



The Courier

St. Paul's United Church of Christ of Indianland

APRIL 2021



Rising Up

Come on and rise up, take a breath, you're alive now
Can't you hear the voice of Jesus calling us
Out from the grave like Lazarus
You're brand new, the power of death couldn't hold you
Can't you hear the voice of Jesus calling us
Out from the grave like Lazarus
Rise up, rise up, rise up
Out from the grave like Lazarus

Rise Up (Lazarus) CAIN 2020

Christian
Education
2

Prayer List
3

Calendar
11

Birthdays and
Anniversaries
4

Missions
5 and 6

Lay, Life and
Work
7

Worship
Information

Many of you realize that I listen to a great deal of Christian Music on SiriusXM's channel The Message; while I am driving or while I am on my computer the music is on! There were some new songs released this year that have some very powerful messages. However, the chorus above from the song "Rise Up (Lazarus)" was one that I had heard, yet now, with Easter coming, with all of the challenges that COVID presented, and where I was personally and professionally, I really heard Jesus calling me to rise up and the church to do the same. Most of you are familiar with the biblical story of Lazarus' death and how Jesus came, after 3 days, and called the deceased Lazarus from the grave. For us today, the very much alive and present Jesus is calling us from the "tombs" of our lives—the tombs of fear, anger, hopelessness, sadness, need for power and authority and more tombs that make us feel very much like we are in an actual rut. Now what is a rut? It is a grave with the ends kicked out. We often find ourselves in a rut, not usually by design, but by the challenges of life and most certainly the challenge of COVID. Yet here we are; anticipating the resurrection of Jesus once more!

And for Jesus, we are called to rise up from all that hinders us from our service to the Savior. I will admit that it can be extremely difficult to be a follower of Jesus. After all, many of the disciples were martyred for their discipleship. Yet what about us today—the present disciples of Jesus? Is there anyone trying to martyr us for our devotion to Jesus or are we really killing ourselves in those many "tombs" I mentioned earlier? Well my friends, there is hope, in fact there is GOOD NEWS! We all have Jesus and he is calling us again to rise up. Not to rise up and fight, but to rise up, offer forgiveness and LIVE! That is the power of the resurrection for us who still live here on earth. That is the discipleship that we must display and believe in as we rise up from the tomb of COVID—no matter how long that rut will be or has been, God sent his Spirit among us for strength, for courage, for the renewal of our faith and for us to rise up!

Christian Education News

Annual Egg Hunt

SPRING IS HERE!!! With Spring comes our **Annual Sunday School Egg Hunt**. The Egg Hunt is scheduled for **Saturday, April 3, 2021 beginning at 10AM to 12 Noon**. Our Annual Egg Hunt will look different this year. First, there will be non-edible eggs for the hunt. Second, it will be a Drive-thru/walk-thru egg hunt. This means, families will drive or walk thru a series of pathways, which will feature baskets of eggs. You will need to guess the number of eggs in each basket. All eggs in the hunt should be included. Each child will receive a ballot to write their guess of the number of eggs in the hunt. At the end of the hunt, there will be a box to put the guess in. Each child will also receive a bag with a number of items from St. Paul's for them to enjoy for Easter.

The guesses will be checked and the person who guesses the closest number to the actual number of eggs will be given a special prize. We hope to see many of you on Saturday, April 3, 2021. If there are any questions, please see Beth Sikorsky.

Youth Lock-In

Due to the Pandemic, a Lock-in will not be held this year. I am hoping we will be able to have a Lock-In in 2022.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible school is tentatively scheduled for **July 19, 2021 through July 23, 2021**. Our VBS theme this year is **"Christmas in JULY"**. Please watch future Newsletters and bulletins for more details. If you have any questions, please see Beth Sikorsky.

Weekly Lessons

Pastor Martin offers a **weekly lesson** posted to our Facebook page on Sunday Mornings for children and adults to listen to. You may check it out any time after 9:00AM on a Sunday morning. If you have any questions or issues, please let us know.

Please feel free to access the materials for the weekly lessons on-line through the Whole People of God website. The user id set up for your use is office@indianland.org and the password is hwp2m5fv. The website: www.wholepeopleofgod.com

If you have any questions, please email either me, Beth Sikorsky at hopewhim@ptd.net or the church office at office@indianland.org.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation classes will be held on-line on Mondays, April 19th and 26th at 7:00PM using Zoom. Meeting information will be sent to the confirmands for connection to the sessions. If there are any questions, please contact Pastor Martin.

