

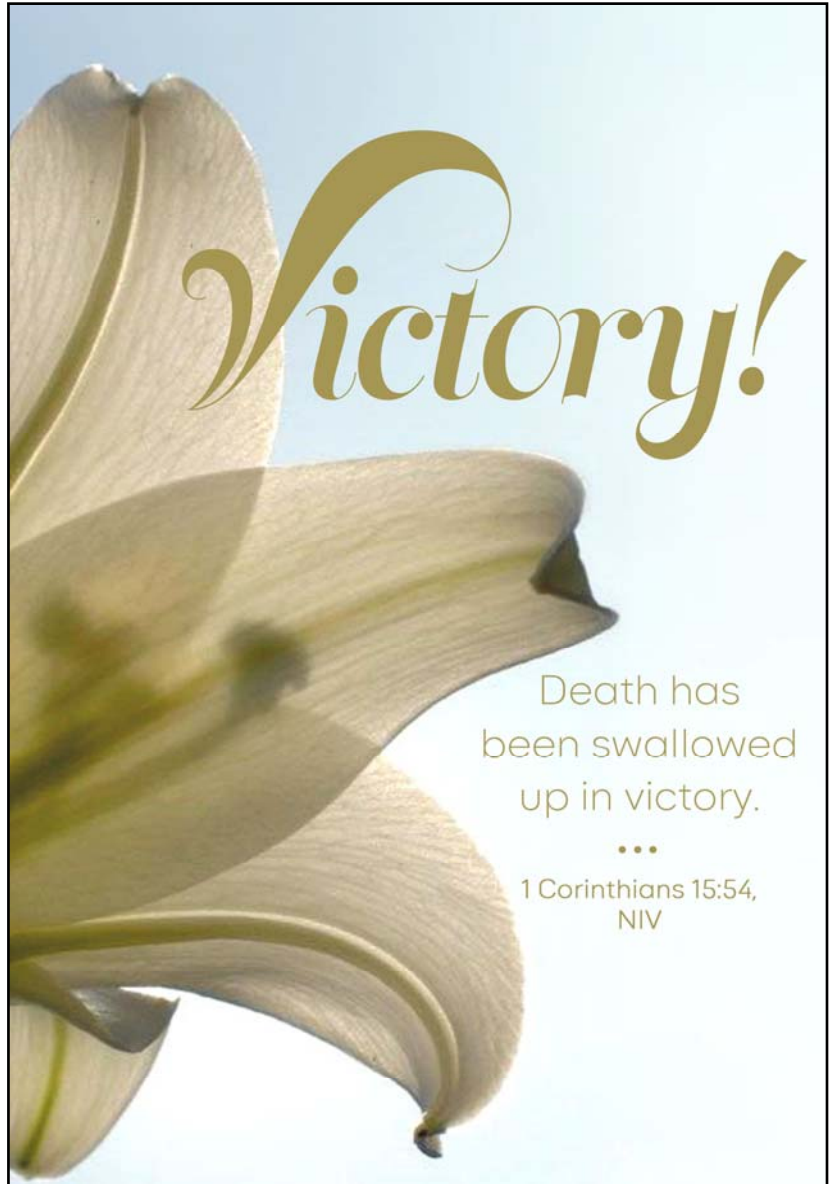


FIRST CHURCH WINDOWS



HE IS RISEN

Halleluiah



Death has
been swallowed
up in victory.

...

1 Corinthians 15:54,
NIV



***To see all people **WORSHIP** God,
CONNECT with His people,
and join His **MISSION** in this world.***

Worship the Lord with Us!

Sunday Worship

Live-Streamed Service at 10:00 AM

In person worship has resumed! If you are planning on attending please pre-register at <https://fumccollingswood.org/reopening>

Please visit www.fumccollingswood.org for our online worship experience.

