

This worship service can be watched live on YouTube, as it happens, anywhere you have an internet connection. Additionally, past services will be archived so you can stay up-to-date or relive your favorite Sunday morning moments. You can find the link on our website or check it out at <https://bit.ly/FPClive>



***Order of Worship***  
***April 12, 2020***

***Faith Presbyterian Church of Emmaus***

3002 N. Second Street, PO Box 507  
Emmaus, Pennsylvania 18049  
610.967.5600  
office@faithchurchemmaus.org  
www.faithchurchemmaus.org



**THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP  
EASTER**

**10:00 AM**

**APRIL 12, 2020**

THE FIRST NOTE OF THE PRELUDE begins our worship. Please use the prelude time to turn your attention to God's presence and help. Nurturing our relationships and friendships in fellowship is essential to our life as a congregation, so please continue to do so following our time of worship.

*\*Those who are able are invited to stand.*

**FOCUSING UPON GOD'S PRESENCE AND VOICE**

PRELUDE	<i>"Fanfare"</i>	HEALY WILLAN
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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP	<i>"Seen"</i>	JAN RICHARDSON
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\*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN #232 Next two pages.	<i>"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"</i>	EASTER HYMN
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# 232 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

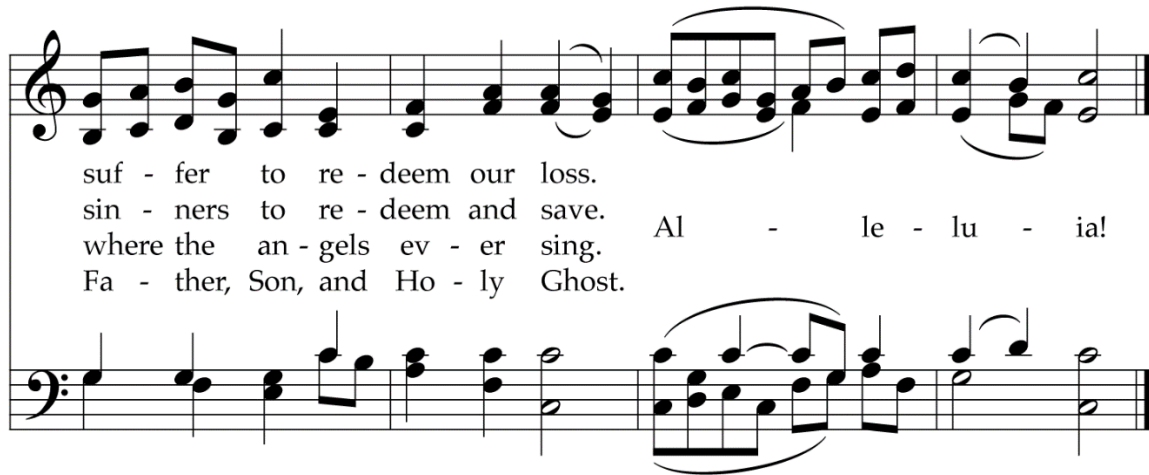
1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,  
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 But the pains which he en - dured,  
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove,

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,  
 un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.  
 praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

who did once up - on the cross,  
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Now a - bove the sky he's King,  
 Praise our God, ye heaven - ly host,

It seems likely that this beloved Easter text began in Latin and moved through German before reaching English, where it combined with the present tune in the emerging English evangelical style, a reaction to the restrained one-note-per-syllable psalmody that preceded it.

JESUS CHRIST: RESURRECTION



PRAYER OF CONFESSION/ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Would we be counted among the doubters

Hiding in the shadows cast by that cruel cross?

Or, when challenged, like Peter, openly deny you?

There are times, Lord, when doubts assail

And the distance between us seems to increase.

There are times, Lord, when sin has its hold,

Like a barrier between us that will not move.

Who is there we can turn to when we feel so overwhelmed?

Who can roll away the stone and reveal the empty tomb?

**People: No one but you, Jesus! No one but you!**

\*SONG OF ASSURANCE  
*Next page*

*"Be Not Afraid"*

# Be Not Afraid

243

The musical score is written for two voices, Soprano and Bass, in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are: 'Be not a - fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al - le - lu - ia!'. The score is presented in two systems, each with a Soprano staff and a Bass staff.

Intended for repeated singing like other chants from the Taizé Community, this text began in Czech as "Nebojte se." The English version uses the language of the angel's greeting to Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary," who went to Jesus' tomb on Easter morning (Matthew 28:5-6).

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1998  
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1998  
Text and Music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

BE NOT AFRAID  
4.4.8.D

## **THE WORD OF GOD TO THE CHURCH**

### FIRST READING

PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24

<sup>1</sup>O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

<sup>2</sup>Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;

<sup>16</sup>the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."

<sup>17</sup>I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD.

<sup>18</sup>The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

<sup>19</sup>Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

<sup>20</sup>This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

<sup>21</sup>I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup>This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

## SECOND READING

COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

<sup>3</sup>So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup>for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

## SPECIAL READINGS

Peter, Thomas, Mary

## ANTHEM

*"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"*

INSTRUMENTAL

Jay & Kim Kreider

## THIRD READING

MARK 16:1-8

<sup>16</sup>When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

## SERMON

*"The Silence of Resurrection"*

REV. REBECCA MALLOZZI

JESUS CHRIST: RESURRECTION

## 254 That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the sun shone  
 2 He bade them see his hands, his side, where yet the  
 3 From ev - ery weap - on death can wield, your own re -

out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing  
 glo - rious wounds a - bide, the to - kens true which  
 deemed for - ev - er shield; O Lord of all, with

eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.  
 made it plain their Lord in - deed was risen a - gain.  
 us a - bide in this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide.

