

April
2021

a publication of Fellowship Lutheran Church, Rev. Robin Wargowsky, Pastor
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"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3 ESV

Dear Fellowship members and friends,

As we enter this most Holy Week and the sadness of the three days before the glorious resurrection, it's been encouraging to see signs of spring in the air. As I look out my front window, small green leaves are beginning to make their presence known. Did you ever wonder why the date we celebrate Easter each year varies? Did you know that the date of Easter is tied to what's happening in nature?

Easter Sunday is held on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal equinox, the moment the Sun crosses the celestial equator (the imaginary line in the sky above the Earth's equator) from south to north (www.timeanddate.com). In other words, Easter Sunday is tied to nature's transitions so that the date moves annually.

There are lots of reason why it was set up this way. Here are two I really like. First, Easter is connected to a change in the seasons. As we near Easter Day and look outside, something new is happening. The world is on the brink of change and will look different soon. Second, Easter doesn't have a specific date. That connects with the church's view that every Sunday is a celebration of Easter. Every Sunday is Resurrection Sunday! It isn't just once a year that we celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Easter is the way we live our faith, offer our prayers, ask our questions, gather as the body of Christ, serve in and through our shared ministry, and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ.

The Bible never says celebrate Easter on one specific day. Instead, it encourages disciples to live Easter's good news of new life in the resurrection of Jesus Christ every day. The greatest way we can do that is to do what the first disciples did. They gave testimony to how they saw the Lord.

Jesus appeared in all kinds of places — along the road, in locked rooms, in the midst of fear and doubt, in the midst of injustice and despair, to people who longed for meaning, purpose, wholeness and faith... to people who enjoyed being "found".

Where do you see Jesus? How are you experiencing new life in this Easter season? The good news of Easter tells us that wherever we look, regardless of what day it is, Jesus is there, waiting to be seen, waiting for our eyes to open and see new life and new possibilities.

See you in church! (I am so happy to say these words again!)

Pastor Robin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

When Will We Return to Our Regular Schedule? We are planning to resume in-person worship services, both 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., on **Sunday, April 11th**. Masks and social distancing will be required. We will celebrate communion weekly. Our weekly online services will continue.

Holy Communion We will celebrate communion during our on-line worship services weekly, beginning April 11th. Consecrated communion kits can be picked up in the church office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon for those unable to attend in-person.

Meals on Wheels

Friday, April 16	Biemel	Friday, May 21	Engen
Saturday, April 17	Himmel-McDaniel	Saturday, May 15	Wolfe

If you are interested in becoming a Meals on Wheels volunteer in the next cycle, please notify Carol Jaeger or Pastor Robin. Our Meals on Wheels volunteers deliver meals in the area two days a month, the 3rd Friday and the 3rd Saturday.

Donation Opportunities

Smoky Row Food Pantry Needs - April, May, and June

- Baby Items (Diapers 2-3-4, Wipes)
- Personal Hygiene Items
- Non-perishable food items
- Laundry Detergent
- Kitchen/Cleaning Items (Dishwasher Liquid, Dish Soap)

***Please bring donations to the church during the published office hours. Thank you!!**

Staying Connected Program for the Elderly - Did you know that Ohio has a program for the elderly to "stay connected?" We have at least one member who is enrolled in the program and really likes it. You get to pick the hour to receive the phone call. For more information, here is the link: <https://aging.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/aging/care-and-living/get-help/staying-connected/>

Thrivent Members - For those of you with choice dollars don't forget that Fellowship can be a recipient of those dollars. Thank you to all who have donated this way in the past!

Kroger Plus Fundraising Information: If you would like to register your Kroger card for the Community Rewards Program, please contact Pastor Robin or the church office. Thank you so much for participating in this fundraiser!

