

# Keeping the faith

*Churches get creative ahead of another Easter with COVID*



The  
Dove

Camano Lutheran Church  
April 2021

PHOTOS BY MARY JENNINGS / STANWOOD CAMANO NEWS

**Pastor Scott Brents at Palm Sunday service on March 28 at Camano Lutheran Church on Camano Island.**

By MARY JENNINGS  
For the SC News

**D**on't expect crowded pews, singing with a choir or many traditional egg hunts this weekend.

Though places of worship can now have more people at gatherings with the recent move to Phase 3 of the state's reopening plan, local church leaders plan to host COVID-safe Easter services and events this Sunday.

Don Allen, parish administrator at St. Cecilia Catholic Church in Stanwood, said safety protocols, such as social distancing and masks, remain very important.

"At 50% capacity we could have 250 people," Allen said. "However, with every other pew roped off so that we can maintain a separation of 6 feet, we max out at 130 in the church. Fortunately, we are able to have overflow attendance in our gathering space."

Other churches, like St. Aidan's on



**Some churches, such as Camano Lutheran Church, are hosting drive-in services during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Camano Island, are sticking with online services only.

"We are taking a slow and cautious approach in returning to in-person services," the Rev. Drew Foisie of St. Aidan's said. "We are planning no changes over the Easter weekend and will continue to stream our live 10 a.m. Sunday service on Facebook."

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Stanwood and Camano Lutheran

Church will continue to offer outdoor services with no changes for Easter Sunday.

"Members who attend our drive-in service on Easter may bring chairs if they prefer to sit outside of their vehicles," the Rev. Scott Brents of Camano Lutheran said. "Flowers are also welcome."

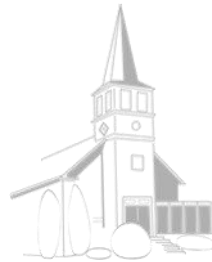
■ SEE EASTER, A5

# This is a Special Dove-lite

Due to Health and Safety Precautions the Dove will be online

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## CAMANO LUTHERAN CHURCH

360.629.4592

[www.camanolutheranchurch.org](http://www.camanolutheranchurch.org)

### CHURCH STAFF

**Pastor:** Scott Brents,  
[pastorclc@wavecable.com](mailto:pastorclc@wavecable.com)

**Music Coordinator:** Mary Munson

**Custodian:** Angel Honold

**Parish Administrator:** Stephanie Lightbody,  
[camanoclc@wavecable.com](mailto:camanoclc@wavecable.com)

**Preschool Director:** Carol Lawrence  
[camanopreschool@wavecable.com](mailto:camanopreschool@wavecable.com)

## Reflections with Pastor Scott



*"But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you. So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were terrified." Mark 16:7-8*

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Easter is finally here, and we finally get to say these words after a long Lenten season. A Lenten season that to some feels far longer than 40 days but reflects the last year as a whole.

Now that Easter has arrived, what do we do? On that first Easter when the women arrived at the tomb their world was thrown upside down once again. Jesus was not in the tomb and instead there was a young man dressed in a white robe who told them, "He has been raised...But go, tell his disciples and Peter..." Did they go and tell Peter and the disciples? According to the end of our Easter reading, "they said nothing to anyone, for they were terrified." The end! The end of the good news of Jesus Christ crucified and risen according to this section believed to be the originally ending of Mark's Gospel. Well, apparently not. As we read further along in Mark 16 and in the other Gospel renderings of Jesus' resurrection, they did go and tell.

When terror hits us and we are afraid, we often go silent for various reasons. We Lutherans have struggled with being silent over the years about sharing our faith in Christ for several reasons. I don't want to offend anyone. I don't have all the answers. I don't know enough, etc... The list is long. However, if we remain silent, who hears the good news? Had these women at the tomb remained silent in their terror, would we know the story and be here shouting, "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" throughout the Easter season and beyond?

In our fear of a virus coming into our lives over a year ago, it would have been easy to shut down and say nothing, but we didn't. Oh, some claimed "they" were keeping us from worshiping, but that was never the case. We continued to worship together, but in new ways. The good news of the crucified and risen Christ was never silenced. Like the new reality of worship that the earliest group of Christians engaged, we too engaged new ways of worship. Interestingly enough, those new ways actually connected with more people than had heard the Gospel before. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

So now as we start to move into new realities yet to be discovered on how we are church together, how will we respond to those words, "Go and tell..."? What might that look like? Will fear keep us from recognizing it or will "Alleluia! Christ is risen" lead us? By trusting in the transforming power of the resurrected Christ I believe we will say with words, actions, heart, soul and mind, "Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!"