These Eastertide stanzas are derived from a longer Latin text that was one of the earliest hymns written especially for a season of the church year. They are set here to a tune with Christmas associations, a means of linking the two great festivals of the Christian year.

TEXT: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1852, alt.  
 MUSIC: Trier ms., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR  
 LM  
 (alternate harmonization, 67)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
INTERCESSIONS AND PETITIONS  
THE LORD'S PRAYER  
(Please use "debts & debtors".)

GLORY TO GOD HYMNAL – PG. 35

**OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD**

CALL FOR OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY	<i>"Christ Lag in Todesbanden"</i> (Christ Lay in Bonds of Death)	J. S. BACH
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*DEDICATION HYMN #606		DOXOLOGY
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\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE	<i>"Fanfare"</i>	GUY ELDRIDGE
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# ***Faith Life***

***SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2020***

**Alleluia! Christ is risen!**  
**Welcome, as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection and**  
**our own resulting life!**



Friends,

The Fellowship Committee is continuing to sponsor ways to keep us connected while we are physically separated due to the need to practice social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic. If you have additional ideas or want to get involved, please contact Dave Wilson at [dwilson12461@rcn.com](mailto:dwilson12461@rcn.com)

**Virtual Fellowship Gatherings after Worship** - We held our first virtual Fellowship gathering immediately following Worship on Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup> using Zoom. We will continue to host Virtual Fellowship Gatherings after worship going forward. The invitation to the Zoom virtual Fellowship gathering is below.

**Topic:** FPC Sunday Morning Fellowship

**Time:** Apr 12, 2020 Immediately Following Worship

**Meeting ID:** 610 967 5600

**Password:** 9675600

[https://zoom.us/j/6109675600?](https://zoom.us/j/6109675600?pwd=NnpMWXhZVEU1RUR0RTRWczNLRGFOUT09)

[pwd=NnpMWXhZVEU1RUR0RTRWczNLRGFOUT09](https://zoom.us/j/6109675600?pwd=NnpMWXhZVEU1RUR0RTRWczNLRGFOUT09)

**Virtual Fellowship Events** - Virtual Fellowship Events including Book Club meetings, Coffee Hours, Happy Hours and other small group gatherings using Zoom have begun. Individual members are setting up virtual meetings. Small group gatherings can be hosted using a free Personal subscription to Zoom. Participants can connect to the gatherings using a smart phone, a tablet or computer through a free personal subscription to Zoom. The meeting ID for these events will be set by the meeting organizer.

**Pen Pals** - We plan to set up Pen Pal pairs for those that are interested. The Pen Pals will communicate through e-mail or US mail depending on the individuals in the pair. More information regarding Pen Pals will be coming soon.

## **Getting Started with Zoom**

To use a smart phone or tablet to participate in gatherings or host gatherings, please download the [Zoom Cloud Meeting](#) App from the Apple Store or Google Play Store.

To use a computer to participate in gatherings or to host gatherings, download the [Zoom Client for Meetings](#) to your computer. Your computer must have a microphone and speaker to participate. Running a sound test prior to connecting to an event is strongly recommended.

There are many articles and instructional videos available on the Zoom Website (<https://support.zoom.us>). We recommend "Join a Meeting" and "How do I host a Video Meeting".

## **FAITH FEEDS GARDEN**

The Faith Feeds Garden will not be operating as usual this season. The safety of our garden crew is very important to us.

Instead, we are offering three garden plots within the fenced-in garden area for church members who would like to garden but do not have the space at home.

The garden will be rototilled and ready to plant by Wednesday, April 15.

The three plots are available to church families on a first-come, first-serve basis. You would be responsible for all aspects of your plot, including clean-up in the fall. Also, folks with plots will need to communicate with each other regarding scheduling. This is very rich soil - mushroom soil was applied in the fall. Please let Suzanne Seem or Jack Decker know right away if your family is interested in a plot.

## **SCRIP**

Because Lynda will not be in the office for most of the week, we are not placing a scrip order this month. Hopefully, we can try again next month.

## **ARE YOU NEW TO FAITH CHURCH?**

If this is your first time in worship with us here at Faith Church, **welcome!** We want to get to know you, so be sure to sign the friendship registry, which can be found at one end of the pew.



## **FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EMMAUS**

3002 N. Second Street - PO Box 507 - Emmaus, PA 18049

610-967-5600—[office@faithchurchemmaus.org](mailto:office@faithchurchemmaus.org)

Visit us on the web! [www.faithchurchemmaus.org](http://www.faithchurchemmaus.org)

## TWO WEEKS OF FAITH

This calendar is prepared a few days prior to distribution. Please see the church [website](#) for the most up-to-date information. Room Numbers, indicating where meetings will be held (*when known*), are shown in parentheses following the listing.

Key	
BR	Brick Room
FH	Fellowship Hall
MR	Music Room
O	Office
P	Parlor
S	Sanctuary
Z	Zoom

### THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 12

Easter

10:00 AM— Worship Service: online only  
11:00 AM— Sunday morning fellowship via Zoom  
5:00 PM— Youth Group (Z)

Monday, April 13

Office— Lynda will be in the office only in the morning to do financial business, after which she will immediately leave. Tuesday through Thursday, she will work from home.

