

THE GOOD News

APRIL 2021



Visit DublinChurch.org

All Dublin Community Church sermons, music, and fabulous Sunday school offerings for the children (ages 1-100+) can be found in text and voice at [facebook.com/Dublin-Community-Church-47439349395](https://www.facebook.com/Dublin-Community-Church-47439349395). There you can find our live-stream link for the 10:30 Sunday Service and so much more. Music opens at 10:15 am, as the candles are lit in church.

All are welcome to join Bible Study in a Zoom meeting, every third Saturday at 8:30 am. Please check the calendar for dates.

Growing into a New Way of Being

Friends, we have made so many sacrifices in the past year. There have been personal sacrifices and collective sacrifices; some have been more painful than others. It was during Lententide last year that we gave up gathering in-person and that is the sacrifice that I am suffering from the most.

With the warming of the days comes the possibility of gathering together again and as I think about it and dream about it I have a growing anticipation and also a growing awareness that it could be a bit chaotic. Anytime we are relying on the weather, we are called to be flexible and resigned to forces beyond our control. It strikes me that our walk as followers of Christ require similar things of us.

In this season of Eastertide (the 50 days between Easter and Pentecost) I invite you to join with me and the forces of nature working to bring about another Spring; I invite you to join in a process of creative imagining.

As more people are vaccinated, we will begin to reconstruct aspects of our lives and our church. We may never again have such an opportunity to reflect on what we have endured and then take what we have learned into careful consideration as we reconstruct relationships and choose how to devote our time and attention moving forward.

Friends, the budding and blooming of Spring takes time. May we also take time in the re-imagining of our lives. May we offer the care that crafting something beautiful and healthy requires. May our lives reflect what we have learned and what we hold most precious. I miss you all.

"When faith is tested, endurance grows; let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." — James 1:4

— Traceymay



TAKE-OUT COMMUNITY DINNER FOR ALL

On Tuesday, April 27, the Outreach Committee is offering a free Community Take-out Dinner. Pickup is at 5:30 pm. It will include baked pasta (vegetarian and meat options available), salad, bread, and dessert. Reservations are required.

Please call Laurie Jameson at 876-5003 by Friday, April 23, to reserve a meal and give her your phone number. You will be given directions when you call for a reservation.

The Dublin Community Church: An Open & Affirming Church

"We, the people of the Dublin Community Church, gather together in love and tolerance to seek through prayer, worship, study, and fellowship to respond faithfully to God's Word, so that, edified and empowered by the spirit of a loving God, we will grow in faith in order to serve God and witness to our community through acts of love, compassion, and healing."

 MESSAGE FROM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — Rosamond Cady

Our Lenten journey to Easter morning has been interestingly fun! Recording Sunday School lessons offers a space to interact with our church families, as well as with the many adults who are also “tuning in!”

It will even allow me to share our beloved Resurrection Eggs with our children, always such a treat for the kids! Each of the twelve eggs has a symbol of the Easter Story inside. At least five of the eggs have representations that tell of the horror of Jesus’ execution; it is important that we all look at the tremendously difficult, rocky road getting to the glory of the Easter morning hallelujahs.

Our children need to understand that Easter is much more than candy and soft stuffed bunnies – it is the very core of our faith. Our Resurrection Eggs accomplish

that goal in a gentle but honest way.

Easter came so soon after our world literally went into spin-mode last year that there was no way to open our Resurrection Eggs together last year. It is a great credit to the love and dedication of our church that we will be able to do that this year, even if it is through a computer screen. All the wonderful things that make being a part of a faith community have been magnified during this year of isolation from one another; our traditions have taken on heightened sacred meaning.

Who could have imagined that a carton of twelve brightly colored plastic eggs filled with tiny symbols of our faith could be so very important? Must be that one empty egg! Christ has Risen Indeed!

