

THE WEEK – Beginning April 25, 2021

Today

8:45 Worship
9:00 "First Church on the Air"
10:00 Park Centre Worship

Tuesday

9:00 Worship Planning Team Mtg
7:00 Administrative Council

Wednesday

9:00 Staff Meeting
5:30 Kids Club (Finale)
5:30 Community Meal

Friday

Trinity Curbside Meals Served

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO Ruby Blount who will turn 100 years old tomorrow, April 26th! Birthday wishes may be sent to Ruby at Accura HealthCare of Newton W, 2130 W 18th St S, Newton IA 50208.

*THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: **Apr 25th** – Lennis Mathews; **26th** – Ruby Blount, Shawn McFarling, Rhonda Oswalt, Niles Pline; **27th** – Allison Gifford; **28th** – Brian DePenning, Christina McCumber, Wilma Mott, Katie Pline, Barry Roper, Jenny Swersie, Bobbi Thompson, Eric Thompson; **29th** – Emma Gott, Dani Peters; **30th** – Chas Antle; **May 1st** – Darrell Ely, Rhaellyn Kunkel, Phyllis Parsons, Corey Pline, Judith Stevens*

*THOSE CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: **Apr 25th** – Roger & Cathy Gilbreath
Apr 28th – Douglas & Shelley Dodd*

OFFICIARY

*Pastor – Paul Smith
Financial Secretary – Dorothy McFarling
Director of Music – Rachel Faidley
Custodian – Kraig Holubar
Technical Engineers – Jordyn Doepp, Projection;
Jerry Dawson, Sound; Kenny Skinner-Havens, Videography*

*Administrative Assistant – Joy Osborn-Daniels
Coordinator of Lay Ministries – Mel Wilson
Organist – Jean Ibbotson; Park Centre Pianist – Rachel Faidley
Lay Leaders – Karen Kriz and Curt Thompson*

First United Methodist Church

210 North 2nd Avenue East * Newton, Iowa 50208 * (641) 792-4648
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facebook.com/newtonfirstumc

**"Reaching Up, Reaching In, Reaching Out,
Making Connections through Jesus Christ within Our Community and World."**

**April 25, 2021
8:45 AM**

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Service of Praise and Worship

THE GATHERING

Gathering Music

Jean Ibbotson

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

Curt Thompson

Leader: *Loving Christ, you are our gentle Shepherd.*

People: We are your people; we long to know your will and to live in your way.

Leader: *Keep us safe and secure in your compassionate hands.*

People: Lead us, gentle Shepherd, lead us into new paths of love and service.

Leader: *As you lead and guide us, touch our hearts and minds in this worship time,*

People: So that our spirits may be refreshed and our lives filled with joy and praise.

PRAYERS AND PRAISE

In Songs of Praise

"God Will Make a Way"

{Chorus x2}

*God will make a way where there seems to be no way
He works in ways we cannot see
He will make a way for me
He will be my guide hold me closely to his side
With love and strength for each new day
He will make a way
He will make a way*

{Ending}
With love and strength for each new day
He will make a way
He will make a way

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"O How He Loves You and Me" (The Faith We Sing #2108)

O how he loves you and me! O how he loves you and me!
He gave His life. What more could he give?
O how he loves you; O how he loves me;
O how he loves you and me!

Jesus to Calv'ry did go; his love for sinners to show.
What he did there brought hope from despair.
O how he loves you; O how he loves me;
O how he loves you and me!

CCLI #155662

"Gentle Shepherd" (x2)

Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us, for we need you to help us find our way.
Gentle Shepherd, come and feed us, for we need your strength from day to day.
There's no other we can turn to who can help us face another day;
Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us, for we need you to help us find our way.

CCLI #155662

*Hymn of Praise 348 "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me;
See on the portals he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me.

{Chorus}

Come home, come home; you who are weary, come home;
Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, O sinner, come home!

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me?

{Chorus}

Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing, passing from you and from me;
Shadows are gathering, death-beds are coming, coming for you and for me.

{Chorus}

O for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for you and for me!
Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me.

{Chorus}

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PRAYER REQUESTS

Thanksgiving to God for...

All God's blessings
Family & Friends

Guests & Visitors
Good Health

New Beginnings
All Volunteers

God's Guidance & Direction for...

People Unemployed/Economic/
Housing Struggles
Natural Disaster Recovery
All Who Are Grieving

World Peace
Local, State & National Leaders
Sunday School Teachers/Leaders
School Students/Teachers

Those in Seminary
Tim Morgan

God's Protection & Safety for...

Those in the Military
Kevin Ehresman
Dylan Drew
Austin Leytham

Those in Mission Work
Cherie Miner
Dr. Emmanuel & Florence Mefor
Lynn & Sharon Fogleman
Rev. Doug Williams
Larry Kies

Those Protecting Us
Law Enforcement
Firefighters
EMTs

Those Who Mourn...

The family of Stephanie Sparks

Those in Care Facilities...

Betty Ashby
Ruby Blount
Pam Conklin

Andy Jackson
Helen Newton
Norma Rose

Alice Schwarz
Rita Skinner
Bob Yeutsy

Healing & Health Concerns...

Dorothy Carpenter
Steve Dailey
Cash Dickerson
Nick Dreyer
Mackenzie Eldred
Paul Frohardt
Jody Gooch

Wilma Grout
Jill Hoffman
Vicky Holmquist
Pat Ingledue
Danielle Keninger
Verle Kooistra
John McGinley

Loretta Miller
Sylvie Miller
Wilma Mott
Connie Myers
Mary Kay Roth
Theresa Stewart
Bill Yeager

PLEASE NOTE: If you have a prayer request or know of a change and want it reflected in the bulletin, please call the church office at 792-4648. Please keep us updated and let us know when you would like to be removed from the prayer list.