Tuesday, April 14

Church Office Closed

7:00 PM— Happy Hour Hangout (Z)

Wednesday, April 15

Church Office Closed

Thursday, April 16

Church Office Closed

7:00 PM— Narcotics Anonymous (FH)

Friday, April 17

Church Office Closed

Saturday, April 18

### NEXT WEEK

Sunday, April 19

10:00 AM— Worship Service: online only  
5:00 PM— Youth Group (Z)

Monday, April 20

Office— Lynda will be in the office only in the morning to do financial business, after which she will immediately leave. Tuesday through Thursday, she will work from home.

7:00 PM— Mission Committee Meeting (Z)

Tuesday, April 21

Church Office Closed

7:00 PM— Deacon Meeting (Z)

Wednesday, April 22

Church Office Closed

Thursday, April 23

Church Office Closed

7:00 PM— Narcotics Anonymous (FH)  
7:30 PM— Fellowship Committee Meeting (Z)

Friday, April 24

Church Office Closed

Saturday, April 25



4/12 Yvonne Stauffer  
4/14 Andrea Mauro  
4/15 Joshua Hillanbrand  
Barbara Newman  
Brent Schaefer  
4/16 Robert Brownbridge  
Carter Lowell

### LOOKING AHEAD...

\*No Sunday School

Apr. 29 ..... Women of Faith Spring Night Out ????  
May 2 ..... EPNHN Spaghetti Dinner ????  
May 25 ..... Memorial Day: Church Office closed  
May 30 ..... Yard Sale  
May 31 ..... Pentecost  
June 22-25 ..... Vacation Bible School  
July 4 ..... Independence Day  
Sept. 7 ..... Labor Day: Church Office closed  
Oct. 12 ..... Columbus Day: Church Office closed

## WHAT IS THE EMERGING CHURCH?

In a pub in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Peter Rollins and a group called the Ikon collective organized a religious event for visitors in town for a conference called “Re-emergence.” After opening with a call to worship, Rollins offers a “theo-dramatic” performance, using a large antique book as a prop, which he says contains “the story of tonight.” Chapter one, he says, is called “To Believe Is Human” and chapter two is titled, “To Doubt Is Divine.” In the low light of the pub, as the patrons drink beer, a guitarist sings a lament shaped by the Book of Jeremiah (“I’ve found my home in Babylon”). At one point in the service, a black-and-white video loop shows a burning church building and Rollins calls for an “insurrection” that transforms the power structures of the present world.<sup>1</sup>

### Tearing Down in Order to Build Anew

The Belfast gathering can be considered part of the Emerging Church Movement (ECM), a small, diffuse, and influential movement of leaders and congregations in the United States, Great Britain, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. As described by sociologists Gerardo Marti and Gladys Ganiel, emerging churches are committed to “deconstructing” church belief and practice in the face of what is seen as the pressure to conform. By creating spaces in which to question old practices and try out new ones, they hope to create a more authentic Christian faith.<sup>2</sup>

### How it Began

The terms “emerging” and “emergence” began to be used by a number of writers and church leaders after 2000 to describe a way of shaping congregations that, in their opinion, were more authentic and attuned to current social realities than either the seeker megachurch or mainline Protestantism. The conversation began in the 1990s with a series of conferences for youth leaders and campus ministers focused on how to reach out to a new generation of young people. Given the amount

of information about religion available to young people online, it could no longer be assumed that their starting point was Christianity.<sup>3</sup> In light of this new reality, writers such as Brian McLaren, Peter Rollins, Tony Jones, and Phyllis Tickle have called for forging a new “emerging” or “emergent” church.

### Defining Features of the Emerging Church

While acknowledging ECM leaders’ resistance to being labeled or defined, sociologists Marti and Ganiel identify several key features.<sup>4</sup>

**Anti-Institutional.** Emergent leaders consistently identify themselves as anti-institutional. They take a strong stance against present institutional practices, seeing it as their right and obligation to criticize. In the US, the focus of criticism is that seeker megachurches use elaborate entertainment to attract new people. One woman said, “I remember walking in every week and expecting to be wowed.” The services are “gimmicky” and “manipulative.” In the UK and Northern Ireland, the focus of criticism has been the mainline church, whose services are boring



FLETCHER

“THIS CHURCH IS REALLY INTERESTED  
IN ANCIENT SPIRITUAL PRACTICES...  
THEY ASKED ME WHAT IT WAS LIKE  
TO WORSHIP BACK IN THE 80’s.”

and repetitive, and whose leaders seem more intent on perpetuating old traditions than understanding them. One man said, “I began to see the danger of a structure so wedded to tradition and formalism.”<sup>5</sup>

**Conversational.** In books, blogs, and conferences, emergent leaders have emphasized the role of conversation as central to faith. For example, Doug Pagitt, founding pastor of Solomon’s Porch in Minneapolis, which meets in the round with couches and recliners, explained to an interviewer, “We’re trying to say something about where power lies in our community. And so to meet in the round says all of these people matter.”<sup>6</sup> The sermon itself may take the form of a question and answer session rather than a set piece by the preacher. Emergent leaders see conversation as a way of keeping beliefs and positions open-ended and provisional, not final, allowing believers to maintain their individuality, rather than having beliefs forced on them by a leader or other worshipers.<sup>7</sup>

