

Congregational Clarion

AMERY CONGREGATIONAL UCC



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

	Page #
Birthdays	2
Members/Friends	2
Youth	3
Events	4
Resurrection Fun Learning Activities	5
Council Report	6



PASTOR'S POINT

by Barry Schaefer

Oh boy, nobody, neither in seminary, nor in life has prepared me to lead a church in this way. As was depicted in our first virtual worship service a few weeks ago, "we are sailing in un-charted waters", and we do not even have a depth-gauge! But fearless we go ahead!

At the time of writing this message, I do not know whether or not we'll have an in-person Easter Service or not. Too many of the variables, as of this writing, are unknown. BUT I DO KNOW THAT EASTER WILL HAPPEN, whether in a live worship experience, or in some way over the internet.

The Easter day text is Matthew 28:1-10 Please read this full text, as the message below is based on it.

Mat 28:5-6 ESV But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. (6) He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.

The crucifixion has happened! Jesus' death has happened. The time of repose in the tomb of death has happened. (do you notice the past tense theme here?) And now the women, early on the first day of a new week come to the tomb and are greeted by an angel, fierce, powerful and compassionate. The angel's direct words are "Do not be afraid"... These are the resurrection words this season and in every season...do not be afraid. When an angel of the Lord tells us

this, you can believe it is not "fake news". We are being given a directive to not have fear...because God's got this. We, people of faith, need to believe this, and then, people of faith, act in ways that show we are not afraid. This is our resurrection triumph, the day we realize that death is vanquished, that life, through Jesus, triumphs all of the negativity that this world has thrown at us, and we are no longer held captive to the world's destructive powers. This is the moment we shout Christ Wins! And then...we begin to live out of that declaration in Christ's power for life. I want you all to know that this COVID-19 thing does NOT have the last word. Christ does! The powers of this world may have a strong hold on us right now, but those powers do not have ultimate victory, Christ does. Living by life, not by fear is our clear mandate given to us by God through that angel at the EMPTY TOMB!

Currently the church building is closed, the **CHURCH (you and me) is not closed.**

The church **website is www.ameryucc.org** (refer to it often for latest information)

Look for **virtual worship recordings** for each week in your email, sent from the church office.

Look for live **"Zoom Church"** events held each Wednesday at 7pm, where we have live participation! **GOD'S GOT THIS!**

Happy April Birthday



04/02 Elsa Rose O'Rourke	04/17 John Mayer
04/02 Scott Smith	04/18 Christine Olson
04/02 Gunner Hacken	04/18 Vicki Betzold
04/02 Sam Hacken	04/19 Bailey Johnson
04/04 Owen Harris	04/19 Jill Jackson
04/06 Kelsey Monteith	04/19 Irene Stindle
04/08 Brittany Dusek	04/21 Dan Satterlund
04/09 Amanda Parnell	04/21 Nancy Hoppe
04/09 Chris Lindee	04/23 Corey Warner
04/11 Chase Anderson	04/24 Jeanne Murphy
04/12 Marian Peterson	04/25 Marion Christensen
04/13 Christine Kopp	04/25 Mary Piasecki
04/13 Roy J. Giudice	04/28 Martin Sigsworth
04/14 Marian Elmer	04/29 Andrea Newton
04/15 Pat Waterman	04/29 Margie Peterson

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Golden Age Manor

220 Scholl Street
Amery, WI 54001
(715) 268-7107

Kathy Picotte
Dave Waterman

Willow Ridge

400 Deronda Street
Amery, WI 54001
(715) 268-8171

Betty Jansen

Evergreen Village

611 Harriman Avenue
(715) 268-6640
Marian Peterson
Gussie Fennern

Memory Care

215 Birch St. W
Amery, WI 54001
Jeanne Murphy
Evelyn Monteith
Halverson

Ginny Nelson
Sylvia Utter
Bob Holms

Riverbend

475 Golfview Lane
715.268.9949

Beth Sorensen
Shirley Johnson

Baldwin Care Center

650 Birch St.
Baldwin, WI 54002
Mary Monson Apt. 27



BORN IN APRIL

- Active and dynamic
- Decisive but impulsive
- Attractive and attention seeking
- Strong mind
- Diplomatic
- Friendly and solves people's issues
- Brave and outgoing
- Loving and giving
- Emotional and generous
- Easily envious

©Copyright dareti

from your
**YOUTH
 MINISTER**

To Our Congo Youth Group Families:

I pray that you are all feeling healthy and are finding fun things to do at home during this time of social distancing. I am hopeful that we will be worshiping together soon!! In the meantime,

please "like" and follow our Amery

Congregational UCC Youth Facebook Page for fun weekly challenges!

