



THE APPLESEED

APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER

FROM MEMBERSHIP TO DISCIPLESHIP... TO BIG SURPRISES WHILE IN DISCIPLESHIP...

GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME! HOPE IS AN AMAZING TOOL!

"Hope is waiting expectantly for God to show up, and show off for our good and God's glory."

– Pam Farrel et al., *Discovering Hope in the Psalms*

Welcome again to the Easter season, during which Christians are proudly commemorating the greatest love ever bestowed on humanity. Hope is always in Jesus, and He is Risen – the tomb is opened. The gateway to the everlasting life is offered: *Anyone who believes in Him shall not perish, but shall receive everlasting life.* It is time for all Christians to sing **Alleluia, Praise Be to God.** For over a year we have practiced social distancing and have not been able to worship together; but God shed another light for us so that we can still worship and pray, anywhere we are, as long as our hearts are set on Him alone. *Amen!*

We are in an evolutionary time as well as a revolutionary one. We evolved from pursuing selfish goals to joining in community caring, as brothers and sisters. This is one sign of a resurrected life, one which reflects Jesus's teaching to love God, neighbors, and ourselves. *Alleluia.* Our prayer has changed from *me* to *us...* as in, *"God, shine a light on the areas of our lives where we have selfish motives that draw our attention away from You. Strengthen us as we evolve toward things prioritizing our effort to follow You."*

This is our second Easter while the pandemic envelops us. Its darkness does not slow us down in our gratitude for the wonder of the Power of Jesus's Resurrection. This Easter season, have we got it yet? Do we realize how many years we have celebrated the Rising of our Lord? Have we seen any transformations in our own lives? Jesus said, *"If you love me, feed my sheep and my lambs."* We all have different gifts to offer, and any crumbs that you may offer to anyone do count.

Have we changed our old ways of doing things and renovated ourselves with positive approaches that move us away from our self-centeredness? We can also pray to God for new people around and among us who can help, challenge, and teach us along our journey. Paul said, *"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up."* We need to pour wisdom into our lives, and need to find people who are willing and able to do likewise. Here is another testimony, with a prayer:

"Lord, do your resurrection work for me. Transform my heart and my life into one that gives You glory and praise in every way. Pull me deeper and bring me closer to Your heart."

God gives favor to his people. He created the entire world and designed it with purpose that benefits us all – even sending His son Jesus to die and to rise in victory, benefitting us all. He accomplishes all things, benefitting us all. His grace is abundant enough for us all, because his love never changes and is never diminished. I hope we are there to see it all.

Happy April, and be happy that Jesus is Risen.

Pastor Lunisi Tovo

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lunisi Tovo".

Suggested Scripture Readings
for
Holy Week

Palm Sunday:
Matthew 21:1-11

Monday Blues:
Matthew 21:12-17

Tuesday Troubles:
Matthew 21:23; 24:1-2; 26:1-2

Wednesday Preparation:
Matthew 26:6-16

Thursday Supper:
Matthew 26:26-39, 47-50

Good Friday:
Matthew 27:35-37, 45-54, 57-61

Forgotten Saturday:
Matthew 27:62-66

Easter Sunday:
John 20:1-18

– *Pastor Lunisi*



"Sebastopol UMC"
is our
YouTube channel

HOLY WEEK

FIVE DAYS OF FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP
VIA ZOOM

The Worship Team invites you to join our
Holy Week Zoom meetings
Monday, March 29 through Friday, April 2
All meetings start at 5:00 P.M.

Each meeting will feature short meditations and
readings by members of SUMC.

To join any, or all, of the Zoom Meetings
in Holy Week, please click this link:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/89482000925?pwd=bHMoSVdoS1JaeHZGNDZLbVg5coZmQT09>

Meeting ID: 894 8200 0925
Passcode: 447899

If you would like to be a reader, please contact
Carol Wegner carolwegner@yahoo.com

EASTER SUNDAY ZOOM WORSHIP

Sunday, April 4, 2021
starting at 10:30 AM Pacific Time

To join our Zoom Easter Sunday
Worship,
please click this link:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/87140176043?pwd=eUJkeWhtTkNHWkFSdEgib04zTWVUZz09>

