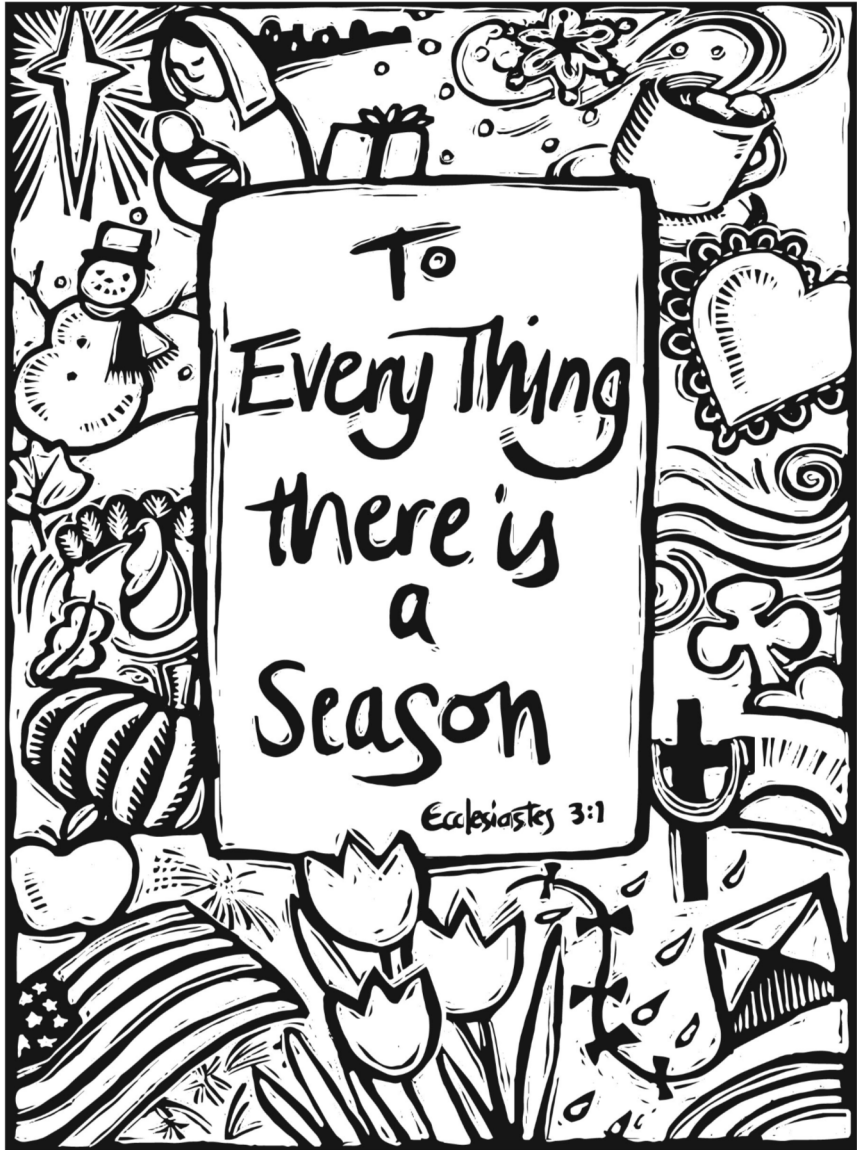


# COLORING PAGE



APRIL  
2021

First Presbyterian Church  
512 3rd Street SW  
Rochester, Minnesota 55902  
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# APRIL CALENDAR

<b>April 1</b>	Maundy Thursday Service Livestream from our sanctuary	7:00 p.m.
<b>April 2</b>	Good Friday Tenebrae Service Livestream from our sanctuary	7:00 p.m.
<b>April 3</b>		10:00 a.m.
<b>April 4</b>	<i>Easter Sunday</i> Worship & Communion	10:00 a.m.
<b>April 11</b>	<i>Second Sunday of Easter</i> Worship Service provided by the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area	10:00 a.m.
<b>April 18</b>	<i>Third Sunday of Easter</i> Worship Livestream from our sanctuary Drive-thru Coffee Hour—church parking lot	10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.
<b>April 22</b>	 earth Day	
<b>April 25</b>	<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i> Worship Livestream from our sanctuary  Social Concerns Virtual Coffee Hour with Allison Carpenter Families First Minnesota ~ Olmsted County Crisis Nursery  A Festival of Music Premiere ANCIA Saxophone Quartet	10:00 a.m.  12:00 noon  4:00 p.m.

