



SEA NOTES

A Monthly Publication of Shepherd of the Sea
East Fort Macon Road, Atlantic Beach, NC 28512 www.soselca.org

APRIL 2024

Dear church,

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

This Lent has not looked like other Lenten seasons have for me. I am not by nature a sit-and-be-patient person. When something like surgery comes along, the sitting and healing are truly the hardest part. So I decided to see this rest and healing as a spiritual practice this year, knowing that slowing down and listening and healing are sometimes what is needed. Even in busier church seasons like Lent. And it was your prayers felt, and your love and grace given that allowed me to have that time and space. Thank you for everything that you have done for me and my family during this past month. We feel such deep gratitude to be a part of this community!

And now we start the month of April this year just one day after the Alleluias are sung.

We've traveled through Holy Week, went through the pain of Friday, only to discover that Sunday comes and He is Risen! Death has not won!

Easter Sunday is the end of Lent, but is not truly the end, only the beginning. A whole new reality starts with Mary at the tomb, sent to proclaim what she has seen to all those she meets.

Isn't that what Easter leaves us with as well? Sure we wear the nice new clothes, the church sanctuary is filled with lilies and hymns of praise. But the next day we aren't wearing the same clothes, the lilies start to wilt, the last music note plays.

But we are Easter people. Our story only begins. We have met the risen Lord and so it's time to go out and tell people about it! Everyone we meet! We are charged with inviting them into our community, showing them Christ's love. How have you done that lately?

I ask that during this Easter season you *Go and Tell people about Jesus. Go and Tell people about how you see Jesus working in your life. Go and Tell people about how being in community with others really feeds you.*

We are an Easter people. We live in the resurrection, point to the resurrection amongst the fear and the mess of the world, knowing that we have seen the Lord. And the Lord is Good.

Blessings on the Journey,
Pastor Kelly

CHURCH HAPPENINGS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday Bible Study: Our Wednesday Bible study will resume on April 10 at 11am. We will be studying and discussing season one of the show **The Chosen**. Over eight weeks, we will discuss one episode each week. Participants can watch the show at home on streaming apps such as Netflix, or on their website at *thechosen.tv*. We will also be streaming that week's episode at the church each Wednesday at 10am if you prefer to watch together. Beginning April 10, *Optional Viewing at 10am*, Group discussion at 11am.



Card Making Mission Team: A big thank you to Janet Hassing for organizing and instructing our card making mission

team. In March we made St. Paddy's day cards for our homebound church members. Our next meeting will be Monday, April 8.

Card Mission Team: Karen is looking for 3 members to join our monthly card mission team. The team sends cards birthday and various cards to members. We have an opening in September, November and December. If you are interested, please contact Karen at 252-725-5901 or kampingkaren@gmail.com.

Prison Ministry Update: Loretta, our adopted prisoner in Raleigh, has suffered a setback in her recovery from a leg infection. She fell (passed out) in the shower - breaking her shoulder and injuring her knee. She's having BP issues so she is now on bed rest. I would like to thank everyone who donated to her canteen fund allowing her to rent movies during her recovery. Get well cards can be sent to:

Loretta Jimenez 0208-301
NCCIW
P O Box 247
Phoenix, Md 21131

Fresh Produce Collection: On the first Sunday of each month we will collect fresh fruits and vegetables for Martha's Mission Cupboard.

All donations are welcome! We will continue to collect non-perishables throughout the month as well. Thank you for your generosity!



From your Stewardship Team: Thank you to all who have recently been able to up their financial giving in small ways. We are so thankful for the immense generosity of this congregation!

Quarterly Mission Meeting: Save the date and plan to stay for fellowship on May 5 as we meet as a congregation to receive updates on the ministries of our church. We will discuss how our yearly budget currently looks, provide any new opportunities for folks to serve, and fellowship together. Please plan to join us!

Confirmation: We will have three confirmands affirming their faith on Pentecost Sunday, May 19. These young people have spent two years learning, questioning, and growing in their faith. Please keep them in your prayers as they complete their program and prepare for that Sunday!

LECTIONARY READINGS for APRIL 2024

Color of the Day	April 7 Second Sunday in Easter	April 14 Third Sunday in Easter	April 21 Fourth Sunday in Easter	April 28 Fifth Sunday in Easter
First Reading	Acts 4:32-35	Acts 3:12-19	Acts 4:5-12	Acts 8:26-40
Psalm	Psalm 133	Psalm 4	Psalm 23	Psalm 22:25-31
Second Reading	1 John 1:1-2:2	1 John 3:1-7	1 John 3:16-24	1 John 4:7-21
Gospel	John 20:19-31	Luke 24:36b-48	John 10:11-18	John 15:1-8

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