



# THE CARILLON

Monthly Newsletter  
May 2020

First Presbyterian Church  
Rev. Dudley Elvery, Transitional Pastor  
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## CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

On Easter Sunday morning, April 12, 2020, the chancel of First Presbyterian Church of Homewood was brightly colored with spring hues from artificial flowers. The cross was draped in white, and the Alleluia wands and banners were on display.

The sanctuary, empty because of “shelter in place” for the coronavirus pandemic, had only Janet Wahl in the chancel in order to prepare the decorations. She had promised Kathie Hazlett, chair of Worship Ministry, that she would always make sure there would be flowers in the chancel. Yet, she would have done it without the promise...a personal project.

Kathie Hazlett is also our WebMaster. Under her direction, an Easter Sunday worship service would run at 10:30 a.m. on the web site, [www.fpchw.org](http://www.fpchw.org). The service included a prelude, hymns, scripture, a Moments with Children video on roly-poly eggs, a sermon video, solos, responsive readings, prayers, and handbell music.

The handbell music was searched for by Phil Dillman. Sure enough, the tape was stored in the history room of the church. Ed Wahl remembered that Easter 2006 had a postlude of the “Hallelujah Chorus” performed by the Handbell Choir. That made the search much easier.



All the pieces of the service were spliced in by Kathie Hazlett. She worked even harder to create services for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Church members made recordings—some videos—of scripture or “sermonettes,” six for Maundy Thursday and seven for Good

Friday. Maundy Thursday scriptures of the final days of Jesus were read by Jay Webster, Glenna Elvery, Tim VanNasdale, Laurie Ulrich, Jay Ruklic, and Jan Bunker. Candles were extinguished after each reading. If no video, Kathie rounded up photos of each person. Good Friday had meditations on the seven last sentences of Christ created by Kathleen O’Hanlon, Rev. Elvery (2), Ed Wahl, Kathie Darman, Karen Maurer, and Joyce Anders. The three Holy Week services stayed posted on the web site for a whole week, but had to come down due to web space problems for the April 19<sup>th</sup> service. They were re-posted until the April 26<sup>th</sup> service.

After our last service with “social distancing” (March 15<sup>th</sup>), Kathie Hazlett also prepared services for the rest of March and April. She will continue until we are able to return to the sanctuary. Hopefully, all are checking the web site each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in order to be “together” for worship.



Many, many thanks to all (and especially to Kathie) who create our virtual worship services. Thanks also to Shirley Armistead, who keeps us informed on the Prayer Chain and posts there the daily scripture from Pastor Dudley.

### COMMUNION SCHEDULE

We cannot keep our approved Communion schedule. We have a previously created Communion liturgy for home visitation of shut-ins that is included here again for personal / family use at home during this time of separation if you so choose.

#### **Communion Liturgy for a Visitation**

*Wherever two or three are gathered in my name,  
I am there among them.*

#### **INVITATION**

*Matt. 11:28, 29*

Jesus said: Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



#### **GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:**

Holy God, we praise you. Let the heavens be joyful, and the earth be glad. We bless you for creating the whole world, for your promises to your people Israel, and for Jesus Christ in whom your fullness dwells. Born of Mary, he shares our life. Eating with sinners, he welcomes us. Guiding his children, he leads us. Visiting the sick, he heals us. Dying on the cross, he saves us. Risen from the dead, he gives new life. Living with you, he prays for us.

With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim the death and resurrection of our Lord. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us that this meal may be a communion in the body and blood of our Lord. Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love,

that we may serve as your faithful disciples until we feast at your table in glory. We praise you, eternal God, through Christ your Word made flesh, in the holy and life-giving Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

#### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, just as we are doing, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes.

(Now, take the bread, saying, "Christ's body broken for me/us." Then take the cup, saying, "Christ's blood shed for me/us.")



#### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Let us pray:

We thank you, O God, that through Word and Sacrament you have given us your Son, who is the true bread from heaven and food of eternal life. We thank you for uniting us with Christians not only in our church but all around the world. We know you are present with us at all times, and we thank you for the many ways you have sustained us through our lives. Help us to recognize you, even in the difficult or lonely points in life. Today, we especially pray for .....

...Be with us now as we begin this new week. Focus our hearts and minds on your will for this world.

