

Fincastle Presbyterian Church



A Message from David—An Easter Reflection

Even though Easter Sunday falls within the Spring season of the year, the church's celebration of Easter is more than our celebration of the wonders of springtime: the beauty of nature reborn, the pleasures of spring wardrobes, and the profound joys of outdoor activities in the warmth of the sun. In our celebration of Easter, the church bears witness to the Good News of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead into the life everlasting.

The Resurrection of Christ is unlike anything in nature. The Resurrection is not like a butterfly emerging from a cocoon (or chrysalis). It is not like a flowering crocus emerging from the soil after a long winter. And it is certainly not like us winter-weary humans exchanging our winter coats for light and airy spring attire. All such signs of spring are wonderful, refreshing, even fun; but they are not the Easter event of Christ's Resurrection.

In his book, "Basic Christian Doctrine", (p. 143) Dr. John H. Leith says this about the meaning of Easter and the Resurrection: "The resurrection is an answer to the problem of historical evil. On Good Friday a good man named Jesus was put to death by a Roman governor named Pilate, by Caiaphas the priest, and by howling, senseless demonstrators in the streets. On Good Friday evening it appeared as though the Pilates, the Caiaphases, and the demonstrators in the streets represented reality. On Good Friday one could only wish that the world had such a structure that it

supported the life of a good person such as Jesus. And therefore the disciples were in despair. They went back "to the real world", to their fishing boats. But God raised Jesus Christ from the dead on Easter morning, undoing what wicked and evil persons had done on Good Friday. The "real world" is the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

This Easter please feel free to enjoy the wonders of springtime: nature reborn, a change of our wardrobes, and our return to the out-of-doors. Such things can "release life" in countless joyful ways. However, the greatest release and renewal of our lives will come when we can embrace in faith the Good News of the Resurrection: that on that first Easter morning God raised Jesus from the dead into the eternal life, and so defeated both our sin and death. Now, at last, through faith, we can live free, free from both the slavery of sin and the fear of death. At last we can live as God intended for us to live: in the fullness of life in this world, and in the hope of eternal life in the world that is to come.

Happy Easter! Amen

Rev. David Dickerson



Easter Week Dates:

Sunday, March 28, 2021 - Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 1, 2021 - Maundy Thursday Tenebrae
Service

Friday, April 2, 2021 - Good Friday

Sunday, April 4, 2021 - EASTER SUNDAY

Facebook Live Worship Every Sunday 10:25 am



Worship Service has moved back to the Sanctuary

Directions for watching Facebook Live On Sunday

1. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/fincastlepresbyterianchurch/> on your computer or phone
2. Once the service starts, if you don't see the new Facebook post with the Facebook Live Video on the page above, refresh your page, or close it and go to the *url* above again.
3. The Facebook Live Video will begin at 10:25 AM. The service will start at 10:30AM. Music will start at 10:25

Congregational Care Committee—Prayer Requests and Concerns

FPC Members:

Evelyn Renshaw,
Alan Brenner,
Peggy Davis,
Jean Branscom,
Nathalie Givens,
Kaki Peaslee,
Phyllis Tenser,
Dianne & John Poynor,
Family of Clyde Givens

Friends and Family:

Laura Holt McCann,
Jackie Ferrel,
Mary Lee Reese,
Mary Black,
Marilyn Koch,
Alexsis Porter,
Molly Rose,
Gretchen Greiner,
Lisa Curlee ,
Marc Evans ,
Michael Miracle,
Ronan,
Michael & Sandy Petrucci,
Sharon Lane,
Dana & Billie Wilson,
Lilly Porter,
Marlene Davidow,
Hope Burton

March Birthdays

Hal Bailey 3/6, Ed Shuey 3/6, Nathalie Givens 3/8, Cal Beasley 3/8, Hal Bailey Jr 3/10, Leigh Littleton 3/13

A Message from David and Worship Committee — Thinking Ahead

As a reasonably hopeful light is beginning to appear at the end of this long “pandemic” tunnel (wide spread vaccinations), I thought it might be good for us as a congregation to give some thought to future worship services and service projects in and around our church.

“In-person” worship is still out there in the future somewhere, but it is drawing closer than it once was! So, for the time being, do you have any suggestions for improving our “live-streaming” “virtual” worship services? How is the sound quality, the picture quality? (No “zingers” about my bald head or gray beard, please!) Seriously, though, are there practical things that we can do to make the “live-streaming” of our worship service more pleasant and beneficial to you, while you are participating in worship from your home?

How about committee meetings? Have you been able to utilize “zoom” meetings effectively? Have phone visitations by our elders and your pastor been of help to you? How can we improve?

Are there work/maintenance projects around the church buildings and grounds that we volunteers can do (and need to do) even though we still need to wear our masks and remain socially distanced? (All CDC and state covid-19 restrictions will be followed until they are modified or lifted.)

I know this past year has been an unprecedented challenge, physically, emotionally, and spiritually for all of us. Wearing masks and social distancing are not natural things to do for us social creatures. Still, both mask wearing and social distancing have played major roles in keeping all of us safer and healthier, and for that, I am eternally grateful. Please give thought to the questions that I raised in this article so that our worship service to the Lord can be made stronger and more faithful, even as we wait faithfully for that day when we can worship and serve “in-person” with one another in Christ.

Please send comments (suggestions for improving the worship service or what you really like about the service) to David (davidadickerson4@gmail.com) or Lynne Bolton, Chairman of the worship committee (lbolton5115@gmail.com) Thanks for your input.

Peace in Christ,

David

Sign of spring time next to the basement door



Pictures from the Sanctuary—Can you place them?



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Mission Statement: Striving to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, Growing in God, Through uplifting and inspiring spiritual experiences, and Serving our community in love.

Church Staff

Interim Minister: The Rev. Dr. David Dickerson, D. Min

Treasurer: Becky Downs

Organist and Choir Director: Evelyn Renshaw

Bookkeeper/Secretary: Beth Clark

Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 9am—noon

Other times by Appointment

Session Members

Lynne Bolton Sandy Gates Lyn Burton

Alan Brenner John Griffith Becky Downs

Cathy Goad Paul Phillippe Bo Trumbo

John Kilby, Clerk

Trustees

Bob Omer, Peggy Davis, Garland Jones

Deadlines

Weekly Bulletin— by Wednesday of the week

Monthly Newsletter—by 20th of the month