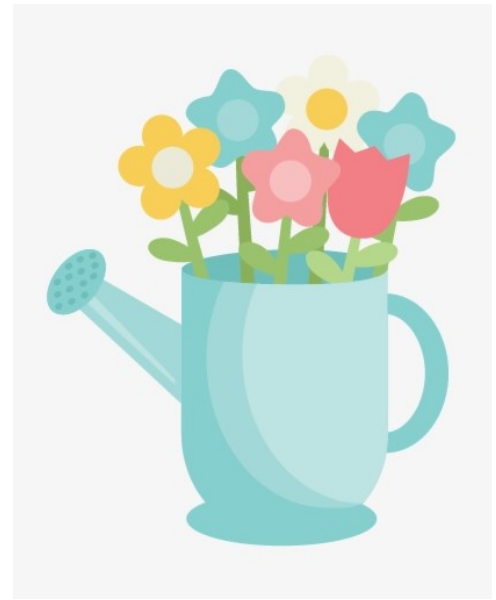
In hope that we return to congregating soon, we plan to continue having youth group throughout the summer months and I look forward to our youth participating in Summer Stretch.

If I can be of any help during these uncertain times, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached by cell at 715.338.6929 or by email

at youth.ameryucc@gmail.com

Stay safe and God bless,

Charlotte Gillen, Youth Director



Wishing you a
Happy Easter



Youth Director Contact Information:

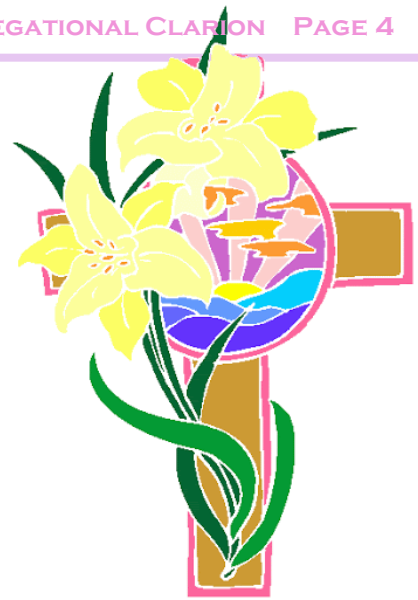
Charlotte Gillen

715.268.7390; ext. 12

715.338.6929 (cell)

