



## *A Message from Pastor Becca*

He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! I never tire of that joyous greeting!

When you read this note we will have celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord once again and our liturgical calendar will have us solidly in the season of Eastertide. The time between Easter Sunday and Pentecost leaves us in a season of Easter, a whole season to celebrate what it means to have new life in the risen Christ. It will coincide beautifully with our own secular season of Spring. (Of course, as I type this, we are technically in Spring and I am watching snow fall from the trees outside my window.)

Spring is an invigorating time when we throw open our windows, clean out the mess of winter, enjoy the lingering evening light, and rest in the warming temperatures. For many of us, it means getting our hands in the dirt to till the soil, so it is ready to receive our seeds and bear fruit come harvest time. Children begin to play outside more often while longing for the freedom of summer. There are signs of new life everywhere from tiny buds, to blooming flowers, to baby birds impatiently chirping as they await their mother's nourishing return. I imagine after these March storms, we are all eager to welcome Spring!

I read an interesting blog recently about how we overlook the 50 days of Easter. (You can find it here: <https://www.christiancentury.org/blogs/archive/2012-04/forty-days-lent-what-about-50-days-easter> ) I had never before thought much about the 50 days of Easter myself. I knew we remained in Eastertide until Pentecost and that was about it. Easter Sunday has always felt like a one Sunday event; except for the time I chose the wrong version of *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* and had the congregation sing the intended version on the second Sunday of Easter. Even our funeral worship is called: *A Service in Witness to the Resurrection!* The liturgical calendar along with our deep-rooted Reformed Tradition invite us to sit with resurrection for a while.

If we take a step back, we see clearly how integral this moment in time is to our continued faith. It is then that it seems odd that we rush past it in just one Sunday's worship. During this season of Eastertide, I am going to try to steer our focus to the resurrection again and again. My invitation to you is to view the world with a sense of resurrection. Even nature points us there as we watch trees spring back to life from dormancy. How do you experience resurrection (new life) in your everyday living? If we were to slow down and experience the world with intention, with our hearts centered in faith rather than busy-ness, the miracle of resurrection, the love, the grace, the joy are all there waiting to welcome us in!

This Eastertide, I invite you to experience resurrection over and over again! When you do, I suspect you will be refreshed with a profound sense of gratitude for all the moments that were not overlooked.

Easter Blessings,  
Pastor Becca



## HOPE Garden 2018 Season Begins!

In keeping with Eastertide and our theme of Resurrection, we announce the first work event of the year in the garden!

**Join us Saturday, April 7 at 9:30 am**

We need many hands and appreciate all volunteers. There is much to do including fence installation, adding one more raised bed and various spring cleaning chores. Bring gloves and tools for a variety of tasks. If you are interested in having a plot, contact Mary Currie. Thanks for your generous support of this mission to **Help Other People Eat!**



**"He is not here; he has risen, just as he said."**

**~ Matthew 28:6**





## Sleep Mat Workshop Celebrates Another Amazing Season!

The final Sleep Mat Workshop was March 31. We have 9 completed mats! Our good friends at Lord of Life Lutheran Church joined us again and took all of the flattened mats to their place for storage. Watch for an announcement in the bulletin about dedicating the mats during worship this spring. Thanks to the dozens of people who helped out!



**Coming Soon: Film & Theology**  
Watch movies and discuss theology with Becca.





## Palm Sunday Parade and Song

The Sunday School class helped us to celebrate Palm Sunday by parading around the sanctuary while waving palms. They also treated us to their creative version of “Jesus Loves the Little Children.”



## Sunday School

### April's Theme is “Forgiveness”

The past few Sundays have been action-packed with a Palm Sunday song and parade then an egg hunt on Easter. See Linda Hamilton to volunteer as a teacher for this enthusiastic group of kids.



## Pastor Becca's Office Hours

- ✓ Monday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm and 5 pm to 7 pm

*In the evening, the doors will be locked. Please call so she can let you in.*

- ✓ Tuesday 9:30 am – 1:30 pm
- ✓ Wednesday 9:30 am – 1:30 pm
- ✓ Thursday 10:00 am – 8:00 pm

*If you need to see Pastor Becca outside of these times, please let her know. She is glad to meet with you! Please note that there are some days when she will need to leave the office for lunch meetings so it's a good idea to call ahead if you plan to visit during lunchtime.*

## 2018 Per Capita Payment

The 2018 per member cost for per capita is \$38.75 as set by the Denomination, Synod & Presbytery. Please use the blue envelope titled "Per Capita Apportionment" which you received with your pledge envelopes.

## Did You Know?

If you bank online, you can set up an automatic payment for your contribution to Faith Church. You'll never have to worry about forgetting your envelope!



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April 2018

