

Glad Tidings



PO Box 2316
Arusha, Tanzania
www.acc.habari.co.tz

MARCH 2016: Vol 352

Arusha
Community
Church

Church: a safe place to connect to a living God

Someone recently shared a sermon of Charles Park from a non-denominational New York City church called The River. It has a good message that deals with the how Christians can stay together even when there are controversial issues that come up between them. It is called “the third way.”

1. The first way is the main approach the church has used over the ages: “I am right and you are wrong and we can’t agree so let’s split.” This has led to thousands of protestant denominations in the world!
2. The second way is “live and let live.” You believe what you want, all roads lead to God, let’s accept everything.
3. The third way is to acknowledge there is right and wrong, to acknowledge our limits, and to have the humility to let God decide the issues that we think are clear, but that others may see differently.

Go to
<http://bit.ly/1QwHW8t> to
listen to the sermon online.

The scripture that Rev. Park used to illustrate this is the parable about the wheat and the weeds in Matthew 13:24-30. There is good wheat in the field and weed sowed by the enemy. If we take it on ourselves to pull out the weeds, we will uproot good plants. We can’t sort it out. Wheat and weeds grow together until the right time when God will take care of it. Our righteous fervor can destroy good plants. God is the judge. Even within us there is good and bad—are we able to pull out the bad in ourselves, spouses or children without doing some harm?

The most important thing is to stay connected to Jesus, the vine. This is what faith does. Turn to God in humility when you want to correct something or make moral improvements. God will do a better job.

Rev. Park says the point of a church is this: *to create a safe space to connect to a living God.* The Jewish and Roman Christians had a hard time agreeing on what was important regarding the Sabbath and idols. So Paul urged them in Romans 14 not to be contentious, and keep the things that are interpreted differently between yourself and God. The liberal people tend to show contempt and the conservative tend to judge others. What is key is to love others and allow each person to connect to Jesus who will sort things out.

This does not mean anything goes! No criminal or abusive or legalistic actions are to be tolerated. This would not create a safe place. But God will guide. Err on the side of inclusion and focus on the fruits of the Holy Spirit. When we show contempt, judge and approve or disapprove others, we limit the space to connect to God and do not show love to others.

Could this message help you or help ACC create a safe place to connect to a living God?

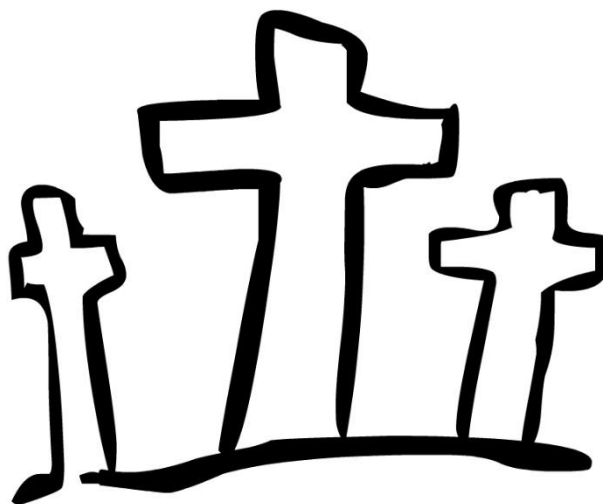
—Erwin Kinsey, Council Chair

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Sunday, 20 March: **Palm Sunday** service at 10:30 am
Thursday, 24 March: **Maundy Thursday** service at 6 pm
Friday, 25 March: **Good Friday** service at 10:30 am
Sunday, 27 March: **Easter Sunday** service at 10:30 am

Sunrise Service Easter Sunday

All are welcome to a special Easter Sunday service at Eunie Simonson's home in Ilboru. Arrive at 6 am for a 6:30 am service, and bring along a breakfast item to share afterwards. For directions to Eunie's home please email acc.facilitator@gmail.com.



