



April 2021– Volume 32– Issue 4

# The Life- Changing Power of the Cross and the Resurrection

The cross is empty and so is the tomb.  
You can try to bury Power, but it won't stay there.  
You can try to bury Truth, but it is not dead. You can  
try to bury Love, but it cannot be contained.  
Jesus is alive, He won the victory of sin and  
death. And He's still the same, even in all the days  
after the Easter weekend. He never changes.

He made a way for us to live free.  
No other truth in history has the ability to change  
our lives and affect our future like this. Yet so many  
still choose to reject Christ's sacrifice and love. He  
offers us a choice today, and it's the best decision  
you could ever make.  
What Christ's Death on the Cross and the Power of  
His Resurrection Offers:  
-It provides a bridge, a way, to God. It gives us an op-  
portunity to have a personal relationship with the  
very God who made us and loves us more than we  
could imagine. Without the cross, there is no way to  
cross over to the other side of relationship with him.  
Any attempt will fail. He is the Only Way.  
-It provides opportunity for forgiveness of sin.  
Through the price that Jesus paid on Calvary, we  
have the chance to be forgiven of our own sin. He  
took our sin and shame upon his very shoulders. He  
took the blows on our behalf so we wouldn't have to  
suffer. Such incredible love. Such amazing sacrifice. -  
It provides freedom to all those who believe. Free-  
dom from the shackles of sin. Freedom from shame.  
Freedom from fear. Freedom from worry. Freedom  
from hopelessness. Freedom from despair. Freedom  
from addiction. Freedom from guilt. Freedom from

darkness and eternal separation from God.  
-It provides new life. We are not only forgiven and  
set free, but we have a whole new life and destiny  
through Christ. We are changed, from the inside. He  
renews our minds. He changes our hearts and de-  
sires. He gives us fresh purpose for every day set be-  
fore us.  
-It provides power for us to live today. When Jesus  
died on the cross, and was buried, it didn't stop  
there. The final picture of all that the cross provides  
lies in the powerful Resurrection of our Lord. He  
won. He didn't stay dead. His power broke through,  
and that same power is alive within us today. As be-  
lievers, God gives us the power of the Holy Spirit, liv-  
ing and moving through us each day.  
-It provides the way to have victory over the enemy.  
We don't have to fear him or his attacks. As we live  
aware of his traps, the power of Christ over our lives  
gives us a covering and protection from his evil  
schemes. We're not left to fend for ourselves. We  
don't fight in our own strength. We can stand strong  
in the Mighty Name of Jesus Christ.  
-It provides for us an eternal heavenly home. We  
never need to fear about what will happen when we  
die. In Christ we have been given the gift of eternal  
life. This earth is only our temporary home. God is  
preparing a place for us, with him, to live forever.  
And you can be assured it will be far greater than we  
could ever imagine.

*“Jesus answered, “I am the way and the  
truth and the life. No one comes to the  
Father except through me.” John 14:6*

# The Beat

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Gothenburg First United Methodist Church

Letting you know about the camps at Camp Comeca this summer. Justin and Amy Hoehner, camp directors, are looking forward to camp this summer. Below is a list of the available camps. Please use the Camp Comeca website to register for the camps. A savings of 15% can be saved if you register before May 1st. Our camp scholarship fund will pay for 1/2 your camp cost. Contact Lynnette Stevens for information and for your camp scholarship.



## 2021 SUMMER CAMPS

Join us at Comeca for an awesome experience this Summer! Each Summer Session is packed with excitement, laughter, community and worship with Christ-centered and age-specific activities, messages, games and much more!

SPECIALTY CAMPS	ELEMENTARY CAMPS	MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CAMPS
<b>Survivor Camp</b>   *400 6th – 12th Grade (Entering Fall 2021) July 12th – 16th	1st – 5th Grade (Entering Fall 2021)	6th – 12th Grade (Entering Fall 2021)
<b>Guardian Angel Camp</b>   *100 Pre-K – 2nd Grade (with Adult) July 12th – 13th	<b>3 Days / 2 Nights</b>   *200 Session 1 (June 14th – 16th) Session 2 (June 16th – 18th) Session 4 (June 28th – 30th) Session 5 (June 30th – July 2nd) Session 6 (July 5th – 7th) Session 7 (July 7th – 9th) Session 8 (July 26th – 28th) Session 9 (July 28th – 30th)	<b>3 Days / 2 Nights</b>   *200 Session 1 (June 14th – 16th) Session 2 (June 16th – 18th) Session 4 (June 28th – 30th) Session 5 (June 30th – July 2nd) Session 6 (July 5th – 7th) Session 7 (July 7th – 9th) Session 8 (July 26th – 28th) Session 9 (July 28th – 30th)
<b>Sonshine Camp</b>   *200 Pre-K – 2nd Grade (with Adult) July 14th – 16th	<b>5 Days / 4 Nights</b>   *400 Session 3 (June 21st – 25th) Session 10 (August 2nd – 6th)	<b>5 Days / 4 Nights</b>   *400 Session 3 (June 21st – 25th) Session 10 (August 2nd – 6th)
<b>Family Camp</b>   <small>cost varies by lodging style</small> Labor Day Weekend		

