week before the retreat -- regarding the camp's ability to meet housing requests. It would help Lisa greatly if we can hear from persons by Easter Monday / April 17. Register earlier if possible; e-mail or call if you are registering near the deadline so we can place you on the list and adequately prepare. Feel free to copy and share this material. A registration form is also available on the camp web page. Lisa and I anticipate welcoming all, maybe along with the arrival of robins (I saw one in the snow), by the waters of the Johns River. --CLS



*Photo taken on the morning after JRVC Spring Work Day, March 12, 2017.*

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**2017 Mothers' Retreat Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ / Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ / E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ / Cell Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Local Church (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ / Church Location (town) \_\_\_\_\_

Lodging preference: \_\_\_ \$155.00 Mt. Zion Cabin \_\_\_ \$145.00 rustic cabin  
 \_\_\_ \$165.00 Living Unit (1 & 2 levels \_\_\_ \$160.00 Living Unit upper bunk \_\_\_ \$5.00 bath linen  
 \_\_\_ \$ 20.00 optional Thursday arrival with two additional meals and extra night's lodging

Physical / diet restrictions or comments: \_\_\_\_\_

[use back side for additional remarks, including comments about lodging]

Return completed form with \$30.00 registration fee payable to "Johns River Valley Camp" to above address by April 17.  
 Call or e-mail if pushing the Easter weekend registration deadline. Thanks!

## Lectionary Readings for April 2017

**April 2, 2017**

***Fifth Sunday in Lent***

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

**April 9, 2017**

***Sixth Sunday in Lent***

Palm/Passion Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 21:1-11

**April 13, 2017**

***Holy Thursday / Maundy Thursday***

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

**April 14, 2017**

***Good Friday***

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Psalm 22

Hebrews 10:16-25 -or-

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

John 18:1-19:42

**April 16, 2017**

***Easter Day***

Acts 10:34-43 -or- Jeremiah 31:1-6

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Colossians 3:1-4 -or- Acts 10:34-43

John 20:1-18 -or- Matthew 28:1-10

**April 23, 2017**

***Second Sunday of Easter***

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Psalm 16

1 Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31

**April 30, 2017**

***Third Sunday of Easter***

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35



## Prayer List

*(Names given verbally are spelled to the best of our ability)*

Mickey Allen  
Mike Barnes  
Kelly Bennett  
Rosemary Brownrigg  
+ Geraldine Bolden  
+ Boyle Family  
Tristan Brown  
Larry Burns  
Ann Charlescraft  
Tony Colden  
Cook-Snell Family  
Costello Family  
Kevin Court  
Emerson Family  
Yvette Ferguson  
Michelle Flores & Family  
Aubrey & Shirley Fitzgerald  
Joe Gosselin

Barry Graham  
Herald Hall  
Elaine Harris  
Sandra Ingari  
Mike Kelpaul  
Cindy Kilgore  
Bernie Klein  
Ann Lange  
Donna Langston  
Kayla Lennon  
Heidi & Mike Lord  
Nate Masters  
+ McMullin & Family  
Audrey Noble  
Miguel O  
Terry P  
The Peninsula Area  
Larry Paccone

Ted & Michelle Paccone  
Baby Liam Polanco  
+ The Polanco Family  
Bob Richardson  
Greg Ryan  
Jesse Saunders  
Nancy Simpson  
Will Smith & Family  
+ Jeffrey Spielberg  
+ Spielberg Family  
Bob Snaz  
+ Thomas Family  
+ Upshur Family  
Donal VonGryffn  
Meredith White  
Rachel Williams

+ Pray for the families who have lost love ones in the past year.