Continuing the journey of faith with you,



## The Bishop's Article from the April 2021 edition of The Spirit

There is a cave in Kentucky called Mammoth Cave. When you first enter, it appears quite empty of life. Dark, quiet, dank, barren.

And yet ... and yet ...

Like many caves, first impressions can be deceiving. You see, over 200 animals live in Mammoth Cave. Animals that range from raccoons and other small creatures who accidentally venture into the cave and cannot figure out how to return to the outside, to animals who deliberately live both inside and outside of the cave, to forty-two species of troglobites - animals adapted exclusively to life in the darkness. ***Amid seeming emptiness, life is abundant.***

If one were to drive by most of our church buildings, parking lots would be empty and the doors would be locked. A casual observer might say, "That church is empty. Nothing is happening there."

And yet ... and yet ...

First impressions can be deceiving. There is a lot of life happening in congregations and ministry sites. There are people who have joined communities of faith in our synod that, for various reasons, would never have entered the doors of a church building. They have become part of the community through online worship – even if they live thousands of miles away. There are people who were a part of the church community for years – but because of work schedules or health issues or mobility concerns – they had faded away. Now they are coming each week as they re-connect. And there are people who have never left. They continue to foster relationships, enjoy serving in the community of the church, and who are faithful to the tasks that are required to keep churches functioning.

We have groups in many churches that are working with other organizations to help feed, clothe, teach, and be with people in the neighborhoods. We have those who are having sometimes uncomfortable (but always fruitful) conversations about what it means to be faithful in this time and place. We have many who are visiting and calling the sick and the dispirited.

Fundamentally, together we are living into the good news of Jesus and journeying together in the Spirit as we are Church in the world. ***Amid seeming emptiness, life is abundant.***





Listen to these words from the first Easter, “Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him!’ (John 20:1-2)

Mary looked into that tomb and saw only lifelessness and she despaired. She peered into the shadows and felt, deep in her bones, the darkness of sorrow, abandonment, disappointment, grief, heartache, and pain. She had gone searching for something, someone, and she came away with nothing.

And yet ... and yet ...

Jesus had risen. Jesus, scars and all, was going to meet her in the garden. In a few hours Jesus would call Mary’s name and assure her of his love. Jesus would come to the disciples and breathe on them – giving them peace and asking them to, “Feed his sheep.” And they would. ***Amid seeming emptiness, life is abundant.***

Dear Beloveds, this last year has felt somewhat like we were living in a cave. We have been confined, somewhat lost, weary, and wondering where the new life is. We have stumbled on rocks and fallen in despair.

And yet ... and yet ...

We trust that soon we will be gathering in-person together. Soon we will be beyond this pandemic. Soon life will not “return to normal” but instead will move forward as we live God’s calling of loving God and loving neighbor.

We know this because we are a resurrection people. Out of death comes life. We place our trust in our risen Savior who died and is raised again. ***Amid seeming emptiness, life is abundant in Christ Jesus our risen Savior.***

And we all proclaim: Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee



## April Birthdays

## Anniversaries

3rd - John Selle	10th - Colleen Buotte
4th - Donovan Knouse	15th - Bev Harang
5th - Arlene Blunck	16th - Brendon Osburn
5th - Larry Lien	16th - Marla Larsen
7th - Reinhard Speckhardt	17th - Griffin Satterfield
9th - Justin Schlagel	21st - Tammy Davis

3rd - David and Carol Anne Sears's  
 20th - Greg & Teresa Luce  
 25th - Paul & Lynne Eide

If we missed your birthday or anniversary please call the church office so we can celebrate with you.



