

Special Message from *Your Pastors and Board of Directors*

SUNCOAST MCC 2021 • EASTER OFFERING

Together we are forging connection and community!



Dear SunCoast MCC family and friends,

This year, SunCoast MCC, like the whole world, is focused on a renewed vision of what it means to live and be church in a post-pandemic world!

In this season of anticipating the Resurrection of Jesus, we are grateful for what God has done in and through SunCoast MCC this year.

We are building a new “normal.” We continue **opening our hearts and our church** to how God wants to use us in a world that has been dramatically impacted by the virus and events of this year.

Last Easter, we were in the midst of a capital campaign that seemed somewhat uncertain – and yet, it succeeded beyond our expectations, and positioned us to face the future with boldness. We struggled last year to keep our church connected, to produce a weekly service that was inspiring – we persevered, and now we Live Stream, we Zoom, we hold outdoor worship, and continue to connect and serve our community!

We are also asking the questions:

- “When will we gather indoors together, in our sanctuary?”
- “Will we be able to hug each other”;
- “When will we share our first church meal together?”;
- “What will it feel like to serve each other communion, to sing as a congregation, to have an in-person choir, to pass the peace?”;
- “Will we have a Pride Festival this year”;
- and, most importantly,
- “Who will need us now that our mission is changing in a post-pandemic world?”



As we ask the questions, we are preparing to re-enter a sanctuary that will connect us in new ways. We are preparing to upgrade our technology for our congregants who will still prefer to attend church online, and for the new folks who are seeking community. In our worship this season, and as we move forward, we are mending broken hearts, and offering a space for spiritual growth and service to others.

We are taking advantage of what we have learned about using technologies for meetings, education and social connections. We want to expand our use of our outdoor spaces. We want to expand our identity

beyond our street address. Over the last year, our services and Bible studies and groups have been visited online from folks in the Philippines, in Scotland, in California, Colorado, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Maine, and so many other places. . .

SunCoast MCC is filled with hope and focused on our connections as we build community.

Our Easter Offering this year is going to be focused on specific projects to prepare us for our new reality, and to strengthen our everyday resources.

- Today we give thanks for all who give faithfully throughout the year! Because of you, more people are connecting with our church.
- Today, we address the uncertainty of our world with faith. We are learning, again, to trust the God who called us in the first place. We can create worship and programs and service to the community in person, online, outdoors, with creativity and hope!
- Today we know that SunCoast MCC is still needed – by those who have been here a long time, a short while, or who are just finding us now. We are a sign of connection and community for so many.

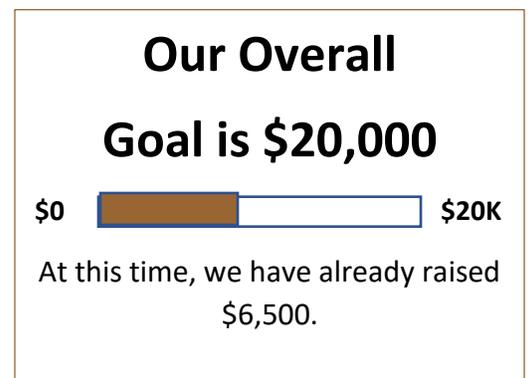
The message of radical inclusion, that God loves all people, that there is a church that is focused on that message and that kind of community, is still news in our world!

Today, we come to you, prayerfully, for a generous Easter offering that will help fund:

- \$10, 000 for the General Fund
- \$10,000 to replace the flooring to the Sanctuary (original to the building), so when we re-open the building for inside worship, we may continue walking the path, sharing God’s love. Our church home is a beacon for us and those who’ve yet to find their way. Let’s make sure we are standing on solid ground and finish our church face-lift.

How you Can Contribute

1. **Check:** Mail or drop off at Church.
2. **Online:** Go to <https://suncoastmcc.com/easter-offering-2021/> and donate on easy tithes.



Grace, Peace and Love,

Rev. Vickie, Rev. Nancy and Board of Directors

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Won't You Please Help Get Us There?