(Pastor's message continued)

Rise up (You don't have to stay there)

Rise up (oh, we hear You calling)

Rise up (calling us, calling us)

Out from the grave like Lazarus

PRAYER LIST

Current Need:

Debbie Budinetz	Don Brensinger	Sheila Doll	Gloria Newhard	Brenda Usher
Dustin Miller	Sallie Weaver	Karen Hantz	Shirley Eckhart	Beverly Putt
Eric Hantz	Robert Knot	Carol McDonald	Mike Hartman	Mae Fredericks
Anne Harrity	Sharon Green	Angie	Johnny	Carol Gardner
Faye Neff	Kim Mickey	Jimmy Hurstman	Orlando Zaya	Mike Miller
Robbie Moore	Judy Silnik	Evan Hantz	Nancy Green	Andrea Coughlin
Zachary Long	Courtney Bloom	Kristen Meeker	Kay Bolus	Carol Williams
Harold Frable	Jeff Reihoff	Donna Whitman	Charles Wagner	Jerry
Linda Baumgartner	Logan Krick	Alyzah Borger	Diane Cimo	Dale Coughlin
Nadia Cospier	Julie Gelfuso	Jessica Harris	Kayla Bartholomew	Jeanette Haram
Terry Carlton	Carol and Angela	Debbie	John Nierer	

Longer Term Need:

Theresa Carbonell	John Weaver	Jean Hankee	Darryl Wentz	Tina Rehrig
Brandon Snyder	Franklin Dorshimer	Joe & Deb McGeary	Richard Vesely	Mary Beatrice
Pat Neff	Vicki Hall	Cole Ruch	Kevin Reilly	Nigel Mease
Joseph Vadenya	David Jones	Linda Barkley	Aryiah	Becky
Russell Blakeslee	Deborah Peterson	Dawn Stattler	Karen Bet	Bob Bakross
Michelle Brosious	George Borger, Jr.	Marion Bossard	Sharlene Weaver	Shirley Cressman
Lori Rader	Pamela Martin	Susan Zachary	Joan Drey	The Chupa Family
Stan Butz	The Thomson Family	Kim Rey	Sam Steinmetz	Clark Plummer
Jim Miller	Howard & Ida Bachman		John Hine	Darlene Hock
Joanne Peters	Rose Lanus	Dorian Arnwine	Margo Roberts	Robert Custard
Vicki Eltz	Jeannie Yehl	Linda Becker	Laura Rannella	Gail Bauer
Noah Iucci	Lisa Dotson	Pat James	Amber Steffie	Corey Doolan
Karen White	Ryan Holmes	Peter Rosales	Katie & Maggie Paules	
Janet Erickson	Cindy Hogman	Larry Rehrig	Jessica Smith	
Gary Kresini	Louise King	Edie		
Ashley Henninger	The Bauer Family			

Those Who Mourn:

The family and friends of Charlene Petruska

The family and friends of Wendy Hess

The family and friends of Elaine Smith



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

people & Places

Sensational 70's Club:

- 1 — Frank Cseve
- 8 — Gloria Newhard
- 18 — Joe Nierer
- 22 — Jay Shoemaker

Exceptional 80's Club

- 3 — Leona Deutsch
- 4 — Arlene George
- 21 — Ken Stott, Jr

Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 — Cindy & Jeff Hantz —
43 years
- 5 — Sallie & John Weaver —
41 years
- 14 — Joy & Wayne Muffley —
48 years
- 22 — Kirsten & Mike Bickert —
15 years
- 28 — Lisa & Lee Strohl —
37 years
- 29 — Val Attrill & Wes Shoemaker —
11 years

- 1 — Frank Cseve
- 2 — Pete Vilanova
- 3 — Leona Deutsch
Melissa Fritz
- 4 — Arlene George
- 6 — Amberly Drey
- 7 — Justin Nierer
- 8 — Gloria Newhard
Lago Rodney
- 9 — Max Nuscher
- 10 — Diane Mensinger Schloffer
Michael Rehrig
- 13 — Brenda Fegley
Patrick Bloch
Alene Muschko
- 14 — Greg Glovas
- 15 — Melvin Fritz
- 18 — Joe Nierer
Wesley Shoemaker
- 19 — Dawn Vilanova
- 21 — Ken Stott, Jr
- 22 — Jay Shoemaker
- 25 — Dale Thomas
- 28 — Crystal Hausman
- 30 — Thomas Hughes



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, we apologize. Please contact the church office so we can add you to our listing! Thank you.