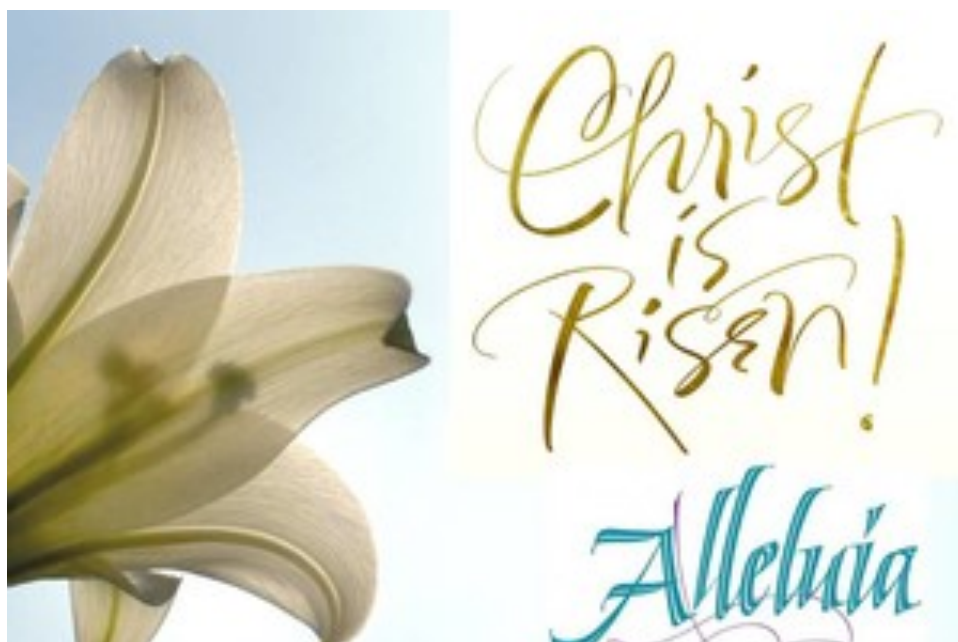
Do You Order From Amazon? If so, then try Amazon Smile to support Fellowship Lutheran Church! First, go to Amazon Smile and choose Fellowship Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH as your charity. Then, shop as usual and Fellowship will receive a percentage of your purchase. It's that easy!

Give to Fellowship with Your Smartphone with GivePlus+ - Our EFT provider, Vanco, provides a smartphone app, Give+, to enable anyone to donate at anytime to Fellowship. It makes it easy to give instantaneously for a regular gift, a recurring gift, or a special occasion gift.

Worship Servers Needed! If you are able to help out at our 10:00 a.m. worship service when we resume in-person worship services, please let either Tracy Farel or Pastor Robin know. Lectors, counters, and greeters and a videographer are needed.

Attendance Information

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
2/7	126 views	3/3 (midweek)	17 views
2/14	98 views	3/7	93 views
2/17 (Ash Weds.)	82 views	3/10 (midweek)	20 views
2/21	111 views	3/14	69 views
2/24 (midweek)	24 views	3/17 (midweek)	15 views
2/28	99 views	3/21	75 views
		3/24 (midweek)	7 views
		3/28	47 views



He is Risen!

I see daffodils coming around. Renewal, and spring and Easter! It's a special time every year, but especially maybe after this past year. What I find remarkable, though, is that it has been shared by more than many, even as we have been separated.

So many tragedies are isolated, but this difficult year has been shared. I've had my own things, as I'm sure many of you have, but the pandemic experience, we shared. We haven't been together physically, but we all know what we've been through. And I am so excited to see us come together for in-person worship on April 11, with our usual times of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Please wear masks, be safe, be sensible, but WOW!

Many of you probably do not know me: I was not a long-term member of the congregation when the pandemic began. So, I hope to meet a great many more of you (while for now socially distanced) in person. I think we can safely peek over our "cuppa", and I'm excited.

Fellowship, in background, has been making progress on things we agreed to as a Congregation. We've signed paperwork with Crown Castle to prepare for a lease on a cell tower on our property, which will yield financial benefit in the coming years. Our former president and now treasurer, Todd Engen has been doing great work updating our accounting system. Our teams have been looking into lighting, getting back together in person, educational opportunities and how to continue missions in the face of all of these challenges.

I, personally, want to say, I have been moved and inspired by the continued faithfulness of our congregation in contributions and enthusiasm with the online services.

I can't wait to see what God has in store when we all get back together!