Strengthen us in your service that our daily living may show our thanks, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray, saying,

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**...Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

The Peace of Christ is with me/us.

[If you have concerns about using this Communion liturgy, just remember that in the eyes of God we are all Ministers in God's realm.]

**Evelyn Dixon:** *I am so happy that we're able to worship together on-line. I look forward to Sunday at 10:30 a.m. We are so blessed to have caring and talented people helping to make this happen. Thank you, God.*

**Pastor Nancy Dederer:** *I'm grateful for the Prayer Chain and The Carillon.*

## SESSION REPORT

### Regular Session Meeting, April 20, 2020

Session did not meet in April 2020 because the Ruling Elders were all practicing self-protection at their homes. The Clerk has been busy cleaning up Session Minutes from prior years for the permanent record books, and the project is now completed and up to date.

Elder Kathie Hazlett has been assembling and posting some amazing worship services on the church web site during the time we are not able to gather in the sanctuary. Rev. Elvery and Director of Music/Organist Tim VanNasdale are featured in the "normal" Sunday worship services. The members of the Pastoral Nominating Committee were featured in the Maundy Thursday service and the Ruling Elders from Session were featured in the Good Friday service. If you missed any of these services, you may still be able to find them posted on the web site.

All the other ministry groups still exist for emergency actions, but they are not meeting just for the sake of meeting. Session can do business via e-mail, and we do.

Respectfully submitted,  
Edward C. Wahl, Clerk of Session



**Joyce Anders:** *I haven't forgotten First Presbyterian Church of Homewood. I've attended every service since Palm Sunday. Thanks to everyone who has worked to make these services happen! I am frequently in touch with my wonderful Panera Bible Class friends. Today we even sang a hymn together while apart. I am hoping our group can also gather soon via Zoom. Now, I must walk to the Post Office and deposit my offering envelope in the drive-up box. Oops! I have to put it in a stamped envelope first.*

## FROM THE PASTOR

As I have puzzled over being church when we cannot gather in the usual way, the word *diaspora* keeps coming to mind. Our spiritual forebearers, the Jewish people, spent many years in exile before they were scattered to the wind almost two millennia ago. They were uprooted and torn away from their religious center, the temple. In their places of exile, they found ways to gather, to pray, to sing, to hear and expound on scripture together.



Sounds familiar to me, except we can drive by our temple, 17929 Gottschalk Avenue; we can see it but not go in it. So close and so far. At the same time, we have found ways to gather, to pray, to sing, to hear and expound on scripture together. The Panera Bible Study group seems to be on the verge of finding ways to continue meeting.

In response to a request to "Please send 1 or 2 paragraphs to [ewahl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ewahl@sbcglobal.net) about your experience staying connected with the church while sheltered in place—to be published in the May Carillon," we will begin to tell our story of being together while scattered. [Read all the boxes in this issue.] It may be that new and suggestive or enduring patterns for the puzzle of how to do and be church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, post covid 19, will emerge.

*Dudley Elvery*

**Phil Dillman:** *In truth, my job as a truck driver has meant almost zero change in my daily life. Fortunately, there is minimal interaction with people, and the ones that I do encounter maintain a 6' distance and/or they are wearing masks. I greatly appreciate the outdoors aspect of my job (most of the time).*

*I miss the in-person human interaction and choral participation at church and cannot wait for that to resume. However, I am truly impressed with how quickly Kathie Hazlett, Tim, Dudley, and anyone else that has been involved have been able to create the virtual church services that allow us to participate in each service online simultaneously (when possible) and allow the services to be enjoyed by others, both members and non-members. I found that I am able to transfer various bits from past church service cassette tapes into my computer for use in the virtual services. That helps me feel the necessary connection to our church that I need.*



## THREE SPECIAL DAYS

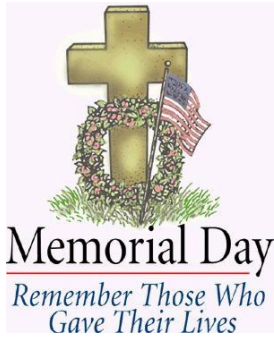
The month of May has three special days that we normally celebrate in our worship service. The on-line virtual services may still do that. The first is May 10,



**Mother's Day.** May you connect by phone, email, card or flowers, or maybe by Zoom. The second is May 25, **Memorial Day.**

## IN MEMORIAM

The names listed below are those who gave their lives in the service of their country in war and whom we remember on Memorial Day.



