

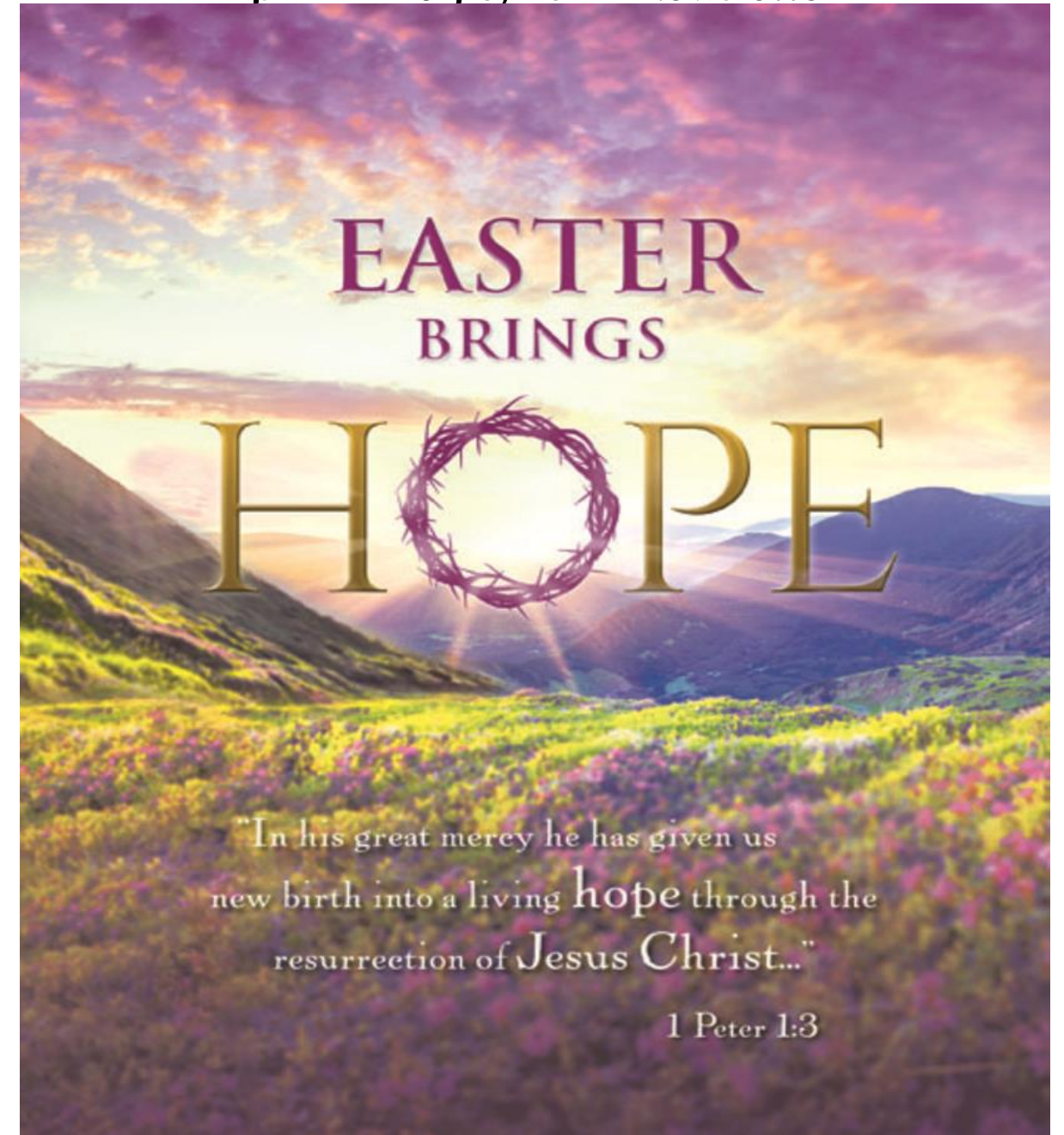


Happy Easter!

May your Easter be happy,
May your day be bright,
May you enjoy the treats,
And sweets delights.
But remember the meaning,
Remember God's gift,
Remember the resurrection,
May your soul uplift.

Joyful Noiz

April 8- May 6, 2022 Newsletter



EASTER
BRINGS
HOPE

"In his great mercy he has given us
new birth into a living hope through the
resurrection of Jesus Christ..."

