

The Messenger

Volume 21 No. 4

April 2021



The Newsletter of The United Church of Sandwich

"Passionately united to feed all people — body, mind and spirit — to the glory of God!"

Greetings,

A common question I get each year is... Why does the date of Easter Sunday move around on the calendar each year, and not the same, like say the 1st Sunday of April?

Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday following the full Moon that occurs on or just after the Spring Equinox. The reason the Easter celebration moves around on the calendar is tied to the Jewish celebration of Passover. Passover was the festival happening at the time of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In fact, the Last Supper was a Passover meal. Passover is a week-long Spring festival that is based on a certain day in the Jewish calendar, which is based on the lunar cycle. Therefore, Passover happens during the first full moon after the Spring Equinox. Passover moves dates and begins Saturday, March 27, 2021. Next year, it will be on Friday, April 15, 2022



For Christians, our faith is deeply rooted and connected to the Jewish faith and traditions. Our communion is an adapted expression by Jesus of the Passover Seder meal with the disciples. He broke from tradition to bless the unleavened bread and the third cup of the Seder meal to become what we now celebrate as Holy Communion. This meal happened during the week of the full moon after the Spring Equinox. Jesus was arrested in the middle of the night and executed on Friday. Normally, a person could last days on the cross, experiencing continual pain. This is what made crucifixion such an infamous form of punishment. The person would die of asphyxiation. However, Jesus died within hours, and his body was able to be buried in the tomb before the beginning of the Sabbath. As the Sabbath concluded, the disciples found the empty tomb on the first day of the week, Sunday. As such, we celebrate the resurrection on Sunday. However, it is not just any Sunday, but the Sunday each year that follows the Passover experience. This year, Easter is April 4, next year, April 17.

I look forward to Easter each year. I love the candy. (I suggest using peeps for S'mores sometime.) I love the Easter flowers, especially lilies. I excitedly look forward to getting together with family over a big ham dinner when we can have a more normal routine again. I love all of those aspects of Easter. However, none of that compares with the best part of Easter. Every Easter we remember the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Easter is about the resurrection of Jesus. However, it is more than that. Jesus did it for me! He did it for you! The German theologian, Jurgen Moltmann expresses in a single sentence the great span from Good Friday to Easter. It is, in fact, a summary of human history, past, present, and future: **"God weeps with us so that we may someday laugh with him."**

The death of Jesus shows how much God loves us. He walks through whatever valley He needs to in order to reach us. God weeps with you. For every painful experience I have gone through and will go through God weeps with me. As you approach Good Friday, remember that God is with you in the toughest times of your life.

The resurrection of Jesus reminds me that God is bigger than anything! The same God who walks with me through the bad is also strong enough to overcome any enemy, including death. Easter is an annual reminder of how great my God is. God weeps with me on Friday. I will laugh with God on Sunday! God Bless,

Pastor Tom Bourke

Holy Week Schedule



Passover Begins — Palm Sunday

Saturday, March 27 ~ 5:00 pm

Sunday, March 28 ~ 10:00 am

Good Friday

Friday, April 2 ~ 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 4 ~ 8:00 am & 10:00 am

(No Saturday Worship on April 3)

Sunday Scriptures Sermon Series for April

April 2 John 19:16-30 ~ It Is Finished

April 3-4 Luke 24:1-12 ~ Easter People

April 10-11 Ecclesiastes 3:1-4,
Proverbs 17:22 ~ Holy Humor

James: A Faith That Works

April 17-18 James 1:1-8 ~ Foundation

April 24-25 James 1:12-25 ~ Flesh & Spirit



Watch for
Updated
Children's
Sunday
School News

now that we're
moving to indoor worship.
9:00am Sunday mornings!

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Native American Ministry of Presence

Important to Native American Ministry of Presence is supporting Native American Organizations within NIC, which are; The American Indian Center of Chicago, Kateri Center-Roman Catholic Native American Ministries, Midwest SOARRING, and CCAIC-which is a collaboration of all Native American organizations in the Chicago land area. They work jointly to provide cultural events that continue to celebrate traditional values, language, music, listening sessions and Native American spirituality, along with providing college scholarships for Native youth. They provide opportunities to learn about Jesus through worship services, family camp, Bible study and by encouraging laity to attend events designed for Native Americans.