**Experimental.** Emergent Christians stress experimentation and creativity for the purpose of shaking up conventional sensibilities. For example, at House of Mercy in St. Paul, Minnesota, the communion table has elements not usually associated with the sacrament—three pottery cups, a matching pitcher, and a basket of bread. A candle burns on the table, as well as several votive candles. Emergent communities might use any number of ancient practices, mixing and remixing them in ways unique to their own congregation.<sup>8</sup> As one participant said, “If you bring all these elements together (i.e., prayer labyrinths, art, different types of music, different types of expression, etc.) and mix them up . . . then you’ve created a path for someone to follow in their worship of God.”<sup>9</sup>

**Nontraditionally Located.** Meeting locations for emerging church gatherings tend to be held in spaces not traditionally associated with church. These could be public places such as restaurants, bars, or art museums, or transitional spaces such as storefronts or abandoned warehouses. Spaces can be borrowed, rented, or purchased and repurposed for religious use. Amid all the variety, the common feature is “to create a new type of ‘neutral religious space’ that is church-ish without being church-y.”<sup>10</sup>

### Who Are They, and How Many?

Congregations that identify themselves as “emerging” are predominantly young, single, childless, and well-educated. A survey of eight congregations found approximately 40% of members with bachelor’s degrees

and an additional 24% with graduate degrees. Only 44% were married, and about one-third of them had children. The loose, spontaneous nature of gatherings and the absence of children’s programming appear to impose barriers for parents with children.<sup>11</sup>

On the question of how many, one survey in 2011 found 700 emerging congregations in the US, and a search of an online database found 300 self-identified emerging congregations in the US, Canada, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. More recently, a survey of leaders in ten denominations in the US identified approximately 8,800 churches (or 7% of these churches) that were led by pastors who identified themselves as emerging, though it is unclear whether their views are shared by their congregations.<sup>12</sup>

Far from Belfast, in Colorado Springs, Tiffany Keith, a United Methodist pastor, gathers friends from the community every other week for a shared meal and storytelling that she calls *Stories @ The Edge*. In her community organizing efforts, she became acquainted with socially and economically marginalized residents of the city. Inspired by *The Moth Radio Hour*, she invites three storytellers at each meal to share, using the basic structure of *lectio divina*, an ancient practice of prayer and Scripture reading, to guide the discussion.<sup>13</sup> Though she might not use the label, Keith’s experimental effort owes something to the ECM, which continues to wield an outsized influence even though they are small in size.

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1. Gerardo Marti, and Gladys Ganiel, *The Deconstructed Church: Understanding Emerging Christianity* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2014), 1-5.

2. Ibid., 26.

3. Ryan P. Burge and Paul A. Djupe, “Emergent Fault Lines: Clergy Attitudes Toward the Emergent Church Movement,” *Journal of Religious Leadership*, Vol. 15, No. 1, Spring 2016.

4. Marti, and Ganiel, 27-30.

5. Ibid., 110, 111.

6. The Emerging Church, Part One, *Religion and Ethics Newsweekly*, July 8, 2005, <https://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/2005/07/08/july-8-2005-the-emerging-church-part-one/11744/>

7. This view has critics, such as Kevin L. DeYoung and Ted A. Kluck, *Why We’re Not Emergent: By Two Guys Who Should Be* (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2008).

8. Marti and Ganiel, 39.

9. Ibid., 124-125.

10. Ibid., 128-132, 29.

11. Ibid., 171.

12. Burge and Djupe, 17.

13. Beth Ann Estock and Paul Nixon, *Weird Church: Welcome to the Twenty-First Century* (Cleveland, OH: Pilgrim Press, 2016), 97.





## ENLIST SPECIALISTS TO IMPROVE OUTREACH MINISTRY

Leading a congregation often demands the skills of a generalist, whether it's the pastor or a team of lay leaders. Yet expert knowledge has its place. Specialists such as social workers, economists, city planners, and rural sociologists can help to navigate a complicated world filled with systems and technologies requiring professional knowledge. If used correctly, their knowledge can deepen church leaders' understanding of patterns that shape our lives.

### Adopt-a-Family: Failure to Use Expertise

Enlisting a specialist may seem like a lot of work, yet the failure to do so can create problems. The case of Adopt-a-Family provides a case in point. Paul Lichterman, a sociologist, studied this faith-based program, whose purpose was to target African American families in order to "pull them" out of poverty.<sup>1</sup> Sponsored by a cluster of evangelical churches, the program intended to improve the lives of low-income families by building strong ties to middle-class volunteers from churches in the area. Adopt-a-Family centered its model on the concept of what they called "Christ-like care." In this model, specialists would not be required and would only hamper the operation of Christian love.

At their orientation, Teri, the keynote speaker, explained the importance of recognizing an individual's gifts without reference to race, cultural background, or economics. Cultural differences were not the point. 'I'm not going to do a cultural thing. I'm going to speak from what I know from God,' Teri said. Lichterman comments, "What she knew with quiet certainty was that each individual was special and deserved to be treated as one would serve God."

For Teri, dwelling on social or cultural differences detracted from the idea that we are all made in the image of God. Volunteers would not need the cultural, social, or economic knowledge that experts provide.

