



# TOWER

Newsletter of Central United Church of Christ

April 2021

Volume 75, No. 3

## Geese!

When it's cold, I walk in the afternoons instead of the mornings. This year it's been very close to sunset by the time I think it is warm enough to venture out. I discovered late afternoon is the time to see the migrating Canadian Geese.

As I walked on the stone tractor path at the top of the hill, I could see dark blobs in the western corn field. They seemed to be moving, but I don't always trust my eyes so I continued walking, until I was almost upon them— "them" because, sure enough, they were *geese* not blobs. I was amazed that they didn't spook, at how quiet and calm they were.

The next day I was a little earlier and didn't see any geese until I was returning home. There is a cow pond at the bottom of the hill. What to my wondering eyes should appear but a straight line, unbroken, of geese marching one-by-one up the hillside like penguins toward the fence that separated the pasture from the tractor trail and the cornfield. As they first approached the fence, the line, in as perfect formation as the famed Rockettes, swiveled on the fulcrum formed by the forefront goose while the last two geese broke formation and flew up to the fence and over. When all were parallel with the fence, as one, they also flew over. I knew they settled in the cornfield because they disappeared from sight over the crest of the hill. They were not in the air.

Since then, I've done a little research. Yes, the Canadian geese *usually* are more calm and friendly than domesticated geese, the only exception being when a big male is sitting on his nest. They ARE big, reaching over 40 pounds and can attain a height of 48". They are faithful mates and good parents. Canadian geese are monogamous, mating for life. They stay celibate until meeting that special someone. Siblings get along well and look after one another.

While apprehensive about accepting new members into an established flock, if a goose becomes injured or can't keep up with the flight formation, a small group of geese will land with it and stay with it until it recovers or dies. I observed an example of this, and while the stray incoming group was not encouraged to join the big flock in the cornfield, it seemed as if they were directed to a vacant corner in the same field where they found shelter and food for the night.

The famed flight formation and inveterate honking has a two-fold purpose. The honking serves to help them keep track of each other when out of sight in the formation. The formation has been measured as precise: they fly at 1/4<sup>th</sup> wingspan from each other, reducing the "drag" by 70%, changing position as lead geese tire. The usual flight distance is about 300 miles. However, some flocks have flown up to 1,500 miles at a time if conditions require.

(Cont. on Page 2)

(Cont. from Page 1)

Canadian geese purr, when contented, and are the most joyful of creatures. It seems every moment is to be cherished and savored, according to one expert. They never forget a face or a kindness! Treats or care of an injured goose will result in a loyal friend for life.

And what did I learn from all this? To rely on God to provide and not sweat the small stuff; to be kind to one's neighbor in need; to work together for the common good; to be faithful; to do one's job without complaint; to give thanks in everything.

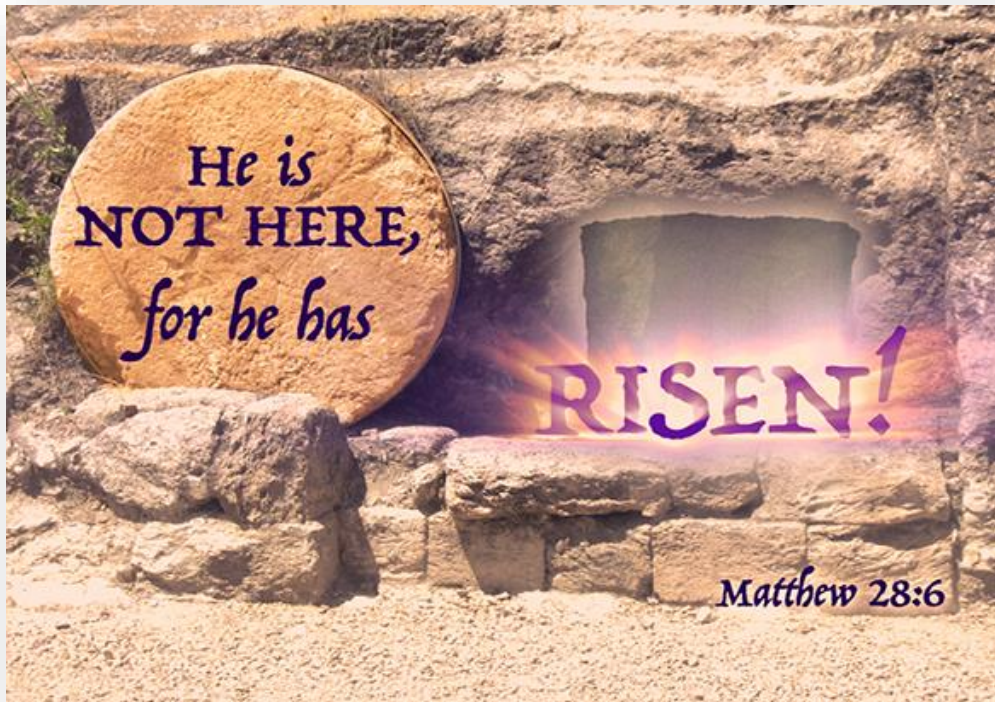
Hm-m-m; seems the lowly are not so lowly after all. May your flight be in the heavens today!