OUR MISSIONS

Noisy Offering for April is: Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley

About Turning Point

It's not always easy to tell at the beginning of a relationship if it will become abusive. Abuse can be verbal, physical, emotional, sexual, or financial. Domestic and intimate partner abuse does not discriminate against age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or economic status.

If you have any questions or need our services, please call our 24/7 Helpline at 610-437-3369. If you have general questions about our agency, its mission and work, please call our administrative offices at 610-797-0530.

How You Can Get Help

Domestic and intimate partner abuse is a pattern of abusive and coercive behaviors including physical, sexual, and psychological attacks, as well as economic coercion that adults or adolescents use against their intimate partners.

Domestic and intimate partner abuse can take many forms, including physical abuse, psychological, emotional, verbal and financial abuse, sexual violence and isolation.

Turning Point staff and volunteers are trained to help victims of all types of domestic and intimate partner abuse.

Does your partner:

Embarrass you with bad names and put downs? Look at you or act in ways that scare you?

Control what you do, who you see or talk to, or where you go?

Stop you from seeing or talking to friends or family?

Take your money or Social Security, make you ask for money, or refuse to give you money?

Make all the decisions? Tell you you're a bad parent, or threaten to take away or hurt your children?

Act like the abuse is no big deal, it's your fault, or even deny doing it?

Destroy your property or threaten to kill your pets? Intimidate you with guns, knives or other weapons?

Shove you, slap you or hit you? Force you to drop charges? Threaten to commit suicide?
Threaten to kill you?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above questions, you may be in an abusive relationship.

OUR MISSIONS

April Mission: Strengthen the Church



Keep and Till

The Strengthen the Church Offering supports grants which make a difference in the lives of people across the United Church of Christ. The Keep and Till Congregation in the Central Atlantic Conference honors rural life and faith by focusing on agrarian rhythms, ecological concerns, and creation care. Keep and Till received a grant to stabilize and improve their community garden during the pandemic.

Pastor Samuel Chamelin explains the impact of the grant: "The quarantine made in-person activities more difficult, but it also helped us to understand the value of gathering together. While Keep and Till elected not to worship in-person in any capacity, we did continue to meet in the garden, masked and socially distanced, to continue our ag work (which is spiritual work also). This exposed us to new friends and neighbors in a way that we did not expect."

The grant literally funded the renewal of the garden. Mulch enriched the soil. A 250-gallon trough increased the water capacity. Organic pest control improved the overall yield of the garden.

But most significantly, people in the neighborhood came out to spend time in the garden. Pastor Samuel saw a renewal in people. "When a tornado destroyed the tool shed, one of those new families stepped forward to offer their old shed, in good shape. We had community members come out to hang with us and assist, and they brought real help to the garden project. Then, they noticed that we had issues with weeds and poison ivy. The family used their flame thrower to eliminate the problems. Later, we discovered that others were mowing some particularly weedy areas. And then, finally, we realized neighbors were helping each other harvest food for their tables. In this way, Keep and Till truly became a member of the community. Interactions were not how we might hope them to be, we saw growth in our community, integration with the surrounding neighborhood, and stories of generosity and sharing."

Lay, Life and Work

As we spring ahead, the Lay Life and Work Committee continues to plan several sales and events. Please spread the news and tell your family and friends

A **Hoagie Sale** has been added to the schedule of events to benefit the general fund because we all enjoy Thomson Hoagies. This also allows for easy meal prep the night of delivery or lunch the next day. Hoagies will be **\$5 each** and you may sign up in church or by calling or emailing the office. **Orders are due by April 4th and pick up is at church April 13th from 4-5:30pm.** Available hoagies and sandwiches are Italian with everything, Italian with no peppers, Italian without onions and with peppers, Italian no onions or peppers, Ham and Cheese sandwich, Turkey hoagie, roast beef hoagie, tuna hoagie and veggie hoagie.

College care packages will be distributed mid April. Please send updated information about college students to Dawn Vilanova.