**Healing for:** Avery Yee, Julie Bolser, Dene Henderson, her daughters Jeanette Jewell, Terri Henderson, & Grandson Ren Henderson, Candy Belk, Rick Belk, Chris Syversen, Linda Mackie, Savvanah, Alex, Jessica, Ginny Wortman, Annette Hollingworth, Sharon Buffaloe, Jon Hamilin, Phil Rifner, Pam Larson, Linda Johnson, Pastor Don AuClair, Brittany Scott, Nikki Belk, Leif Larson, Allison Vogue, Helen Micucci, Inez Hushagen, The Cohn Family - Evelyn, Scott, Ava & Brayen Cohn, Glenna Timmerman, Janet Weckerly, Sandy Peterson, Miriam Clark, Elsie Jo Hendrickson, Judy Andersen, Jim Powers, Sandy Cowden, Cindy Hogman, Sophie Jackson, Tom Moore, Leih Rutledge, Brad McDonald, Ginny Esslinger, Nancy Johnson, Wilma Barrett, Wayne Wegner, Jim Olsen, Jan Karr, Maranda Hansen, Bill Holz, Andy Hamilton, Curtis Peterson, Antivius Rush, Bill Vance, Joshua Tinker, Davie Kelly, Andrew Adams, Eric McDonnell, Joy L Edwards, Diane Hilmo, Trisha Bourdeau, Geoff Taylor, Jessica, Jeanne, Barrett, Frances Viscoti, Dan Harris, Karin Cockett, Landry Hall (great grandson of Loretta Nelson), Sean Brough, Ken Bailey, Madison Paganini, Stacy Pinorini, Tammy Davis, Bonnie Thomas, Jan Churchhill, Steve Schmitz,

**Comfort for: Family of** Les Surridge, Allen Gilbertson, Jack Otto, Bert Isaksen, Judy Andersen,

**Guidance for: Port Towns** Church Planting: Danny & Aubrey Edwards-Luce

**Military persons associated with Camano Lutheran or Specific Request:**

*Dan Porter, Tyler Munson, Scott Johnston, Derek Hinde, Brian Cummings, Robert F Guerrero, John VF Guerrero, Michael SF Guerrero, Isaac Teichgrab, Olivia Shoup, Kyle Osburn, Nathaniel Powers,*

**PLEASE** HELP US KEEP THE PRAYER LIST UP TO DATE BY NOTIFYING THE CHURCH OFFICE OF ANY ERRORS, OMISSIONS, OR CHANGES. **THANK YOU.**



### From the Council

The tentative schedule for the first in-person church worship is

**Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**

The Council members will be meeting with all the different ministry teams to coordinate all the different aspects of Sunday Worship and to coordinate volunteer help for facilitating state regulations and keeping each other as safe as possible.

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### Stewardship Snapshot



	<u>Feb 2021</u>	<u>YTD</u>
General Offerings Received	32,571	44,430
Fees/Reimbursements	-	180
Interest Earned - General Account	337	337
Total Income	<u>32,908</u>	<u>44,947</u>
Expenses Paid	<u>24,208</u>	<u>48,338</u>
Overage (Shortage)	<u>8,700</u>	<u>(3,391)</u>
 Budgeted Benevolence Paid Out	 959	 1,918
Designated Benevolence Paid Out	<u>1,415</u>	<u>3,570</u>
Total Benevolence Paid Out	<u>2,374</u>	<u>5,488</u>

## **2020 IRS Tax Update**

**The IRS has made it permanent that those age 70-1/2 and older can contribute funds directly from their IRA to a 501(c)3 organization (of which CLC is one).**



In doing so, this amount is not reported as part of your taxable income on your tax return, but cannot be taken as a charitable deduction if itemizing expenses. However, with the change in the tax laws in 2019, the standard deduction has become so high (\$14,050 if age 65 or over and filing single and \$27,400 if filing jointly in 2020) that very few taxpayers now itemize and as the contribution from an IRA is not reported as taxable income, this can be a significant tax advantage. Thus, donors can make a gift in 2021 any time of the year. You can donate what might be your total "pledge" at one time for 2021 and Teresa will prorate the donation monthly over the year. Most IRA Trustees will transfer funds on a regular schedule – i.e. monthly, quarterly or semi-annually, if so directed.

Secondly, for 2020 only, taxpayers who do not itemize and use the standard deduction, can deduct \$300 in cash charitable contributions from taxable income. This also reduces federal taxes payable. This deduction is a maximum of \$300 per tax return, regardless of filing status (single or joint), and must be paid in cash and not from an IRA. It seems likely that some version of this will be passed for 2021 tax returns due to the ongoing pandemic.