Charles Gregory	1863
Maurice L. Colvert	1942
Robert G. Downey	1944
Walter Richards, Jr.	1944
Walter E. Johnston	1945
Peter Shrine	1945
Frank Bonham	1946
Wilford Hall Taylor	1952
Thomas Victor Lorence	1955
Park G. Bunker	1970

The third day is May 31, **Pentecost.** Pentecost in Christianity comes 50 days after Easter. When the Holy Spirit entered each of the gathered apostles, that time marks the birthday of the church. In the past, we have encouraged all to wear red as a sign of the flames of the Spirit on the apostles—so wear red all day on May 31, even when sheltered in place. The red highlights in this issue are in honor of Pentecost. We remember the birth of the Christian Church and the way that the Holy Spirit empowered the disciples to proclaim Jesus as Messiah! It all started with the disciples gathered in prayer. It makes one wonder just what might happen when we worship, pray, and share Communion together. Maybe May 31 is a good day to try home visitation Communion



**Come, Spirit, Come!**

**Betty Seline:** *Presently, all is well here. I'm at First Presbyterian of Crown Point, IN. I miss attending church at this time, but keep connected through on-line services and emails. I love getting news about the church and info about my pals in Homewood. Wish you all the best.*

## TRUSTEE REPORT

The Trustees are not meeting, but are connecting by email. The building is being checked several times a

week. The thermostats and water heater temperatures were set lower. The plumbing fixtures are checked regularly for any drips or leaks. The sump pumps are inspected after each rain. The elevator is run periodically during the week. The refrigerator and freezer are being checked. We are also in contact with various vendors regarding ongoing and renewing contracts. Jay Ruklic has been receiving emails from Xerox regarding copier options and from Church Mutual regarding Covid-19 procedures. The mailbox at the church is not “secure” and is not emptied every day. When sending correspondence, and especially checks, remember to add the P.O. box number (1519) to the Gottschalk address.

Jim Foster

**Laura Dillman:** *I have been feeling better after a bad sinus infection. During this trying time, I have been lifting up all my church family and friends, plus all affected by this crisis, in my loving thoughts and so many more in healing prayers. And I have made calls to family and friends to see how they were doing and if they needed anything. This too shall pass.*

## STEWARDSHIP/FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM

Here's a tale in frustration. The federal government announced that part of the CARES Act included loan money for small businesses and, most importantly, for faith-based institutions like churches, for a Payroll Protection Program. The next day the application form was posted by our bank, and our Stewardship & Finance Ministry Team immediately signed up to get in line with a loan officer to correctly complete the paperwork. [The loan officers are not working in the bank lobby, but from somewhere else.] That was in the first week of April. As of this writing, it is now the third week of April, and no loan officer from the bank has ever responded to us.

Now we know that all the money has been loaned out, all \$350 billion of it, in a matter of days to the largest of the “small businesses,” and not-for-profits and faith-based employers got left out. Do the math. We qualified for approximately \$35,000. Divide that number by \$350 billion, and the result is our church would have used up *one ten-millionth* of the amount authorized. But, that must have been too much.

On a happier note, the Stewardship and Finance Ministry Team greatly appreciates all of our members who are continuing with their offerings submitted by mail. We are continuing to pay our staff and routine bills on time and in full. Church Treasurer Linda Daanen picks up your mail from the Post Office Box, records your offerings and special gifts, deposits the checks, and sends the

list to Church Financial Recording Secretary Melodee Leimnitzer, who adds your giving to your statements. To make this process easier, *please* use your numbered offering envelope from your envelope box when sending your check. Thank you!

Yes, we do fully understand if your offerings need to go on hold even though you have made a pledge to give weekly or monthly. We pray for financial stability for all our wonderful church members.