Meeting ID: 871 4017 6043
Passcode: 200072

*(we will send the links and reminders again
by email right before Holy Week)*

Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom

**Living into the Church's Moral
Witness through Radical Discipleship**

Darryl W. Stephens

News FROM THE MISSION TEAM

The Mission Team's fundraisers have not been held for a year. Funds are steadily decreasing, while purchases for the Church Door, sleeping bags, and laundry vouchers continue. Currently our only Mission income is from donations to the Communion offering. Please contribute to this offering so we can continue to provide these items for our neighbors in need. Thank You!
– The Mission Team

*He is Risen!
Alleluia!*



A NEW STUDY

May 4, 11, 18 and 25 at 2:00 pm via Zoom

Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom:

Living into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship
by Darryl W. Stephens

In Jesus's own words, he came to bring good news to the poor, release the captives, restore sight to the blind, and let the oppressed go free. What is the responsibility of the church to follow Christ's example in word and deed? While these times might feel particularly turbulent, society has always confronted the church with challenging issues where she has had to discern how God was calling her. The church's track record in these moments is far from perfect. The purpose of this study is to help the church and its members discern our call and bear witness to the will of God for a more just world.

e-book available here:

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/bearing-witness-in-the-kin-dom>

Print edition available here:

<https://www.amazon.com/Bearing-Witness-Kin-dom-Churchs-Discipleship/dp/195250113X>

For further information, contact Carol Wegner at carolwegner@yahoo.com 707-479-4800

HENS ARE LAYING!

The Sebastopol Inter-Church Food Pantry needs egg cartons (1-dozen size). Cartons can be dropped off at the Pantry, 500 Robinson Road (behind the Episcopal Church) between 10:00 am and noon every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. Thank you! – *Karen Bohn*

SEND A MESSAGE OF JOY

Would you like to help create cards that accompany meals being delivered to **Ceres Project** clients? These are local residents who are too sick to cook for themselves, many of whom are at or below the poverty line and are usually very isolated. They feel the love in each card, and tell us how much it means to them to receive them. You can make a commitment of one card or many, whatever works for you. No art training is required: professional to grandkid crayon contributions are all welcome! Please email Vicky Ness at vickyness61@gmail.com if you are interested!

CHILDREN'S HOUSE UPDATE

The SebUMC Trustees held a Cottage Crew work day on Saturday, March 27, during which they carefully investigated the condition of the old Children's House which is soon to be renovated. Lo and behold! They discovered, under the worn visible flooring, original Douglas Fir floors! Charlotte Fisher will tell us more about this, and other discoveries, as the project continues. Stay tuned...

*Hosanna
in the Highest Heaven!*

YOU NEED COFFEE!

*"Life without coffee is like...
Something, without Something...
Sorry, but I haven't had my coffee yet!"*

If this is you, we have Equal Exchange **COFFEE** for that. Or **TEA**, or – if things are *really* rough – some strong **CHOCOLATE** to help you (and your memory) get through the day.

Help support our SUMC youth through your purchases, and do good by supporting small-scale, fair-trade farmers and their worker-owned cooperatives.

Remember, love (like Spring) is in the air, and it smells like coffee!

To order coffee, tea, chocolate, or **OLIVE OIL**, call Pat Munsch – (707) 823-2790. *Thank you!*

AN UPDATE ON OUR SCRIP FUNDRAISING

A note from Pat Schoch:

First of all, I want to thank all of you faithful SCRIP users. In 2020 we earned a significant sum for our church. I have enjoyed delivering SCRIP to you these past months, sometimes on foot, sometimes by car (Paul driving).

For those of you who don't quite understand SCRIP, here's how it works: If you Google "**GLSC**" (Great Lakes Scrip Center), you can peruse their retailers list and let me know what you want. The site tells you what percentage of your purchase price the church gets, and what denominations are available. SCRIP works like a gift card.

About once a month I make an order. The SCRIP comes to me and I deliver it to you! You can find major retailers such as Amazon, Staples, Safeway, Home Depot, you name it. Check it out and let me know if you want to try it. It really helps!

