

March 27, 2016
Easter Sunday
Resurrection Celebration
First Congregational
United Church of Christ

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Easter Sunday

Resurrection Celebration

March 27, 2016

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-9, 14-22; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-18; Luke 24:1-12

✠ Invites worshipers to stand in spirit or body as they are able.
NCH - Indicates the New Century Hymnal.

Welcome and Greetings

One: This is a day of celebration—of news even better than we expected. Jesus is alive and we have come to worship.

All: **No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!**

Prelude

Vivace

H. Schroeder

Gospel Declaration: John 20:1-18 **Pew Bible, NT, p. 109**

Introit

Fanfare for Easter

J. M. Marshall

Invocation

✠**Procession:** *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

NCH 240

✠**Passing the Peace**

The Response: Psalm 118:1-9, 14-22

One: O Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

All: **Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.”**

One: The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

All: **There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;**

One: the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.”

All: **I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD.**

One: The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

All: **Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.**

One: This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

All: **I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.**

One: The stone the builders rejected has become the chief
cornerstone.

**All: This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our
eyes.**

One: This is the day that the LORD has made;

All: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Sharing with Children

Rev. Susan Huffman

Anthem

Christ Arose!

L. Larson

Gospel Declaration: Luke 24:1-12

Pew Bible, NT, p. 85

Pastoral Reflection:

Amazed

Rev. Ted Huffman

†**Hymn:**

The Strife is O'er

NCH 242

Prayers of the Community

Community Concerns

Quiet Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (We use "debts" and "debtors.")

Prayer Response *March We Forth in the Strength of God* M. Shaw

Offerings:

Invitation

Offertory

O Perfect Love

Arr. Hopson

†**Doxology**

NCH 780

Prayer of Dedication

†**Hymn:**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

NCH 243

†**Benediction**

†**Benediction Response:** *Fanfare for Easter*

J. M. Marshall

Postlude

Toccata

C. M. Widor

Worshippers are invited to be seated for the postlude.

† Invites worshippers to stand in spirit or body as they are able.



April Music Events



The following events will be held at First Congregational Church:

Michelle Cann--Sunday, April 3 at 3:00pm

Michelle Cann began playing piano at the age of 7. She has earned top prizes at national and international competitions, most recently the Wideman International Piano Competition.

Admission by season ticket. Individual tickets available at the door.

Sponsored by Black Hills Chamber Music Society.

Bobby Jo Valentine--Friday, April 8 at 7:00pm

Bobby Jo is a singer/songwriter whose music exists outside the lines of any genre, but the music's thoughtful lyrics and catchy melodies reach listeners on all paths of life. His songs have won him **Songwriter of the Year** at West Coast Songwriter's Association in 2011 and 2015.

Bobby Jo has sold 16,000 albums and performed more than 500 concerts—all without a record label—and all because of devoted groups of fans and friends who grow in number after every concert.

There is no set admission price; donations will be accepted.

Food and beverages will be available.

Sponsored by First Congregational Church.

Jazz Hymn Festival--Sunday, April 10 at 3:00pm

Dan Damon, pastor, writer of hymn texts and tunes, and jazz pianist from Richmond, California will be joined by area jazz musicians and singers from local churches. Co-sponsoring churches are Trinity Lutheran, South Park United Church of Christ, First United Methodist, Emmanuel Episcopal, and the Black Hills Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. There is no admission charge and all are welcome.

A free-will offering will be taken to benefit Hope Center, which provides day services to the homeless in the Rapid City area.

The Axiom Brass Quintet--Sunday, April 24 at 3:00pm

The Chicago-bred Axiom Brass Quintet has earned top prizes at numerous competitions. One of the major performing brass groups today, Axiom has a repertoire ranging from Jazz and Latin Music to string quartet transcriptions.

Admission by season ticket. Individual tickets available at the door.

Sponsored by Black Hills Chamber Music Society.



This Week's Events

Today: Sunday, March 27

Easter Sunday
6:00am: Sunrise Service at
Main Street Square
8:00am: Breakfast at Church
8:30am: Adult Choir Practice
9:30am: Resurrection Celebration
10:30am: Fellowship
3:30pm: Jail Ministry
5:00pm: The Well Service

Monday, March 28

1:30pm: Westhills Bible and Book

Tuesday, March 29

9:00am: Woodchuck Splitting
10:30am: Staff Meeting
1:00pm: Craft Day
1:15pm: Spiritual Practices

Wednesday, March 30

9:30am: Kerygma
6:00pm: Bell Choir Practice
6:30pm: United Church Youth
7:00pm: Adult Choir Practice

Thursday, March 31

1:30pm: Memoir Writing Group

Friday, April 1

1:00pm: Rescue Stained Glass
1:00pm: BH Watercolor Group

Saturday, April 2

9:00am: Woodchuck Splitting

Sunday, April 3

8:30am: Adult Choir Practice
9:30am: Worship for All Ages
10:30am: Fellowship
3:00pm: BH Chamber Concert
5:00pm: The Well Service

News and Events

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our sympathies and prayers are with **Sheila and Brent Long and family** following the death of Sheila's mother, **Debbie Torrey**, on March 13. Services were held at First Congregational Church on March 17.

Our thoughts and prayers are with **Bob Franson** who was hospitalized this week and **Barney Nichols**, whose father, **Elwyn Nichols**, is in hospice care.

Please hold **Lisa and Joe Trana** and family in your prayers. Joe's father, **Dan Trana**, has been receiving hospice care.

Shut-in church members are in our prayers including: **John Ameson**, **Mavis Iverson**, **Shirley Triggs**, and **Ida Muree St. Pierre**.