## APRIL BIRTHDAY'S

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| 2– Brad Jorgenson,                               | 30– Gerald Johnson |
| 3– Marvin McMichael                              |                    |
| 4– Ann Foster                                    |                    |
| 5– Roger Kennicutt, Ted Haney                    |                    |
| 6– Page Peterson                                 |                    |
| 7– Joan Windrum                                  |                    |
| 8– Alvin Geiken                                  |                    |
| 9– Doug Ostendorf                                |                    |
| 10– Craig Bartruff, Kai Jorgenson, Parker Graves |                    |
| 11– Brody Stienike, Kimberly Bartruff            |                    |
| 12– Austin Macek                                 |                    |
| 14– Kay Grove                                    |                    |
| 15– Lyndsey Anderson, Dwight Edson               |                    |
| 17– Reed Weyers                                  |                    |
| 18– Dakota Macek                                 |                    |
| 23– Shane Kruse, Cody Larson                     |                    |
| 25– Robin Hiatt                                  |                    |
| 28– Axel Jorgenson, Mark Boson                   |                    |





# *From the Pastor's Desk*

Easter Greetings,

I am writing this during Holy week and on the second week of Spring. Yay!! There is something about Easter and Spring that renews our spirits and gives us hope. After days in this Lent season, it is good to remember Easter is coming and after long weeks of cold winter months, it is great to know that it is Spring season at last.

I once read a story about a teacher who overheard a conversation from her young students. Little Maria threw out the question: "Who loves God?" All of them responded, "I do! I do!" but Billy said, "I love Jesus." Kelly Protested, "But he died." Billy said, "Yea, but every year he raises from the dead!" Obviously, young Billy's understanding of the meaning of Easter is still developing. We know that Jesus died once and for all (Romans 6:10, Hebrews 10:12), and of course, rose from the dead once. Yet we tend to think like little Billy when we celebrate Easter on only one day of the year.

Easter is a seven-week season of joy and grace. Fifty days to be exact, starting with the Easter Sunday and ending with Pentecost Sunday which this year will be May 23rd. Throughout these weeks we keep celebrating so that we might continue to enter into the meaning of the resurrection and to deepen the way it touches our daily lives. Easter only begins with Easter Sunday, and continually reminds us that Jesus is with us. He is not dead, but alive. In fact, every day of the year we have a reason to celebrate the resurrection of our savior.

It is my hope that after experiencing the glory of the resurrection on Easter morning it will have been a truly transforming personal experience that brings you to a place of new life, new faith and new joy throughout the year.

After months of various restrictions, we are finally resuming some of our usual programming at church while being cognizant of the fact that the threat of the virus is not completely over and taking necessary safety measures. I encourage those that have been away these past months to join us as more people get vaccinated. At the same time, I implore everyone to be mindful of those who still wary about the risk of gathering.

Christ is Risen! HE is Risen Indeed!

Happy Easter

Pastor Grace Gichuru.

# The Beat

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Gothenburg First United Methodist Church



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

## FAMILY MATTERS...MATTERS

Delicious food, fantastic friends, wonderful leaders, and learning about LIFE is what happens each Wednesday evening. Joe Gray, a caring young man from Camp Comeca, leads the 6th–12th graders each week. Sarah Anderson, a fun-loving mom, leads the pre-K through 5th graders.

Family Matters will continue through May 12. Cookies, cookies, and more cookies are needed for the meals each week. Contact Lynnette Stevens if you would like to donate 4-dozen individually wrapped cookies for one of the seven meetings that are left this school year.



These three girls are the first to sign up for Camp Comeca. They will be attending camp from June 14-16. Charlie McKenna, Kinley Foster, and Braelynn Anderson will each receive a \$100 scholarship to attend. Will you be the next one to register for camp???

## In Memoriam

*Sheila M. Jobman*

*April 1, 1944 ~ March 10, 2021*

*Gene E. Johnson*

*August 3, 1928 ~ March 24, 2021*



## ANNUAL CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2021 Great Plains Annual Conference sessions will be held virtually from May 26 to 29. All worship services and the business session of annual conference will be livestreamed on the conference website and Facebook page.

## FROM CAMP NORWESCA

Looking for an awesome summer-time job? We are hiring:

Summer Camp counselors,  
Kitchen staff and Maintenance/  
Mowing Seasonal jobs:  
May-August If interested call  
308-432-3872.

## FACTS AND FIGURES

General Giving Thru Mar. 31 Actual: \$63,013  
Budgeted: \$61,656

Percent of Budgeted: 102.2%

Paid Apportionments Thru Mar. 31  
Actual: \$4,784 Budgeted: \$4,784

Percent of Budgeted: 100%

