



# TowerNews

April 2021

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST · Where You Are Always Welcome

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## *Easter 2021 - Live and Alive!*



A MESSAGE FROM  
PASTOR BOB

What a wild year! Do you remember last year at this time? The people celebrating St. Patrick's Day who were interviewed on television do. More than one recalled the bars and restaurants being shut down around 5:30 p.m. What about basketball fans, who schedule their lives around the NCAA tournaments? Sorry no tourney in 2020. People stayed home, baked cookies and Zoomed for a living. Others began to sew facemasks to match their outfits and favorite sports team. No problem. We were sure this thing was going to disappear by Summer.

Well, here we are a little more than a year later. I would boldly say that a majority of us have had enough Zoom meetings and way too many cookies. We are back in church and school, but many people remain reluctant to join in-person opportunities. I, for one, have spent very little to no time in restaurants, and I am just now invited back to visit a limited number of care facilities. We are headed in the right direction, slowly.

Planning anything over the past year has been a moving target (understated). Should we have in-person worship? How many seats? Limited attendance? Easter 2021 is a perfect example. It has evolved over the past month or more. Up until Palm Sunday we were going to have one worship, with live music, singers and congregational singing, maybe. It has turned into two in-person worship options, live music and congregational singing (yes, you still need a mask). You will continue to have a virtual option (what a blessing to have options). Sorry... there won't be an Easter Breakfast for a second historic year, unless you call a to-go doughnut "breakfast." Maybe 2022?

This is all GOOD NEWS, because it proclaims that Jesus' message is still ALIVE. As Luke's Gospel recalls, Jesus was told by the authorities to silence his followers. He told them that even if they were to be silent, the rocks would cry out. Get it...? You can't silence God's message.

(Live and Alive! Continued)

The pandemic is probably pretty tame compared to some of the stories that come from Holocaust survivors who, like Jesus, were abused to the edge of death and still proclaimed that God is ALIVE! I hope we can Praise God In the Storm.

I pray that you will find creative ways to celebrate Holy Week and Easter. Please make every effort to join me for worship, in-person or virtually. Most of all, continue to pray for Jesus' Church and First Church.

God Bless You All! *Rev. Bob*

## *Holy Week 2021*

April 1: Maundy Thursday In-Person worship, with Communion at 6:30 pm

April 2: Good Friday In-Person worship at 5:30 pm

Easter Sunday In-Person Worship at 9:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

**Virtual Live Streamed Worship may be found at our Website: [Firstgb.org](http://Firstgb.org)**



Rummage Sale

April 7 - 10

Wednesday—  
Saturday



Treasures!

For Sale

Wednesday, April 7	12-6pm
Thursday, April 8	12-6pm
Friday, April 9	8am-5pm
Saturday, April 10	8am-Noon

At

First Church

We need people to help on those days. Call 920-437-4164

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## Youth Group News

During March, we concluded our lessons from Sadie Robertson Huff. We also held a lesson on St. Patrick's Day, and we started our lesson based on the movie *I Am Not Ashamed*.

We continue to hold our meetings at church to keep the group safe. We hope to plan some fun this summer when we can be outside.

As always, we had fun just hanging out with each other.

## Youth Mission Trip 2021 Update

The Scrip program sales will be ongoing. Thank you Sharon Lindow for chairing. Don't forget to turn in your Kringle money. We are planning a bonding adventure in the near future. Please watch your email for updates.

-Lori Burroughs

<b>April Calendar</b>	
For more information on any of these events, go to <a href="http://www.firstcb.org">www.firstcb.org</a> or call the office, 437-4164.	
Thurs. 1:	6:30 pm—Maundy Thursday Worship
Fri. 2:	5:30 pm—Good Friday Worship
Sun. 4:	9:00 am—Easter Worship 10:15 am—Easter Worship
Tues. 6:	ELECTION DAY
Wed. 7:	11:30 am—Bible Study 6:00 pm—A2J Youth Group
Sun. 11:	9:00 am—Worship
Wed. 14:	11:30 am—Bible Study 6:00 pm—A2J Youth Group
Thurs. 15:	6:00 pm—Executive Council
Sun. 18:	9:00 am—Worship 10:15 am—Annual Meeting
Wed. 21:	11:30 am—Bible Study 6:00 pm—A2J Youth Group
Sun. 25:	9:00 am—Worship
Mon. 26:	6:00 pm—Men' Nite Out
Tues. 27:	5:30 pm—Bible and Brew
Wed. 28:	11:30 am—Bible Study 6:00 pm—A2J Youth Group

<b>APRIL BIRTHDAYS</b>	
1	Tammie Zelhofer
3	Kayla Crim
4	Tina Truttman
7	Bryce Zacharias
8	Lilly Hansen Sarah Theeke
9	Joe Johnson
10	Ellen Lyman
13	Scott DeGroot
15	Larkin Hellmann
18	Robert Ripley
19	Cindy Rezek Rick Stoll Emily Whitstone Seth Andrews
20	Haley Van Sluys
21	Lori Burroughs Kegan Wirtz
22	Linda Ramirez Glen Truttman
23	Sara Meyerhofer
25	Jack Loewe Morgan Drake
27	Kathy Erdman
28	Phil Martzahl Barb Meyer

<b>BUDGET AS OF</b>	
<b>February 28, 2021</b>	
<b>INCOME</b>	
Anticipated	\$58,648.00
Actual	\$58,487.69
	100%
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Actual	\$40,263.49
	69%

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

The First Church Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 18, 2021 at 10:15 a.m.

This meeting will be offered both In-Person and Virtually.

The annual report will be emailed to you. Printed reports will be available at church. If you would like a printed report mailed to you, please call the church office.



“Doing life. Doing good.”

Are you ready to JOIN THE CONVERSATION?

It has been awhile, but a group of people at First Church will begin small group gatherings, using the “Life Tree Café” model.

If you are interested being part of this ministry, give Rev. Bob a call!