



Little Brown Church of Sunol

United Church of Christ – Congregational
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March 2021

We are continuing to provide our worship services online while waiting until it is safe to meet in person.

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March-April Calendar

Sunday, March 14 ... Daylight Saving Time begins

Sunday, March 28 ... Palm Sunday

Friday, April 2 ... Good Friday

Sunday, April 4 ... Easter Sunday – special video service

Easter Sunday Video Service

Pastor Mary and LBC member Mary Chambers are again planning to provide a special pre-recorded video service. This Easter Sunday service will be similar to their excellent Christmas Eve video service. Watch for more details in the next newsletter and in the April 4 online worship message.

LBC's Financial Update

In normal times, LBC would hold its annual meeting early in the year and present the church's financial condition and budget plans. This being an abnormal year, the church council has opted to use this newsletter to get the word out. We will have an in-person annual meeting when it's safe to meet at the church again.

At this point, donations are significantly behind pledges. Our budget for the 2020 calendar year (which was set before the pandemic) called for about \$37,000 in income from our members. However, at this point we are about \$17,000 behind.

To those of you who have kept up with your giving, THANK YOU. And if you have fallen behind, please send a check to make up. While we are paying less for utilities while not meeting in person, most of our expenses are fixed, things like Pastor Mary's salary, liability insurance, and taxes. (Treasurer Landy White can send you the complete financial breakdown. You can email him at landyb2@comcast.net.)

And speaking of pledges – the council still needs to know how to plan for the rest of 2021. Please let Landy know how much you can pledge weekly for this year. You can include a note with your check (mailed to LBC, Box 124, Sunol, 94586) or send an email to him at landyb2@comcast.net.

News about Sunrise Shelter

Jean Morgan, community outreach director at Sunrise Village Emergency Shelter, wrote to let us know that she and the crew at the homeless shelter miss working with us and hope we are all doing well.

The shelter is still temporarily closed and the residents are living at a hotel through Alameda County's safer ground hotel voucher program. The residents thus have individual living accommodations during the pandemic. The service coordinators and shelter monitors from Sunrise Village shelter are working their shifts at the hotel. Abode Services is working with the CDC and the Alameda County Health Department on the logistics of reopening Sunrise Village Emergency Shelter.

Meanwhile, the shelter's 16th annual fundraiser, "Journey Home Breakfast: At Home," will be held at 8 a.m. on Friday, March 5. Admission is free and no registration is required for the livestreaming event at <https://journeyhome.abodeservices.org/>.

Climate Change and Christianity

We will have an opportunity this year to join with Bay Area UCC congregations to examine climate change from the point of view of our love and appreciation for God's creation and our willingness to protect it. Please let us know if you would like to discuss climate activism from a Christian perspective. A good way to start is to read UCC minister Jim Antal's book *Climate Church, Climate World*, which will serve as a guide to discussion and then action.

You can order *Climate Change, Climate World: How People of Faith Must Work for Change* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2018) if you want to read up on the issues and the solutions.

Lent Madness 2021

We are already a couple weeks into Lent, but it's not too late to join Lent Madness, a devotional program that combines faith and fun throughout the season of Lent. Go to www.lentmadness.org, sign up, download the bracket, and begin voting for your favorites. You can get caught up quickly.

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LITTLE BROWN CHURCH OF SUNOL

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