Stacy



"Then I Myself will gather the remnant of My flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and bring them back to their pasture, and they will be fruitful and multiply." **Jeremiah 23:3**

How is everyone feeling? Does it feel like we have been scattered? As a congregation, it has been more than a year since we have seen one another. For some, it might take even longer to get back to the pasture or our congregation.

I know my family will be one of those that takes longer to get back to worshipping regularly. We are SO out of shape from our worship routine. Just getting my kids to be dressed and eat breakfast before 10am is hard most days. Then there is the whole process of getting out the door, another half hour process at least. By the time we have located everyone's shoes, coats, etc. and got them all on... I'm questioning if it is really worth the effort and I'm ready to just stay home. It will definitely take us longer to get back into "worship shape", but we will get there.

In-person worship will start on April 11th. There will be a 10am and 5pm service.

Please be respectful of others by wearing your mask while inside the building, sanitizing or washing your hands regularly, and keeping your distance yet. It will be a little different but at least it is a start on the path back to "normal".

Please be patient with us as we try to figure out "best practices" to keep everyone healthy and safe as we start gathering together again.

If you are not comfortable coming back to in-person worship at this point, that is perfectly OK! Recordings of the morning service will still be available for you to view.

If you did not pick up your Church Directory yet they will be available at the church. Please limit one per family.

Have you started the vaccination process yet? Pat and I both got our first dose last week. It wasn't easy to get scheduled but we have learned some tricks by talking to friends and going through the process ourselves. If you have not scheduled to receive your vaccine yet please see the websites below or contact me directly and I will try to assist you.

[ODH - Check Vaccine Eligibility](#)
[Franklin County Public Health: Home](#)

Things to look forward to:

Outdoor activities when it gets a little nicer - since we cannot eat or drink inside what if we had a picnic in the parking lot or had food trucks that came on certain Sundays after worship?

Outdoor worship - we will be making this opportunity for worship available again this summer.

Watch the bulletins and newsletters for more information. See you again soon!

Cindy

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. Luke 11:9

Hello Fellowship members!

Finally we are seeing a bit of light shine on the year of COVID isolation and will soon be back to in-church services. I am looking forward to seeing everyone again, even if we are hidden behind masks and sharing 6 foot air hugs.

We will not be starting Sunday School classes this month but have hope to begin a new session in September. Our traditional Rally Day will start off the new school year. More news to follow in the upcoming months.

Please continue to use the lesson books provided by Pastor Robin and Bill Lude from this past Fall. Also High Schoolers can subscribe if not already to weekly lessons of ELCA Faith Lens <https://blogs.elca.org/faithlens/>

Many thanks to Bill Lude for his dedicated service as FLC's Education and Youth Director for so many years.

Thank you also to the teachers from last year:

(Pre-K) Cathy Votino & Claire Haase

(Elementary) Bill Lude

(Post-Catechism - HS) Pete Cardimen

(Adult) Pastor Robin, Bruce Johnson & Todd Engen

Brightest Blessings!

Dianna Roll



Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap; for with the measure you give, it will be the measure you get back. Luke 6:38 NRSV

By faith, we recognize God is a giving God. Christ gave himself for us and we, in turn, should be willing to give of ourselves for others. As Christians, we choose to give, according to our ability. It shall be returned to us as an advantage—compensation, either in worldly goods or spiritual sustainment, or both. However, our motive for giving should not be to receive a blessing. Our motive should be to: bring satisfaction and glory to our blessed Savior; and be a channel of blessing to others. Luke 6:38 is given to us as an incentive for giving, but it is not a motive for giving.

Our Fellowship members have been generous in giving to Lutheran Social Services (LSS, Frebis) and the Smoky Row Food Pantry. The **Souper Bowl** on February 7 provided donations of \$185.00 for LSS and items for the Frebis Food Pantry to include: soup, macaroni and cheese, dry beans and rice, diapers, toothpaste, and soap. Thank you so much for giving to God's children.

For those curious about the breakdown of donation by Super Bowl team...Kansas City Chiefs - \$105.00, and Tampa Bay Buccaneers - \$80.00. It seems that most of us were rooting for the Chiefs, though the Buccaneers won with a final score of 31 to 9.

