

# HAVELOCK UMC NEWSLETTER

402-466-6736

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## LIFESONG

Dear Friends in Christ, This, for me, is the highlight of the Christian year of worship. In the next several weeks we will be worshipping Jesus Christ for offering himself as a sacrifice on the cross for our sins. We'll be going down the road with Jesus to Jerusalem where he faced death for us and conquered sin and death for all time. Sundays will focus on Matthew's version of Jesus' journey to the cross. These are uncertain times with the Covid-19 virus affecting all our in person meetings. With more and more people being vaccinated and being in the moderate yellow risk category, our Opening Committee decided to start offering in person worship beginning February 28<sup>th</sup>. We will continue to record services for those who don't feel safe or cannot come. Guidelines for attending are listed later in this newsletter.

We are all called to follow Jesus. In ancient times, the weeks before Easter was a time to prepare to be baptized and proclaim your faith in Jesus. As I've shared with you before, worship for me meant very little until I realized what Jesus did for me. I pray you will experience Jesus' love on Sundays to the place where you want to worship Jesus. I believe God created us to worship and praise God. We will be worshipping God forever. The other things we do are only momentary distractions. Worship is praising God for who God is. It is giving God the honor God deserves. When we acknowledge that God is our life, our breath, the only source of hope and love and meaning for us, then we can put all our financial, physical, emotional, struggles in God's eternal perspective. Come and worship the God who made you, loves you, died for you, and was raised from the dead to give you eternal life,

eternal love! Let's sing a lifesong of worship for our suffering Lord and Savior Jesus Christ this March.

Love in Christ, Pastor Todd

## ANNUAL FLOWER SALE

We will kick off our 2021 plant sale on March 1<sup>st</sup>. It will run through April 12<sup>th</sup>. All orders and payment have to be submitted by April 12<sup>th</sup>. We are going through a different vendor this year. I'm excited to announce we will be using Janet's Jungle. They are a local business located in Fremont, Nebraska! Their plants are grown in Roca, Iowa, and Missouri. Good news is there will be on line sales, catalog sales, they take several payment options such as credit card, debit card, pay pal, cash and checks. We will offer annual flowers, perennial flowers, vegetables, herbs, and seed packets. Also, we already know our delivery date will be May 5<sup>th</sup>. Please consider helping on delivery day as we will need to set up the plants in the church for pick up to be on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Janet's Jungle will be sending a video for the congregation to watch prior to the sale. A big shout out to Chris Plock who will download that on the church website and during a church service announcement, and on Facebook! We will have catalogs and order forms for you. Let's make this sale a huge success by inviting our friends, neighbors, families, and co-workers to participate! 25% to 30% of our total sale will go to the church!

Please check out the website [Janet'sjungle.com](http://Janet'sjungle.com). Then go to "search your organization". Enter "Lincoln Havelock United Methodist Church" you will see a preview of the catalog. However, we cannot enter any orders until March 1<sup>st</sup>.

\*There will be 25 to 30 bonus buys that will only be available on line. I don't have all the details yet, but they will be offering hanging baskets as a bonus buy.

Please contact Vicki Finney at 402-875-1588 if you have any questions.

## **WE WILL HAVE IN PERSON WORSHIP BEGINNING FEBRUARY 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.**

The service will be recorded for broadcast later that afternoon.

### **ATTENDING SERVICES PROCEDURES**

A mask **Must Be** worn when in the Church.

You will be greeted by an Usher who will sign you into the building along with a list of questions you must answer. The Usher will show you the list of general instructions and assist you with seating. You will be seated in Family groups or individually at least 6 feet apart. Every other pew will be taped off.

- Hand Sanitizer will be available at the entry and exit doors for your use.
- The offering baskets will be placed at the entrance to the Sanctuary to avoid passing them during service.
- No hymnals or other materials will be in the pews. (All information will be posted on the screen.)
- There is No singing by the congregation.
- If Communion is given, an individual peel-back packet of a wafer on top of a small grape juice will be provided.
- The Usher will seat you and dismiss you by row. (Your normal seating area may

not be available.)

- As you leave the Church, use the sanitizer by the exit door.

**\*\*The drinking fountains nor the phone will be available for use.**

**\*\*Please refrain from going into other areas of the Church.**

**\*\*The Church will be cleaned and sanitized before and after services.**

### **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Financial update from the Finance Committee thru end of January 2021.

