

# Connections

April 2021

## Rising Up

Corey Laughary, Pastor



*"If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you."*

~ Romans 8:11

WE, as people who depend on Jesus, are people of the Resurrection.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the victory of God over sin, death, and evil. The Resurrection is not to be kept to one holiday or even a single season of the year. The Resurrection is the defining hope of people who have faith in Jesus. We are people who will rise up from the dead because of Jesus.

This reality about Jesus' people has been secured through the death and Resurrection of Jesus. In Romans 8:11, we learn that the "If the Spirit of [God] who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, [God] who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through the Spirit who dwells in you."



RESURRECTION, NEW LIFE,  
REDEMPTION, LIBERATION, RENEWAL,  
RESTORATION, TRANSFORMATION,  
EXULTATION, CELEBRATION,  
ABUNDANCE, AWAKENING,  
BLOSSOMING, FREEDOM,  
METAMORPHOSIS...  
EASTER!

Palouse Federated Church  
635 N. Bridge St.  
Palouse, WA 99161  
(509) 878-1509  
www.palousechurch.org

Corey Laughary, Senior Pastor  
Cell | (509) 336-9154  
corey@palousechurch.org

Tina Laughary, Congregational Care  
Phone | (509) 878-1334  
tclaughary@yahoo.com

Vanessa Moore, Youth Leader  
Cell | (509) 595-1910  
vanessa@palousechurch.org

Hua Ming Newman, Worship Arts  
& Tech Assistant  
huaming@palousechurch.org

Tim Sievers, Connection Director  
Cell | (509) 595-2778  
tim@palousechurch.org

---

***"We are the  
people who  
rise up  
because the  
Spirit of God  
raised Jesus  
up."***

---

The Resurrection is historically magnificent good news, but for those who believe it is powerfully life-changing, soul-transforming, eternity-shifting good news. We who believe in Jesus Christ are given new life through the same Spirit that resurrected Jesus from the dead. Your new life in Christ is empowered by the Spirit of God!

We are the people who rise up because the Spirit of God raised Jesus up. So friends, I ask you, are you down or discouraged? Are you worried or fearful? Is there an illness or trouble that looks larger than you know how to handle? The good news is that the Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead, and partnered with Jesus in conquering sin, death, and evil through the cross and the Resurrection, has chosen to become resident in your life, and is providing for you a new life that is not defined simply by the difficulties of this world. Instead, your life with Jesus is defined by the Resurrection and the Spirit that accomplished the Resurrection. Therefore, you can tell your worries and your troubles, your fears and your trials, that the God who is with you is far greater. You are a child of God. You are one who God chose to die for and to rise for, so that one day God could raise you up to new and everlasting life.

Be encouraged dear friends. Though we have had a season of struggles and trials in our nation and in many families, God will not allow the suffering of the world to have larger say in who we are as people. God has spoken through Jesus Christ, and He clearly wanted us to know He was with us; His final words in the Gospel of Matthew are, "I am with you always, to the end of the age."

If you are someone who depends on Jesus, that Jesus Christ - the Risen One, is with you always, even to the very end. We are now, and always will be people of the Resurrection.

Depending on Jesus to Raise me up,

*Pastor Corey*

# The Day Between...

Tim Sievers, Connection Director

Holy Week is a busy week in the life of the Church! Here in Palouse, we start the week off with our Palm Sunday Worship services, and then the week continues with our final Lent Soup Supper, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services before reaching its culmination on Resurrection Sunday as we gather to watch the sun rise and proclaim that Jesus is Risen! But that's not all, we continue to worship for our regular weekly services as well.



Often overlooked, in the midst of the busyness of Holy Week is Holy Saturday. Holy Saturday is the day between the horrors of the cross on the one side and the glory of resurrection on the other. Holy Saturday is a day of waiting and wondering...a day of disbelief...and belief. There's only one mention in scripture of what happened on the day between. Matthew recounts the waiting and the disbelief of the religious leaders:

62 The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate 63 and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' 64 Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." 65 Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." 66 So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

Matthew 27:62-66

As I reflected on this scripture, I was struck by the scene. The Pharisees, the religious leaders, don't seem to fear that Jesus will rise from the dead – they don't believe that's going to happen – but, they fear that the disciples might steal his body and thus perpetuate the false narrative they accuse Jesus of living. So, what do they do? They order the tomb sealed and set a guard to keep the disciples from continuing the supposed fraud, secure in the strength of their protective measures.