The summary of receipts and disbursements for the First Presbyterian Church of Homewood for the month ending March 31, 2020, is in the following chart:

	<u>Through March</u>	<u>2020 Budget</u>
<b>General Fund Income</b>		
Identified Giving	\$34,768	\$130,000
Loose Offering	211	1,500
Initial Offering	397	500
Required Min. Dist./Stock Sale	1,766	5,000
Community Dinners Donations	770	3,000
Other Income	334	3,000
Dividends & Capital Gains	0	14,000
Sale of Investment Shares	0	37,400
Endowment Fund Distributions	0	9,000
Transfer from Designated Fund	<u>1,250</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total General Fund Income</b>	<b>38,246</b>	<b>203,400</b>
<b>General Fund Expenses</b>		
Missional Ventures	\$980	6,500
Faith Formation	156	1,800
Facilities	12,099	51,500
Staff	16,063	82,000
Transition	11,131	54,300
Administrative Support	2,515	7,300
Purchase of Investment Shares	0	0
Transfer to Designated Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total General Fund Expenses</b>	<b>42,944</b>	<b>203,400</b>
Designated Fund Income	\$5,970	
Designated Fund Expenses	10,733	
<b>Total Active Members—March 31, 2020</b> 113		
Average Sunday Attendance—December 2019 59		
Average Sunday Attendance—January 2020 53		
Average Sunday Attendance—February 2020 59		
Average Sunday Attendance—March 2020 50		
<b>Summary through March 2020 (3/12 of Budget):</b>		
Income Over/(Under) 2020 Budget		(\$11,354)
Expenses Over/(Under) 2020 Budget		(7,906)
<b>2020 Total Net Income (Loss) to Date</b>		<b>(3,448)</b>

We need an average income of **\$4,000** each week to fund our mission and operate our church. This is inclusive of pledges and identified giving as well as other income sources. So, how are we doing?

- Weekly average for January (4) \$3,526
- Weekly average for February (4) \$3,646

- Weekly average for March (5) \$2,161
- **Weekly average for 2020 (13) \$3,038**

**Laurie Ulrich:** *Staying at home this month has been unusual to say the least! Yet, for me, it hasn't been an undue hardship and in some ways is a blessing. Of course, it is strange not to be able to meet together, worship together, work together, sing together, with the people with whom I would otherwise be doing so. And yet, with the presence of electronic means like email and texting and Facebook and Marco Polo and video chats and Zoom and Google chat, etc., I have found that Sheltering in Place is not quite the same as being in isolation!*

*Sundays have been very worshipful as I have tuned in virtually to at least 4—and sometimes 5—worship experiences. Some are streaming services from sanctuaries, some are video chats from a person's home, some are full worship experiences, and some are just messages/sermons. It's not the same as worshipping together at our church, of course, but it has really made me realize the commonality of our Christian faith across distance, time, denomination: we are one. One in spirit, in belief, in trust, in hope—in faith.*

*But tuning in to what Dudley and Kathie Hazlett have been able to put on our website has truly been the highlight of each Sunday for me. It makes me so aware of the way in which our congregation is bound together through the way we worship together.*

*And I can't help thinking that this issue of The Carillon is another example of that very thing: the way in which we are bound together though we are forced to be apart!*



## FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

If ever a life event contributed to our faith formation about the nature of the Church, the present moment gets a gold star. Avery and Marsh have a well-known song: “I am the Church / You are the Church / We are the Church together / All who follow Jesus, all around the world / Yes, we’re the Church together!” Yes, BUT—together we are not. “The Church is not a building / The Church is not a steeple / The Church is not a resting place—the Church is a PEOPLE!” We long to be together under one roof, but we are “one in the Spirit” with “All who follow Jesus, all around the world,” all those folks in Korea and China and Spain and Italy and...“yes, we are the Church together.”

Leadership is arising from the Tuesday Panera Bible Study group: shared readings, shared thoughts, shared

prayers, shared songs. It's great to have a contact list—thanks for that, Joyce. We have abandoned Isaiah for now, but we're caring and connected, and we'll be back to Isaiah.

The Circles aren't studying, but they're certainly connecting and will return to studies when ...

Pastor Dudley has risen to the occasion in preparing a Moment for Children each week for the worship service when we gather at our devices. A month ago, he thought Moments wouldn't work because they were interactive, but they've been memorable. Waving (as in palms) has a whole new significance. The dog who will not be left out has given the story of the disciple Thomas a whole new meaning. Thank you, Pastor Dudley. YCSS has reached out to families several times with phone calls and snail mail. It's a good time to reflect on the phrase "religious imagination," something children can use easily, but can be available to adults as well—and in the absence of the physical gathering can nurture the spirit.