FIRST CHURCH WINDOWS is published by:

The First United Methodist Church

201 Dayton Avenue, Collingswood, NJ 08108

Phone: (856)858-1186 Fax: (856)858-1775

E-mail: info@fumccollingswood.org

Church Staff

Pastor Sam Mountain, Senior Pastor

(pastorsam@fumccollingswood.org)

Shawn Zook, Pastoral Assistant for Outreach and

Youth (shawn@fumccollingswood.org)

Will Walker, Organist

(will@fumccollingswood.org)

Pat Gunning, Children's Program Director

(pat@fumccollingswood.org)



**Office closed due to the
COVID-19 pandemic.**

FIRST CHURCH WINDOWS

is online at

www.fumccollingswood.org

and is available via e-mail.

Send an e-mail to

ewindows@fumccollingswood.org

to subscribe.

In Windows This Month...

From the Pastor's Heart.....	4
Sermons and Scriptures.....	5
Announcements.....	6
Holy Week	7
Missionary Messages	8
Birthdays and Anniversaries.....	9
The Kid's Page	10

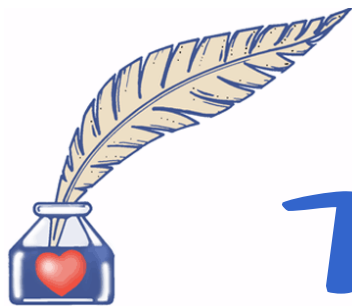


The submission deadline for the *May* issue of Windows is April 23rd.

***THANK YOU FOR
SUPPORTING WINDOWS!***



First Church Windows is only available online and in full-color due to the COVID pandemic.



From The Pastor's Heart



I love this time of the year. We see the trees begin to bud and flowers begin to bloom. It is a sign of Spring and a new season. As I write this page, I'm reflecting on Holy Week, a difficult week for Jesus, His disciples and followers. It is also a season that produced a new beginning for those who chose to follow Him. The chorus to "Because He Lives" comes to mind: *"Because He Lives, I can face tomorrow, Because He lives all FEAR is gone, because I KNOW who holds the future, life is worth the living, just because He lives."*

This year we've faced the pandemic and so many other challenges that bring fear and anxiety. Even in non-pandemic times life can produce anxiety and fear. For example, tuning into the news and even the weather report can bring apprehension. Recently, a weather report predicted that we should have a hot summer this year (YEAH!) This was followed by the expectation of more hurricanes than normal this summer.

During my years here, I have loved finding interesting fears and phobias to share with you. I might have some of these phobias, too. Here is a list of some common fears:

- Arachnophobia – the fear of spiders
- Dentaphobia – the fear of dentists
- Arachibutyrophobia – the fear of peanut butter sticking to the roof of one's mouth
- Aulophobia – the fear of flutes
- Cyberphobia – the fear of working with computers
- Peladophobia – the fear of bald people (I'm in trouble.)
- Sciurophobia – the fear of squirrels (I don't fear them, I just don't like them in my house!)
- Long winda phobia – the fear of long sermons
- Luposilpaphobia – the fear is the fear of being pursued by timber wolves around a kitchen table while wearing socks on a freshly waxed floor
- Methophobia—the fear of Methodists
- Anatidaephobia – the fear that somewhere in the world, there is a duck watching you.

The fact of the matter is many fears are based upon a false reality or lie. In the publication, "Revive," Mark Bearden illustrated this with the following chart:

FEAR

Fear of death

Fear for safety

Fear of suffering

Fear of rejection

Fear of poverty

LIE

My security is in this life

God may not do what's best

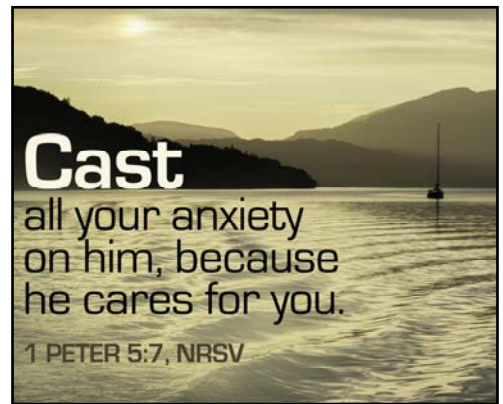
I won't be able to bear it

Worth comes from people

God won't take care of me

Worry feels deceptively necessary but remember, it accomplishes nothing. Jesus asked, "Who of you by

worrying can add a single hour to life?” (Matthew 6:27.) In apostle Paul’s writing to the Philippian Church, he commands: “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (4:6-7) Paul says in the middle of a world of worrisome possibilities and fearful scenarios, do not be anxious! Bring your cares directly to God. Don’t fear about anything, but pray about everything with THANKSGIVING! When we do that, we are making a choice to believe that God loves us and has a purpose for the things that are going on in our lives. He is shaping us to be like Jesus.

