



He is **RISEN**



DESERT CHAPEL United Methodist Church NEWSLETTER APRIL 2021

Matthew 28 (NLT)

Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified.

He isn't here!

**HE IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD,
just as he said would happen.**

Come, see where his body was lying. And now, go quickly and tell his disciples

HE HAS RISEN FROM THE DEAD.

Mark 16 (NLT)

... but the angel said, "Don't be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth,¹ who was crucified.

He isn't here!

HE IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD!

Look, this is where they laid his body. Now go and tell his disciples, including Peter, that Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee.

**YOU WILL SEE HIM THERE,
just as he told you before he died."**



Luke 24 (JUB)

Why seek ye the living among the dead?

HE IS NOT HERE, BUT IS RISEN

remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, saying,

The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified,

AND THE THIRD DAY RISE AGAIN.

John 20 (TPT)

Mary. . . turned around . . . and

**THERE WAS JESUS
STANDING IN FRONT OF HER**

but she didn't realize that it was him! He said to her, "Dear woman . . . Who are you looking for?" Mary answered, thinking he was only the gardener . . .

"Mary," Jesus interrupted her. Turning to face him, she said,

"RABBONI!" ["MY TEACHER!"]

Then Mary Magdalene left to inform the disciples

"I HAVE SEEN THE LORD!"



Message from Our Pastor Rev. Sharon Pajak Jesus is Risen. Now What?

So often, the work of the church seems to culminate in Easter. We pour tons of time and energy into the remembrance and celebration of the events of Holy Week and Easter Sunday, and so it feels like we should have a break for the coming weeks.



But that's not what happened in the Biblical witness! In the stories found at the end of Matthew, Luke and John, Jesus walked on the earth for 40 days following the resurrection, appearing to the disciples and other followers in various times and places, giving them further teaching and guidance into how they should proceed in ministry for the rest of their lives.

The instruction remained the same: Go, therefore, into the world. Go into the towns and villages and teach what happened here, and tell people about my love. Go into the cities and countryside and heal their bodies, cast out their demons and welcome them into the Kingdom. Work together to confront the powers that be and show them the way to life.

Now is not the time to rest on our Laurels. Now is the time to roll up our sleeves and be about the business of the Kingdom of God. We all know what is happening in our world ~ war and warnings of war, humans choosing to strike out to cause fear and pain and death on innocent people. Divisions caused by hatred and division fed by those who profit from the brokenness in our world. Racism. Sexism. Ageism. Ignorance.

Jesus calls us to stand up in the world in which we find ourselves and do as the disciples did: to Go and teach the Gospel. Go and heal bodies, cast out demons and offer welcome, welcome into the Body of Christ and welcome into the Kingdom of Heaven. Work together to confront the powers that be and show them the way to life.

Jesus is Risen. What will you do now? How will you respond to God's unfailing love?

We need volunteers to film the live services so we can continue virtual services on the internet
Will you train to work
THE SOUND BOARD,
THE CAMERA or
THE COMPUTER?
Contact Pastor Sharon

**Opportunities
To
Live
Out
The
Resurrection!**

Did You Know?
It's easy to start a small group!
Just ask a few folks you know, or who sit near you in worship, pick a day, time, location and get it going! There are tons of books and Bible Studies that can be utilized – it's a great way to respond to the gift of the Resurrection – to grow in your love of Christ!



**A Message from Jeannine Allen,
Lay Leader and Convener of the Leadership Board (aka T-REX)**

SPRING IS IN THE AIR!!

It's has now been 1 year since everything shut down. What a year it has been!! How wonderful it is to be able to worship (in small numbers) once again in person.

In light of the Governor's new ordinance to begin relaxing the Covid restrictions, T-REX (Desert Chapel's Leadership Board) is continually reviewing our Covid Rules and Regulations. We ask for patience and prayers for the Board during these conversations.