At the end of May in the liturgical year, we will leave Eastertide and celebrate Pentecost—remember to wear **RED!** Another Avery and Marsh song says: "Pentecost is Happy Birthday / Happy Birthday to the Church / When every single Pouting Thomas / Comes alive with Jesus' promise / That He wouldn't leave us in the lurch." Happy Birthday, Happy Birthday... Karen Maurer

**Sylvia Tufts:** Paul and I are spending our isolation trying to stay healthy. So far, we are succeeding with regular exercise, daily neighborhood walks, and good nutrition. Other activities include reading, watching TV, playing cribbage, and cleaning out old files, etc. Our big family events have been three Zoom video chats including one to celebrate Paul's birthday. Visiting with family has been delightful. On May 1<sup>st</sup>, we will visit Northwestern Hospital for Paul to undergo tests and visit with his oncologist. We are praying that his immunotherapy is working! We enjoy the church video services and daily Bible verses. These opportunities help sustain us in these difficult times.

### PRAYER CARDS

The following members, friends, and staff of First Presbyterian Church of Homewood will receive a card telling them that the church is praying for them. Please pray for those listed. Kathie Darman

<b>Week of May 3</b>	Dan & Rev Laurel Hamilton
Emily Hamilton	Dan & Kiley Hamilton
Tim & Kim Hamilton	Melanie Hamilton

### Week of May 10

Nicholas & Bree Hamilton  
Olivia Hamilton  
Emily Hanley & Family  
Charlene Hansen  
Jerry & Kathie Hazlett

### Week of May 17

Tom & Tricia Hentschel  
Lee & Emmanuel Hilario  
Bob & Jonna James  
Dorinda Jensen  
Jessica Lopez-Jursa & Family

### Week of May 24

Lina Jursa  
Marilyn Jerner  
Candi Kleindorfer  
Melodee Leimnetzer  
Nancy Llewellyn

### Week of May 31

Karen Maurer  
John & Debbie Maxwell  
Kristen Maxwell  
Priscilla Mereness  
Bruce & Heather Miller

### Prayer Chain

*1 Thessalonians 5:25 – Beloved, pray for us.*  
Are you not a part of the Prayer Chain? If you have an email address and would like to pray for others, please email me at [sarmist1@aol.com](mailto:sarmist1@aol.com). I will add you to our list of people praying. If you do not have email and would like to pray for others, you may phone me at 630-712-4697 (cell), and I can let you know who needs prayers. If you or someone you know needs prayers, contact me either way. You may need to leave a message by phone, and I will get back to you. Shirley Armistead



### Jan Rolls:

*The many blessings of our church  
Are with us every day.  
We love to worship with our friends—  
Inside or when away.*

*Now that we must all stay at home,  
We come to worship online.  
Pastor Elvery brings love and hope,  
And being "together" is fine.*

*Staying inside brings blessings, too.  
There's so much time for prayer.  
We can watch the sunrise and sunset  
And the beauty of spring out there.*

*Every day we give thanks to God  
For the blessings that He gives.  
First Pres and our church family  
In our hearts will always live.*

### HOSPITALIZED

In the hospital during the past month were Chris Leonard and Larry Leonard. Jay Webster's grandmother is in hospice care.





## NURSING HOMES

Mae Evert, Lemont Center Rehab; Pat Steiner, Plymouth Place, LaGrange Park.

**Tricia Hentschel:** *In direct answer to your question, I suppose the most real connection to this church has been through this email from you, the routine communications from Shirley, and because of a committee responsibility, there have been communications for me. I must say that there have been so many blessings! I have enjoyed taking advantage of the many Christian resources out there for many years, but during this stay at home time, there has been greater opportunity, and I am grateful. Also, I am one of several working on the Pastor Nominating Committee and, as the Lord seems to orchestrate things perfectly, we were given the list of prospective candidates just after the lock down. So much of the world is available now with the click of a mouse, and because of the pandemic, many churches, along with everyone else, have been finding ways to reach out to each other. This has been a huge bonus for us. We have been able to view devotionals, sermons, and other content that probably would not have been available otherwise. It has made the initial screening process much easier. We still have quite a way to go as a committee; however, I am encouraged by the gift of increased access and information that the Lord has given us. There is so much to be thankful for. I have no doubt that God is working all this together for our ultimate good even though it may not feel like it in some ways. Tom and I have not been listening too much to the sensational news reports, but my confidence is firmly set on the God who controls it all, and I am continuing to pray for the church and study in the Word each day, which as you know, is the best place for information, encouragement, and hope.*