—  
***“Holy Saturday is a day of waiting and wondering...a day of disbelief...and belief”***  
—

Interestingly, stealing the body of Jesus was a thought that never crossed the disciple's minds. They were cloistered away in an upper room overwhelmed with grief and afraid for their own lives. They weren't going to risk stealing Jesus' body, and, in truth, they didn't yet realize what Jesus had meant when he said, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (John 2:19).

The Pharisees seal the tomb and set the guard, as if they could stop God from acting. And the disciples...the disciples wait, just as we do on Holy Saturday – only we know how the story unfolds, so we wait not in fear, but with hope.

Of course, nothing can keep God from accomplishing his plan. At dawn the following day, the story continues with an earthquake, an angel, trembling guards, and the rock rolled away (Matthew 28). And on Resurrection Sunday we proclaim with Christians through time and space:

—  
***“God accomplishes the unimaginable. He's more powerful than the Pharisees and Pilate dared to dream.”***  
—

Death could not hold You  
The veil tore before You  
You silenced the boast of sin and grave  
The heavens are roaring  
The praise of Your glory  
For You are raised to life again!  
*(What a Beautiful Name, Hillsong Worship)*

God accomplishes the unimaginable. He's more powerful than the Pharisees and Pilate dared to dream.

On Holy Saturday, before you head out for the day, before you pack the car for your vacation, take time to consider the day between – take time to sit, to wait, and to wonder. Sit, not in fear, like the disciples, or disbelief, like the Pharisees, but in belief, and the hope that comes from knowing our beautiful, wonderful, powerful God is MORE than anything we could imagine and MORE than anything we might face in this world.

**HOLY SATURDAY**  
**OH DEATH, DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE A VICTORY?**



## Youth Group Activities Hybrid (Zoom+In-Person)

Middle School Youth Group (Grades 6-8)  
Wednesdays | 6:30 - 7:30 PM

High School Bible Study (Grades 9-12)  
Sundays | 5 PM

Please contact Vanessa Moore  
with any questions:  
(509) 595-1910  
vanessa@palousechurch.org



Young Life Golf Tournament  
6/26 | WSU Golf Course  
\$150 Per Golfer  
Contact Betty Sawyer  
to register!



**Palouse Food Pantry  
Distribution Day | April 28  
1-2:30 PM & By Appointment  
Calvary Chapel of Palouse**

Order Online: [palousefoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:palousefoodpantry@gmail.com)  
Or Call the Pantry: (509) 595-3048  
Orders will be delivered or you can pick up.

## Bible Study Schedule

In-Person and Zoom Options Now Available  
Contact your Bible Study Leader for More Info.

Sun. | 5 PM | High School  
Tues. | 5:30 AM | Men  
Tues. | 10 AM | Mixed Group  
Wed. | 10 AM | Ladies  
Wed. | 6:30 PM | Mixed Group  
Wed. | 6:30 PM | Middle School  
Thurs. | 9 AM | Ladies



You can access online worship resources, sermon audio, newsletters, and  
online giving at: [www.palousechurch.org](http://www.palousechurch.org)

# Giving Spotlight: Life Lessons

Did you know that since 2014, PFC and other local ministries have partnered in the Life Lessons program for local graduating seniors? God has blessed this program. We've served more than 100 graduates and given away more than \$20,000 in scholarship awards. Each year, the students take classes on "Finances, Relationships and Your Future," and spend time with Christian mentors. We've seen many young adults make faith decisions during this program, and many others who build bonds with our program volunteers.

How you can help?

Would you be interested in being a 2021 Life Lessons Mentor? Please contact Pastor Corey for more info.

Do you know a student who would be blessed by being part of the Life Lessons program? Please let us know.

Would you consider praying for the Life Lessons program between now and mid-June?

Would you consider giving financially to help provide for the costs and \$250 awards for the students? Currently, Life Lessons is just shy of what it needs to serve 20 students this year, so we are looking for a few more partners to give \$250. You can give at [PalouseChurch.org](http://PalouseChurch.org) - look for the Life Lessons option, or just note Life Lessons on your check or offering envelope.



635 N BRIDGE ST | PALOUSE, WA 99161