Thank you, The Missions Committee



Bible Quiz

We know the name of only one of the two disciples to whom the risen Jesus appeared on the road to Emmaus. Who was he?

- A. John
- B. Paul of Tarsus
- C. Joseph of Arimathea
- D. Cleopas



Answer: D (See Luke 24:18)

April Activities



Staff/Parish Relations Committee

will meet Monday, April 19th,
6:30pm in the chapel.



Board of Trustees will meet
Tuesday, April 20th, at 6:30pm.

Finance Committee meets
Thursday, April 22nd, at 6:30pm.

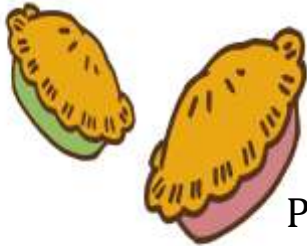
Adult Chimes has resumed
Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm.

Adult Choir begins practice on
Wednesday, March 31, at 7:00 pm.
Social distancing will remain part of
the practice procedures.

Both current and traditional music
is selected.

Groups are open to anyone
interested regardless of experience.
For questions contact Kevin Duy or
Pastor Tom.

PIE OF THE MONTH EVENT



Do you have cabin fever?

Share some sunshine and kindness with your
family or a friend with a homemade pie!

Preorders and prepayment will be required.

April: Triple Berry

Order deadline: Fri, Mar 26

Pickup date: Sat, April 3

May: Peach

Order deadline: Fri, April 30

Pickup date: Sat, May 8

June: Strawberry-Rhubarb

Order deadline: Fri, June 11

Pickup date: Sat, June 19

PIE OF THE MONTH MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

Can't figure out what to get that person who is hard to shop for?

How about a '*Pie of the Month*' Membership!

UCS is offering a 3 Month Membership for the months of April – June 2021.

The Membership gets you the pies at a reduced cost. These pies can be purchased
baked or frozen (with baking instructions).

A 'Pie of the Month' Membership is not required.

You can also order a pie for any one month for \$20.00.

**All pies will have to be picked up at the Church-no shipping or delivery.

Check our Website: unitedchurchsandwich.org for further details.

Call our Church office today to place your order.

Did you know your purchases on Amazon can now help the United Church of Sandwich! All you need to do is login at <https://smile.amazon.com/> with your normal username and password. When prompted to choose a charity of your choice, type "The United Church of Sandwich" in the search box, it will automatically save as your charity of choice! It's that easy!!! Once a quarter, Amazon donates back to the church 0.55% of all your purchases. It may not sound like a lot, but when everyone does it together, we can add to our revenue. What a great time to tell your family and friends!

Northern Illinois Conference Reporter

United Church of Sandwich is a United Methodist Church and the connectional nature of our denomination is vital to our identity. Below is a link to the Northern IL Conference newspaper. Our Newsletter will begin to share the news of the UMC with you to give you the opportunity to learn and discover the events and opportunities of the UMC at large. Please contact Pastor Tom if you have any questions on any topic you read. He would be happy and honored to connect with you.

https://www.umcnic.org/media/files/Reporter/3-2021_reporter_web%20-%20Copy%201.pdf



2021 Offering Envelopes. Please pick up your 2021 offering envelopes and destroy your outdated 2020 envelopes.

**Extra Pledge Cards,
Annual Church Conference Packets,
Upper Room Booklets, Lost & Found Items,
Pie of the Month/Membership Order Forms**

Prayer List



If you would like to be added to the church email prayer list please contact the church office or Pastor Tom. If you are unable or uncomfortable leaving your home we have church members who are able to make necessary trips to pick up basic home and food staples. We want to be in support for you and let you know that you are family and are not alone. If you are one able to make short shopping trips for members, please let Pastor Tom know and you will be added to the resource list of people to call.

Thank You!