Lastly, donation of appreciated common stock is still a good option. If highly appreciated stock is donated, and the donor is itemizing expenses, the donor can deduct the market value of the stock at the time of donation. The donor does not have to claim the amount of the capital gain on their tax return that would have been realized if the stock were sold and the funds donated. If this option is chosen, Teresa should be contacted in advance to give the donor the instructions for having the stock deposited to the Church's brokerage account and to let her know when the transfer has been made. She will immediately sell the stock with the funds deposited as the donor directs (i.e. general fund, building fund, specific benevolences.) The donor is responsible for determining the value of the gift. CLC will only report the description of the stock and number of shares to the donor.

Total charitable donations from an IRA are limited to \$100,000. John Selle has reported that his tax advisor recommends donating to Camano Lutheran Church directly from his IRA. It not only reduces his income tax payable but also provides incentive for making a larger donation.

**Gretchen Pigott, Treasurer  
Stewardship & Finance Ministry Team**





Safe Harbor  
Free Clinic

## Online Spring Fundraiser

BEGINNING  
APRIL 9, 2021

A  
"No-Show"  
EVENT

No  
Mask  
HOORAY!

NO dressing up  
NO auctioneer  
NO pressure  
AND No Overhead  
so 100% of the  
proceeds go to  
Safe Harbor

"How can  
I help?"

### Monthly Support

- Allows us to continue providing free healthcare to those in need.
- Helps us meet our monthly expenses.

### One-time donation

ONE-TIME GIFTS are always appreciated.

### Help Support

### Safe Harbor Free Clinic

- Patient visit \$145
- Help keep the heat and lights on \$175
- Antibiotics \$50
- Women's Wellness Visit \$150
- Supplies for COVID Vaccine Clinics \$100
- 1 Year of Telehealth service \$1,000

No-Show  
Event

**Visit us online each day for new stories and videos.**

**April 9-16, 2021**

**[www.safeharborfreeclinic.org](http://www.safeharborfreeclinic.org)**

**Donations can be made online or  
with the enclosed donation envelope.**



Thank you that came in from Safe Harbor

Dear Camano Lutheran,

Thank you for your January Benevolence of \$200 donated to Safe Harbor Free Clinic.

Our patients face so many challenges in life so providing access to free healthcare is one way we can encourage and meet the needs of many in our community. Your gift to us touches many lives and provides physical, emotional and spiritual healing to those who come to us for care.

Thank you for your generosity and for your gift of life to those in need.

Sandy Louis  
Executive Director



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

February 23, 2021

*Thank You*

Camano Lutheran Church  
850 Heichel Rd  
Camano Island, WA 98282-8804

Dear Camano Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$325.00 to Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) ministries through ELCA Good Gifts.

*Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy;  
baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy.*  
– ELW 328

This is a season of reflection and sacrifice, but also a season of hope. As we walk the 40-day journey of Lent, we know that we are walking toward Easter and the promise of renewal. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA are bringing that promise and hope to your neighbors around the world.

Your Good Gift is a very good gift, indeed. With resources such as seedlings and seminary courses, vaccinations and vegetable gardens, Bibles and blankets, you're equipping God's people – around the world and around the corner – with what they need to live abundant lives.

You are creating new beginnings. Thank you for sharing the hope of new life and the fullness of Christ's joy.

In God's abundant grace,

*Rachel Wind*

Rachel Wind  
Executive for Philanthropy

*P.S. Please see the reverse side of this letter for your official receipt.*



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

March 9, 2021

Camano Lutheran Church  
850 Heichel Rd  
Camano Island, WA 98282-8804

Dear Camano Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift(s) given to your synod, received by Lutheran Disaster Response in January 2021.

*Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy;  
baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy.*

– ELW 328

This is a season of reflection and sacrifice, but it is also a season of hope. As we walk the 40-day journey of Lent, we know that we are walking toward Easter and the promise of renewal. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA are bringing that promise and hope to your neighbors around the world.

Your Spirit-filled generosity is helping families and communities reeling from disasters here in the United States and around the world. No matter the variety of disaster, no matter the variety of need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods now and far into the future.

You are creating new beginnings. Thank you for sharing the hope of new life and the fullness of Christ's joy.