Fellowship has been approved for a Thrivent Action Grant of \$250.00 to provide food donation to the **Smoky Row Food Pantry** in April. In addition, we are asking for you to donate what you can provide. The items needed most include the following:

- Baby items (diapers 2-3-4, Wipes)
- Laundry detergent
- Kitchen/Cleaning supplies (Dishwasher detergent, Dish Soap, etc)
- Toiletries
- Non-perishable food items

Please bring your items to the church during office hours, or when you attend service in-person starting April 11. You can place them in the bins located under the tables in the Narthex. Thank you for giving.

The **Blessing Box** sponsored by the Columbus Blessing Box Project has been removed from its location in the parking lot. It was not being properly maintained.

Angela Roll Kidd manages the schedule for our **Meals-on-wheels** volunteers. Currently, volunteers serve 3-4 times a year on the 3rd Friday or Saturday each month. The pick-up sites are local – Dublin Community Church on Fridays at 10:45 am; and the Firehouse on Smoky Row at 11 am. Angie is requesting additional volunteers to support our mission. Please consider this opportunity and contact Angie by email at aroll1221@gmail.com

We can be filled with hope as we move forward together. We can gather and enjoy some Christian love.

In His Service,

Carol Jaeger

"Our Church All Are welcome"

Hope this finds you all well and I know we are looking forward to getting back into the regular church services. Cathy & I will be there when we receive our second shots.

This year looks like we will have light at the end of the tunnel and be able to have some fellowship and fund-raisers.

Our spring clean-up will be on Saturday, April 10th. from 10 until noon. All are welcome to help - we will have mulch to put down by and around the monument sign, and in the church entrance area along with raking of the leaves on our north side and also cleaning up the prayer garden area. If anyone is great on planting flowers, we can set up another date or simply feel free to help out any time and do some general planting.

A year ago the basketball hoop we had for the youth to play and have some activity ended up being shattered. I have secured a bid for a new hoop at a cost of \$1299. Todd was kind enough to secure a Thrivent grant for \$250. Mike Rankin and myself are donating \$200 towards the cause. If anyone can pitch in any amount of funds it would be greatly appreciated. Todd has set up several ways to donate to the Basketball replacement.

We will also be having a day where we have hot dogs and possibly burgers for the youth for a few hours in the afternoon.

When we finalize the potential way for giving to help offset some of the costs we will let you know - yes I'm asking for some donations to help kick off this program for the youth to have a place to relax and shoot some hoops. Our goal is to have the install complete by mid April.

PUMPKIN PATCH is a go for 2021 - we will need as much help from the team as we can - I have some great ideas on how to make it better which I will elaborate on later.

On the stewardship side of things, it is important to continue to share the virtual services. We do need to continue to ask friends and acquaintances to enjoy our fellowship if and when we can as we do need to continue to add new members. Are we all doing our part with the reopening of services soon in trying to ask new members to visit?

Generosity Giving, economically, actions of helping, sharing God's Love and Grace. are part of our life's actions to helping all in our journey through life.

Have a great day every day!
John

"He is not here; he has risen." Luke 24:6

Thank you to all who contributed to our Lenten worship services: Pastor Robin, Michael Cherup, Amy Wargowsky, George Biemel, Sonya Thelin, and Tracy Farel.

Resumption of In-Person Worship

On Sunday, April 11, Fellowship will return to in-person worship, with face masks required and social distancing observed. Communion will be celebrated weekly with the same disposable combination juice & wafer cups we are currently using. We will have both the 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. services. Major Crispin is graciously going to record the 10:00 a.m. service for us.

Final Mid-week Lent Offering

This Wednesday, March 31, will be our last Lenten mid-week offering. It is done by John Ortberg on "Soul Keeping." These have been very uplifting. Pastor sends an email notice out on Tuesday.

Easter Worship Service

We will be saying, "Hallelujah! He is risen!" in our own homes this Easter celebrating the miracle of Jesus Christ's redemption of us. An Easter service will be done virtually.