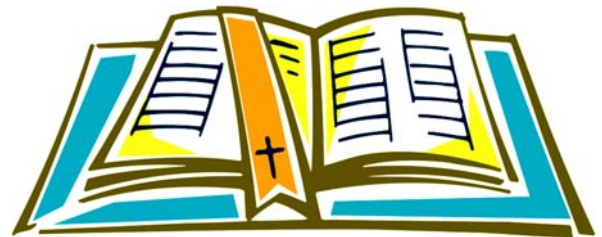


You may say, “I could never do that! You don’t know the circumstances I’m facing!” But it’s important to remember that you don’t have to have the answer to the problem before you can thank Him. For those who take the step of obedience to trust God with their fears, He reserves a blessing that goes beyond anything they could ever have anticipated: “The peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” The words of an old hymn support this: “What have I to dread, what have I to fear, Leaning on the everlasting arms. I have blessed peace, with my Lord so near, Leaning on the everlasting arms.” I don’t know what you’re facing in life, but I do know the One who does. Just remember to give HIM thanks and receive HIS peace. Yes, in a year of a pandemic, as we look for a new pastor and as we look to the new season the Lord has for us, we need not fear when we know God is leading! And while we are at it, share God’s love and peace with others too!

It is a privilege to serve as your pastor.

In His Love & Care,
Pastor Sam

UPCOMING SERMONS AND SCRIPTURES



The Journey of Grace



During these next two months we are going to learn some powerful truths about how journeying in grace with Christ makes all the difference. What a great way to reflect on Christ together after Easter in a time of transition. Our new sermon series is from the book of Philippians. By all accounts, this is one of the most loved books in the New Testament.

April 4 **Easter Sunday**
The Unexpected Jesus (Part 2)

John 20:1-9

April 11 Experiencing Jesus Unexpectedly

April 18 It’s All About Jesus

Philippians 1:1-11

April 25 What Are You Living For?

Philippians:12-26



Job Opportunity



We're still actively seeking an Office Manager (aka Church Secretary). If you know of anyone who has moderate computer skills, good organizational skills, and a heart for Jesus, who might be interested in this paid position, please ask them to contact Carol Doron at the email listed below:

Office Manager for FUMC Collingswood
20 hours/week: Tuesday - Friday, 9:00am - 2:00pm

If interested, please contact Carol Doron at bcdoron@aol.com.

SPRING FLING

**FOR KIDS AGE 3 THRU AND
INCLUDING 6TH GRADE**

Saturday April 17th 11:30-1:00

**It's going to be a lot of fun:
games, prizes, a craft and lunch.**

You will need a mask and a towel.
We will be meeting OUTSIDE behind the church, that's why you need a towel.
We will sit socially distant.

Don't Miss It !!!

A gift from your Sunday school teachers.

Please call Miss Pat at (856) 962-8010 to say how many will be coming so we have enough material. You can leave a message on that line.



Looking forward to Holy Week!

We are looking forward to celebrating Holy Week together this year. We invite those who feel safe to come to please sign up as soon you can and we will follow protocols for everyone's safety. We are grateful for you and your faithfulness to our church family in your prayers, kindness and giving. This has been a difficult season for many including the church. Your faithfulness has been deeply appreciated as we seek to share God's love and grace each week, even as we have been virtual so much of the time. You are loved and appreciated!



Journey Through Holy Week

Palm Sunday Worship Celebration Service - March 28, 10:00 am.