Instead, they would focus on what everyone—whites and blacks, rich and poor—held in common.

The decision not to use specialists hampered the effectiveness of the Adopt-a-Family program. One group's experience illustrates the point. Community in Christ Church adopted a family headed by Quenora, a young single mother, but within six months they terminated their relationship.

Quenora's behavior frustrated and puzzled them. In their first activity, two volunteers, Pat and Kara, took Quenora to a doctor's appointment. Afterward, they offered to take her out for a snow cone. But here was the surprise: instead of taking them to an ice cream shop, they stopped at a street vendor's cart instead. Kara told her pastor, "This is where she lives! This is what she's about. . . . My immediate reaction was 'I want to move her out of here!' That's my long-term prayer." Pastor Nick remarked, "It sounds like you had some culture shock." A social worker with expertise and deep knowledge of the neighborhood might have



helped Kara gain a better appreciation for Quenora's neighborhood.

Yet the group never sought a social worker's help. Instead, they talked with themselves endlessly about what made Quenora tick. Why did she need rides from us to everywhere? Why did she not ride the buses? Why was she not always home when she had promised to be there? Why was she so often hard to contact? Without a specialist, the group was left to figure it out on their own. After six months, the group decided to terminate the relationship, citing Quenora's apparent unwillingness to partner with them. The social worker's expertise might have helped them understand a young mother's situation.

Social workers and other specialists can assist church leaders in understanding the neighborhoods they serve. Learning to use a specialist, without overly relying on them, can present challenges. Yet church leaders have more power than they realize to use specialists and paid professionals to serve their agendas rather than relinquishing their authority to make decisions.

### **Park Cluster: Using Knowledge Wisely**

Paul Lichterman studied another group of church leaders that shows how using specialists is beneficial. The Park Cluster, a group of a dozen white volunteers from affluent neighborhoods, ventured three miles away to the Park community, a low-income neighborhood of mostly African American, Hmong, Vietnamese, and Spanish-speaking Central Americans.<sup>2</sup> Each month the group drove over to "help out" and "build community." When they approached the director of the local neighborhood center to ask what they could do, she recruited Kendra, a social worker who knew the neighborhood well.

For Kendra, the Cluster represented a pool of volunteers who could be plugged into short-term assignments—setting up party tables, picking up food donations from grocery stores, collecting donated goods from churches, and repairing shelves in the food pantry. For the volunteers, however, Kendra could provide them much-needed knowledge of the community until they could navigate the culture of the neighborhood on their own.

Initially, Kendra ran everything. Volunteers did not often think for themselves or investigate their own experience. Their monthly meetings were businesslike,

with members reporting on the tasks accomplished or asking simple questions. Yet over time, the group's operating style began to change.

They began spending less time talking about tasks and focused more on the neighborhoods they were getting to know. They also asked Kendra more in-depth questions about why the community was so poor and services so few. They became curious about the institutions that held the community together—the neighborhood center and other helping agencies, the stores, the schools, the banks, the churches. They spoke less about a community in need and more about the neighborhood's remarkable diversity of black, Vietnamese, Hmong, Latino, and white residents.

The Park Cluster volunteers demonstrate this new way of using specialists. Instead of relying solely on Kendra's expertise, they developed their own set of goals and used Kendra to serve as a resource. When selecting a specialist, try to get a sense of their willingness to work cooperatively with non-experts. Will they do more than simply providing technical answers when asked? Are they committed to helping the non-specialist learn about their field of knowledge? Are they willing to let the individuals they advise use that knowledge in whatever way they see fit?

### **Expert Help Can Be Pivotal**

Church leaders can benefit greatly from the knowledge that specialists provide. Experts can offer judgments that prove to be pivotal for church leaders trying to navigate a complicated social situation. In many cases, these individuals have spent years researching the social, cultural, and economic systems that influence the communities they serve. Their help should be enlisted whenever possible.

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1. Paul Lichterman, *Elusive Togetherness: Church Groups Trying to Bridge America's Divisions* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005), 133–70.

2. *Ibid.*, 171–215.





# LEHIGH PRESBYTERY

April 3, 2020



710 N. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, PA 18104

[www.lehighpresbytery.org](http://www.lehighpresbytery.org) E-mail address: [office@lehighpresbytery.org](mailto:office@lehighpresbytery.org) Phone number: 610-391-9020



## The Church in March 2020: *Oh no!* or *Oh boy!*

Clearly, your congregation is very different than it was a month ago because COVID-19 happened. That's a fact. What's not clear and what you and your leadership must decide is how you choose to respond. Will you focus on lament? *Oh no!* Or will you seize this opportunity? *Oh boy!*

In the last few weeks, I have sat through many webinars and on-line meetings, read thousands of articles and emails, and had countless phone calls about how this novel coronavirus has changed the church. While I understand that many of us are grieving the sudden loss of the way things were on March 1, 2020, I personally find the ongoing lament (*Oh no!*) emotionally, spiritually and physically draining, while conversations about how the church might seize this unique opportunity to be different/better (*Oh boy!*) energize me. I would not have wished this pandemic on us. But I do believe that God can and will create something extraordinary out of this experience. For the church, it's a chance to be, not just sustainable, but more relevant—both inside and outside our buildings.

I came across an online article, [Ten Ways the Church Will be Changed by COVID-19](#) by Cameron Trimble, that outlines some specific ways the church can move in the direction of *Oh boy!* I highly recommend that you read it carefully and then have some (virtual) conversations around the session table.