## GRADUATION LIST



Help us be accurate with the June list of graduates that will appear in *The Carillon*. If you (or son, daughter, grandchild) are graduating this year, please **let Janet Wahl at [ewahl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ewahl@sbcglobal.net) know by May 20**. Use the form below as a guide for your email. Please include the relationship if the name does not match yours.

GRADUATE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

KIND OF DIPLOMA/DEGREE \_\_\_\_\_

PLANS???

**Karen Maurer:** *I feel pretty well-connected by worship (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Sundays), videos from Sylvia, offers from Joyce, phone calls to and from, but the best thing was going to Heavenly Perks with Kathie and Kathleen last Sunday. Diet-wise it was great because there weren't any goodies; fellowship-wise we talked for half an hour. Kathie Hazlett made that happen; could you do it?*

**Betty Owens:** *I have been talking to people on the phone, and I am enjoying it very much. It is one of the highlights of my day.*

## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

May	May
4 Linda Cantway Cook	21 Betty Owens
12 Mae Evert	25 Jonna James

**May God grant birthday blessings to you all this year**



**Charlene Hansen:** *I have been more fortunate than most. I got my back operation done before the hospitals shut down non-emergency surgery. I was released from the hospital the day everything was shut down. I was in no condition to go anywhere anyway. I received lots of cards, phone calls, and emails to keep me in touch with everyone and to feel loved and cared for. Thank you.*

*I am able to function on my own now and am back to driving, going to the store and physical therapy. I still have a long way to go before the healing is finished. I am reading, working some in the garden, and trying to walk a small distance each day. I am putting together pictures of my youth and even have my kindergarten picture. I appreciate the daily scriptures and the Sunday services. I look forward to seeing everyone again.*

## JUNE CARILLON

The deadline for having articles placed in the June *Carillon* is **Wednesday, May 20**. Please turn in all materials in writing and e-mail the Editor at [ewahl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ewahl@sbcglobal.net). The Editor thanks all the May reporters for their assistance.

J C =W=

**Janet Wahl:** *Of course, Ed and I have stayed connected to the church by the online worship services. When Rev. Elvery had two dogs in the children's moments video, I realized that we worship with cats! We place the laptop on the kitchen table so that there is plenty of room for both of us to read the service. Before long, all three cats are with us, mostly quietly sleeping, but sometimes we get the distraction of one of them crunching dry food, or one of them drinking loudly from their fountain, or one demanding some petting. It happens for every service. "We are not alone."*

*I was connected to the church the weeks before and after Palm Sunday. The palm branches had been ordered early. I decided that the palms should be placed in the metal "trees" and the trees placed on the front steps of the church. The palms were to be delivered by Friday and then on Monday (too late!). Phone calls with Laura Dillman and emails with Jim Foster occurred during searching for the errant palms. Finally on Wednesday, Laura secured a verbal assurance that a refund would be sent. "The check is in the mail."*

*On April 7, Tim VanNasdale sent an email to members of choir and bell choir—just checking up on us. That started an email chain of 25 responses that went on until April 11!*

*With Ed being involved in the Good Friday service, there were phone calls and emails on how to make the recording. And I decorated the chancel on Easter Sunday and prepared the newsletters without and with Debra's usual assistance.*

*One more thing. Each day that I go to our roadside mailbox, I see the 2019 church daffodils blooming at the base of a driveway tree, surviving snow and 3 nights of below 32 degrees. I have many Easter church daffodils planted throughout our property. They come up each year with plenty of leaves, but never bloom. These 2019 church daffodils are the first ones to bloom the next year! It has to be a sign—like Noah's dove with the olive leaf.*



[NOTE: The whole month calendar will return when the pandemic passes.]