Our prayers are with the following members, families and friends: **Laura Boyd's** brother, **John Winder**; **Ed and Laura Boyd's** granddaughter-in-law, **Leydy Boyd**; **Marvin Bitterman**, **Carol Boyles' brother**, **Rex Hammon**; **Al Dymock**; **Jill Kundtz**; **Jill Kundtz's** sister-in-law, **Mindy**; **Ted McBride**; **Patsy Parkin-Valandra's** daughter-in-law, **Angie Parkin**, **Rev. Ray Schatz**; **Jane Seaton's** daughter, **Gail Johnson**; **Rev. Don Stoebner** and his wife and caregiver, **Rosie**; **Deb Tompkins' nephew**; brothers, **Bob and Joe Hills**; and friend, **Barb Reynolds**; **Tish Wilkinson** and **Mae Louise Zeise**.

BIRTHDAYS

March 28: Donna Danielson

March 29: Anna Benusis
Jodi Burke

March 30: Helen Snyder

March 31: Kain Cruz, Hallie
Downs, Sue Maynard,
Layne Putnam,
Dorothy Slingsby

April 1: Andy Knight

April 3: Brendan Lyons

LIBRARY NEWS

Children! The library has Easter Eggs just for you--BUT, you have to find them!

Reminder: Book Logs are due next **Sunday, April 3.**

MEMOIR WRITING GROUP

The Memoir-Writing Group will meet **at 1:30pm on Thursday, March 31** at the church. Come listen as we share our stories over tea and a treat, and think about what stories you might have to write as a legacy for your family.

DEPARTMENT OF MINISTRIES

On **April 3rd**, we begin our scaled back sales of grocery cards. We will sell only on the first and third Sundays of each month after worship. We ask that you buy enough cards to last for two weeks.

KITCHEN CLEANING

Members of Women's Fellowship will be cleaning the kitchen on **Monday, April 4 at 9:30am.** They welcome anyone who wishes to assist with this service opportunity.

LSS BENEFIT DINNER

The Good Evening Circle has been providing items to Lutheran Social Services' New Alternatives program which assists young people who are aging out of foster care and need many supplies in order to live independently. This and other LSS programs will receive funds raised at its annual benefit dinner on May 1. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the people who helped make Ed's birthday a memorable day and week. What a wonderful congregation we have!

Ed and Laura Boyd

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Sharon and Kevin Sandmeier** who welcomed their granddaughter, **Jordynn**, to the world on March 22. Proud family members include parents, Jenny and Josh Schweppe and big

CAMPUS MINISTRY MEAL

The Dept. of Ministries will provide a United Campus Ministry meal for 70-80 students at the School of Mines on Monday night, April 4th.

We need cookies for dessert. If you can provide some, please bring two dozen cookies to the church kitchen on Sunday morning, **April 3rd.** Thank you!



UCM AT SDSM&T

March 27, 2016
Easter
John 20:1-18

He is Risen!

The gospel accounts of the resurrection differ in some of the particulars. In some, Jesus appeared and then disappeared again as quickly as a thought, while in other accounts he lingered. For some, Jesus could be described as a spiritual presence, while for others his presence was so real that they could only say that he appeared in bodily form.

The variations do not trouble me, because they all point to the same truth: He lives! As surely as you or I live, yet in a different way all the same.

The gospel writers are trying to describe a reality that is finally indescribable, like trying to describe spring to those who have only known winter. So the language is evocative, chosen to evoke in us the same reaction that was surely theirs. It is as if the disciples and gospel writers are trying to describe music to people who are deaf—so they dance and hope we catch a small sense of what music is about. It is as if they are trying to describe a sunset to those who are blind—so they say it is like a trumpet fanfare and hope we catch a glimmer of the majesty and power of a sunset.

Something happened that first Easter morning. We know something happened because something unexpected, something powerful turned the followers of Jesus, this huddle of dispirited and frightened men and women, into a valiant band ready to dare anything and doing it. Something happened that brought into motion this mighty force which has been celebrated in every tongue through the whole earth.

Something they could only describe as Jesus happened to them. And they could no more hold it in than a new mother could hold in the news of the birth of her child, no more than a blind man could ignore the restoration of his sight.

So today we join the original disciples and all who have followed in declaring, "He is risen! He is risen indeed!"

--Martin B. Copenhaver
President, Andover Newton
Theological School, Newton
Centre, Massachusetts

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Thanks to:

Our Church Family and Friends

Cam Miller, guestbook and nametags

Karen and Dave Johnson, greeters

Usher Team 4

Jay Davis, reader

Carter Seals and Destin Vrooman, acolytes

The Adult Choir

Pandi and Monty Bollock, coffee hosts

Sybil and Chuck Rounds, dishes

Aparna Ayyangar, Readers Corner Reader

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Ted E. Huffman

Pastor and Teacher

Rev. Susan R. Huffman

Pastor and Teacher

Rev. Kathleen Batchelder

Pastor and Teacher

Julie Burton, Laura Switzer,

Pam Van Curen

Administrative Colleagues

Michael Bossen

Bell Choir Director

Dr. Stephen Branch

Adult Choir Director

Michael Ross

Organist

Sheila Long

Moderator

Denise Webster

Treasurer

Rev. Dr. Henry Bradshaw

Pastor Emeritus

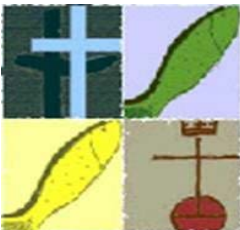
Jack Humke,

Doris Marie Strom

Choir Directors Emeriti

Lynnell Parrott

Organist Emerita



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