



Dear First Church of the Resurrection,

How do you feel these days? If I'm being honest, there are many days that I feel "soul-weary." That is, though I may have physical and mental energy aplenty, my soul - the deepest part of our being - feels wearied by a seeming onslaught of bad news. Maybe you can relate.

- Yet another surge of COVID cases nationally and here in Stark county
- Wildfires, drought, and hurricanes devastating land and lives
- The social and humanitarian crisis of Afghanistan
- Divisiveness and polarization ripping friends, families, and communities apart
- Story after story of church leaders abusing power and people

All this (and more on top of it!) contributes to the weariness of our souls. This is as it should be. We were not created to live in a world of such tumult and despair.

What I find sustaining me in such a time is a reminder that none of this is a surprise to God. Allow me to share with you some words of my friend, mentor, and Bishop, Todd Hunter from his forthcoming book, *Deep Peace*.

God is not nervously pacing the golden streets of heaven, his head held in his hands, muttering, "Oh my *Self!* What am I going to do? I didn't foresee pandemics. And how was I supposed to know that partisan politics would be driven by brutal social discourse? No one up here could have predicted the rapid rise and ever-present nature of technology. Paul, see if you can set up a Zoom meeting with Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg, Jeff Bezos, and Elon Musk. I want to know what the H-E-double hockey sticks is going on down there!" God sees the whole of human life. He knows a thing or two about health care, marriage, immigration, race relations, education, creation care, fair elections, and just governance. He gets it. He is at peace. He is the God of peace.

If God cares for this world more deeply than we could ever imagine yet be at peace, and if we are created in his image, then it stands to reason that we too can lead lives marked by peace.

How?

Todd goes on to say, "To receive God's peace requires that we open ourselves to God's renovation of our whole heart, mind, soul, emotions, will, and spirit. His peace operates in us by the Holy Spirit and becomes part of our character, equipping us to take our place in our various areas of human endeavor."

This is at the very center of our current series, "The Good and Beautiful Life." The peace of God's kingdom isn't about living "above" turmoil. It's about leaning into a way of life founded on God's promise to heal, restore, protect, and save.

This, I am finding, is what provides supernatural strength to my wearied soul in such a time as this.

May the same be true for you and for us as a fellowship of the Holy Spirit!

Grace + Peace,
Pastors JR & Amy Rozko

September 2021

Birthdays:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 st -Diana Cooper | 2 nd -Barbara Bauer |
| 7 th -Tim Cordes | 12 th -Marge Oyster |
| 15 th -Dan Riegler | 18 th -Pastor Amy Rozko |
| 23 rd -Jean Ross | 25 th -Linda Collins |

Your Friends and Family at First Church of the Resurrection want to wish you all a joyous celebration and many blessings for the year to come!



Iva E. Lind

Iva passed away on August 6, 2021. She was 101. Iva was a long-time member of The First Church of the Resurrection. Iva was preceded in death by three brothers and two sisters. She is survived by four children: Lee (Angie) Hill of Charleston, WV, Karl (Judy) Lind of New Orleans, LA, Terry (Josie) Lind of Massillon, and Lois (Phil) Vitale of Canton and nine grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren. Donations may be made in her name to the American Red Cross, Canton Christian Home or First Church of the Resurrection.

Your Leadership Council at Work August 17, 2021



- In person Sunday service COVID protocols were discussed.
- Discussed color palette for new logo and branding.
- Decided no social hour for now.

