

firmly rooted



"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

Colossians 2:6-7

Tom Donnelly, Pastor

MARCH 2020

PASTOR'S PEN

Happy March!

Here we are in the middle of Lent and nearing the end of winter (I hope!), and we should always have a hopeful eye looking forward to Good Friday, Easter, green grass and Spring flowers! But perhaps there is some benefit in making sure there is another eye that stays on Lent. So, what is Lent about, and what are some things that we might do to get the most out of it?

The primary objective of the season of Lent is that we grow in a deeper understanding of why the Father sent His Son into the world. This endeavor is more than just our gaining more and more knowledge about Jesus' life on this earth. We cannot grow in a deeper understanding of God's "why" without peering into ourselves. It requires an introspective look. You see, God sees things in us that maybe we haven't yet come to see. The season of Lent provides us an opportunity to do an honest assessment of our love for God and our love for our fellow man, our

morals and ethics, our compassion, or lack of compassion.

If we are willing to enter into that honest assessment, uncomfortable as it may be, we will find a God whose love goes deeper than our deepest sin, whose patience goes beyond our continual repetition of sin. We will find a Father who is faithful. Who has redeemed us in Jesus because of His great love for us.

The goal would be that this Lenten season would move us to repentance in areas only this self-reflective process would reveal to us. And through that process, find God's grace and forgiveness pouring over us, in us and through us as He transforms us more and more into His likeness by the power of the Holy Spirit. I pray that's what we all do during this month of March so that green grass, birds and flowers, Holy Week, Good Friday and Easter take on new and deeper meaning for each of us.

Peace,
Pastor Tom

CONCERT FOR A CAUSE

A **HUGE THANK YOU** to every single person and business that helped to make the February 1st concert for the Kreis Family a huge success!

We wanted to let you know that about **\$16,000** was raised for them from this one evening! **You all are amazing and such a blessing!**

Thank you again! May you each be blessed as you have been a blessing!

Pastor Tom & Kimberly

Office: 18 N. Washington St.
Oxford, MI 48371
(248)572-6563
Hours: 9-3, M-TH

Worship: 745 N. Oxford Rd.
Oxford High School
Oxford, MI 48371

Sundays

Adult Sunday School: 9:00 am
Worship: 10:15 am
AMPed Kids: During Worship
AMPed Teens: 1st, 3rd, 5th
Sundays during Worship
Childcare Available

SAVE THE DATE!

Women's Group

Tuesday/Mornings & Evenings

GriefShare

Wednesday Evenings

Men's Group

Thursday Evenings

Holy Land Pilgrimage Trip Meeting

March 1

Health/Wellness

Counseling: Addiction 101
March 10

Rooted Generation

March 11 & 25

Digging In

March 17

Palm Sunday

April 5

Last Week of Jesus' Life

April 6-9

Good Friday

April 10

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

April 11

Easter

April 12

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women's Group

Tuesday mornings at 9:30 and evenings at 7:00
Held at the Donnelly's.

GriefShare

Wednesday evenings at 7:00
Held at the FR office.

Men's Group

Thursday evenings at 7:00
Held at the FR office.

Men's Breakfast/Bible Study

Saturday mornings at 8:00
Mario's/Golden Nugget, Oxford

Holy Land Pilgrimage Trip Meeting

March 1 at 12:00 pm
Held at the FR office.
See below.

Dad's Study - A Father's Intentional Engagement

March 2, 16, 30 at 7:00 pm
Held at Wine Social in LO.

Health and Wellness Counseling: Addiction 101

March 10 at 7:00 pm
Held at the FR office.

Rooted Generation

March 11 & 25 at 6:30 pm
Watch the Loop for meeting spaces.

Digging In

March 17 at 7:00 pm
Held at the FR office.
Are you curious about what we believe at FR? What we stand for? Why we do the things we do during our worship services? Do

you have questions or things you don't understand? This is the class for you! Pastor Tom leads this very informative class.

Lenten and Easter Events:

Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast

April 5 at 9:00 am

Last Week of Jesus' Life Study

April 6-9 at 7:00 pm

Good Friday Service

April 10 at 7:00 pm

Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt

April 11 at 10:00 am

Easter Sunday Worship

April 12 at 10:15 am

HOLY LAND TRIP 2021!