We have now had 2 Planning for the Future of Desert Chapel gatherings. We are looking at how we, as Desert Chapel, will expand the Missions out into the Community and involve all our Congregation to participate in these events. We had a wonderful discussion on establishing Small Group Ministries. There are several groups already established and meeting regularly. It has become apparent that there are many who are hungry to be involved with a Small Group, so the conversation has begun on how this will happen. Keep in mind, that these Groups do not need to be Pastor lead nor do they need preapproved material to begin. What a wonderful way to begin relationships with new people! Please Pray for these Small Groups!

At these Planning meetings, we are also discussing what areas we, as a congregation, will need to become more active in once we have a Half-Time Pastor. There are lots of things that Pastor Sharon and her family do now, that we need to become involved in and become knowledgeable in before July 1st.

Many of you have asked if we have heard anything from the Conference on who our new Half-Time Pastor will be. As of this writing, we have not heard. We know that the Conference is in conversation and praying for just the right individual to come be a part of our Church. Please Pray for our Conference and for the possible Candidates they are looking at for our Church.

Thank you all for your comments, your questions and your concerns. We are so Blessed to be a part of Desert Chapel!!

Faithfully submitted by Jeannine Allen, Lay Leader

OUR LEADERSHIP BOARD (aka 'T-REX')

Next Business Meeting: Wednesday, April 14, 4:00 pm

Next Planning Meeting: Wednesday, April 28, 4:00 pm

PASTOR SHARON	JEANNINE ALLEN LAY LEADER	Merlin Gross TREASURER	CAROL OLMSTED AT-LARGE	STEVE PAGEL AT-LARGE	BEV SVOBODA STAFF/PARISH	KEITH HALE TRUSTEE	PIPER HOLIDAY YOUTH



The theme for this song materialized when she was "much involved in the pondering the ideas of life, death, spring & winter, Good Friday and Easter."
Comments, *Adventures for the Soul*, 1987.

**Hymn
Review
by
Eleanor
Edwards**



Hymn of Promise, Natalie Sleeth, Composer

Natalie Allyn Sleeth was an American composer who was born in Evanston, Illinois in 1930. Growing up in a musical family, at the age of four she was taking piano lessons and, at a later age, was encouraged to major in music theory at Wellesley College in Mass. She became a hymn writer and specialized in music for children and young people.

From a work by T.S. Eliot, she and a friend talked about the phrase, "In our end is our beginning". She bought a tulip plant which symbolized the bulb becoming a flower even though it appeared to be dead. The seemingly contradictory 'pairs' led to the main idea for the song and the message of hope that God will complete and affect the outcome. In the middle of the winter the idea of the hardy tulip blooming in the spring reminds us of God's promise of new life and "at the last, a victory".



*What we call the beginning
is often the end. And to
make an end is to make a
beginning. The end is where
we start from.*

Thomas Stearns (T.S.) Eliot
English poet, Sep 26, 1888 – Jan 4, 1965

After she wrote this hymn of promise, her husband, Ronald Sleeth, a Methodist Clergyman and Professor, became terminally ill with cancer and asked her to use it as one of the anthems at his funeral service. The hymn was dedicated at the time of publication. Even though this anthem is suggested to be used mainly at funerals and memorial services, it has become popular as a favorite hymn for congregations.



**In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity,
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

The information for this review came from The Companion To The Methodist Hymnal by Carlton R. Young, google.com, wikipedia.org/wiki/Natalie-Sleeth and the Portland New Church, Portland, ME - revwilma@theportlandchurch.org.

WE ARE DESERT CHAPEL

members	affiliate members	associate members	arizona residents	winter residents	homeless residents		
leadership board	staff	volunteers	tenants	participants	neighbors	donors	friends

LOVING FATHER,
Here we are. We trust that you have an incredible plan for our church.
Transform us. Transform our congregation and church. Everything is on the table.
Transform our church into the place
of WORSHIP, of JUBILATION, of AFFIRMING LOVE, of DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES
you envision it to be.
We are 100% available. How can we help?
AMEN

WE CHERISH OUR CHURCH through our Stewardship:

- ▶ We give of our resources, tithes to the operation of the church and offerings to its designated funds; and as you lead us;
- ▶ We give of ourselves, our time and our abilities, serving in the church office, as greeters and ushers, as trustees caring for the property and as you lead us.