Mission Statement: Arusha Community Church seeks to bring Christian praise and witness to God through worship, service and study. The congregation provides opportunity for Christian fellowship, service and witness, community outreach, personal growth and family growth. Recognizing the close link between worship and culture, Arusha Community Church has an inter-denominational ministry to the international community in Arusha.

AA and NA Meetings at ACC

AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)

Monday 1 pm – 2 pm

Tuesday 1 pm – 2 pm

Thursday 1 pm – 2 pm

Friday 5 pm – 6 pm

Saturday 10 am – 11 am

NA (Narcotics Anonymous)

Tuesday 5 pm – 6 pm

Thursday 5 pm – 6 pm



If you have a prayer request and would like our members to support you in prayer, contact the four key people—if possible by SMS—and they will inform the others in the prayer chain.

Erwin Kinsey: 0754 480 184

Margaret Kenyi: 0754 090 078

Susan Simonson: 0754 266 559

Stella Karamuna: 0754 281 337

Lunch & Hike: Sunday, 20 March



The Evangelism & Outreach Committee is hosting a hike at Mwandet Hill following the service on Sunday, 20 March.

Lunch will be provided at the church for those who are hiking. Bring your hat and walking shoes! Suitable for all ages.

Transportation available; hikers will return by 5 pm.

MARCH 2016 Sunday Service Schedule

Date	6 March	13 March	20 March	24 March	25 March	27 March
<i>Church Calendar</i>	<i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>	<i>Palm Sunday</i>	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Easter Day</i>
Service Type	Communion Service	Morning Worship	Communion Service			Family Service
Worship Leader	Martijn Veen	Peter Kraft	John Kraft	Joe Troester	Wendy Willmore	Carol Stubbs
Preacher	Susan James	Rev. Dan Kiula	Rev. John Lunn	Rev. John Lunn	Rev. Gabriel Kimirei	Stephan Schramm
Music	Jimmy Ebong	Alexis Kwamy	Angela Schramm	Linda Jacobson	Penina Kariuke	Randy Stubbs
Sound	Edmund Ntwale	Edmund Massawe	Joseph Kraft			Eunpa Cho
Flowers	Yoka Bruinsma	Rosemarie Charles	Helena Koster			Irene Mchomvu & Helena Koster
Ushers	Dorice Eliuta, Peter Feer	Peter Metili, Olivier Muhoza	Godlisten Solomon, Olivier Muhoza			Peter Feer, Martin Matthew
Duty Elder	Elizabeth Hudgin	Jimmy Ebong	Moira Brehony			Linda Jacobson
Library	Narola Mollel	Sion Mira	Fitsimt Dejene			Olivier Muhoza
Books	Yuki Omori	Peter Feer	Leon Veen			Nancy Kimaro
DVDs	Betty Mgaya	Eliel Gideon	Allen S Moshy			Ramond D Lema
Scripture Readings	Joshua 5:9-12	Isaiah 43: 16-21	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Exodus 12:1-4	Isaiah 52: 13-53	Acts 10:34-43
	Psalms 32	Psalms 126	Psalms 31:9-16	Psalms 116: 1-2, 12-19	Psalms 22	Psalms 118: 1-2, 14-24
	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Philippians 3:4b-14	Philippians 2:5-11	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	Hebrews 10:16-25	1 Corinthians 15:19-26
	Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32	John 12:1-8	Luke 22: 14-23; 56	John 13: 1-17, 31b-35	John 18: 1-19; 42	John 20:1-18

Arusha Community Church (ACC) is an international, interdenominational, lay-led congregation. We are united in faith in Christ and worship in the English language.

Services are held at 10:30 am every Sunday morning, as well as on other special days of the Church Year.

Sunday school for children is during church through the school year.

Adult Education is usually held before the service at 9:15am. For more information, please visit our [website](http://www.acc.habari.co.tz) at www.acc.habari.co.tz.

Glad Tidings submissions are due 15 March 2016 to acc.facilitator@gmail.com

