

## **In the Interim...**

### **This We Know**

I read of a church who was considering placing an advertisement in the local newspaper inviting people to their Easter worship. As church committees do, they went round and round discussing what to say to entice people to come. How could they explain why Easter is so significant? How could they present the empty tomb? What kind of evidence could they give? Finally, one member suggested they just say, "Join us. We're not exactly sure what happened."

The Easter story is a miracle story of how one man, Jesus the Christ, overcame death. Just exactly how it happened is a mystery. The accounts vary in the gospels. But not one of the accounts questions if the resurrection of Jesus did indeed happen. That we cannot doubt. George Gallup once did a poll and found that the majority of those surveyed who did not even attend church believed that Jesus rose from the dead. The resurrection is attested through almost 2,000 years of religious history.

We do not know exactly how or what happened in the resurrection of Christ, but we can see what happens to us and to others in light of it. The resurrection lives in our experiences of forgiveness, in the renewal of love, and in the rebirth of hope. The resurrection lives in the triumph of God's love over everything that threatens to rob our lives of meaning and joy. It lives in release from fear in both life and death. About those things, we can be sure.

We may not be sure how the resurrection happened, but we are sure we serve a risen Savior. The words of an old hymn express it well: "You ask me how I know he lives, he lives within my heart." Join us for the special services of Holy Week.

**Wanda Neely, Interim Pastor**