## The Good News

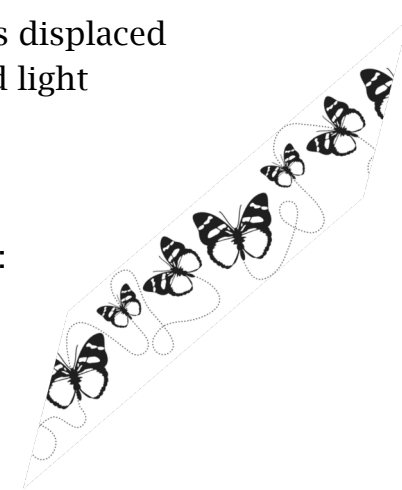
of First Presbyterian Church  
for April 2021

### Imagine Resurrection

imagine beloved  
imagine or remember  
moments, days, months, years displaced  
distance and memory, life and light  
inside and outside,  
together then apart

until the day time turns to fly:  
time's elapse forgotten  
time now shaped by joy  
imagine, beloved, imagine!  
imagine or remember:  
elation beyond expectation  
exhilaration rising  
steady like the sun.  
squeals and sounds crescendo  
words and songs and shouts alike  
escaping with every breath:

# Resurrection!



By Jay Rowland,  
Associate Pastor

Contact: Rowland.Jay@FPCRochester.org  
Phone: (507) 990-1367

# Marvelous Things

Francois Fenelon was a French Archbishop who was a theologian and writer in the early 1700's. He asks the question, "Do you wonder why God has to make it so hard on you? Why doesn't God make you good without making you so miserable in the meantime?"

Those words are over 300 years old, and yet we still ask that very question - why does God have to make things so hard? Fenelon brings us some comfort and insight when he writes, "I am awed by what suffering can produce. I agonize and cry when the cross is working within me, but when it is over I look back in admiration for what God has accomplished."(1)

We have spent these days of Lent considering the role of the cross in our lives. We have journeyed through Holy Week, witnessing Jesus' suffering on that same cross. And we have rejoiced on Easter morning as we experienced once more the joy of Resurrection. Death has been defeated again! Once more, the cross triumphs over the grave!

In this season of Easter (yes, it is a season and not just a day), I hope we are filled with awe by what suffering can produce. Suffering has produced salvation for the world and eternal life for God's creations. I pray that you can look back in admiration for what God has accomplished.

For God has done marvelous things!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

Peace,



1. Harold Myra, "The One Year Book of Encouragement"  
Tyndale House Publishers, Inc. 2010, p68.

Contact: Parlette. TJ@FPCRochester.org  
Phone: (814) 715-0290



## Christian Education & Youth Group News

*Susanna Stone, Coordinator of Youth  
and Christian Education*

We are pleased to provide the following Christian Education and Youth Group programming!

- + **Live Zoom Sunday School through One Room Zoom**
  - + **Pre-k through Grade 5 on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.**  
Each week, we have "Show and Tell," a reading from the Bible, and live fellowship with one another.
  - + **Middle and High School on Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.**  
Sure to entertain, Jean Marvin leads this fun group.
- + **Sunday School video option**  
Families unable to attend the Zoom version can view a short video based on this week's Bible lesson. Discussion questions are included.
- + **Adult Christian Education**  
Al Depman provides weekly emails followed by a Zoom discussion (alternating topics between Bible study and current events.)
- + **Youth Group**  
Now meeting in-person (as long as COVID numbers remain low) outside at FPC on Wednesday afternoon from **4:15-5:15 p.m.** Masks and social distancing are required. Cancellations will be made by 8:00 p.m. on Tuesdays.

### Save these Dates!

#### **Week of August 2: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!**

While the exact format (in-person/virtual), days, and times are TBA, we are planning on hosting this summer's VBS during the week of August 2. Details will be announced as plans are made.