In Christ,

The Rev. Robin Brown  
Mission Funding Director, Congregations

*P.S. Please see the reverse side of this letter for your receipt.*





P.O.Box 335  
Sedro Woolley, WA 98284  
Phone: 360-854-0743  
[www.familypromiseskagit.weebly.com](http://www.familypromiseskagit.weebly.com)  
[communicationteam@familypromiseskagit.org](mailto:communicationteam@familypromiseskagit.org)

Dear COVID-19,

**Years before our guests and staff were wearing face masks and applying sanitizer to protect against you, we were dealing with a pandemic of a different sort; the crisis of families with children experiencing homelessness.**

Our halls ring loudly with stories of families that need a place to find hope, stability and to rebuild a sense of trust. The mom and dad who had it all but suddenly lost their job due to a health crisis. The single pregnant mom fleeing an abusive situation. How about the dad whose wife died, leaving him to care for two kids. "I don't know how to do this on my own," is what we hear time and time again from families who have experienced overwhelming traumas. The 184 children and 296 individuals we served through shelter and prevention this year no longer have to carry that pain.

COVID-19, you brought a new layer of uncertainty to our community. Your intentions were to come in between our goals, stop our volunteers, and hurt our families. Perhaps some of those things did happen, but like our families, we have learned, we have adapted, we have formed even stronger relationships in our community, and have become more resilient. While you were out spreading despair, we were spreading hope. While you were trying to stop our programs, we doubled in Shelter and Prevention capacity and added bi-lingual services. You may have intended to hurt us and slow us down but Family Promise of Skagit and our families are stronger. GOODBYE COVID YOUR EFFORTS ARE FUTILE.

**To our, Donors and Sponsors, Please come join us for our new Spring Fundraiser: Night at the Manor.**

This will be a Communi-Tea Experience, where we will celebrate all that has been accomplished through this last year, We will toast our teacups to all the good that is to come and we will recast a vision dear to all of your hearts: Increased impact in the efforts to end homelessness for families with children is our goal.

**Please see the attached flyer to register for the event.**

**Not ready to come out and be a part of events yet? That's ok.** Join us on Facebook live on April 21st or on our Webpage <https://familypromiseskagit.weebly.com>. We will be running a month-long event leading up to April 21st which is also Family Promise National Giving Day.

Thank you from us and the 360 families with 655 children since our 2015 inception, whose lives have been touched through Family Promise Housing and Prevention Services. With your support, we stabilize 78% of our families into secure housing. Even if you can't make it to our event please consider becoming a sponsor, donor, or sustaining partner, you are changing the future of our community.

Thank you for all you do to ensure our mission continues.  
Sincerely,

*Audrea Woll*

Family Promise of Skagit Valley  
Executive Director





March 15, 2021

Scott Brents  
Camano Lutheran Church  
850 Heichel Rd  
Camano Island, WA 98282-8804

Dear Scott,

**We were delighted to receive your donation of \$42.00 on March 8, 2021.** Thank you! You are helping local households break the devastating cycles of poverty and homelessness with your support. I hope you feel great about that!

Shanté is one such household you're helping. Her accomplishments show how much your giving helps our neighbors in need. Family Support Coaches provide much needed guidance for parents and children as they transition out of homelessness. Once in a home the immediate crisis is over and it's time to address other challenges to help them thrive. Shanté's story is one of many examples of the:

- 746 individuals from 293 families transitioning out of homelessness who received tailored services from our Family Support Coaches
- 72% of employable adults who participated in job training, advanced education, internships or paid employment

We are incredibly thankful for your support and look forward to sharing more of our successes and challenges over the coming months! If you have any questions or have interest in volunteering in a Covid-safe way, give us a call at 425-347-6556.

Sincerely,

Nate Greenland  
Director of Donor Impact  
[nategreenland@housinghope.org](mailto:nategreenland@housinghope.org)

**P.S.** Are you interested in doubling or even tripling your gifts to Housing Hope? Check with your company's HR department for eligibility.



*"A little background before I get into the wonders that Housing Hope has done for this recovering addict. My name is Shanté Miller. I am a 38-year-old New Orleans native. For over a decade I was addicted to opioids. My home became a den of toxicity. To get out of that chaos, I relocated to Washington with my daughter who was 2 at the time.*

*It's not always easy to put your life together after being on the streets or addicted to substances. The services that Housing Hope provide are the full package. Without their generosity, I wouldn't have transitioned from having nothing and trying to raise my child on my own, to having completed the program, having a bank account, completing my AA degree and currently pursuing my Bachelors, and walking in my purpose. I was given the time, attention, tools, opportunity and support to shine. And that I did. One day at a time, piece by piece, goal after goal. Thanks to all that Housing Hope had to offer.*

*So, I'd say reintroductions are in order. Hi, my name is Shanté Miller, SUD, LMHC, Peer Support Coach, and one of Housing Hopes shining stars. I'm honored to be able to tell you my story of success."*

Housing Hope is a 501(C)(3) exempt organization, tax identification #94-3060709. No goods or services have been received in exchange for this gift. Please consult with your tax advisor regarding its deductibility. We may acknowledge you publicly as a supporter, using your name as it appears in this letter, unless you request otherwise. If you would prefer to receive our communications via email or on a quarterly or annual basis, please contact us at [giving@housinghope.org](mailto:giving@housinghope.org).

