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Aaaaaaaaaahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh.

That's the sound a pastor makes on the Monday after Easter. 😊

This pastor spent Monday helping in the Food Pantry a bit (a very little bit, honestly, it was a blessedly slow day), and then spent the whole entire afternoon watching a movie she has been wanting to watch for months ("Knives Out", and I HIGHLY recommend it) and then a Harry Potter marathon. Leftovers for dinner. It was glorious.

I hope your Easter weekend was filled with hints or giant flashes of hope, and evidences of new life. I hope you got to talk to someone you love. I hope you were able to worship in a way that really made the resurrection of Jesus powerfully meaningful to you. I know I did!

By the way, I know the sound has been bad on the past few broadcasts, beginning on Good Friday (I think). Investigation into the problem tells us it is a failure of the internet, or of Facebook itself, lacking the bandwidth for so much increased use. Elsewhere it has been much worse...some of my clergy colleagues weren't able to broadcast at all, even if they had recorded it in advance and were just trying to put their videos on Facebook or YouTube. I am praying that it will get better now that Holy Week and Easter has passed...but on the other hand, we don't want fewer churches to broadcast, or fewer people to watch! Unfortunately, there isn't a thing we can do to improve it ourselves. So we pray, and hope the technology folks we rely on can solve it. Hang in there.

This week in worship, as we often do the Sunday after Easter, we will spend some time with bold and courageous but heartbroken Thomas and the other disciples, as they grapple both with grief and with wonder at the Risen Christ. And then, beginning next Sunday April 26, we will begin a series learning about Simon Peter, the simple fisherman Jesus called to become the Rock on whom Jesus built the church.

It is spring, church family! Signs of new birth and new life and the world waking up are everywhere. As you spend time breathing in the Breath of Life God has given you, I pray you notice. Trees budding, people out walking, turtles waking up from hibernation (thanks for that photo, Debbie, Norm is so sweet!), baby goats being born, green things pushing up from the earth to become all of the things that make life smell and taste and feel good. Take pictures if you can, and send them to me at [pastor@eumcfallon.org](mailto:pastor@eumcfallon.org). Or send me descriptions of what you see. I'd love to share your thoughts and photos with everyone, and share theirs with you. God's artwork is everywhere around us, let's share it.

I can't tell you how much I am looking forward to being together again, in person! I know you are, too. In the meantime, may God's richest blessings fill your days and your nights, and grant you a certainty of God's love for you.

Christ is risen!

*Pastor Dawn*

# Kitchen Table Worship

## For the Beauty of the Earth

This week in worship, we will spend some time thinking about what we see, and what we believe. We will talk about the bold, courageous man named Thomas who was so heartbroken by Jesus' death that he could not believe he had risen until Jesus himself showed him. You can find Thomas' story in John 20. We will talk, too, about how God reveals himself in all creation, how all creatures great and small sing God's praises, and how God's good work is to restore all creation in the last days. Revelation 5:13-14 is a great passage about this, and so are Revelation 20 and 21.

As you spend time in prayer and worship this week, you might like to include this song, called the Hymn of Promise. It's very sweet and simple, but has a profound message. It was written in the mid-1980s by Natalie Sleeth, and is found on page 707 of our hymnal.

In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed an apple tree  
In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;  
There's a dawn in every darkness bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity  
In our doubt there is believing, in our life, eternity  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last a victory,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

## News and Fun Stuff!

### Send Your Prayers and God Sightings!

Praying for each other is a great joy and privilege, and one of the best parts about being a family of faith. Here are some answered prayers and God sightings to encourage you:

- The Masked Makers of Fallon, a group of sew-ers here in town, are busy making hundreds of masks for folks who need them. Thanks to Penny Valentine-Faith and her wife Suzi for putting the order in (and making hundreds of masks themselves!), we now have 30 masks for Fallon Daily Bread and Food Pantry volunteers!

### April Birthdays!

**Jim Hertz, 4/1**

**Elena Wolf, 4/2**

**Kyle Dugan, 4/4**

♥ **David Clodius, 4/7**

**Dana Endacott, 4/8**

**April Butcher, 4/9**

**Jake Coval, 4/9**

**Lexi Pidlypchak, 4/16**

**Joanne Brown, 4/21**

**Meghan Hockenberry, 4/24**

**Ashlee McGarity, 4/24**

**Nadine Miller, 4/24**

**Michele Berney, 4/27**

**Deanna Brown, 4/49**

**Wilva Blue, 4/30**

♥ *David Clodius passed away on March 8 this year, after a short illness. He has lived with his sisters Diane and Carol in California for years, but was a longtime member of Epworth. We remember him for his optimistic, outgoing nature and his very silly jokes.*

**Do not remember  
the former things,  
or consider the  
things of the past.  
Behold, I am  
about to do a  
new thing!  
It springs forth  
even now, do you  
not perceive it?  
I will make a way  
in the wilderness  
and rivers in the  
desert.**