WE NURTURE EACH OTHER through our Ministries:

- ▶ In Worship, we serve communion, read liturgies, make music and as you lead us;
- ▶ In Study and Prayer and small group ministries we teach and learn and as you lead us;
- ▶ In Pastoral Care, we call those who are alone and lonely, visit the sick and grieving and as you lead us; and
- ▶ In Celebration, we share with and encourage each other to live with jubilation and as you lead us.

WE MAKE DISCIPLES through Outreach and our Missions:

- ▶ Just Outside Our Doors with the Blessing Box, Clothing Closet, Community Feast, Quilters and as you lead us;
- ▶ Into our community to Avalon School, Camp for Kids, CAAFA, Trunk or Treat, AJ Health Center, Aging Loss Counseling, Rainbow Fellowship, Winter Residents and as you lead us; and
- ▶ Into all the world with Coupons for Military Families, United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), Heifer Project International, United Methodist Outreach Ministries (UMOM) and as you lead us.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! Can You Help Us with Our Missions JUST OUTSIDE OUR DOORS?

THE CLOTHING CLOSET (CC)

We accept donations of clean, gently used men, women and children's clothing, toys, small household items, bedding and towels and personal care items.

All these things are then given free to people in need, no questions asked

We need volunteers

- ▶ TUE 9-11 ▶ WED 9-11 ▶ THU 9-11 ▶ SAT 1-3
- to
- ▶ Sort donations
- ▶ Replenish the clothing closet rooms
- ▶ Maintain the Personal Care Products cabinet
- ▶ Assist 'shoppers.'

COMMUNITY FEAST (CF)


Desert Chapel prepares and serves 100 meals with entrée, side dish, salad and dessert, every Saturday afternoon, with food donations from The Salvation Army (TSA).

Community Feast is free and everyone is welcome We need volunteers

- ▶ FRI 9-12 and 1-3 ▶ SAT 9-12 and 1-4
- to
- ▶ Pick up food donations
- ▶ Set up the dining room, decorate tables & bulletin boards
- ▶ Prepare devotional flyers & programming
 - ▶ Cook and serve food
 - ▶ Welcome and assist diners
- ▶ Clean up the kitchen and dining room

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
7am & 4pm THE BLESSING BOX	7am & 4pm THE BLESSING BOX	7am & 4pm THE BLESSING BOX	7am & 4pm THE BLESSING BOX	7am & 4pm THE BLESSING BOX	7am & 4pm THE BLESSING BOX	7am & 4pm THE BLESSING BOX
8:45- 10:00 SUNDAY WORSHIP	9-11 COMMUNITY FEAST SORT SUPPLIES & ORGANIZE PANTRY 1-2 Volunteers	9-11 CLOTHING CLOSET SORT & PREPARE BEV'S BOUTIQUE 1-2 Volunteers	9-11 CLOTHING CLOSET SORT & PREPARE NANA'S PLACE 1-2 Volunteers	9-11 CLOTHING CLOSET OPEN - SORT & PREPARE MEN'S ROOM 1-2 Volunteers	9-12 COMMUNITY FEAST FIRST PREPARATION 3-5 Volunteers	9-12 COMMUNITY FEAST SECOND PREPARATION 3-5 Volunteers
THE BLESSING BOX (BB) Is in front of the church, right next to the street. We replenish THE BLESSING BOX with non-perishable food, usually twice a day. Every day. Everyone is Welcome. Walk up. Bike up. Drive up. 24/7/365 Take what you need. Give what you can. 24/7/365	9-11 THE QUILTERS SEW & DONATE QUILTS 5-10 Volunteers	1-3 THE BLESSING BOX FOOD PICK UP GCUMC 1-2 Volunteers	1-3 COMMUNITY FEAST FOOD PICK UP PIZZA HUT 1-2 Volunteers	1-3 COMMUNITY FEAST FOOD PICK UP TSA 1-2 Volunteers	1-3 COMMUNITY FEAST FOOD PICK UP TSA 1-2 Volunteers	1-3 CLOTHING CLOSET OPEN 3-5 Volunteers
	THE QUILTERS Desert Chapel has a quilting room where dedicated quilters sew beautiful quilts which are then given to The Clothing Closet and other organizations who, in turn, give them to people in need. You are welcome to join the Quilters TUESDAYS 9-11					1-4 COMMUNITY FEAST FINAL PREPARATION & SERVING 5+ Volunteers