Giving	\$8,925.93
Expenses	\$11, 229.75
Shortage	(\$2,303.75)

Please continue to give to the church during this pandemic. You can mail in a check or drop one off using the mailbox in the alley. You can also give online, there's a link on our Facebook page or on our website [www.havelockumc.org](http://www.havelockumc.org). If you need help setting up online giving please contact Pati Hughes at 402-440-7512. Note we did have a positive cash flow balance from last year so we are current on our bills. Thank you for your support of our church.

Patricia Hughes, Financial Chair

### **WEEKLY LENTEN REFLECTIONS**

**Bishop Saenz hosting weekly Lenten reflections on Facebook Live** Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr. has begun a weekly series of reflections on Psalms during the Lenten season on Facebook Live. Join him for a time of reflection as we prepare for the glory of Easter. Like his page, (Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr.) and you'll receive a notification when his live reflection is about to start. Others will be at 7 p.m. CST Mondays throughout the Lenten season. There will also be a time for prayer requests.

## SCRIP CARDS MAY BE PURCHASED

If you are interested in buying SCRIP cards contact Pati Hughes at 402-440-7512. Pati will either deliver the SCRIP cards to your home or you can pick them up at Pati's house.

## YOU'RE INVITED

Beth Graverholt, from ChristUMC/Connection point ministries shares these opportunities:

**You're invited to join an ecumenical study** on the church and climate justice during Lent. Find details about the speaker series as well as discussion guides for the book Cathedral on Fire at <https://www.saintpaulumc.org/mercy-and-justice/> Feel free to organize your own group to study the book and participate in the speaker series, or please respond to this email if you would like to connect some of your members to a Zoom study group with other United Methodists from the Blue River District. As part of this initiative, the St. Paul UMC Climate Justice Team has created a "Carbon-Fast Calendar" for Lent that provides ideas for reducing our carbon footprints each day. They will also be hosting a study on the book "Cathedral on Fire" prior to the speaker series detailed at the link above. The team has graciously invited any United Methodists in the BRD to join their study and utilize the calendar.

**Between Easter and Pentecost, I intend to coordinate a district-wide study** on the book The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander. This study will help us reflect on some of the impacts of systemic racism and concrete steps we can take to address them as people of faith. I will be looking for clergy and laity to help lead small groups via Zoom using provided materials, as well as folks to help create those materials. If you have folks who may be interested in being leaders please contact me. I'm also interested in guest speakers who can specifically speak to the mass

incarceration crisis, if this is you or someone you know, please get in touch.

## LOST YOUR JOB?

Here are a couple resources for those we're concerned about who have been losing jobs due to COVID-19:

From the city's website: if you have lost work as a result of COVID-19, visit the American Job Center at 1100 O Street, call 402-413-9336, or visit [networks.nebraska.gov](http://networks.nebraska.gov) for reemployment assistance.

These agencies have funding from the city to help folks with rent and utilities.

## Housing and Utility Assistance Available

If you are having trouble paying for housing and utilities due to the impact of COVID-19, the City of Lincoln may be able to help. Federal financial assistance is available, and you can apply by contacting one of these local organizations who are assisting the City in processing applications.

- Family Service: 402-318-2620 or 402-441-7949
- Matt Talbot Kitchen & Outreach: 402-875-5782
- Center Pointe, Inc.: 402-475-5161
- People's City Mission: 402-475-1303
- PCM Help Center: 402-475-6888
- Community Action Partnership: 402-471-4515 ext. 1831

To qualify, you must meet income guidelines, and need must be a result of COVID-19.

When seeking rent, mortgage and utility assistance, the following documents may be required identification for anyone in a household age 13 and over, proof of income, copy of lease, name address and account number on mortgage, and eviction notice, if applicable.

## **COMMUNITY SUPPER**

The next 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Community Supper will be held on Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

This will be a grab-n-go meal. Please enter from Morrill & 61<sup>st</sup> Street, drive SOUTH on parking area to EAST door.

**THE MARCH/APRIL ISSUE OF THE UPPER ROOM IS NOW AVAILABLE BY THE FOOD CART IN THE EAST HALL.**

**THERE ARE NO OFFICE HOURS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

## **IN OUR PRAYRS**

Please let the church office know if there has been a birth, baptism, marriage, illness, or death in your family that you would like to share. Let us know if someone is hospitalized or needs our prayers. If you would like immediate prayers for the individual call, the church office (402-466-6736) or Beth Honnen (402-466-5722) we will initiate the Prayer Chain.