AS A REMINDER, KIDS CLUB for children and teens ages PreK – 12th grade will conclude for the year this Wednesday, April 28th. The final meeting will meet from 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM. Special thanks to all who participated this year!

HOME MISSION SUNDAY is next week. The Salvation Army is requesting boxed potatoes and macaroni & cheese for May. You may bring your items to the church office and we will deliver everything to Salvation Army. Thank you for your ongoing generosity!

WE ARE IN NEED of several more people willing to serve periodically as a projectionist and/or videographer during times of worship. This task is very easy and quite essential during our services. Training will be provided. Please contact the church office if you are willing to join the technical engineering team!

FUMC'S NEXT TURN to serve a meal at Trinity is on Friday, April 30th. All meals are served curbside. To help offset the expense of the food, financial donations are welcome! Please place your contribution in the Welcome Center by the Trinity sign or mail to the church office. Thank you!

WE WILL RECOGNIZE 50-YEAR MEMBERS who haven't previously received certificates and those who received certificates in 2020 but who were not publicly acknowledged due to the pandemic at our worship service next Sunday, May 2nd at 8:45 AM. This includes those who have been members of First Church for 50 years or more, those who have been members of any United Methodist Church for 50 years or more, and those who have been members of any church for 50 years or more. If you fit into any of these classifications, please contact the church office by Monday, April 26th if you will be in church for this special time of recognition.

THERE WILL BE no Free Treasures Giveaway in May due to the continued pandemic concerns. Watch for upcoming details hopefully in the fall.

UMW NUT ORDERS can still be placed online until the end of 2021 by going to <https://fumcnewton.terrilynn.com> and order directly. There is a \$5 flat shipping rate for orders through the online store. Thanks to all for your continued support.

The Scripture Reading – Psalm 23 (NRSV)

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

Prayers of the People

Hymn 2200 "O Lord, Hear My Prayer" (The Faith We Sing x2)

O LORD, hear my prayer. O LORD, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.

O LORD, hear my prayer. O LORD, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

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Call to Prayer – Lord God in heaven, today we gather as your people to worship you in spirit and truth. We celebrate your life in us and celebrate your body, the church. Help us to reflect your love for us with the love we have for each other. It is with great joy that we come before you today, joined by your Spirit. Thank you for your love and mercy shown to us. Thank you that we can comfort another with the same love and mercy that has comforted us. Praise be to you, our Shepherd. We are your people, the sheep of your pasture. Help us today to understand more fully how you have made us to live together and serve each other. Help us to understand your plan for your body and to give you praise. Amen

Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Offertory Scripture – 1 John 3:17 (NRSV)

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

In the Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Lamb of God"

T. Paris

Koni Bunse, Rachel Faidley, Nina Robson, trio

The Doxology 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Dedication of Gifts

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

The Scripture Reading – John 10:11-18 (NRSV)

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know

me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The Witness to the Word

“You Wanna Be a Shepherd?”

Nina Robson

SENDING FORTH

*In Song 381 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;
In thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

We are thine, thou dost befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
Keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.

Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! We will early turn to thee.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! We will early turn to thee.

Early let us seek thy favor, early let us do thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.

CCLI #155662

*The Benediction

*The Benediction Response 666 “Shalom to You”

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

CCLI #155662

*The Postlude

WELCOME TO WORSHIP as we continue to rejoice in the good news of Christ's resurrection.

SPECIAL THANKS TO Nina Robson who is serving as our worship leader this morning while Pastor Paul and Kathy enjoy a time of vacation.

THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Administrative Council has guidelines for in-person worship. We can't take away all the risk; please use your best judgment for you and your family in attendance. Most other church-related activities are on hold until further notice.

USHERS: Calvin Holmquist, Shawn McFarling, Alan Stout, Ron Carpenter

OPENING & CLOSING CHURCH: Jim Marshall and Dave Drew

VAN MAINTENANCE (April): Jerry Yates

PLEASE NOTIFY PASTOR PAUL or the church office if you or a family member is admitted to a hospital.

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK - 8:45: 68; Park Centre: 42; Total: 110

PLEASE FOLLOW US on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/newtonfirstumc>.
The worship services are live streamed.

THIS WEEK'S RADIO BROADCAST on KCOB is sponsored in memory of Albert Sparks.

THE MAY MESSENGER is now ready and can be picked up in the Welcome Center or in the church office during the week.

AS A REMINDER, if you are unable to join us in worship, please send your offering to the church office at 210 N 2nd Ave E, Newton IA 50208. Online giving is also available for donations to First United Methodist Church. This can be done by going to the church's website (newtonfirst.org) and selecting the “Give” tab. Your continued financial support is greatly appreciated.

PLEASE PRAY that the Monday afternoon Men and Women of the Bible study can resume September 13th, so that we can honor our Lord by learning more about the people who served Him and grow in our faith. We will start with Lesson 4 of John the Baptist.
Love in Christ, Christine Pauley

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS are available from 5:30 PM – 6 PM, with sack suppers served curbside (elevator entrance) to those interested. Volunteers from First Lutheran Church, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, and FUMC rotate weeks of service. This week First Lutheran will serve meatloaf, pasta salad, and cake.

SIGN-UP SHEETS for FUMC-sponsored Wednesday Night Meals in May are now in the Welcome Center. All contributions will be greatly appreciated.