The Unexpected Jesus (Part 1) is the morning message
along with *great music and worship!*



Holy Thursday Service - April 1, 7:00 pm and 7:30 pm.

Join us as we meditate on what Jesus did the night before He went to the cross, ending with Holy Communion. We will be holding two brief 15-20 minute services:

7:00pm

7:30pm

If you plan to join us in-person, please choose ONE of these two times, so that we can better accommodate all who wish to attend. Please make a reservation for this service.



Good Friday Men's Breakfast Team will be sharing a Good Friday virtual service that anyone can view throughout the day! This will be a special service you might even want to view with someone safely together. More information coming soon!



Easter Celebration Worship Service - April 4, 10:00 am.

Join us in the Resurrection Sunday Experience.

The Unexpected Jesus (Part 2) is the morning message
along with *great music and worship!*



Rejoice! He Lives!

MISSIONARY MESSAGES



Bob and Barb Alber, Wycliffe

We have moved!

Our new mailing address is 3846 Shoreview Drive, Kissimmee, FL 34744.

Please update your address book—we'd love to hear from you!

It has been a blur of activity since we last wrote to you! We closed on our house on February 19 and moved in over the weekend of the 20–21. Since then we have been repairing, replacing, painting, shopping for furniture and housewares, as well as getting new drivers' licenses and the car title transferred. We praise God for having great neighbors and finding local helpers to work on our house for us.

Bob's Travel Update

In March, Bob visited around 30 college students and young adults in:

Alabama	South Carolina	Tennessee	Texas
Georgia	North Carolina	Kentucky	

So far his visits have gone extremely well and Bob has gotten a lot of positive feedback from students who are thrilled to have this level of interest, support, and care extended to them on behalf of Wycliffe.

In April, Bob plans to visit:

Pennsylvania	Indiana	Illinois	Wisconsin
Ohio	Michigan	Iowa	Minnesota

Please pray for Bob's:

- Safety as he travels by air and car.
- Good health for him and those he visits.
- Ability to listen well as students share their needs.
- Connection with potential local mentors to support students.

Please also pray for me (Barbara) as I “hold down the fort” and try to make this house into our home—all while still working 40 hours a week!

We thank God that He protected us from this very UNwelcomed visitor: a deadly coral snake that had made its way into our kitchen! Bob bravely defended our home and disposed of it safely, not knowing that he could die if he even just touched its skin! The odds are now in our favor that we will not have any future similar visits, but we will still be very cautious.

Thank you for your prayers for us and for our boys, especially as they weathered the winter storms in Texas without our ability to offer any assistance. And don't forget to consider staying with us if you are visiting central Florida. The guest rooms are just about finished!





April 2 Heather Chamberlain
 April 4 Lisa Santulli
 April 6 Bernard Beals
 Debbie Cherry
 Charles (Bud) Shropshire
 April 7 Ken Steward, Jr.
 April 9 Gregory McGaurn
 April 10 Marion Shallcross
 April 11 Suzanne Hoover
 April 13 Bob Gordon
 Bert Stevens
 Will Walker

April 15 Adrianna Adams
 Cindy VanPelt
 April 18 Bill Bittle
 April 19 Beth Stefano
 April 23 Grace Alkuino
 April 24 Blessy Alkuino
 April 25 Michael Hoover
 Asher Walker
 April 27 Mark Burgoon
 Mike Tribulas

If you have not already
 done so, please give your dates
 (birth dates and anniversary dates) to the
 church office in writing or by e-mail:
office@fumccollingswood.org.



April 3 Harry and Linda Rameriz
 April 6 Frank and Susan Liberi
 April 20 Ken and Margie Underwood
 April 23 Doug and Julie Schmitt
 April 27 Bayani and Grace Alkuino

?? ?

Bible Quiz

? ?

We know the name of only one of the two disciples to whom the risen Jesus appeared on the road to Emmaus. Who was he?