1. **Doing church online is here to stay.** We cannot go back!
2. **Church closures will accelerate.** How can you prevent yours from being one of them?
3. **Giving in most churches will drop and then MIGHT rise again in some.**  
Does your congregation have the capacity to accept online giving? If not, you should set up one of these services immediately.
4. **Churches need a new staff structure.** Do you have the right people focused on the right kinds of ministries for this new world?
5. **Younger generations can finally contribute more engaged leadership.** Are you letting younger people lead worship and use their gifts in other ways?
6. **Because churches and their programs are now more accessible online, we will all church hop...and that's a good thing for the movement.** Are you willing to let go of "making members" and focus on "making disciples"?
7. **We are creating new liturgies, prayers, and songs that will carry us forward.** Are you trying new things or just trying to fit your traditional church service into online worship?
8. **We will renew our investment in our local communities.** Are you reaching outside of your own walls to address the many needs in your community?
9. **We will see a continued rise in spiritual directors and pastoral counselors who work outside of traditional congregational settings.**
10. **We will create new partnerships between Evangelical, Mainline, Catholic and New Thought organizations and leaders as we all seek new skills and greater connection to communities.** Who are your new ecumenical partners going to be?

Grace and peace,

Rev. Rhonda Kruse  
Transitional Presbytery Leader

*For such a time as this, the congregations and leadership of Lehigh Presbytery will partner to challenge and resource each other, so that we may boldly risk our comfort for the sake of the Gospel of Christ.*

### **Payroll Protection Loans available to congregations during quarantine**

The Lehigh Presbytery Administrative Board is seeking approval of the Presbytery to apply, on behalf of the Presbytery, to participate in the CARES Act 2020 Small Business Payroll Protection loan program recently enacted by the federal government to ease the burden of meeting payroll in small businesses (including non-profits/churches) impacted by the shutdown of public gatherings due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

This matter will be brought before the Presbytery for a vote at the special assembly called for April 14 at 1:00pm. However, SBA loan applications are being made available by banks today, April 3, and **congregations need not wait for Presbytery approval to apply for this loan.**

According to Wayne Yost, Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Trinity, because church property is not being encumbered by these loans, the Session of each applying congregation can go ahead and approve the submission of the application and authorize those who will be signing the forms – most likely the president, vice president, or clerk of Session. The corporate president or treasurer would be the appropriate business representative on the application.

More information will be available on the loan program during the April 14 special assembly, or feel free to contact Rhonda Kruse at [rkruse.lehighpby@gmail.com](mailto:rkruse.lehighpby@gmail.com) or 610-360-8823.

### **THE CALL FOR A SPECIAL ASSEMBLY OF LEHIGH PRESBYTERY**

A SPECIAL ASSEMBLY of Lehigh Presbytery is called for  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2020 at 1:00 P.M.**

We will be meeting virtually.

The purpose of this special assembly is to act on a recommendation from the Presbytery Administrative Board authorizing them to apply, on behalf of the Presbytery, to participate in the CARES Act 2020 Small Business Payroll Protection Loan program recently enacted by the federal government; and to authorize individual congregations of Lehigh Presbytery to apply for these loans as needed.

**IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND**  
**Please notify the Presbytery Office by Friday, April 10, 2020**

*Gracious God, we thank you for those who minister to the poor, the dispirited and all in need of your healing power. May we all strive to spread Jesus' love and compassion far and wide as we go about our daily lives. Amen.*

## **Coronavirus Updates and Resources**

**LEHIGH PRESBYTERY** – <https://lehighpresbytery.org/news-events/other-news/covid-19-virus/>

**SYNOD OF THE TRINITY** - <http://www.syntrinity.org/2020coronavirus/>

### **PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**

**It is Okay to Celebrate Holy Communion Virtually -**

[https://www.pcusa.org/site\\_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/advisory\\_opinion\\_communion\\_in\\_an\\_emergency\\_or\\_pandemic.pdf](https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/oga/pdf/advisory_opinion_communion_in_an_emergency_or_pandemic.pdf)

**COVID-19 Resources** - <https://www.pcusa.org/covid19/>

**PDA Resources** - <https://pda.pcusa.org/pda/resource/disease-guidance-for-congregations/>

**Curated Short List of Resources** - <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/mental-health-ministry/covid-19-mental-health-resources/>

## MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICES – APRIL 9, 2020

### 6:00 P.M.

- ✦ **First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem** – service via zoom, check “events” on <https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresBethlehem>
- ✦ **United Presbyterian Church of Pottsville** 6:00 p.m. on zoom <https://zoom.us/j/5680739198> or by phoning 1-253-215-8782 or 1-301-715-8592 and when prompted enter meeting ID: 568 073 9198

### 6:30 P.M.

- ✦ **First Presbyterian Church of Easton** 6:30 p.m. on facebook live <https://www.facebook.com/EastonFPC/>

