First Presbyterian Church 2017 Lenten Devotional

"Building the Church, Building the Faith"

Week 6:

Day 29: Monday, April 3--Revelation 11:1

"Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff, and I was told, 'Come and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship there,'"

How does your faith measure up? What can you do to make sure that it does?

Day 30: Tuesday, April 4--Isaiah 61:4

"They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations."

So many people are devastated by life circumstances. Who do you know who is struggling, and how can you help build up their faith?

Day 31: Wednesday, April 5--Luke 12:16-20

"Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?""

What "barns" are you building? How can you build treasures in heaven rather than earthly treasures?

Day 32: Thursday, April 6--Ezekiel 28:25-26

"Thus says the Lord GOD: When I gather the house of Israel from the peoples among whom they are scattered, and manifest my holiness in them in the sight of the nations, then they shall settle on their own soil that I gave to my servant Jacob. They shall live in safety in it, and shall build houses and plant vineyards."

What do you like about your own house? How can your house be a sanctuary for the Lord?

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Day 33: Friday, April 7--I Corinthians 3:13

"The work of each builder will become visible, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done."

We often don't know our faith until it is tested. How has your faith been tested, and how was it shaped by those tests?

Day 34: Saturday, April 8--Proverbs 14:1

"The wise woman builds her house, but the foolish tears it down with her own hands."

What was the wisest decision that you ever made? What made is so? How can your wisdom help others in a similar situation?

Palm Sunday: April 9--Luke 19:36-40

"As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!' Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'"

On Palm Sunday, Jesus said that the very stones would shout. If the stones and bricks of our church building could speak, what would they say? And how would you answer them?

