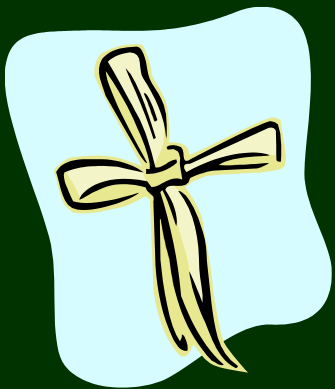


Guatemalan Alfombras

First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth

Birch Run

Palm Sunday 2012



Guatemala Easter Festival

The Sunday School youth at Birch Run-Taymouth have finished “traveling” around the world by taking a look at a very special Central American tradition. Antigua, Guatemala is home to the largest Easter celebration in the world in which Passion, the Crucifix and the Resurrection of Jesus are commemorated. The entire city takes part in the event that begins on Palm Sunday and continues all week to Easter Sunday. One of the most impressive aspects of the Easter Festival (Semana Santa) are the alfombras (Arabic word for carpet) that adorn the processional route.



Guatemala Easter Festival

These “carpets” consist of all natural decorations such as pine needles, colored sand and flower petals. The carpet designs reflect biblical symbolism and scenes from nature. The art of carpet-making is thought of as a sacrifice because of the intense detail and amount of time dedicated to their creation, only to be destroyed once the processions pass. This is a way for the people to give something of themselves in memory of Christ’s death.



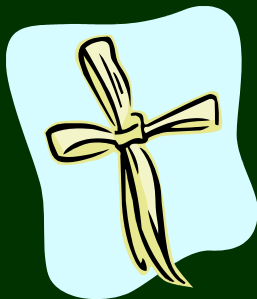
Guatemala Easter Festival

Our youth at Birch Run-Taymouth have designed a “carpet” to celebrate the beginning of Holy week. Please look at, walk on, stand on, and enjoy our version of the Guatemalan traditions. May it also be a reminder what this time of year represents and what Jesus did for everyone.





The children drew pictures on a long roll of paper to make their own version of a Guatemalan Alfombras.



Rolling out the "carpet".



Starting the palm parade.



Even the little ones participated.



The senior youth formed the palm canopy.



The younger youth walked through the palm canopy and joined Pastor Ted for the children's' sermon.



Following Pastor Ted's lesson,
the youth distributed palms to
the congregation.



It was a perfect day for a baptism.

Our congregations are always doing such wonderful things and we want to hear about it!

Please send articles and pictures to:

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We can include your information in the Bi-Weekly Brief,
our website and Facebook page.

Go ahead...brag a little.
You are doing amazing things in His name!