With love, in Christ,

*Judy*

**VERSE OF THE MONTH:**

*"In everything give thanks...!" 1 Thessalonians 5:18*



**COME WORSHIP WITH US ON EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4, AT 10:00 A.M.**

## APRIL BENEVOLENCE Unleashing Potential

One of St. Louis' oldest and important nonprofits has set a new direction for unleashing potential of St. Louis' children, families and neighborhoods. Programs include early childhood, after school, youth development, and enrichment camps.

The staff for early childhood education work diligently to administer a high quality program. The goal is that children are equipped to enter kindergarten emotionally, socially, cognitively ready for learning.

After school programs provide a safe and educational option for busy parents. Children receive creative expression with cooking classes, art classes and dance classes. The program provides a curriculum-based approach to math, literature, character education, fitness and nutrition. Homework assistance is available. A hot meal or nutritious snack is provided every day.

The youth development program combines positive youth development and valuable work experience. All positions are paid, and youth build strong team-building relationships with fellow youth, adults and clients through Magnificent Creations. Magnificent Creations is a t-shirt screen-painting, social enterprise business located in North City.

Enrichment camps ensure parents have affordable and safe options for their children during the summer months. Older campers enjoy a week at Camp Mo-Val.

You can help the "Unleashing Potential" benevolence by providing a donation.

## FESTIVAL OF SHARING April/May Kit

During the months of April and May, the Mission and Outreach Ministry will be collecting items for the CWS Cleanup Bucket. Since this is a large kit, we will be collecting for two months. It is the most expensive kit (estimated value \$75) and has the most items. All cleaning items must be new. Please place your items in our box in the narthex. Donated items must be EXACTLY as listed below:

1 bottle of liquid household cleaner (12-16 oz.)  
Must be water mixable. (no spray bottles)

1 **non aerosol** insect repellent (6-9 oz.)

Clothesline 1- 100 ft., or 2- 50 ft. lines

2 pairs non-surgical latex gloves  
Should be durable for multiple uses.  
(remove packaging)

1 scrub brush (plastic or wooden)

1- 50 oz. liquid laundry detergent  
(bottles only)

1 liquid disinfectant dish soap (16-18 oz.)

18 reusable cleaning wipes (like easy wipes)

7 sponges, including 1 large sponge

24-48 **heavy-duty or contractor** type trash bags,  
sized 36-45 gallon in a roll  
(remove cardboard packaging)

Menards is a good place to get most of the items listed above. If you would like to donate money, the Mission and Outreach Ministry will shop for items. We do our best to get sale items and make the money stretch.

## 85+ BIRTHDAYS



### APRIL

FLORENCE GUHLEMAN, 4/14  
836 Willowbrook Trail  
Sun Prairie, WI 53590

WILBURN ROWDEN, 4/24  
1301 Gladstone Ct.  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

## THANK YOU NOTES

I am very sincerely thankful for the cards, cookies, flowers and visits from fellow members, in spite of the wintery weather. May the good Lord above bless all of you!

Bee Sullivan

## SALVATION ARMY MEAL OPENING

The Mission and Outreach Ministry is needing someone to prepare the Salvation Army Meal for August 12. If you would like to volunteer for August, please contact Matt Kujath, chair, or any Mission and Outreach Ministry member. You would be feeding around 50 people. Brochures with information are available in the narthex.

## “TOWER” DEADLINE

Please turn in articles and pictures for the May “Tower” issue by Thursday, APRIL 15. Thank you.

## CAMP AURORA UPDATES

The board of directors for Camp Aurora made a decision on March 6, after thoroughly thinking it through and polling potential camp staff along with the American Camping Association’s guidelines (over 120 pages long), to open the 2021 summer camping season with safety protocols in place! On the board are Matt Kujath and Patti Schmutzler representing Central Church, and Kathy Sheridan representing Oasis UCC.

Here are some dates you will want to save:

### SATURDAY WORKDAYS:

April 24

May 8

May 22

June 5

June 19

June 26

### SUMMER CAMPS:

Senior High: July 4-10

Junior High/Middle High: July 11-16

Junior: July 18-23

Primary: July 25-28

For Camp Aurora updates, watch #whereyafrom, #comealong, website, and social media.

Camp Aurora received a generous donation from Larry Rizner’s sons given in memory of Larry. Thank you to Chad and Tim.

## YOUNG YOUTH

Bring a friend and come join us to see what great lessons we've got in store for you! Kids in grades K-5 get together on Wednesdays after school for fun with friends. We have snacks and dinner, time for play, and a Bible lesson and/or faith-based activity. We've been having some really good lessons with lots of great discussion. These kids are awesome! Supervision begins at 3:00 (or whenever your school gets out) and we end at 6:00.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** July 12-16, mornings. Save the dates!