Birthdays & Anniversaries

04/01	Barb Bark
04/02	Katelyn Bedford Matthew Olson
04/03	Lori Davis
04/05	Jenna Henrich
04/12	Deb Seymour
04/13	Gwen Fox
04/17	Nate Heiman Mark Jerabek
04/18	McKenna Scott Bedford
04/20	Paul Pearson
04/21	Carole Strock
04/22	Laura Olson
04/23	Ed Reeder
04/27	Pat Hallaron
04/28	Christine McMahon
04/16	Marilyn & Louis Steenwyk

If anyone's birthday or anniversary has been missed please contact the church office. Thank You

Newsletter Deadline



Please send any joys, concerns, photos, thoughts, schedule changes or informational articles to the church office. 815-786-9243

Also, please send any email, phone number, and address updates such as winter addresses to the church office. Thank you!



APRIL 2021



Sun

Mon




Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

 <p><i>Rejoice! He Lives!</i></p>				<p>1</p>  <p><i>Maundy</i> THURSDAY</p>	<p>2</p>  <p><i>Good Friday</i> Service 7pm</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8-12 Pie P/U</p> 
<p>4 EASTER</p> <p>8:00 Worship ~ <i>Indoors & Online</i></p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ <i>Indoors & Online</i> (Holy Communion)</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30 Chimes <i>Practice</i></p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>5:00 Worship ~ <i>Indoors & Online</i></p>
<p>11</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ <i>Indoors & Online</i></p>	<p>12</p> <p>Church Office</p>  <p>Closed</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:30 Chimes <i>Practice</i></p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>5:00 Worship ~ <i>Indoors & Online</i> (Holy Communion)</p>
<p>18</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ <i>Indoors & Online</i> (Holy Communion)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:30 SPRC <i>Mtg</i></p>	<p>20</p>  <p>6:30 Board of Trustees Mtg</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30 Chimes <i>Practice</i></p>	<p>22</p>  <p>6:30 Finance Cmte Mtg</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5:00 Worship ~ <i>Indoors & Online</i></p>
<p>25</p> <p>10:00 Worship ~ <i>Indoors & Online</i></p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:30 Chimes <i>Practice</i></p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:30 <i>Newsletter</i> Assembly</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Peach Pie Order Deadline</p> 	<p>Next Month</p> <p>May 2 4-6:30pm</p> <p>UCS Pork Chop Drive Thru</p>

The United Church
of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd
Sandwich, IL 60548-2147

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER — APRIL 2021



The United Church of Sandwich

512 E Lions Rd, Sandwich, IL 60548-2417
Church: 815- 786-9243

Email: ucssandwich@frontier.com

website: www.unitedchurchsandwich.org

Worship Schedule

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 10:00 am

Adult Sunday School 8:45 am

Children's Sunday School 9:00 am

Church Office Hours

Monday—Friday

9:00 am—1:00 pm

Pastor: Rev. Tom Bourke

Office Hours: Monday–Thursday, 9:00 am — 1:00 pm
or by appointment

Email: tombourkejr@gmail.com

Mobile: 630-699-2474

Church Staff

Secretary: Donna Reiss

Tuesday–Friday 9:00 am — 1:00 pm

Choir and Chimes Director: Kevin Duy

Organist/Pianist: Carol Larson

Ministers and Missionaries: All Members

We are passionately united to feed all people —
body, mind and spirit — to the glory of God!

Leadership Team 2021

Church Council Chair	Ken Young
Recording Secretary	Chris Bagwill
Treasurer	Linda Duy
Payroll	Pam Nehring
Financial Secretary	Pat Hallaron
Finance/Stewardship Chair	Pam Nehring
Staff/Pastor Parish Relations	Gwen Fox
Lay Leader	Sarah Stevens
Trustee's Chair	Matt Olson
Annual Conf. Delegate	Bonnie Miller
Missions/Evangelism Chair	Phyllis Whitehead
Memorial/Endowment Chair	Carole Strock
United Methodist Women	Myrtie Warren
United Methodist Men	
Fair Stand Chair	Reid Heinekamp
Worship & Music Chair	Deb Seymour

United Church of Sandwich's

New Website

We invite you to view the new website for
contact information and to learn more about
United Church of Sandwich

www.unitedchurchsandwich.org