Have you ever wanted to see and walk where Jesus walked? Touch and pray at the ancient wall of Jerusalem?

In February of 2021, Pastor Tom and Kimberly will be leading a group to Israel. They will be teaching and guiding us through this most Holy Land and where Christianity was born.

For those interested, or just praying about going, there is info at the 'What's Up' information table after worship on Sundays and also by calling the church office. Also, join us for informational meetings the first Sunday of the month at the office after worship.



SERVANTS NEEDED

It's amazing how many hands and moving parts go into Worship every week! And, with a small commitment, you can help keep things running smoothly!

Take a look at some of the ways you can serve, and expand His ministries!

- Coffee/Donut Pick-Up
- Sunday Morning Set-Up or Tear-Down
- Seedlings (Nursery) Assistant
- AMPed Kids or Teens Assistant or Teacher
- Sunday Scripture Reader
- Ushers
- Greeters
- Welcome Table Hosts
- Returning Coffee Urn

With many, you may only serve every 3-4 weeks, or less!

If your servant heart is lead in one of these areas, please give Virginia a call at the office.

All helping hands are appreciated!

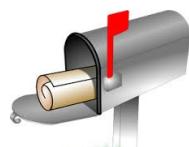


FR - NEW MAILING ADDRESS

We have some exciting news!
Firmly Rooted now has a PO Box!

We outgrew our small mailbox and no longer are receiving mail at the office mailbox. Please update your records (especially if you use online banking for your tithe) and **use the new address when sending any mail to FR - Oxford.**

Firmly Rooted
52 E. Burdick St.
Ste. 487
Oxford, MI
48371-8777



AMPED TEENS - NEWS

Exciting things are happening with our young teen!

- In February, our kids helped make cards to sell for the Kreis family fundraiser,
- In March, we are headed to Springhill for our first weekend retreat, and
- In April, we will be serving at the Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt!

This group is for kids in 5th through 7th grades, give or take. We discuss kids' questions about life - how to love the unloveable, why bad stuff happens, what God thinks about us and why we know it's true, why it matters how we spend our time.

Those encouraging messages on your windshields a few weeks ago - those were from the teens! We meet the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month.

Growing in the Kingdom - are you in?

Soon we will be adding teachers to the rotation and possibly expanding to a high school class! Several people have expressed interest in this ministry, and if you, too, feel called in this area, [please join us in a brief meeting with more information, right after worship on March 15.](#) This ministry requires a heart for teens, nothing more. Curriculum is provided!

Calling all teens/parents who want to help out with the Easter Egg Hunt!

We are starting the planning for the Community Easter Egg Hunt! This is a fantastic opportunity to represent Jesus in the community. We're in need of teens and parents to help with the games for the egg hunt on [April 11.](#) We are also in need of people willing to stuff the eggs prior to the hunt. Teens, you can earn service hours for your time!

If you would like to help with the egg hunt or go deeper with this ministry, please contact Leah Maurer at [\(248\)563-6191](tel:2485636191) or leah.maurer@sbcglobal.net.

IT'S A BOY!

A New Firmly Rooter!

Welcome to Finnley Harold Thomas Donnelly! Born strong and healthy on February 5th at 3:17 am. He was 7lbs. 1oz. and measured 19.5 inches long!

His momma and daddy, Cassie and Ben, are over the moon! He joins

his big sister, Meara, at home! He is also the 6th grandbaby for his Gigi and Bappa (Kimberly and Tom)!

God's Blessings to Finnley and his family!



LENTEN AND EASTER HAPPENINGS

We're already into Lent and the preparation of our hearts for His triumphant victory over sin and death.

Firmly Rooted has several studies, events and activities to highlight this most Holy time of the Christian year!

Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast

April 5 at 9:00 am.

A fun family gathering before 10:15 am Worship. (There will be no Bible Study this Sunday.)

Last Week of Jesus' Life Study

April 6-9 at 7:00 pm in the LGI room at OHS.

Think about this: He knew it was His last week on earth. You will be profoundly moved as you begin to take in what Jesus chose to do with those last days and hours with the people that He loved.

Good Friday Service

April 10 at 7:00 pm in the OHS Auditorium.

The remembrance of our Lord's ultimate sacrifice for us.

5th Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt

April 11 at 10:00 am in Centennial Park in Downtown Oxford.