### We're Praying for You!

In the weeks and months to come, do not be surprised to receive a postcard from the Youth . We have begun a new program where an FPC member/family is randomly selected each week and we pray for them during Youth Group. The family/member will receive a postcard letting them know they are in our prayers.



*Susanna*



## A Festival of Music welcomes the ANCIA Saxophone Quartet

Celebrated for its artistry, virtuosity, and exquisitely blended sound, the ANCIA Saxophone Quartet has delighted audiences throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. ANCIA (pronounced *AHN-chee-uh*) was founded in 1990 and has been joyfully transporting audiences across time and genre, performing repertoire that spans centuries and musical styles, including Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, 20th Century, contemporary, jazz, popular, and music from a broad range of world cultures. Dedicated to the creation and performance of new works for saxophone quartet, ANCIA works in collaboration with composers to premiere, perform, and record the music of our time.

Individually, ANCIA members are active soloists, chamber musicians, and professional saxophonists in a broad range of musical genres, including work in classical chamber, orchestral, jazz, national touring Broadway productions, and contemporary popular idioms. ANCIA members hold degrees from Eastman School of Music, Indiana University, Ithaca College, New England Conservatory of Music, Northwestern University, and St. Olaf College. As dedicated teachers, ANCIA members serve as saxophone artist-teachers at Augsburg College, University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, and University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, and have presented masterclasses, workshops, and educational performances worldwide.



## One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering

Marylynn Aalderks, Mission Committee

In the Presbyterian Church, USA, Lent is the time we begin collecting funds for those in need through **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)**. We will be collecting funds here at FPC from Palm Sunday (March 28) through the end of April. The following information was provided to our church by PC/USA:

Three programs are supported by One Great Hour of Sharing: **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance**, the **Presbyterian Hunger Program**, and **Self-Development of People**. All work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger (the Presbyterian Hunger Program), promote development (through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People), and assist in restoring areas affected by disaster (through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.) Projects in economically poor communities in the United States and around the world have the opportunity to develop solutions to their own challenges.

As Jesus says in Matthew 25, the Church belongs with those in need — with those suffering from natural and human-caused disasters; with those lacking access to food, water and healthcare; and with those struggling for justice, righteousness, and peace. Through our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing, we are there because we are the Church, together.

If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot! Please designate OGHS on your contributions before the end of April.



Meet all the needs for which  
the world thirsts, O God.  
May your spring of justice, compassion  
and peace spring up quickly,  
and may it spring up quickly in us.

Amen



## April is Autism Awareness Month

Ariel Boswell, Parish Nurse

Chances are your life has been touched by someone with autism. About one in 68 children has autism, which is more common than childhood cancer, diabetes and AIDS combined! Autism often occurs with other health struggles, particularly seizure disorders. Autistic individuals can care deeply but have trouble developing empathetic and socially connective behavior. They have a wide range of functioning, just as neurotypical individuals do - some never speak or become independent, while others have genius-level intelligence or develop excellent social skills. How can we support those with autism and their caregivers?

1. Remember that everyone is made in the image of God, whether on or off the autism spectrum. Everyone has strengths, weaknesses - and purpose.
2. Support those with autism and their caregivers with love, respect, and empathetic listening.
3. When interacting with those with autism, remember the fruit of the spirit - particularly patience, kindness, and self control. Even high functioning people with autism may do repetitive actions or not understand social cues or sarcasm, and these behaviors are not deliberate.
4. Consider supporting autism research and activities. Did you know autism spectrum disorder costs a family \$60,000 on average? Earlier intervention is better for children and families.
5. Remember we can always cover friends and families affected by autism with loving prayer.

(Resources: Lurie Center for Autism; Biblical Counseling Coalition)

<b>First Presbyterian Church</b>		
Financial Statement / February 2021		
General Operating Budget		
Balance (01/31/2021)	\$	14,115.77
Receipts (February 2021)		84,113.62
Disbursements (February 2021)		<u>59,300.08</u>
Balance (02/28/2021)		<u>\$38,929.31</u>



## News from Presbyterian Women

Sylvia Swede, Facilitator

The Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women scheduled for St. Louis in August has been cancelled. However, mark your calendar for June 16-19, 2022, for the *Synod of Lakes and Prairies Gathering* at the Hilton Garden Inn in Sioux City, Iowa, where you can join our Presbyterian sisters from Minnesota, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota, Iowa, and Nebraska.