*~ Isaiah 43:18-19*

- As our more at-risk volunteers have needed to step back from their work in our ministries, others have had the opportunity to step in and have expressed their joy in feeling useful and doing meaningful work in the name of Jesus Christ.
- Our computer-based ministry, while nothing near as good as worshiping in person, is reaching people who have never been to church before. Pastor Dawn is in ongoing conversation with several who have sent her private messages for prayer, and have asked in-depth questions about Jesus and the Christian faith. After filtering out the folks who only watch a minute or two of the sermon, we are reaching between 150-200 households each week!
- From Ashlee McGarity, “My neighbors (Jody VanderBaan Jarvis) made door hangers and plastered the neighborhood with them. The hangers were personal and offered help and encouragement. This family has always been so kind and we and our neighborhood are so blessed.”
- From several folks in Fallon, and reaching out from elsewhere: “The rain falling on my city.” “Trees in full bloom. I am so grateful to have such a beautiful neighborhood to walk in.” “My wife’s smile. My son’s voice.” “God at work in our community, through the kindness of people.”

Please send your prayer requests and God sightings to Kathy Reynolds at [kmreynolds3@gmail.com](mailto:kmreynolds3@gmail.com). She would love to continue compiling those, to send them out to the church every Monday, and we would love to be in prayer for you!

### **Epworth Tshirts, Sweatshirts, and Hats**

Back in the late summer, many of us ordered tshirts and whatnot from Buttsup Duck, who gave us a great deal on them. When they arrived, a few sizes were wrong, and a few more people wanted to order who hadn’t...and somehow, that second order went astray. Pastor Dawn remembers Angelina calling it in, but they have no record of it. So sorry it has been so long! Here’s what we will do: included in this packet is a brand new order form. Please mark what you would like, mark whether or not you have already paid for it (like, if your size was wrong and you already gave it back to the office), and either call the church office with your order, email us with it at [communications@eumcfallon.org](mailto:communications@eumcfallon.org), or mail us the paper copy along with your check for however much it all comes to. We need a minimum order of 24 items. We apologize for the mixup, and thank you!!

### **Thank You for Your Faithful Giving!**

Your Finance Team wants to thank you for continuing to support the work of the church, even while giving is a bit less convenient. The month of March saw General Fund giving come in just slightly under budget, but was plenty to cover our expenses. Utilities have been a bit lower (for obvious reasons), our office expenses a bit higher (mostly mailing costs), and all is well financially. You have also given generously to the roof fund and to our food ministries. We are so grateful!

**“In the beauty  
of the lilies  
Christ was born  
across the sea,  
With a glory  
in His bosom  
that transfigures  
you and me.  
As He died to  
make us holy,  
let us live to  
make all free  
while God is  
marching on.  
Glory, glory,  
hallelujah!  
Glory, glory,  
hallelujah!  
Glory, glory,  
hallelujah!  
While God is  
marching on!”**

*~ adapted from Battle  
Hymn of the Republic, by  
Julia Ward Howe*

## Creating a Path of Easter Joy

Last week, inspired by the bright colors of Easter eggs and the “Only One You” project in Tacoma, Washington, we suggested that you might like to paint some rocks to help create a path of Easter joy around the plants and trees in front of the Wolf Center. It will take a LOT of rocks to cover that area! We hope you are having fun with it. Recently, we discovered that our dear Kelly Wieboldt LOVED to paint rocks, and so we think we will dedicate this path to her. She did so much good, important work at the Food Pantry, the Golden Threads clothing ministry, and Fallon Daily Bread that we think this might be a beautiful tribute. So. While you’re sheltering at home, find a few (or a bunch!) palm-sized rocks (give or take size-wise, anything you can pick up in one hand really) and paint them however you want. Bright colors or soft ones, designs of any kind...paint flowers on them, or butterflies, a cross or fish symbol, a Bible verse, anything at all. Stripes, swirls, sparkles, anything. Paint as many as you’d like, the more the better! We will spray them good with polyurethane so that they last longer, and paint more as we need to. Can’t wait to see the beautiful path we will create together.



## Fallon Daily Bread, the Epworth Community Food Pantry Going Strong!

Though some of our reliable volunteers have had to step back from their work in these ministries to protect their health, several more are stepping in. We are so thankful for the help from individuals all over town, and from our own church, who are stepping in to cook, pack, and distribute food while being careful to wear masks and gloves and practice social distancing. This work is so important, and we are very grateful for the gift of their time and presence.

Our HeLP ministry would greatly appreciate donations of combs and small travel-sized toothpaste for our guests. If you happen to be out and about and can pick up one or several, we would love it. Just call the church office for pickup, or wrap it in a plastic bag and put it through the mail slot on the office door. Thank you in advance!