For ages up to 6th grade with a special area for the littles! Thousands of Easter Eggs, Balloons, Games and of course, the Easter Bunny! Fun for the entire community!



Easter Sunday Worship

April 12 at 10:15 am in the OHS Auditorium.

Join us for this celebration of His rising and all that means to us, His children!

****IT'S THAT TIME!!!!**

What time you may ask? Time to sign up to be involved in our annual celebratory Easter song!

You're going to LOVE the song this year!!! Nothing involved will push you too far out of your "box" either! :) Just joining the worship team for 1 song and praising the risen Lord! The whole family can join in!

But, you do need to sign up so that we can get the song to you for practicing! See the Info Table this Sunday to get involved!

Text Kimberly with any questions at (248)830-0269.

HEALTH & WELLNESS COUNSELING: ADDICTION 101

Speaker Pastor Terry Rebert, a drug and alcohol counselor and coordinator, will be continuing his Health & Wellness Series with an emphasis on Addiction.

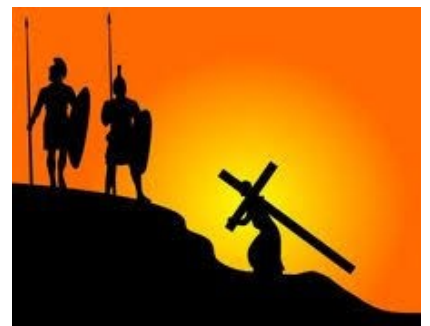
Firmly Rooted is again hosting this presentation on March 10 at 7:00 pm at the church office.

This is a follow-up meeting for not only those struggling with addiction, but for the loved ones of those suffering as well.

Come listen and feel free to ask questions of this well versed speaker, as he sheds light on this growing epidemic.

*"My children, I will be with you only a little longer.
You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now:
Where I am going, you cannot come.
A new command I give you:
Love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.
By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,
if you love one another."*

John 13:33-35



AMPED KIDS

The AMPed Kids March lesson theme is MISSION IMPOSSIBLE!

The kids will discover:

1. God has a mission for everyone!
2. God gives us tools to fulfill our mission!
3. God's plans are always better than our plans!

4. God wants us to stay focused on the mission of sharing His Son, Jesus, with everyone!

"All things are possible with God"
Mark 10:27

Surprises for the kids in March!
Shhhh! We will share on March 1st a mystery breakfast! We will have a mystery guest with a

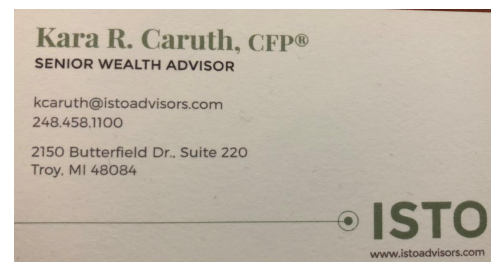
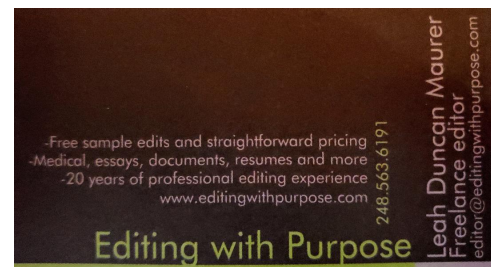
project!

The last Sunday in March, we hope to share our discoveries with the congregation! Mission accomplished!

See you in March!

Blessings,
Tara Lennox

FR BUSINESS OWNERS



BUSINESS OWNERS

Are you a business owner? Would you like to offer your services to our Firmly Rooted Family?

Simply snap a picture of your business

card and text it to Diane Giroux at (248) 408-3044. We'll include it starting next month in our newsletter!



THE LOOP - ARE YOU IN THE KNOW?

Want to know what's going on at FR?? We need your email info!

We now have a dedicated phone number to text your **Name and Email Address** to!

Simply text your info to:

(248)429-7121, and you will get Sunday 'What's Happening' emails, 'Loop' updates and the newsletter publications.

* If you are currently getting all of our emails and updates, there is no need to do anything else!

Stay Connected !

Email: office@firmlyrooted.org
Facebook: Firmly Rooted - Oxford
Website: www.firmlyrooted.org