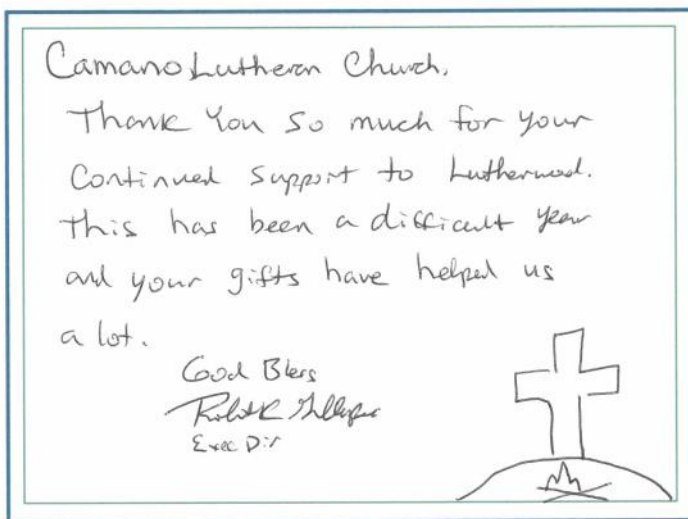
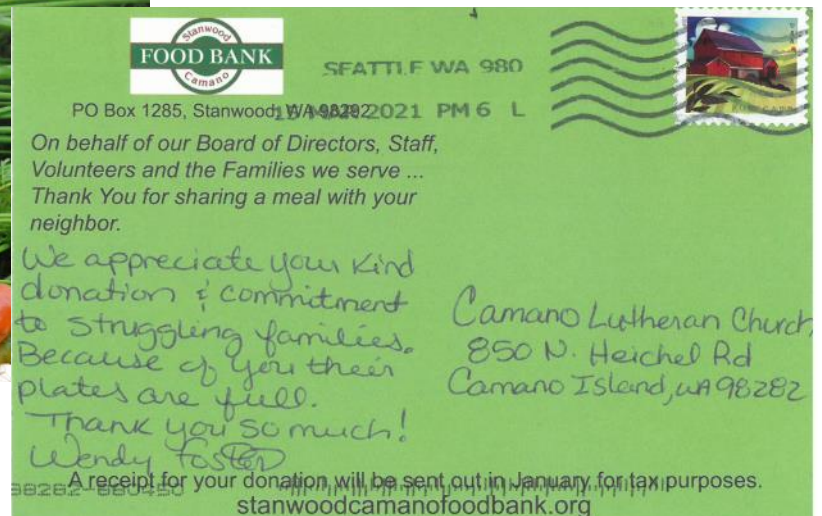
Tel: 425.347.6556 | Fax: 425.353.4456 | [www.housinghope.org](http://www.housinghope.org) | 5830 Evergreen Way | Everett, WA 98203-3748

Promoting and providing affordable housing and tailored services to reduce homelessness and poverty  
for residents of Snohomish County and Camano Island.





Thank yous from March



To the members of Camano Lutheran Church,  
 Thank you for your generous cash donations this Christmas season. With your support we were able to buy many items for the residents to enjoy!  
 We greatly appreciate your gifts & support.  
 Blessings,  
 The Josephine Chaplain Team



# Scripture Lessons for April 2021

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## Sunday Lessons

### April 4th: Easter Sunday

- Acts 10:34-43
- Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
- 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
- Mark 16:1-8

### April 11th: 2nd Sunday of Easter

- Acts 4:32-35
- Psalm 133
- 1 John 1:1--2:2
- John 20:19-31

### April 18th: 3rd Sunday of Easter

- Acts 3:12-19
- Psalm 4
- 1 John 3:1-7
- Luke 24:36b-48

### April 26th: 4th Sunday of Easter

- Acts 4:5-12
- Psalm 23
- 1 John 3:16-24
- John 10:11-18