Dates to remember

Maundy Thursday service, virtual	April 1
Good Friday service, virtual	April 2
Easter Worship, virtual	April 4
In-person worship begins	April 11



FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Fritzi Bear	Frank & Leena LeMay
Major N Crispin	Sonja Meighen
Barb Fisher	Joshua Mott
Margery Gress	Martha Sampson
Cheryl Hamilton	John W. Votino
Zach Jaeger	Ray & Carol Ward
Lillian Kachic	Bill Zahn
Hazel Lambert	

FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Joan Albert, Ruth Albert's mother
Linda Chickey, Ruth Albert's co-worker
Rosemary Craig, Cindy Frey's mother
Deborah Dom, Darcy Dom's sister
Marc Hamilton, Cheryl Hamilton's son
Carl Jaeger, Jim Jaeger's brother
Chris Johnson, Bruce Johnson's sister-in-law
Suzanne Kemperman, Sonya Thelin's co-worker
Bill Leach, Karen Harris' brother
Vi McMonigle, Karen Harris' friend
William Seckle, Martha Sampson's brother
Dave Sullenberger, Jim Jaeger's friend
Jenifer Takats, Todd Engen's wife
Brenda Thomas, Jim Jaeger's friend
Hayden Valesky, Votino's great nephew
John Watson, Jim Jaeger's friend
E.J. Wendt, Stacy Niedecker's daughter

DEATHS:

Roger Linley, Barb Fisher's friend

April Birthdays

Todd Engen	4/6
Pat Frey	4/6
Jim Jaeger	4/6
Kathryn Tucker	4/6
John DeVantier	4/8
Pete Cardimen	4/11
Ray Ward	4/15
Doug Scantland	4/16
Lori Hobbins	4/18
Mallory Tonn	4/20
Jeanine Biemel	4/22
Claire Haase	4/26
Bill Lude	4/30
Robin Wargowsky	4/30



Happy Birthday to those celebrating birthdays this month! This list reflects the information we have in our computer at this time. We welcome your corrections and additions!

April Anniversaries

Andy & Jenny Devantier	4/11
Bill and Cathy Zahn	4/27
Todd & Jenifer (Takats) Engen	4/30



Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Robin Wargowsky
Treasurer	Todd Engen
Financial Secretary	Tracy Farel
Office Secretary	Tracy Farel
Organist	Michael Cherup
Sub. Organist	David Fleisher
Sunday evening pianist	Amy Wargowsky
Choir Director	George Biemel
Custodian	Kenneth Hunt

Executive Committee

President	Stacy Niedecker
Vice-President	Kathryn Tucker
Secretary	Sonya Thelin
	Pastor Robin

Congregational Life

Director	Cindy Frey
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Education & Youth

Director	Dianna Roll
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Outreach

Director	Carol Jaeger
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Stewardship & Support

Director	John Votino
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Worship

Director	Karen Harris
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Thank you for your leadership!!!

April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 Palm Sunday 10 am - Worship - streamed 11:30-3:00 - CJMC	29 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	30 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	31 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:00 pm - Last Mid-week Service (streamed)	1 Maundy Thursday 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:00 pm - Maundy Thursday service - streamed 8:00 pm - CJMC	2 Good Friday 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	3 6:00 am - CJMC Pray
4 Easter 10 am - Worship - streamed 11:30-3:00 - CJMC	5 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	6 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	7 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	8 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC	9 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	10 6:00 am - CJMC Pray
11 In-Person resumes 10 am - Worship. 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5 pm - Worship	12 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	13 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:00 pm - Worship Team (zoom)	14 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	15 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC	16 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	17 6:00 am - CJMC Pray
18 10 am - Worship 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5 pm - Worship	19 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	20 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 7:30 pm - Council (zoom)	21 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	22 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC	23 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	24 6:00 am - CJMC Pray
25 10 am - Worship 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5 pm - Worship	26 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	27 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	28 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	29 6:00 am - CJMC Pray 8:00 pm - CJMC	30 6:00 am - CJMC Pray	1 6:00 am - CJMC Pray

Fellowship Lutheran Church

7350 Sawmill Road
Columbus, OH 43235

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Our Purpose: To share God's love and grace through our words and actions.

Our Vision: To be a diverse, thriving community of faith where all are welcome to celebrate God's love and grace.

April 2021 Newsletter