

2021 Sample Easter Appeal Letter

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Once again, we are making our way through Lent, isolated and distanced from our extended families and our church. This is not the kind of Lent we are used to experiencing together. We gave up so much more this year than in any other year most of us can remember. We gave up dinners out, strolls through stores, movies, plays, school concerts, sporting events, family visits, and so much more. Like last year, maybe Lent will be more meaningful for some measured by how much we have given up. Some are probably feeling as if have spent twelve months stuck in Good Friday. To quote Tony Campollo, "but Sunday's a comin'!"

We will celebrate on Easter morning, but not all at one time or in one space as we have for other Easter days. With the distribution of vaccines, we have new hope for an end to this deadly pandemic, and one day soon we will hear one another sing, "*Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!*"

A tomb sealed with a rock could not keep God out or Jesus in. Closed church doors will not stop the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Closed church doors will not stop the Alleluias, and they will not stop the triumph of life over death and light over darkness. Closed church doors will not stop our church from proclaiming Easter hope during the COVID-19 crisis, when our whole community and our entire world needs to hear hope so desperately!

The mission and ministry of our church didn't stop twelve months ago when we got the word that we needed to close our doors to slow the spread of this disease. In some ways, the demands of our mission field became more challenging! We are needed now more than ever! This church needs your financial support now more than ever too! Many of us find ourselves in a very different financial situation than we were in when the year began; but if you are able, as much as your able, continue your financial support to keep being a witness of hope to our congregation and community.

Wouldn't it be an awesome testimony of hope if our Easter offering this year matched or exceeded what we received in the years before the pandemic? This year's Easter offering will go a long way for our church to offer ministry to those in need due to this crisis. Please use the enclosed envelope or mark your special gifts, "Easter Hope Offering." If you choose to give online, you can do so at this link: (add link if applicable)

You are in my prayers every day, and I hope I'm in yours.

In Easter hope,

Pastor