



The First Epistle

Newsletter of First United Methodist Church April 2021

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Join us for worship on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021 !

There are 3 options for Easter worship services:

- 1) Outdoor worship at 9:00am in the Pine Street Parking Lot
- 2) Indoor worship at 10:30am in the Sanctuary
- 3) Online worship at 10:30am at www.1stchurchjc.org, Facebook, or YouTube. (The service will still be available online after 10:30)

All in-person gatherings require our standard safety precautions even for those who are vaccinated.

Register for in-person worship in advance at www.1stchurchjc.org or register your attendance upon arrival.



After spending the past 4 months studying the Gospel of Luke, we will continue the story in the Book of Acts, which is consider part 2 of the Gospel of Luke. Beginning Sunday, April 25, we will dive into the accounts of the Early Church, Peter's teachings, Paul's journey's, and the spread of Christianity.

Since we have spent so much time apart over the past year, studying the early church may help us better remember how to be the church together again. We encourage you to begin reading through the Book of Acts on your own as we prepare to begin this series. And as we recount the birth of the Christian church, it is our hope that First Church will find new life together in this new season.

Blessings, Pastor Jodie and Pastor Gary

Mission & Outreach

Hands-On Mission Project for Holston Conference 2021

First Church has been assigned backpacks for school children in Liberia. Backpacks are **due by May 7, 2021**.

- 1 **backpack** (new or gently used)
- 1 **12" ruler**
- 2 **boxes chalk**
- 1 **compass for math**
- 1 **protractor**
- 1 **10-12 pack pens** (blue or black ink)
- 1 **10-12 pack pencils**
- 1 **pack erasers**
- 2 **pencil sharpeners**
- 3 **spiral notebooks** (70 ct.)
- 1 **small Bible** (new or used)

Instructions

- ◆ Remove price tags from all items
- ◆ Place school supplies inside backpack
- ◆ Use only quantities listed (note that 10 or 12 count packs of pens and pencils are allowed)
- ◆ No substitutions or additional items are allowed due to Customs regulations, including notes, cards, photos, religious tracts, food items, or anything else not on the list

Please make \$5 donation for each backpack to First Church with the note "LIBERIA BACKPACKS," to help us cover the shipping costs. Do not place donation inside the backpack.

Additional information can be found at the church website www.1stchurchjc.org.

Youth Mission Trip

The youth mission trip is scheduled for June 20-25, 2021. If you are interested in attending the Mission Trip, please contact Sharon Cradic at (423) 676-5511 or sharon.cradic@1stchurchjc.org. Registration is due by **May 4, 2021**.

UMCOR Cleaning Buckets

The United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR) works help communities after disasters. Individual and groups are invited to create and bring cleaning kits to First Church by **May 7, 2021**.

- **One five-gallon round bucket with lid**
 - * 14.35" h x 12.19" w x 12.19" d
 - * No screw lids
 - * May be used, but must be free from all residual product
 - * Advertisement on the outside acceptable
- **One 32-64 oz. bottle liquid laundry detergent**
- **One 16-40 oz. bottle liquid concentrate household cleaner**
 - * No spray cleaners
- **One 16-34 oz. bottle liquid dish soap**
- **One 4-8 oz. pump spray air freshener**
- **One 6-14 oz. pump spray insect repellent**
 - * pack of 10-20 wipes also acceptable
 - * With or without handle
 - * Pump spray bottles must have protective covers
- **One scrub brush** (With or without handle)
- **18 re-usable cleaning wipes**
 - * No terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels
 - * Remove from packaging
- **Five scouring pads**
 - * No stainless steel or pads with soap in them
 - * Remove from packaging
- **36-50 clothespins**
- **One 50-100 ft. clothesline** (Cotton or plastic)
- **24ct Roll of heavy-duty trash bags**
 - * 33-45 gallon sizes
 - * Remove from packaging
- **Five N95 particulate respirator dust masks**
 - * 1-3 mm thickness
 - * No surgical masks
- **Two pairs kitchen gloves**
 - * Durable for multiple uses
 - * Remove from packaging
- **One pair work gloves**
 - * Cotton with leather palm or all leather

Assembly and packing instructions can be found on the church website www.1stchurchjc.org.

Prayer List

Randy Bennett, Jr.
Nate Berning
Bill Carter
Catherine Cartus
Kristen Daniels
Fran Dennison
Vivian Eckerson
Phyllis Eorgan
Jim Furches
Nannie Green
Amy Gross & family
Tom Holmes
Deb King
Mary Lewis
Barbara Marrs
David McElveen
Scott & Ellen McElveen
Helen Mills
Jason Mills
Tom Palmer
JoAnne Paty
Bob Peebles
Spencer Pickle
Sam Reid
Samantha Sams
Bob Seay
Kyle Shell
Phil Torbett
Linda White
Steve Wilkinson
Family Promise
Brother's Keeper
Haven of Mercy
Kairos Ministry
Treatment & vaccine for COVID19

We celebrate with:

Nathan and Amber Kapoor after the birth of their daughter, Cora, on March 24. The proud grandparents are Karl and Anna Kapoor.

If you would like to add or remove prayer concerns from this list, please contact Pastor Jodie at jodie.ihfe@1stchurchjc.org

Letters for Graduates

We have five senior youth graduating this year. Let's show our love and support for all the high school graduates! Shower them with words of encouragement by writing them a letter or giving them a card. You may email your letters to me at Sharon.cradic@1stchurchjc.org, or drop off in a designated box in the connector for seniors. I will need them **before May 14, 2021**

Senior High Youth Graduates

Caleb Bumpass – Science Hill High School
Stephen Cradic – Science Hill High School
Mikeal Dukes – Science Hill High School
Rowan Mills – Science Hill High School
Preston Trent – Science Hill High School

First Church by the Numbers

89 People Received Food Boxes

The First Church Food Pantry distributed 46 boxes, serving 86 family members.

160 Ham & Cheese Sandwiches

Volunteers prepared 160 sack lunches, including ham & cheese sandwiches, granola bar, potato chips, and water for the Melting Pot feeding ministry

92 Lunches at the VA Hospital

First Church provided lunches for the VA nursing staff on March 23 serving 92 people.

1200 Eggs Filled with Candy

Church and community children hunted Easter Eggs and learned the Easter Story on March 27

50 Holy Week Camp Kits

Junior and Senior High youth received Holy Week activity kits prepared by Camp in the Community and delivered by First Church youth directors.

Youth Group Has Started!

Junior and Senior High youth group is meeting outside in the pavilion on Sundays, 5:00-6:30pm. For more information, contact Bree Nelson (Jr. High) or Sharon Cradic (Sr. High).