1 Peter 1:3

Zion United Church of Christ

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Rev. Walter Coy, Pastor

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*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are
welcome here.*

WHAT'S GOING ON AT ZION?

www.zionuccsteubenville.com

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



IN OUR CIRCLE OF PRAYER

Bill Bertram, Dakota Miller, Marlene Rhueff, Elaine Panyi

➤If you would like to be remembered in prayer or know of someone who would appreciate being included in this list, please contact the church office.

PASTOR COY

If you would like to meet with Pastor Coy, please make an appointment with the church office at **740-282-1793**. If you would like to get a hold of Pastor Coy directly, his cell number is **330-301-0551**. Pastor Coy has **office hours Mon, Wed, & Thurs.**

IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER

In the event that the weather is bad and you are unsure if church is open please call Pastor Coy. His cell number is **330-301-0551**.

HOLY WEEK

Come join us **April 14, 11:30 AM- 1PM. for Maundy Thursday!** We'll have a couple **soups**, (including a vegetarian option), and **assorted desserts!** There will be a free will offering! Communion will also be available. **Come for food, stay for fellowship!!**

Good Friday, April 15, the sanctuary will be open from Noon- 1PM for music, scripture, and quiet reflection.

Easter Sunday, April 17, we celebrate our risen savior at 11AM.

For God so *loved*
that He *Gave* the world,
His only
begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in Him
should not perish but have
Everlasting
- John 3:16 *life.*

Pastor's Pen

The Awesomeness of Easter!

The Paschal candle is one of the most sacred and enduring elements in Christianity. Made of beeswax to represent the purity of Christ, the candle's wick signifies Christ's humanity, and the flame His Divine Nature. It is adorned with one or more Christian symbols, often the cross to represent His redemptive sacrifice; the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet - Alpha and Omega - to signify that He is the beginning and the end; symbols of wheat and grapes, or a chalice and host, for the Eucharist - the true presence of Christ and our spiritual strength; the 12 Apostles - witnesses and scribes to the passion, death, resurrection and ascension of Christ; and other symbols such as the Good Shepherd, the Lamb, the Sacred Heart, and the Risen Christ. The Paschal candle remains in the Sanctuary on its special candle stand during the full 50 days of the Easter season, and is lit for liturgical services during that time. After Pentecost the candle will be placed next to the baptismal font. The candle is lit during all baptisms throughout the year, passing the light of Christ to each person baptized, and each catechism class. The candle may also be used at funeral services, and placed next to the casket during a funeral Mass. At funeral services it is a reminder that the sacrament of Baptism is itself a death and resurrection in Christ, and testifies to Christian certainty in the resurrection of the dead and life with Christ in the world to come. With Christianity the word "paschal" took on a new meaning, referring to Our Lord's passion, death, resurrection, and glorification. These events stand at the center of our faith. God's saving plan for us was accomplished by the redemptive suffering and death of Jesus. His resurrection and glorification are our assurances of eternal life - if we follow His words and His way.

When you next see the Paschal candle in your church, may you too think of its long and sacred past, the death and resurrection of Our Lord which it represents, and the faith, hope and eternal life it means for all of us

We have so much to be thankful for. We have so many wonderful traditions. In this troubled world we live in how can we live without the loving grace of God and His Son Jesus? Even though the journey to the cross was very emotional, is very emotional, it always hits home, to me, all Jesus went through for us! For the forgiveness of our sins and for our salvation. We are sinful by nature and God knew this. Because He knew this He knows we all need grace and a loving Father who will forgive us as long as we are sincere in our hearts as we repent. None of us are worthy but with the Grace of God we are loved and forgiven. With this great gift what does God want from us? Well there are 10 Commandments that would make Him very happy. Following these commandments will also make us live a happier life. God knew it would not be easy but what in life that is worthwhile is easy? So where are you on this Easter journey with the journey to the cross and wonderfully the empty tomb? God has kept his promises to us. Our hope is in Jesus our Savior! Look to the empty cross and tomb. Take into your heart all that Jesus is offering. Come to church on Easter and every Sunday this year; look at the wonderment of our risen Savior. He is Risen Alleluia!

Glory to God in the Highest,

Rev. Walter Coy