Love, *Yummy*

 MESSAGE FROM THE TRUSTEES

It’s just amazing how much work can be done by Zoom meetings! Your Trustees have been busy. We are scheduled to have Consolidated install Broadband within the next few weeks. All expectations are that it will enable smoother, enhanced live-streamed worship services. And those live-streamed services are here to stay; even when in-person worship resumes, the services will continue to be live-streamed and recorded for the many folks who may choose to continue worshipping in that manner, as well as all the many new folks who are joining us.

The Trustees have one bid from a painting company and two more estimates pending to paint the steeple and the exterior west side of the church. We had secured and scheduled the repair and painting of the

two front columns last fall. All figures should be in by the end of March, so hopefully work can begin soon.

The Trustees are working toward making the ongoing needs of the church’s upkeep more sustainable by fostering a commitment to funding these projects in an ongoing manner. Whether that be an actual capital reserve fund, or simply a dedicated effort to allocate monies into the current Preservation Fund is simply a procedural matter.

We are blessed by the generosity of so very many, both within our church family as well as many community members at large, to be on solid fiscal footing. It is the perfect time to ensure that our building will be the shining beacon on the hill for many, many years to come.

 MESSAGE FROM THE DEACONS

This year Easter Sunday falls on **April 4**. The date for Easter changes every year because it is determined by the Jewish calendar, which is based on lunar cycles.

Easter typically falls on the first Sunday following the first full moon on or after the Spring Equinox.

Easter is the only church holiday based on the cycles of the moon. Weather permitting on Easter Sunday, we will have two chances



to gather in person on the front steps of the church.

- **Easter Sunrise service will be at 7 am.**
- **Easter Sunday service at 10:30 am.**

The 10:30 service will be carried over Zoom.

So, this year the Spring equinox fell on Saturday March 20, then the full moon on March 28, then the following Sunday we celebrate Easter. **See you April 4.**

 BEGINNING COURSE ON THE BAHAI FAITH

Dear friends, over the past few years, many of you have asked if we could offer a beginning course on the Baha’i Faith. We’re now prepared, with Traceymay’s agreement, to receive your interest in a very small group class to be convened in person at the Dublin Inn, as soon as we reopen, most likely in May.

Participants must be fully vaccinated and agree to CDC guidelines for small gatherings. If you are interested in more information, please email Phil or Ruthie Gammons at rpgammons@gmail.com or call/text to 603-831-0510.



MESSAGE FROM THE STEWARDS — Rosemary Wolpe

The Stewards had our first Zoom meeting as a new group. We shared our enthusiasm for keeping our church vibrant both on paper, and in fostering a vibrant community. In other words, we see ourselves as fundraisers and “funraisers.”

We focused on the fun part of our mission. By the end of our discussion we had latched on to the word “neighbor.” Similar to a community, a neighbor engenders a certain proximity; a closeness really, a physical space that can be large, like the reaches of our church, or small, like the area that we each live our lives in. When building a strong neighborhood, the size is inconsequential. What matters is individual actions. Being a good neighbor makes for a strong neighborhood where small gestures can make a big impact. We are all neighbors in this town and beyond.

We would love to hear from you about what makes you feel more connected to the church? What have you missed and what do you look forward to when we come together again? Send your ideas to rosemarywolpe@gmail.com.

So in closing, we take inspiration from the famous Mr. Rogers and a stanza from his opening that he sang each week (feel free to sing-along):

“I have always wanted to have a neighbor just like you, I’ve always wanted to live in a neighbor-hood with you. So let’s make the most of this beautiful day, Since we’re together we might as well say, Would you be mine? Could you be mine? Won’t you be my neighbor?” For a real treat, hear it live at www.misterrogers.org/video-playlist/mister-rogers-songs.)

Now for the real closing: Who else sees a strong resemblance between the traits of Traceymay and Fred Rogers? C’mon, think about it. Send those thoughts too...