A **Take Out Ham and Dandelion Dinner** will follow on **May 1st**. The meal will include ham, mashed potatoes, lettuce and/or dandelion, green beans OR corn, hot bacon dressing and a roll. The process will be similar to the last meal and be available for take-out only with choices required during the ordering process to allow for easy pick up. **The price per meal will be \$11.** Tickets are available by calling the office or speaking with Pastor or Dawn Vilanova. **A bacon fry** for the bacon dressing has been scheduled for **Friday, April 16th at 9:00AM**. Please see AY Hughes if you are able to help prepare the bacon for the dressing.

Lastly, a **Basket Social** is also planned for **May 13, 14, 15th** with a similar plan as the last one in November. Food will be available for take-out only and details will follow. Prize donations are greatly appreciated and can be stored at church if needed. Please contact Dawn Vilanova regarding



details and if interested in advertising or donating for the event.



Worship Information

April 4th — EASTER Sunday

Flowers: The first vase is presented by the Prutzman's in honor of Grandmother Faye Neff's birthday on April 6th.

The second vase is presented by Pastor Martin, Ellen and Eli Nuscher in honor of Max's birthday on April 9th.

Bulletins: The bulletins are presented to the Glory of God by Mary Ann Miller.

NT: Acts 10: 34 — 43

NT: I Corinthians 15: 1 — 11

Gospel: John 20: 1 — 18

April 11th — Holy Humor Sunday

Flowers: The first vase is presented by the estate of June Beers in memory of parents Irma and Norman Hall.

Bulletins: The bulletins are presented to the Glory of God by Mary Ann Miller.

NT: Acts 4: 32 — 35

NT: I John 1: 1 — 2: 2

Gospel: John 20: 19 — 31

April 18th

Flowers: The first vase is presented by children, grand-children and great grand-children in memory of Mark Roberts.

The second vase is presented by Jean Shoemaker and family in memory of William Shoemaker.

Bulletins: The bulletins are presented by children, grand-children and great grand-children in memory of Mark Roberts.

NT: Acts 3: 12 — 19

NT: I John 3: 1 — 7

Gospel: Luke 24: 36b — 48

April 25th

Flowers: The first vase is presented by Ron Graver in honor of Gladys Polgar's birthday on May 1st.

Bulletins: None Presented

NT: Acts 4: 5 — 12

NT: I John 3: 16 — 24

Gospel: John 10: 11 — 18

Flower and bulletin sponsorships are available on the following dates. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex or you may let the church office know which dates you are interested in, and in whose honor or memory you are sponsoring. There are clean pens and dirty ones marked so you may use a clean pen which will then be placed in the dirty pen receptacle for sanitizing, or you may use your own pen. Bulletins can be sponsored at \$8 for each Sunday, and flower vases are \$15 per vase and there are 2 vases available each Sunday unless otherwise noted. Sign up, send an email to office@indianland.org or call the office at 610-767-5751.

Flowers are available:

For 2021 many dates are currently available

May 16th (one vase) and 30th

June 6th (one vase) 13th, 20th (one vase) and 27th.

No vases available for May 2nd, 9th or 23rd, July 11th, August 15th or 22nd, September 26th and December 19th.

One vase is available on August 8th, and 29th, September 12th, October 10th and 17th, and November 7th.

The consistory persons for the Month of April are AY Hughes and Marlene

Indianland Cemetery Association

If you own or care for a plot at Indianland Cemetery, please read the following letter. The Officers and Board members have revised the rules and regulations at the Cemetery. **These will take effect Oct. 1, 2021**

Allowed on Indianland Cemetery:

Allowed year round are small plants, flowers inside planter/flower boxes that are kept on or against either front or back for tombstone or foundation. Displays may not exceed the width of the stone.

Seasonal items or larger items not inside planter/flower boxes are permitted from Nov. 1st to April 30th each year. These items must be removed by April 30th.

Any Seasonal or larger items not removed by April 30th, or that are not in a planter/flower box, **will be removed by Indianland Cemetery Association, Inc.** This will provide access for lawn care throughout the Spring, Summer and Fall.

Not Allowed on the Indianland Cemetery:

No Ground Blankets

No Shrines

No Permanent Plants, Bushes, Flowers or Bulbs

No Permanent Borders or Fences around grave or tombstone of any kind

No wires permitted to secure pots and No digging of pots into ground

No Dogs or Pets allowed on Cemetery Property

No Bicycles, Motorbikes or Snowmobiles

Any unsightly plants or displays that interfere with lawn care or burials in the surrounding areas, will be removed by Indianland Cemetery Assoc.