**Servants for God Forever,
Leadership Council**

Pray for the following local churches, their Pastors and leadership:

Woodlawn Church
Zion Lutheran Church
Zion United Church of Christ
Zion United Methodist Church
All Nations Tabernacle
All Saints Church

Please Pray for:

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Shirley Jordy | Janet Bell | Sandy Ratts |
| Jim Ackelson | Donna Blair | Judy Snyder |
| Rich & Zella Yohe | Diane Fair | |

In the Military:

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Scott Gordon | R J Smith | Aaron Schlabach |
| Josh Porco | Kellan Gier | Scott Smeltzer |
| Brian George | Steven Okey | Ryan Souers |
| Luke Groves | Robert Blair | |

Serving as Mission Partners:

Leonel & Belgica Ortiz - Columbia
Phil, Kate, Parker, Josiah & Opal Bookhamer – Hermitage House
Greg, Megan, Lydia & Theodore Owens - Middle East
Andrew & Sarah – Middle East

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE AUGUST 2021

22- Worship on Zoom at 10AM

29- In-person Worship

Zoom Information:

Via Computer or smartphone app:
rezcanton.org/zoom Password: together
Via phone: 929-205.6099
Meeting ID: 986 2844 6044 – Password 47689069

Financial Report For July 2021

Income: \$ 9,001
Expenses: \$13,613
\$ -4,612



Usher's Committee Report

Sunday Attendance

July 2021

| Date | 10:00 AM | | Total |
|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| | Adults | Children | |
| July 4 | 31 | 0 | 31 |
| July 11* | 16 | 3 | 19 |
| July 18 | 43 | 4 | 47 |
| July 25* | 23 | 3 | 26 |
| Total | 113 | 10 | 123 |

*Zoom Meetings

Sunday total average = 31

Sunday average of children = 3

MISSION NEWS

Thanks to all who made **RAHAB** donations last month. **RAHAB** currently has a new list of needs:

*Paper plates *Plastic silverware *Paper cups
*Individual bags of chips *Starbucks K cups for a treat

Allow me to express my deep and heartfelt gratitude for your generosity toward **RAHAB Ministries**.

The impact you make through your prayers and financial support goes far beyond any "donation."

It's your compassion-in-action that allows us to make such a difference in our own communities... and beyond. May God bless you!

With hope and gratitude,
Sonja White

Vice President of Communications & Development



You are a true blessing to this ministry!
Thank you so much!

Debra
Pregnancy Choices

Greetings to the Saints at First Church.
Your gift will bless many people!

Pastor Barton
Total Living Center

You are making a difference in the lives of hungry and hurting men, women, and children throughout our community. Thank you for your support!

Working together we can help impact and change lives!

Jo Ann Carpenter, CFRM
Director of Development
Refuge of Hope Ministries

Thank you for supporting the **Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank** with your generous financial contribution. For all the families you'll never have the opportunity to meet, we thank you on their behalf. You are the difference between hunger and hope for so many and we couldn't do this work without you. Thank you.

Many Thanks,
Daniel R. Flowers
President & CEO

An update from our long time mission partners, Leonel and Belgica Ortiz, NEM – Colombia.

Leonel had throat surgery a month ago. He's now able to record his radio programs live. These programs are listened to in Colombia and throughout the world, thanks to the internet.

He is again preaching in church.

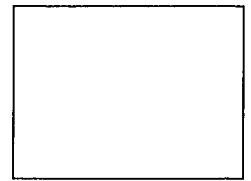
He requests prayer for good reports from follow up exams. But he thanks God for the improvement he's having with his voice. He prays for no further polyps.

He also requests prayer for the situation in Colombia. COVID is rampant and has infected members of the church in Villavicencio. Also for the socio-political situation in Columbia. The crisis worsens every day, and the pandemic has reached unsuspected highs.

We pray for safety and health for the Ortiz family as they spread the good news of Jesus throughout Colombia and the world.

The Helper

Serving God for 210 years
First Church of the Resurrection
901 East Tuscarawas St.
Canton, OH 44707



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



XXX

HELPER DEADLINE the 15th of each month

First Church of the Resurrection's Staff

Rev. JR Rozko, Lead Pastor
Rev. Amy Rozko, Lead Pastor
Katrina Kenyon, Worship Leader
Seth Kenyon, Music Director
Tina Copeland, Office Secretary
Church Phone: 330.453.1719
Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 10:00am-2:30pm

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website-www.firstchurchcanton.com

Visit our Facebook page



Our Vision Statement:

We invite seekers and followers to come with us on an ever deepening journey of discipleship, as we serve God by building the community of Jesus.