- A. John
- B. Paul of Tarsus
- C. Joseph of Arimathea
- D. Cleopas

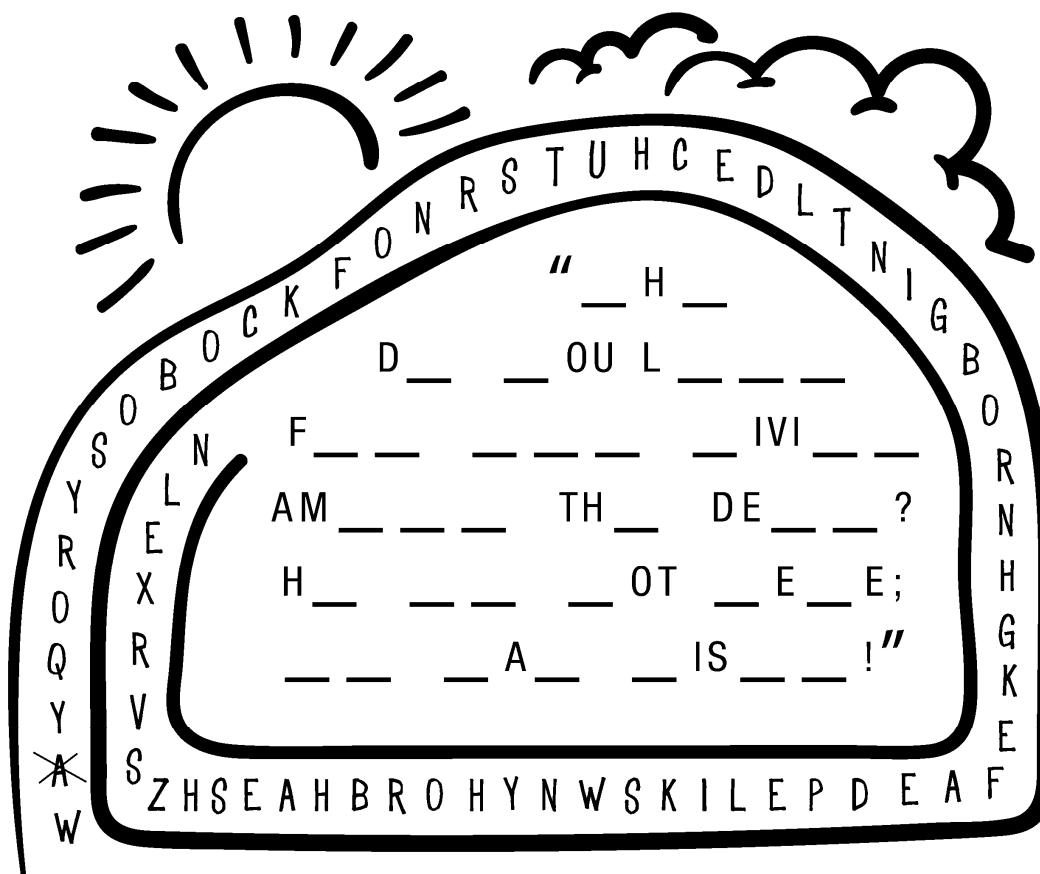
Answer: D (See Luke 24:18.)



EASTER MORNING *message*

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.

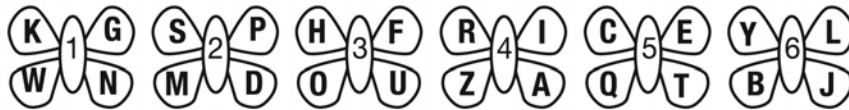


LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV

Puzzle!

Use the code to uncover the angel's message in Matthew 28:7 (NIV).



“ ‘ H



, ”

Answer: “He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.”