### 7:00 PM

- ✦ **College Hill Presbyterian Church of Easton** on Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/791476947> Or by phone phone, please call 1-646-558-8656. If you are not a Zoom account holder, simply hit # to bypass the Participant ID prompts. When it prompts you for the meeting ID, dial 791 476 947. Or on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CollegeHillPresbyterianEastonPA/>
- ✦ **Faith Presbyterian Church of Emmaus** - Taize/Traditional Blended on youtube <https://bit.ly/FPCLive>
- ✦ **First Presbyterian Church of Allentown** – English language - you can access on facebook whether or not you have an account. <https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofallentown/>
- ✦ **The Barn** on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/theBarnLehighValley/> or by Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/3542000339>
- ✦ **Pennside Presbyterian Church of Reading** on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PennsidePresbyterianChurch/>

### 8:00 P.M.

- ✦ **First Presbyterian Church of Allentown** – Arabic language - you can access on facebook whether or not you have an account. <https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofallentown/>

## GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES – APRIL 10, 2020

### 12:00 NOON

- ✦ **College Hill Presbyterian Church of Easton** on zoom <https://zoom.us/j/791476947> or by phone phone, please call 1-646-558-8656. If you are not a Zoom account holder, simply hit # to bypass the Participant ID prompts. When it prompts you for the meeting ID, dial 791 476 947. Or on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CollegeHillPresbyterianEastonPA/>
- ✦ **First Presbyterian Church of Allentown** – English language - you can access on facebook whether or not you have an account. <https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofallentown/>

### 7:00 P.M.

- ✦ **Faith Presbyterian Church of Emmaus** - Tenebrae Service of Shadows on youtube <https://bit.ly/FPCLive>
- ✦ **Pennside Presbyterian Church of Reading** – Community Service who Trinity UCC, Mt. Penn on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PennsidePresbyterianChurch/>
- ✦ **The Barn** on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/theBarnLehighValley/> or by Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/3542000339>

### 8:00 P.M.

- ✦ **First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem** – Tenebrae Service on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresBethlehem>



## EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES – APRIL 12, 2020

### 9:00 A.M.

- **First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem** – contemporary worship on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresBethlehem>  
If you do not have a facebook account, go to their [website](#) for a link to view the service.



### 10:00 A.M.

- **East Stroudsburg Presbyterian Church** on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/espresbyterian>
- **Faith Presbyterian Church of Emmaus** on youtube <https://bit.ly/FPCLive>
- **First Presbyterian Church of Allentown** you can access on facebook (whether or not you have an account) <https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofallentown/>  
10:00 a.m. worship in English  
11:30 a.m. worship in Arabic  
12:30 p.m. worship in Chin Burmese
- **First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem** – traditional worship on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresBethlehem> If you do not have a facebook account, go to their [website](#) for a link to view the service.
- **First Presbyterian Church of Hokendauqua** on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/HokeyPres>
- **Pennside Presbyterian Church of Reading** on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PennsidePresbyterianChurch/>
- **Presbyterian Church of the Mountain in Delaware Water Gap** on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Presbyterian-Church-of-the-Mountain-234593743269661/>
- **The Barn** on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/theBarnLehighValley/> or by Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/3542000339>  
9:00 am. Children's Pajama Storytime  
9:30 a.m. – Prayer meeting  
10:00 a.m. – Gathering  
11:00 a.m. – Small group gathering

### 10:30 A.M.

- **College Hill Presbyterian of Easton** on zoom <https://zoom.us/j/569896612>  
Or by phone phone, please call 1-646-558-8656. If you are not a Zoom account holder, simply hit # to bypass the Participant ID prompts. When it prompts you for the meeting ID, dial 569-896-612.
- **First Presbyterian Church of Easton** on facebook live <https://www.facebook.com/EastonFPC/>
- **Hope of Christ Presbyterian Church in Summit Hill** on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/HopeOfChristPresbyterianChurch/>
- **Korean Church of the Lehigh Valley** – Korean language worship by "PRISM Live". If you are interested in receiving the link, contact Pastor Mark Cho at [markcho99@gmail.com](mailto:markcho99@gmail.com). He will send you the link on Sunday morning.
- **United Presbyterian Church of Pottsville** on zoom <https://zoom.us/j/5680739198> or by phoning 1-253-215-8782 or 1-301-715-8592 and when prompted enter meeting ID: 568 073 9198

### 11:00 A.M.

- **First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem** – contemporary worship on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresBethlehem>  
If you do not have a facebook account, go to their [website](#) for a link to view the service.
- **Shawnee Presbyterian Church** on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/shawnee.church/>

Christ  
is  
Risen!



## On-Line Giving Information from the Presbyterian Foundation

Many churches are wondering what to do for the offering since they are postponing worship or moving to an online format. The following is a link of a webinar Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley did for Pittsburgh Presbytery a few months ago. She hopes it will be helpful to you.

<https://recordings.join.me/yr2y78cGfUWuaVdVTblosQ>

Information on the program with support documents [ie. sample pew card, basic sales sheet, application, and program guide are posted on the Lehigh Presbytery Website at:

[https://lehighpresbytery.org/resources/church\\_financial\\_info/](https://lehighpresbytery.org/resources/church_financial_info/)

For FAQ's regarding the Foundation's online giving service, please go to: <https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/online-giving-program-faqs/>

Once you complete the application, you can submit it along with a voided check via email, USPS or fax. It takes 5-7 business days once received at their home office for your site to be live.

If it would be helpful to schedule a zoom meeting with Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley (Ministry Relations Officer) to answer questions and provide a demonstration of what donors see, simply let her know and she will schedule a time.

