

# One in the Spirit

April-May 2012

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a newsletter of the Office of Spiritual Life

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**Holy Week**, which marks the passion and resurrection of Jesus in the Christian calendar, began with Palm Sunday on April 1 and runs through Easter, April 8. Some opportunities for worship in this community include:

- All week the **Labyrinth** will be set up in Ford Chapel, for you to walk as a quiet time of meditation and prayer.
- **Maundy Thursday Service**, April 5, 7:00 p.m., in the fellowship hall at St. John UCC, Webster St. (next to the gym.) A free supper precedes the service at 6:00.
- **Community Good Friday Service**, April 6, St. Paul United Methodist Church, Wayne and Third St.; 12 noon to 3:00. The service is structured in half-hour segments; come and go as you wish. Chaplain Jan Bechtel will be preaching during the 12:30 segment; members of the Defiance Choral Union, along with St. Paul UMC and St. John UCC choirs, will sing, under the direction of Andrew Schultz, Director of Music Programs.
- Outdoor **Stations of the Cross** walk, Friday, April 6, from St. Mary's to St. John's Catholic Church, 3:00, starting at St. Mary's, 715 Jefferson Ave.
- **Easter services** at 7:30 and 10:30 a.m. at St. John UCC; check the Crescent-News for times of other services in town.

**Yom HaSho'ah**, the day of remembrance of the Holocaust, is observed in April/May each year. We will hold a memorial service of readings and candles honoring the memory all those who were victims of the Holocaust, and other genocides around the world, around the Peace Pole and the Dick Seibel memorial plaque at the southwest corner of Serrick on Thursday, April 19, 12:15-12:30. Please join us.



The **Prayer Labyrinth** will be set up in Ford Chapel in Schauffler Hall during the last week of classes and finals. Music and prayer resources will also be available for use. All are welcome to spend some quiet time in prayer and meditation during the hectic end of the year rush.

## ***Religious Holidays***

***April--May 2011***

### **April**

- 1 *Palm Sunday*, Christian commemoration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and the start of Holy Week in the Western tradition; Eastern traditions begin on Monday.  
*Ramanavami*, Hindu celebration of the birth of Lord Rama, hero of the religious epic poem, The Ramayana. The day involves telling of stories and going to the temple.
- 5 *Maundy Thursday*, Christian observance of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples  
*The Lord's Evening Meal*, Jehovah's Witness annual celebration of Jesus' evening meal
- 6 *Good Friday*, Christian remembrance of Jesus' crucifixion and death  
*Mahavir Jayanti*, Jain festival honoring Lord Mahavira on the founder's birthday
- 7-14 *Pesach (Passover)\**, Jewish eight-day celebration of the deliverance of the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt
- 8 *Easter*, Western Christian celebration of Jesus' resurrection
- 13 *Holy Friday*, orthodox Christian remembrance of Jesus' crucifixion and death; dates are different from Western Christian observance based on the dates of Passover this year..
- 14 *Baisakhi*, Sikhs commemorate the founding of the Khalsa, a Sikh brotherhood
- 15 *Easter/Pascha*, Orthodox Christian celebration of Jesus' resurrection
- 19 *Yom HaSho'ah\**, Holocaust Remembrance Day in Jewish tradition

### **May**

- 1 *Beltane* Wicca/Neo Pagan celebration of the sacred marriage of the Goddess with the energy of the God
- 6 *Visakha Puja*, Buddhist marking of the birth, enlightenment and death (attainment of Nirvana) of Lord Buddha.
- 27 *Pentecost*, Christian observance of the birth of the church.
- 27-28 *Shavuot*, Jewish celebration of Moses' descent from Mt Sinai with the Law.
- 29 *Ascension of Baha'u'llah*, Baha'i recollection of the death of Baha'u'llah, the founder. Observed by prayers and readings. Work is suspended.

From [www.interfaithcalendar.org](http://www.interfaithcalendar.org)

Note: \* the event begins the evening of the previous day.