DESERT CHAPEL CALENDAR - APRIL 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
				THE BLESSING BOX	24 / 7 / 365	THE BLESSING BOX
				8-12 Office Open 9-11 CC Open 10:30 FOTS Women Mickey D's Café 7pm in person worship	8-12 Office Open 9-12 CF Preparation 7pm in person worship	9-12 CF Preparation 1-3 CC Open CF Preparation 3-4 CF Served
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
THE BLESSING BOX	24 / 7 / 365	THE BLESSING BOX	24 / 7 / 365	THE BLESSING BOX	24 / 7 / 365	THE BLESSING BOX
EASTER 6:30 am 8:45 am 10:00 am in person worship	8-12 Office Open 9-11 Pantry Preparation	8-12 Office Open 9-11 CC Preparation 9-11 Quilters 6:30-8 Explore Together	8-12 Office Open 9-11 CC Preparation 7-8 Youth Bible Study (ZOOM)	8-12 Office Open 9-11 CC Open	8-12 Office Open 9-12 CF Preparation	9-12 CF Preparation 1-3 CC Open CF Preparation 3-4 CF Served
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
THE BLESSING BOX	24 / 7 / 365	THE BLESSING BOX	24/7/365	THE BLESSING BOX	24 / 7 / 365	THE BLESSING BOX
8:45 Worship in the Sanctuary	8-12 Office Open 9-11 Pantry Preparation	8-12 Office Open 9-11 CC Preparation 9-11 Quilters 6:30-8 Explore Together	8-12 Office Open 9-11 CC Preparation 4:00 Leadership Bd Business Mtg 7-8 Youth Bible Study (ZOOM)	8-12 Office Open 9-11 CC Open	8-12 Office Open 9-12 CF Preparation	9-12 CF Preparation 1-3 CC Open CF Preparation 3-4 CF Served
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
THE BLESSING BOX	24 / 7 / 365	THE BLESSING BOX	24 / 7 / 365	THE BLESSING BOX	24 / 7 / 365	THE BLESSING BOX
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25	26	27	28	29	30	
THE BLESSING BOX	24 / 7 / 365	THE BLESSING BOX	24 / 7 / 365	THE BLESSING BOX	24 / 7 / 365	
8:45 Worship in the Sanctuary	8-12 Office Open 9-11 Pantry Preparation	8-12 Office Open 9-11 CC Preparation 9-11 Quilters 6:30-8 Explore Together	8-12 Office Open 9-11 CC Preparation 4:00 LEADERSHIP BD PLANNING MTG 7-8 Youth Bible Study (ZOOM)	8-12 Office Open 9-11 CC Open	8-12 Office Open 9-12 CF Preparation	

STAY CONNECTED WITH:



DESERT CHAPEL United Methodist Church

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Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/DesertChapelUMC/
Facebook Group:	https://www.facebook.com/groups/906770886436083 (Friends of Desert Chapel)



LOVING FATHER,

Here we are. We trust that you have an incredible plan for our church.
Transform us. Transform our congregation and church. Everything is on the table.

Transform our church into the place
of WORSHIP, of JUBILATION, of AFFIRMING LOVE, of DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES
you envision it to be.

We are 100% available. How can we help? AMEN



DESERT CHAPEL United Methodist Church
462 North Palo Verde Drive
Apache Junction, Arizona 85120

MAIL TO:

YOU are God's cherished creation! YOU are welcome at Desert Chapel!

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Gary Smith, Editor – Desert Chapel, Publisher*