Youth.ameryucc@gmail.com

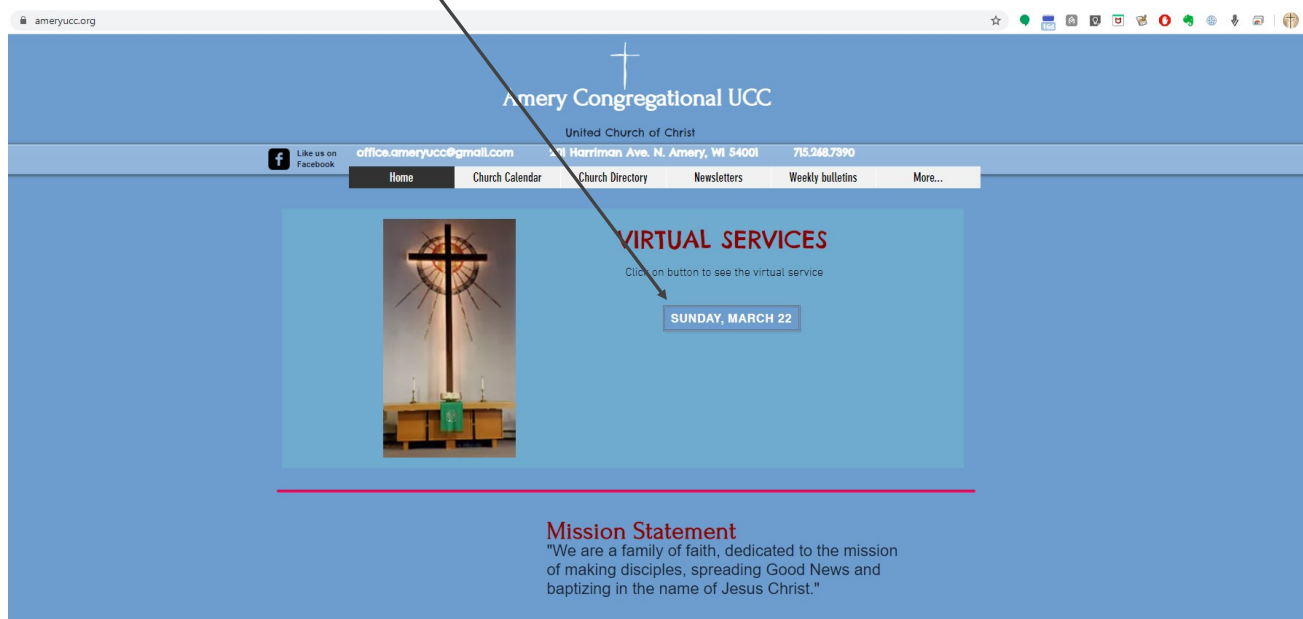
EVENTS



Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers has issued a month-long *safer at home* order that prohibits all "non-essential business" and prohibits "all non-essential travel" in the state during the coronavirus outbreak. The order remains in effect until 8 am on Friday, April 24, unless the governor announces otherwise. Therefore, we do not know when we will be able to open the church building and resume having church events.

I will be working in the office to take your phone calls and to keep you informed through emails. The building may be closed, but we are still a church family. I encourage you to call if you have questions, prayer requests or if you simply want to talk. I always love hearing from you.

And through these hard times, God is in charge and we continue to worship Him. Our Pastor Barry has done a marvelous job with virtual Sunday services and group Wednesday night services through the virtual meeting app., Zoom. Be sure to check your emails; I will be sending links to join the Zoom meetings or to watch the virtual Sunday service. You may watch the Sunday services at any time on our website, ameryucc.org. On the first page of the Congo website, you will see buttons labeled by service date. Just click the button to watch Pastor Barry's Sunday service video.



Pastor has always said the building is not the church - the church is the people. Now that I am working in a locked office in a locked empty church, I really see the truth in that statement. I miss my church family and look forward to you making this building a church once again.

Blessings,
Your Church Lady

Resurrection Rolls

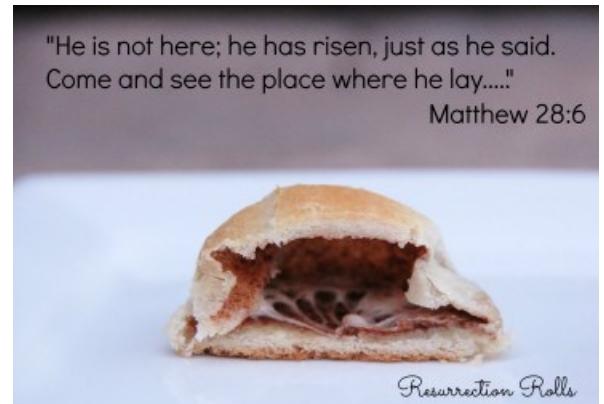
"A great Easter recipe to do with the kids! Rolls with marshmallows wrapped inside, which become hollow as they bake, it represents the tomb of Jesus on Easter morning, when you break them open they are empty inside!"

Ingredients

- 1 package refrigerated crescent rolls, preferably Pillsbury
- 8 large marshmallows
- 3 Tablespoons melted butter or margarine
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup granulated sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp cinnamon

Instructions

1. Mix cinnamon and sugar together ahead of time.
2. Melt butter in microwave ahead of time.
3. Preheat oven to 375. (Turn oven on just before beginning to assemble rolls.)
4. Separate crescent rolls and lay individual triangle on workspace.
5. Dip marshmallow in butter and roll to thoroughly coat.
6. Roll buttered marshmallow in cinnamon sugar mixture.
7. Place marshmallow on narrow tip of crescent dough and roll toward the large end.
8. Pinch dough together firmly at edges and any thin spots.
9. Place on ungreased baking sheet.
10. Bake 10-15 minutes until golden brown.