Call Pat Schoch to order scrip – 707-823-3889

DAILY READINGS APRIL 2021

Thursday, April 1, 2021: Maundy Thursday

Friday, April 2, 2021: Good Friday

Saturday, April 3, 2021: Holy Saturday

Sunday, April 4, 2021: Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 4, 2021: Resurrection of the Lord

Sunday, April 4, 2021: Easter Evening

Monday, April 5, 2021: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Genesis 1:1-19; 1 Corinthians 15:35-49

Tuesday, April 6, 2021: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Genesis 1:20-2:4a; 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Wednesday, April 7, 2021: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Song of Solomon 3:1-11; Mark 16:1-8

Thursday, April 8, 2021: Psalm 133; Daniel 1:1-21; Acts 2:42-47

Friday, April 9, 2021: Psalm 133; Daniel 2:1-23; Acts 4:23-31

Saturday, April 10, 2021: Psalm 133; Daniel 2:24-49; John 12:44-50

Sunday, April 11, 2021: Second Sunday of Easter

Monday, April 12, 2021: Psalm 135; Daniel 3:1-30; 1 John 2:3-11

Tuesday, April 13, 2021: Psalm 135; Daniel 6:1-28; 1 John 2:12-17

Wednesday, April 14, 2021: Psalm 135; Isaiah 26:1-15; Mark 12:18-27

Thursday, April 15, 2021: Psalm 4; Daniel 9:1-19; 1 John 2:18-25

Friday, April 16, 2021: Psalm 4; Daniel 10:2-19; 1 John 2:26-28

Saturday, April 17, 2021: Psalm 4; Acts 3:1-10; Luke 22:24-30

Sunday, April 18, 2021: Third Sunday of Easter

Monday, April 19, 2021: Psalm 150; Jeremiah 30:1-11a; 1 John 3:10-16

Tuesday, April 20, 2021: Psalm 150; Hosea 5:15-6:6; 2 John 1:1-6

Wednesday, April 21, 2021: Psalm 150; Proverbs 9:1-6; Mark 16:9-18

Thursday, April 22, 2021: Psalm 23; Genesis 30:25-43; Acts 3:17-26

Friday, April 23, 2021: Psalm 23; Genesis 46:28-47:6; Acts 4:1-4

Saturday, April 24, 2021: Psalm 23; Genesis 48:8-19; Mark 6:30-34

Sunday, April 25, 2021: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Monday, April 26, 2021: Psalm 95; 1 Samuel 16:1-13; 1 Peter 5:1-5

Tuesday, April 27, 2021: Psalm 95; 1 Chronicles 11:1-9; Revelation 7:13-17

Wednesday, April 28, 2021: Psalm 95; Micah 7:8-20; Mark 14:26-31

Thursday, April 29, 2021: Psalm 22:25-31; Amos 8:1-7; Acts 8:1b-8

Friday, April 30, 2021: Psalm 22:25-31; Amos 8:11-13; Acts 8:9-25

Saturday, May 1, 2021: Psalm 22:25-31; Amos 9:7-15; Mark 4:30-32

Sunday, May 2, 2021: Fifth Sunday of Easter



APRIL 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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<p>HELP SUPPORT OUR YOUTH! Buy Equal Exchange Fair-Trade coffee + tea! call Pat Munsch 707-823-2790</p>	<p>SCRIP IS AVAILABLE – PAT WILL DELIVER TO YOU! Pat Schoch can take your order by phone and deliver it to you! Please call 707-823-3889</p>					
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<p><i>Share the Good News:</i> CHRIST IS RISEN! HALLELUIA!</p>				<p>1 Zoom Fellowship 2 pm Zoom Worship 5 pm MAUNDY THURSDAY</p>	<p>2 Zoom Worship 5 pm GOOD FRIDAY</p>	<p>3</p>
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<p>4 Zoom Worship 10:30 am EASTER SUNDAY + COMMUNION</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 Zoom Lenten Discussion Group 2pm (final week)</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Zoom Fellowship 2pm</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
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<p>11 Worship online</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 Zoom Fellowship 2pm</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
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<p>18 Worship online</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 Zoom Fellowship 2pm</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Saturday Table</p>
<p>· PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS FOR THE NEXT APPLESEED THIS WEEK!! THANK YOU ·</p>						

<p>25 Worship online</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Zoom Fellowship 2pm</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>1 MAY DAY</p>
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ALL SERVICES AND MEETINGS ON CHURCH GROUNDS CONTINUE TO BE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
by order of our Bishop

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