

LIFE @ FIRST

On the Journey

“Killing Jesus was like trying to destroy a dandelion seed-head by blowing on it.”
~ Walter Wink



Worship

Focus Statement: Perhaps the greatest news story ever to appear on the earth, the indescribable good news that death has been defeated, that death has lost its power, that death is not the end, that death does not have the final word, and that people need not fear death anymore, passed by the world, and the world didn't even notice. On the morning Jesus rose from the dead, Jesus slipped by the Roman guards at the tomb, and they didn't see Him going. Jesus went through the stone as if it wasn't even there, Jesus shattered the Roman seal that was placed on His tomb to keep Him inside, and

Jesus bypassed the Roman empire on His way to establishing His eternal Kingdom, and the world didn't even notice. When confronted with the truth of resurrection, the reigning powers denied it, because they wanted to be in charge, they wanted to have

Sermon Title:

Jesus' Resurrection - A First Glimpse of The New Creation

Text:

Matthew 28:1-10

the greatest power, they wanted to dictate what was happening, they wanted to decide the course of history.

When Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared only to believers. The world had already decided not to believe. The Kingdom of God, redemption from sin, and salvation through Christ are entered into only by faith. It is only through faith that one sees what God is doing, and what is really happening in the world. Faith has a vision, and faith has rewards that the world knows nothing about. Faith takes us to a new realm, to a very real place, just as real as the material world we live in, but it is discovered and entered into only by faith. The world does not see it. Resurrection does not fit into the natural world or into the categories the world understands, so the world dismisses it as fantasy. But for those who are being saved, those who live by faith, the news of Jesus' resurrection is the greatest news to ever enter the world. Death has ended, and a new creation is beginning to emerge!

Background Statement: Matthew 28:1-13, Mark 16:1-20, Luke 24:1-49, John 20:1-31

VOLUME 14
ISSUE 13

MARCH 30, 2021

BIRTHDAYS

Michelle Mullet	4/1
Al Yoder	4/3
Sam Graber	4/6
Dave (Patty) Yoder	4/10
Jim Wyse	4/12
Bill Johnson	4/14
Dorothy Miller	4/15
Marge Miller	4/15
Shari Graber	4/16
Lavera Hooley	4/17
Bryce Rheinheimer	4/24
Enos Miller	4/30
Jim Schrock	5/3

First Mennonite Church
PO Box 508
Middlebury IN 46540
574-825-5135

*Our mission is to extend grace,
build peace, and share love
within & beyond our faith
community*

*Worship Service
Sunday 9:00 am*

Office Hours

*Pastor Phil
Tuesday 9:30a—1:30p
Thursday 1:00p—6:00p*

*Business Office
Monday and Tuesday
8:00a—5:00p
and Fridays by chance*

*The church office is closed on
Wednesdays*

Outreach

FMC Sewing April Meeting will be on the 8th and we will resume our POT LUCK LUNCH, plan on joining us!

For our project of the month, we are asking you to bake cookies, place 6 in a ziplock bag and place it in the church freezer. These will be taken to our shut in's by Pastor Phil or our visiting team as things are starting to slowly open up!

Praise God!!

Worship

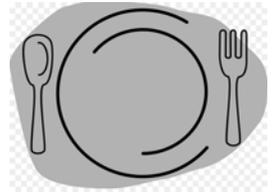


Reminder to pick up your Communion elements for Maundy Thursday service Tuesday by 5pm or Thursday between 1pm and 6pm.

Maundy Thursday Meal will be served at 6pm with a Communion Service to follow in the Sanctuary at 7pm. This service will be livestreamed on YouTube in the same fashion as our Sunday morning worship service.

Community Life

If you would be willing to take a meal to Jim & Arlene Schrock, please call Jim at 574-370-5795 to arrange a time.



"Operation ♥" Project

This week consider praying for and / or reaching out to your church family, but especially remember

A Medical Worker

A Special Need

There is currently a need in our church family that we wish to make known and give our church family the opportunity to respond to. Betty Lou Kline is in need of a reliable vehicle. For those of you who may not know Betty Lou very well, she is a widow, and a single mother with a special needs child. Betty Lou works 3 part-time jobs trying to make ends meet, including the Administrative Assistant job here at First Mennonite. She is the one who puts our Newsletter together every week. She is also an elder & special needs care provider with one of her clients requiring her to use her own vehicle to transport them on every visit.

Twice each year, during our Communion services, we take an offering for our Sharing Fund. CLC and Pastor Phil are suggesting that we use that offering this time to add to what Betty Lou has gotten a reliable car. If you wish to make a contribution for this project apart from the sharing fund offering, you may do so until April 15 by clearly marking your check or putting your offering in an envelope marked "Betty Lou Car Fund."

Thank you for helping with this need!

A Day in the Life at FMC... Our sound booth is progressing!



New couple seeking Pastor Phil for marriage counseling first thing this morning?



SUNDAY WORSHIP - 9:00 AM

(You must pre-request a printed bulletin & Please DO NOT sign the attendance sheets)

- Call to Worship
- Worship Songs
- Congregational Sharing and Prayer
- Sermon
- Song
- Sending Words
- Sending Prayer
- Dismissal

You can now join in the live stream of Sunday sermons by clicking onto You Tube, then typing in FMC INDIANA in the search box. We begin at 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings, but the livestream may not be fully available until 11 AM.



...she followed him around the corner and they haven't been back yet. (I hope they work it out!)

Administration

Stewardship Report for March 28, 2021:

Money Given to Budget

\$ 4,175.00

Amount Needed Weekly for Budget

\$ 5,417.78

Year-to-date Money Given to Budget

\$ 149,322.47

Amount Needed Year-to-Date for Budget

\$ 162,473.35

Preschool

Old Hoosier Meats

101 Wayne St. Middlebury, IN

(574)825-2940

SMOKED BBQ RIBS GIVE BACK NIGHT



Stop by Old Hoosier Meats from **3:30 to 6 on April 15th** to pick up a slab of smoked BBQ ribs & a percentage of all proceeds will be given back to Pleasant Oaks Nursery School.

These award-winning ribs are prepared w/ a signature dry rub, feed 2-3 people, & are ready to eat when you pick them up.

Pre-order ribs [\$19/slab] by calling us @ (574)825-2940. See you then!

An Interesting Bit of History

This past week we said good-bye to Noah Frye. In going back over the membership books to remove him, I found that he was received on Confession of Faith August 24 1952. For those who don't recognize the significance of this time frame. This was near the end of the Korean War. Roughly 1.5 million of our nation's young men aged 18 - 35 had or were receiving letter from the draft board to serve their country in this "conflict". I can only imagine what was going through the minds of those receiving letters, especially those in our own congregation who were taught the ways of pacifism. There were many names removed from the membership with the notation "Lost by Army Service" in the month's surrounding Noah's membership. Can you imagine how heavy that decision must have been for some of them?

While I am attempting to update and make the membership books a little easier to navigate by bringing them into the digital world, I haven't gotten back past the 80s yet. I did attempt to look through and determine who the longest surviving member is not by age, but by years of membership, and found that Noah would have been 6th in line, with the other 5 joining FMC in the 2 years prior, two of them on the same day, twice! I think that's kind of incredible! One member joined with a group who are now deceased or left for other reasons on 2/12/50, two more remaining members joined as part of a rather large baptismal group on 4/27/51, and two more were admitted by baptism on 7/13/52. I'll not name names just yet, lets see if you can guess who these 5 mystery people were! I will try to remember to add these mystery members to an upcoming newsletter as space permits!!