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** for Young Youth on Wednesdays, approximately 5:00-5:35 p.m. If you can come join us for our Bible lesson sometime, that would be great. Bonus: You get to be reminded of different Bible stories and you get to hang out with awesome kids! Contact Rene to sign up for a week. Adults will also be needed for VBS, July 12-16.

Rene Miserez  
Young Youth Director  
573-694-6022

## EASTER EGG HUNT

**Saturday April 3, 10:00 a.m.**

With hundreds of eggs, it's more of a dash than a hunt and it goes quickly, so you don't want to be late! Bring friends to join the fun, and family to cheer you on. Be sure to bring something to hold your eggs. This activity is for all ages up through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

And then come back on Easter Sunday morning for Sunday School!

Bunnies, eggs, and jelly beans,  
That's not all that Easter means.  
There is another message, too ...  
Jesus died for me and you!



## MONTHLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

### USHER SCHEDULE

January/July	Mary Ann Wippermann Team
February/August	TEAM CAPTAIN NEEDED (Leo & Harold)
March/September	Carl Ernst Team
April/October	Monty Schmutzler Team
May/November	Russell Rottmann Team
June/December	TEAM CAPTAIN NEEDED (David, Dennis, Gary, Warren)

#### APRIL:

*Monty Schmutzler — Team Captain*

Mark Mueller	Allen Schmutzler
Roger Schneider	Roland Warmann

### SALVATION ARMY MEAL

April 8 — Patti Schmutzler

### MEALS ON WHEELS

April 21 — Prime Time Club

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

March 18, 2021

Offerings have been lower for the first two months of 2021, but the General Fund balance is still good with lower expenses.

In-person worship services resumed on February 28th with the same restrictions such as mask requirements, temperature checks and social distancing. Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday are being planned with the worship service at 10:00.

The elevator is working since being struck by lightning last year. It is hooked up to the monitoring system.

As a result of the hail storm in March 2020, the flat roof will be replaced and the slate roof will be repaired as soon as the bids are in. The church insurance has covered the costs.

The Safe Church Committee recommended to the church council the possibility of lifting the mask restrictions on May 1st if the positivity rate continues to stay low. Every other pew has been opened up to accommodate 70-80 people.

The Search and Call Committee will resume looking for possible Pastoral candidates in April.

The possibility of resuming the Breakfast Bonanza with restrictions was discussed. Watch for more details.

The Church Council members for 2021 are:

President - Larry Long

President-Elect - Duane Muck

Secretary - Joyce Mutert

Communication Ministry - Alan Bagnall

Congregational Life Ministry - Karen Howser

Faith Formation Ministry - Jeanie Woodward

Finance Ministry - Allen Schmutzler

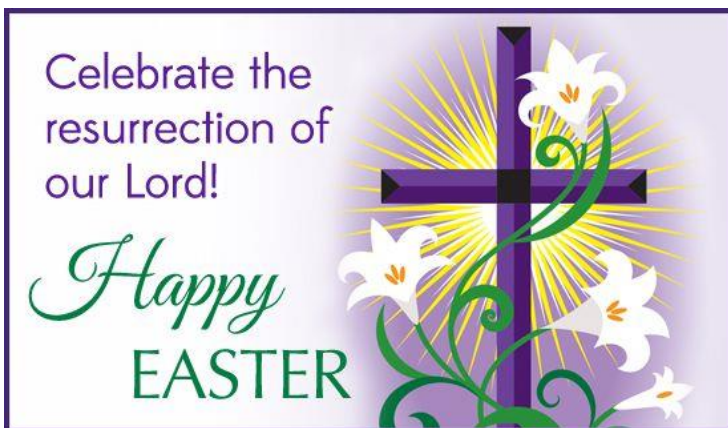
Human Resources Ministry - Patti Schmutzler

Mission & Outreach Ministry - Matt Kujath

Property Management - David Kohler

Worship & Music Ministry - Barb Schmutzler

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joyce Mutert, Secretary



# April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 10:00am Easter Egg Hunt
4 EASTER SUNDAY 10:00am Worship Service	5 (Office Closed)	6 5:30pm Brotherhood	7 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	8 4:30pm Salvation Army Meal	9	10
11 10:00am Worship Service	12	13	14 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	15 7:00pm Council Meeting	16	17
18 10:00am Worship Service	19	20	21 10:00am Meals On Wheels 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	22	23	24 Camp Aurora Workday
25 10:00am Worship Service	26 1:00pm WIGS Circle	27	28 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	29	30	31



118 West Ashley Street  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101  
Permit No. 8

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## OUR MISSION

To be a Christ-centered community of faithful disciples  
who are called to grow in faith, and share God’s love  
as we reach out to each other,  
to our community, and to our world.

**CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
118 W. Ashley Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Phone: (573) 635-1041

E-mail: [office@centralucc.com](mailto:office@centralucc.com)

Website: [www.centralucc.com](http://www.centralucc.com)

Ministers.....Every Member  
Pastor.....Rev. Dr. Judith Scott  
Young Youth Director .....Rene Miserez  
Organist ..... Shirley Klein  
Bell Choir Director .....Rene Miserez

**SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE:**

10:00am    Worship Service