### A Prayer for Lent

This prayer was translated by Lakota Sioux Chief Yellow Lark in 1887.

Oh, Great Spirit,  
 Whose voice I hear in the winds  
 And whose breath gives life to all the world,  
 Hear me! I need your strength and wisdom.  
 Let me walk in beauty, and make my eyes  
 Ever hold the red and purple sunset.  
 Make my hands respect the things you have made  
 And my ears sharp to hear your voice.  
 Make me wise so that I may understand  
 The things you have taught my people.  
 Let me learn the lessons you have hidden  
 In every leaf and rock.

Help me remain calm and strong in the  
 Face of all that comes toward me.  
 Help me find compassion without  
 Empathy overwhelming me.  
 I seek strength, not to be greater than my brother (sister)  
 But to fight my greatest enemy: myself.  
 Make me always ready to come to you  
 With clean hands and straight eyes,  
 So when life fades, as the fading sunset,  
 My spirit may come to you without shame.

Easter Blessings!

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS ...

April 21—Clyde Newton, 96

April 27—Constance Bowen, 101

## ... AND OUR CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Lori Sheridan, who died on March 20.

## We Need Your Help ...

For several years, Carol Evans has carefully tended two church bulletin boards located between the Sheldon Jackson Lounge and the first floor restrooms. These boards are continually filled with postings and articles that come from various media and spotlight FPC members.

As we approach a new chapter in the life of our church and the eventual return to in-person worship, we would like to continue spotlighting our members but in a new and evolving manner.

Our first task is to name this spot on the wall and *we need your clever ideas!* Should we refer to this area as: **"the first floor bulletin boards,"** or perhaps **"FPC (Faithful People Cooperating),"** or even **"Check Us Out?"** Obviously *WE NEED HELP* with a name!

We present a challenge to you, our members, to name the boards. We want your ideas by April 15 (formerly known as "Tax Day"). You can submit them to Cindy in the office via email or, if you want to remain completely anonymous, there will be a submission box in the foyer.

Get those creative juices flowing and let's come up with a clever new name! If we are overwhelmed with the responses, we may need to have the congregation vote!



## FPC Library News

Al Dollerschell

Three books with FPC connections have been added to the library!

We received a complimentary copy of *TODAY BELONGS TO YOU* written by the Reverend Donald D. McCall, who served as our lead pastor for about twenty years in the 60s and 70s. While in Rochester he had a brief TV fling with a 30-second inspirational wake-up message during a break in the early morning *Today Show*. Many of these vignettes are published with the religious inspiration McCall drew from his world travels. He dedicates the book to our congregation.

Many of you remember Carol Christensen and her husband, Lee, who were long-time FPC members. After Carol's death in 2012 and before Lee's death in 2016, Lee turned her memoir-notes over to Jim Martin (Lonnie's son and Carol's cousin) who organized the notes with family photos in an enjoyable read about her family, including Carol's brief service as a nurse in New Guinea during WWII.

FPC members who participated in work trips to Sheldon Jackson College in Sitka, Alaska, may remember Marcel LaPerriere, who headed the college's maintenance department and worked closely with our work crews. His struggle of several years with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is the main focus of his book, but those who worked with him may be reminded of an enjoyable experience. In a hand-written note in the front of the book, he thanks FPC workers for giving him pleasant memories.

The books are available for checkout from the library cart in the church atrium.

### First Presbyterian Church

512 3rd Street SW / Rochester, MN 55902

507-282-1618 / [www.FPCRochester.org](http://www.FPCRochester.org) / [web@FPCRochester.org](mailto:web@FPCRochester.org)

Senior Pastor: Rev. T.J. Parlette

Associate Pastor: Rev. Jay P. Rowland

Director of Music: John E. Stender

Coordinator of Youth and Christian Education: Susanna L. Stone

Sunday worship at 10 a.m. on YouTube and Facebook

Education classes: Sunday School One Room Zoom at 9:30 a.m.;

also a weekly video with a Bible story is available on YouTube.

Office hours: Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays ~ 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Ring the bell or call the office at 282-1618 for entry into the church.

Member: Presbyterian Church USA