



APRIL 2009

EASTER SERVICES

6:30 am Sunrise Service (Camp Loughridge)
8:00 am Sanctuary
9:30 am Great Hall
11:00 am Sanctuary

EASTER PRAYER VIGIL

"They all joined together constantly in prayer..." Acts 1:14

Begins Palm Sunday, April 5 at 1:00 pm and continues 24/7 through Easter, April 12 at 6:00 am
Sign up TODAY outside your place of worship!

H2O PROJECT

The Challenge.... for 2 weeks (starting today!):

1. Make water your only beverage.
2. Save money usually spent on other beverages.
3. At the end of 2 weeks, contribute 100% of the funds you collect to Marion Medical Mission in Malawi. \$350 will dig a well for an entire community.

Pick up wristbands TODAY at the H2O table outside your place of worship!

BOOK OF THE MONTH FOR APRIL

Rev. Elaine Johnson, Associate Pastor for Mission & Outreach

Home by Marilynne Robinson

Home, Marilynne Robinson's latest novel is a companion book of *Gilead*, but can be read separately. This book invites us into the home of Presbyterian minister, Rev. Robert Broughton, as he is dying. Glory, the youngest sister of the large family, wounded after a broken engagement, moves in to take care of her ailing father. During this time Jack returns after a twenty year absence, broken, lost and alcoholic. The story revolves around the Broughton household in the late fifties with all the formalities and prejudices of the time.

This very intimate novel, deals with relationships within the family. It describes the loving, yet cautious way this clerical family deals with Jack (the prodigal), who doesn't fit in the small town of Gilead nor the church they serve. It explores ageing and the reversal of relationships in Glory's love for her brother while protecting her father and Jack's increasing pain as it is slowly revealed through his demeanor and conversations with his sister, his father, and later, Rev. John Ames, the childhood friend of his father's and his namesake. Finally and most painfully, the way Jack deals with himself.

Marilynne Robinson will take you places emotionally where families sometimes never go as they pridefully hide their secrets. Especially the one who is the outcast and judged by the righteous.

Reviewed by Joan Tedrow