DIY Resurrection Eggs

Making your own set of resurrection eggs for Holy Week!

Supplies:

12 plastic eggs

- an egg carton (I bought a carton of marshmallow eggs and ate them to get mine!)
- a small leaf to represent a palm branch at Jesus' triumphal entry

- 3 quarters to represent the 30 pieces of silver that Judas Iscariot received
- a thimble to represent a cup at the Last Supper
- a tiny piece of paper rolled into a scroll to represent Jesus' prayer in the garden
- a piece of leather or thick fabric to represent the soldier's whipping Jesus
- a tiny crown made from grass or a flower stem to represent the crown of thorns
- 2 nails to represent the nails and the cross
- a die to represent the soldier's casting lots for Jesus' clothes
- a toothpick with one end broken off to represent the spear piercing Jesus' side
- a piece of cheesecloth or thin fabric to represent Joseph wrapping Jesus in clean linen cloth
- a rock to represent the stone rolled in front of the tomb
- number stickers, optional

Directions:

Look up Bible verses to read with each egg - paraphrase for small children
Use stickers to number the eggs from 1 to 12 to keep them in order.

Council Meeting: March 10th, 2020

Attendance: Sheldon Betzold: Moderator, Virginia Ormsby: Treasurer, Sandy Morris: Clerk, Charlotte Gillen: Youth Director & Christian Education, Chad Leonard: Trustees, Abby Betzold: Congregational Giving.

Sheldon opened us in prayer at 6:05pm. February meeting minutes were approved by Chad and seconded by Charlotte. Minutes approved.

Treasurer: Virginia presented the written report stating that thus far in the year we are staying within budget and are above income. The fund report was also presented and discussed, which included the income from the Walleye Dinner around \$1,500. Abby approved the report and Charlotte seconded. Report approved.

Clerk: Sandy reported one non-member funeral. Membership remains at 171.

Youth: Charlotte presented a written report. February was a busy month of great activities keeping the youth busy doing good and having fun within our church and community.

Trustees: Chad stated they did not have a meeting this last month but did inform us that the security system is up and running.

Christian Education: Charlotte said there will be a family roller skating party on March 29th following the potluck. Also to save the date for summer VBS June 28th – July 2nd at First Lutheran this year.

Diaconate: Not present. Nyla Anderson and Barry Tulkki are doing distant communion with Pastor Barry to be a familiar face during the transition period.

Congregational Giving: Abby stated that they did not meet last month.

Missions & Social Concerns: Not present.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Barry still on vacation.

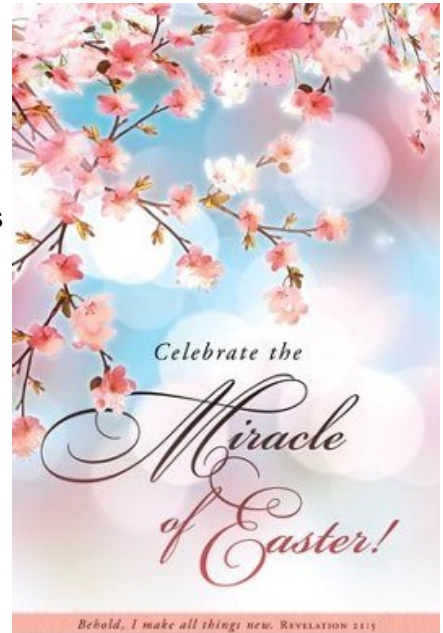
Calendar Review: The April calendar was reviewed and approved.

Old Business: Abby stated thanks for a great Walleye Dinner

New Business: Dinner Theater practice in underway. The Dinner Theater this year will be the first two weekends in May.

Meeting was adjourned by Chad Leonard and seconded by Virginia Ormsby at 6:45pm.

The Next Council Meeting will be April 14th at 6:00pm.



Submitted by, Abby Betzold, Congregational Giving