Ellie Johns-Kelley  
The Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley  
Ministry Relations Officer  
Presbyterian Foundation  
855-251-8212



## How Might We Help?

The Lehigh Presbytery Vision Team is so grateful for what our Presbytery staff has done to reach out to our congregations during these hard days. We also want to offer extra support to any church still struggling with worship in this time of crisis.

Consider how we might help:

- Would a short list of simple technology “how to” resources be useful? We know there is sooo much information circulating, finding what you need is sometimes a challenge.
- Maybe your church leadership or members are not technologically savvy. Would suggestions or support for non-technology means of worshipping at a distance be helpful?
- Maybe you don't know what your church needs. Perhaps your just want a person to walk with you through technology or other issues? We have persons willing to be a resource for churches feeling stuck.

Please contact Rev. Stefanie Muntzel at [revstefaniefpce@gmail.com](mailto:revstefaniefpce@gmail.com), if our team can assist you during these difficult times.

We especially want to help churches as we approach Easter, so we encourage you to reach out to us quickly.

Grace and peace,  
Rev. Stefanie Muntzel  
Co-chair, Lehigh Presbytery Vision Team



## The Board announces dues relief for small churches, deferments for other churches and employers

In recognition of the challenges impacting employers of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) due to COVID-19, the Board of Directors of the Board of Pensions today approved dues relief for churches with congregations of 300 or fewer members that have a single pastor enrolled in Pastor's Participation. These churches may be eligible for a dues waiver of up to three months. For other churches and employers, including presbyteries and affiliated organizations, Directors approved deferments of up to two months on payments for benefits. In both cases, there will be no reduction in benefits to ministers or employees.

[More details on dues relief and deferments](#)  
[Watch President Frank Spencer talk about dues relief and deferments of payments for benefits.](#)



## LEHIGH PRESBYTERY CHURCHES ARE STREAMING THEIR SERVICES on Sundays

For links to the services, please visit the Lehigh Presbytery website at

<https://lehighpresbytery.org/our-faith-community/worship-services-being-live-streamed/>

## We Are the Church Together.....

... and together, we are building the household of God.



Restoring Hope, Feeding the Hungry,  
Empowering the Oppressed

Typically received during the season of Lent, each gift to **One Great Hour of Sharing** supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promotes development through the Presbyterian Committee on Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Below are resources designed to equip and support congregations engaging with One Great Hour of Sharing amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

- [Bulletin insert](#) addressing how OGHS supports those most vulnerable among us
- [PowerPoint slide](#) on different methods for giving
- [Video](#) on engaging with the children's curriculum (find the curriculum [here](#))
- [Video](#) singing "We are the Church Together"
- [Sixty Second Sermon video](#) "Building God's Household"
- [Coloring page](#) designed by Illustrated Ministry, LLC

[Click here](#) to access all of our OGHS resource

*If we all do a little it adds up to a lot.*

<https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/page/oghs-covid19/>

All resources:

<https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/oghs/#resources>

## IN THE MISSION YEARBOOK

**April 2, 2020 – A Community Youth Group that Works**  
Teens thrive when churches join together

(click the link to read the article)

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/yearbook/April-2-2020/>

### Let us pray:

Holy and gracious God, you can call us to grow in our faith and to love and serve others. Help us to bear fruit in our own communities and beyond, no matter how old we are. In your Son's holy name, we pray. Amen.

## First Presbyterian Church presents:

### ***"Why Are People So Complicated?"***

First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem will offer a free online presentation, ***"Why Are People So Complicated?"*** on Monday, April 13 from 7-8 p.m. Instructions for joining the Zoom meeting are on the church's website, [fpc-bethlehem.org](http://fpc-bethlehem.org).

Join presenter Robert Costello to explore this timely topic: "Even in a time of physical distancing, we are called to be connected to each other. Human interactions can be tricky and complicated to navigate. Based on an understanding of how human beings are hard-wired to experience emotions, this overview will explain the Psychology of Affects (our outward expression of feelings and emotions) in layman's terms and help participants see interpersonal dynamics in a new light."

Costello, of Bethlehem, is the Assistant Commissioner for Organizational Development at the NYC Department of Probation. He has worked for more than 20 years in the fields of mental health, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, inpatient and outpatient services and alternative education. Bob is the co-author of *The Restorative Practices Handbook for Teachers, Disciplinarians and Administrators* and *Restorative Circles in Schools: Building Community and Enhancing Learning*.

# Here to Help!

## Zoom Conversations with our PC(USA) Partners from The Presbyterian Board of Pensions The Presbyterian Foundation

### Thursday, April 16, 9:30am

Doug Portz will share the latest significant changes in the Benefits Plan. Pastors, Chairs of Personnel Committees, Clerks of Session, and the authorized users of Benefits Connect will want to come and learn about new choices and benefits now available.

In addition, the Board of Pensions is extending dues relief and other assistance to churches and employers as we move through the COVID-19 crisis. Doug will address questions about these forms of financial support as well as the Federal CARES Act.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/561263575>



*Rev. Dr. Doug Portz, Senior Church Consultant*

### Monday, April 22, 12 noon

Ellie Johns-Kelley will describe how the Presbyterian Foundation can assist you in setting up an online giving program for your church, allowing you to offer a mobile responsive donation form, receive donations online or from a mobile device, and monitor contributions.

She will also respond to your questions about being the best church you can be in such a time as this, and effective ways to sustain financial stewardship.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/145393915>



*Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley, Ministry Relations Officer*