MESSAGE FROM OUTREACH — Sally Hoover

In the March *Good News*, Outreach told about the work of the Immigrant and Refugee Support Group (IRSG) and its Bond and Support Fund, which Outreach now supports. In her Wednesday emails, Traceymay featured some stories of what the help has meant to recipients. Today, we conclude with this one:

A person released on bail from detention is housed with a host family after quarantine in a safe place. The Immigrant and Refugee Support Group can provide a small amount of benevolent assistance at this time. Recently, an immigrant who is “in process” wrote to share their gratitude:

My God, I can’t believe it. Thank you so much, thank you for all. Thank you to hold my hands. Thank you to bring me out of this horrible situation and [to help me] make sense to my life. By your commitment and the grace of God I will have my citizenship. What should I say? Thank you, I am wordless.

MESSAGE FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR — Tom Martin

This month we have been working to improve the audio for our Zoom live-stream services. I know it is possible to get it to a higher standard. We’re working on it. Thanks to everyone for their patience and comments. I really appreciate everyone’s feedback when it has been offered.

Also, we have been discussing the possibility of streaming outdoor services. This may present some new technical hurdles due to distance the WiFi signal can travel. I am sure we will be able to figure it out.

On recent music, for the postlude I have been featuring the music of George Gershwin for some joyful music at the end of our service. These pieces are transcriptions of what George actually played while he was alive. I hope you have found this look/listen into the sounds of almost 100 years ago interesting and uplifting.

Lastly, I have enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity to work with Kamanakai Kalvaitis every Sunday. He is most capable and patient with my requests. Thanks, Kamanakai!

OUR OPEN & AFFIRMING STATEMENT

*“As people of faith, we believe that
God’s love is for everyone.*

*We honor human relationships that
are based on love, responsibility,
mutual respect, trust and fidelity.*

We embrace each person’s uniqueness.

*We welcome and support all people equally
regardless of marital, social or economic
status, race, ability, sexual orientation,
ethnicity, gender, age or religious affiliation.*

*Therefore, as an Open and Affirming
congregation, we invite all persons to join
in the full life and ministry
of the church and to share its joys,
privileges and responsibilities.*

*Knowing that this commitment poses
a spiritual challenge, we encourage
each other to accept God’s call to
love our neighbors as ourselves.”*

— Adopted by the Congregation in 2005 —

Biannual Outdoor Yard & Rummage Sale



Bring the whole family to the "popup" Rummage Sale and Yard Sale at the Dublin Community Church Friday afternoon, April 23, from 1 to 6 pm and Saturday morning, April 24, from 8 am to noon. We have clothing, good for all members of any family, and plenty of yard sale treasures.

All items are without prices — contribute as you wish, as proceeds go to the church's Outreach projects. At this outdoors-only event, masks and social distancing are expected.

If weather is not permitting, the rain date will be the next weekend, but on both afternoons from 1 to 6 pm so as not to interfere with Town Meeting.

DUBLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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April 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm; Maundy Thursday	2 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm; Good Friday	3
4 Easter Sunday Worship sunrise 7:30 & zoom 10:30	5 Church Open 2-5 pm	6 Stewards meet via Zoom 5 pm	7 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	8 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	9 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	10
11 Service recorded indoors for online viewing	12 Church Open 2-5 pm	13	14 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm; Outreach meets via Zoom 5 pm	15 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	16 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	17 Bible Study, 8:30-10 am, Zoom
18 Service recorded indoors for online viewing	19 Church Open 2-5 pm,	20	21 Church Open 10 am - 3 pm; Shed review/ at 10 am; next day if rain	22 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	23 Rummage & Yard Sales, outdoors 1-6 pm (prep begins 8 am)	24 Rummage and Yard Sales, outdoors 8 am-12 noon
25 Service recorded indoors for online viewing	26 Church Open 2-5 pm	27 Community Supper Take Out 5:30 pm	28 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	29 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	30 Church Open 10 am to 3 pm	

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