

## Pastor's Paragraph\_

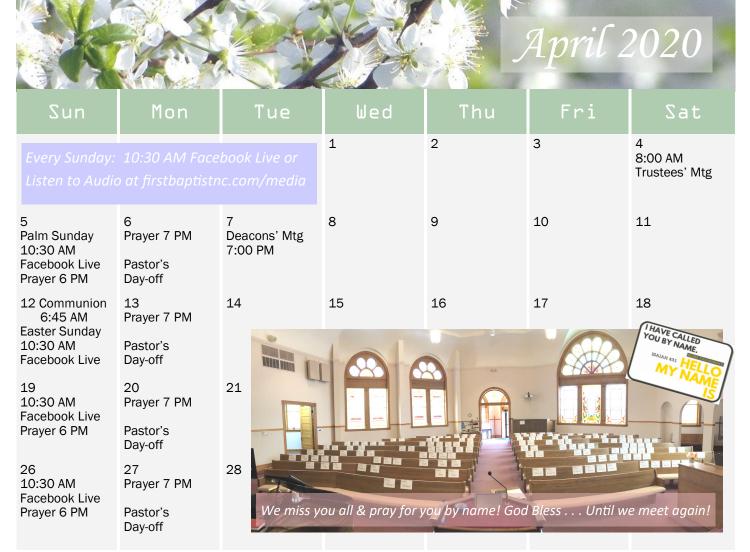
The Necessity of Public Worship

If there's one lesson that we have learned from a month of social distancing, it is the obvious fact that we really need church! The old sayings rings true: "absence makes the heart grow fonder" and "you never truly appreciate what you have until you lose it." One month without church services has made me really appreciate what we once enjoyed regularly! I think it is safe to say that there is a lot more to church than just listening to my voice for 30 minutes. Now, I would highly recommend listening to my sermons every week! But, we are missing out on so much more. The personal connections, the public worship, and the congregational singing are all part of the church that Christ formed. And we cannot survive long without them. When we are able to meet publicly again, we will have a joyous reunion full of praise and thanksgiving to our God!

Before that happens, if you would like to get a small taste of that public praise, I invite you to join us for an early morning sunrise service on Easter Sunday at 6:45 am. You can drive your car to the Nebraska City Animal Hospital at 5791 G Road. Bring your own grape juice and cracker! Just park your car, stay in the vehicle, tune your radio to 107.1 fm, and you will be able to listen to the service and partake in communion together with us. We will also stream it on facebook live for people at home. I know it is not quite the same, but it is a close approximation! We can be "together" without actually coming within six feet of each other. Death itself could not keep our Savior in the tomb, and the covid-19 virus will not keep Christians from celebrating His glorious resurrection!

On a personal note, I wanted to thank everyone for staying positive and trusting in our Sovereign God during times of uncertainty and anxiety. Certainly, this pandemic will have a negative affect on our church's finances, but God's people have continued to be faithful. I appreciate so much those who mail their tithes in to the church or personally drop it off in the offering box (while social distancing!). Jesus Christ is the Head of His Church, and He keeps things going through any adverse circumstances whether we can pass the plates or not! I also appreciate all the offers to help those in need. God's people have great resources, and we stand ready to be used by our Lord. I am also extremely grateful for your prayers. When we started the 2020 prayer challenge, we had no idea just how much we would need it! Even though God is limiting our public prayer meetings, I believe He is greatly expanding our private prayer time. I mean, what else is there to do when you are quarantined at home 24/7? Your prayers are essential, and I am thankful that God's Spirit moved our church to adopt the 2020 prayer challenge before we were aware of the urgent need for it.

So, please know that although we cannot be physically together, the Body of Christ is definitely "in one accord . . . from house to house . . . with gladness and simplicity." (Acts 2:46) ~Pastor





- 2- Virginia Duncan
- 7- Jeneen Pierce
- 8- Caleb Hawk\*\*
- 11- Ann Colley 11- Madelyn Meyer 13- Jane Zerbe\*
- 13- Justin Meyer
- 15- Kevin Grundman
- 16- Tommie Lenhart
- 17- Dan Shaffer
- 18- Mikayla Hawk\*\*
- 21- Nathan Tilson \*\*
- 22- Emma Cowden
- 23- Clinton King
- 26- John Heather
- 28- Kate Baltensperger

\*Missionary \*\* Missionary Kid





7- Rudy & Lynda Schweitzer



## **1st Quarter Finances** Balance Forward 1/1/2020

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Doggon's Fund

Deacon's Fund	\$476.46
Designated Fund	\$4,764.74
General Fund	\$33,145.65
Checking Account	\$38,386.85
1st Quarter Income	\$52,361.79
1st Quarter Expenses	\$38,320.56
Net Increase	\$14,041.23

## Balance 3/31/2020

Deacon's Fund	\$3,896.46
Designated Fund	\$3,417.26
General Fund	\$45,114.36
Checking Account	\$52,428.08