Indianland Cemetery Assoc. is not liable for any lost, stolen or damaged items placed at graves.

Inquiries:

For the Passion of Christ

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week began on Sunday, March 28th (**Palm Sunday**). Pastor Martin will be recording a reading of the Passion of Christ and placing it on our Facebook page for you to look at whenever it is convenient for you to do so. Let us hear the Passion of Christ and become even more passionate about taking up the cross for Him in service and in love.

Holy Thursday is April 1st, and we will be offering an on-line worship experience with an on-line Communion celebration as well. It will be on our Facebook page at 7:30pm on Holy Thursday and will be pre-recorded. Please join us from around your tables, for this celebration.

Good Friday is April 2nd, and again, there will be an on-line offering through our Facebook page at 7:30pm as well. Join me as we commemorate Christ's suffering on the cross for our sins. This service as well will be pre-recorded, and it is still important to come to the cross before Easter morning.

Easter morning on April 4th, will offer several worship experiences. There will be a **7:00AM Son Rise** service in **Indianland Cemetery**, weather permitting. If we are not able to gather in the cemetery, due to any remaining snow, the service will be in St. Paul's parking lot. If there is inclement weather, the service will be moved to the Sanctuary. We will also be able to gather on-line or in-person at St. John's at 9:00AM for our Resurrection Service. **A Resurrection service at St. Paul's will begin at 10:30AM.** Celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior with us wherever, and however, you are able. We will be offering Holy Communion at all Easter services this year. Pastor Martin has procured pre-filled cups with both wine or grape juice to drink and a piece of bread to eat. We will hand them out to those who are coming into our worship areas prior to the service along with a napkin. You will have to remove a tab over each element when we get to the Communion celebration and we ask that you wrap everything in the napkin and discard them in the trash receptacles after the service has concluded. We wish all of you a very Happy Easter!



APRIL 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:30P — Online Holy Thursday service	2 7:30P — Online Good Friday Service	3 10A to Noon Easter Egg Event
4 7:00A — “Sonrise” Service in Indianland Cemetery 10:30A — Resurrection Service — on-line, in person, in the parking lot or on the telephone EASTER SUNDAY	5	6 7:30P — Elders	7	8	9	10
11 7:30A — Contemporary Praise Service 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person, in the parking lot or on the telephone Holy Humor Sunday	12	13	14 7:00P — Worship and Arts 7:30P — :Lay, Life and Work	15 Newsletter Articles are Due!	16 9:00A — Bacon Fry for Bacon Dressing for Ham and Dandelion Dinner	17
18 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person, in the parking lot or on the telephone	19 7:00P — Confirmation Class	20 7:00P — Consistory	21	22	23	24
25 10:30A — Worship Service — on-line, in person, in the parking lot or on the telephone	26 7:00P — Confirmation Class	27	28	29	30	<i>Ham and Dandelion Dinner Take Out Only Pickup between 2P and 6P</i>

OFFICE HOURS: The office hours vary. Please call the office to schedule an appointment if you need to. General messages may be sent to **office@indianland.org** or call 610-767-5751. In Case of emergency, please contact Pastor Martin Nuscher on his cell phone, 484-707-7006 or by email to **pastor@indianland.org**. Church website is www.indianland.org. Thank you.

St. Paul's UCC of Indianland

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Please note that the next Courier for publication will be the **May 2021 newsletter**. Please plan your submissions accordingly and submit no later than **April 15th**. If there are any questions or concerns please call the office at **610-767-5751** or email them to **office@indianland.org**.
Thank you very much.

Traditional Worship Service — Sundays at 10:30 am — in person, on-line, FM transmitter (.25 mile radius from church) or via your telephone

Christian Education Hour — remains on hold as of now, weekly lessons on FaceBook

Praise Contemporary Worship — One in-person service only on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Please send any prayer requests to office@indianland.org or call and leave them on our answering machine at 610—767—5751. We love to **PUSH**—that is **Pray Until Something Happens**.

In case of inclement weather, please tune into Channel 69, WFMZ TV or 790AM, WAEB—AM Talk Radio for cancellation or delay information.