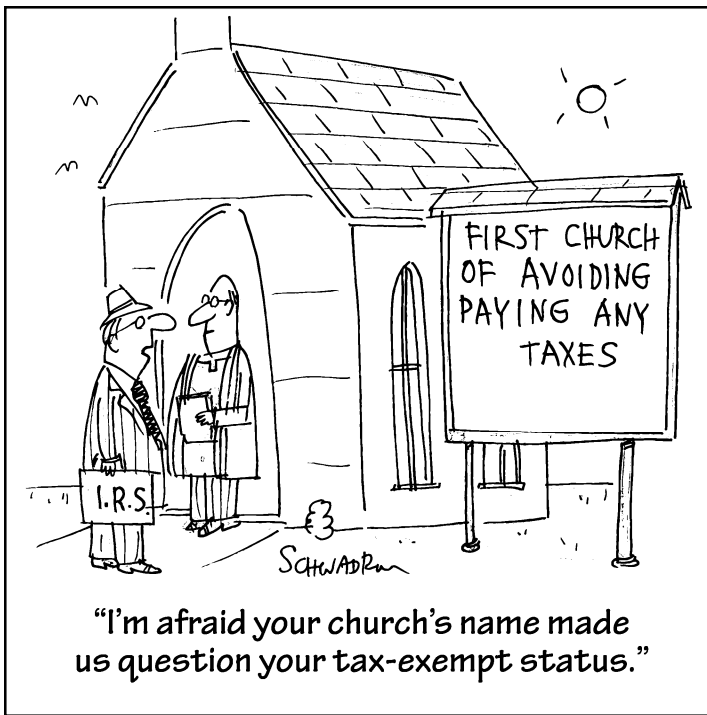
The hidden surprise in these sweet rolls hints at the reason behind Easter's joy.

What you need:

- ½ cup chopped pecans
- 10 uncooked frozen rolls, thawed
- 10 large marshmallows
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ½ cup melted butter
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- Adult help

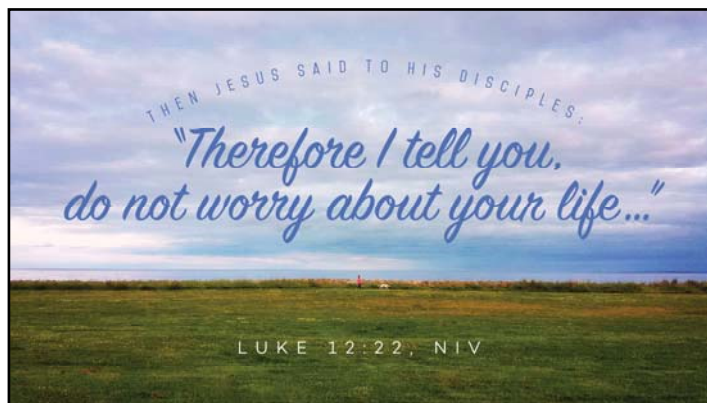
What you do:

1. Grease a round baking dish. Sprinkle pecans on the bottom.
2. Flatten each roll. Place a marshmallow in the center, wrap dough around it and pinch edges together.
3. Combine sugar and cinnamon. Dip each roll into melted butter and coat with cinnamon-sugar. Place in pan, seam side down.
4. Sprinkle brown sugar and remaining butter over rolls. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise 30 minutes.
5. Bake at 350 degrees until golden brown, about 30 minutes. Cool in pan.
6. As you bite into a roll, you'll see the marshmallow has melted, leaving an empty center — just like Jesus' empty tomb!



AN EASTER PRAYER

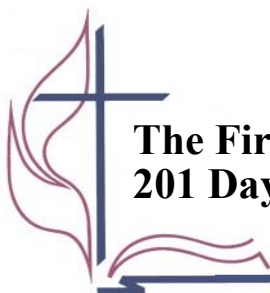
From the grave's depths, Lord Jesus Christ, you emerged, breaking the hold of sin, death and hell, that those who trust in you might share in your righteousness, life and beloved community with God the Father and all God's children. We bow in awe before your majesty, giving thanks for your grace extended so bountifully to us. By the power of your Spirit who lives within us, may we share the astonishing news of your resurrection with others, that they also may know your saving grace. Amen.



Kind hearts are the gardens.
Kind thoughts are the roots.
Kind words are the flowers.
Kind deeds are the fruits.

Take care of your garden
and keep out the weeds.
Fill it with sunshine,
kind words and kind deeds.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



The First United Methodist Church
201 Dayton Avenue, Collingswood, NJ 08108