

If you're having trouble with the formatting of this message [view this email in your browser](#).

---



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

L'ÉGLISE UNIE DU CANADA

**April 21, 2017**

*Look around, and you will see evidence of God's living presence in our world.*



A box full of pussy willows arrived in my office last week. When Lewis Coffman was a member of the General Council Executive, he brought pussy willows from his garden to the May meeting of the Executive, and now he is continuing that beautiful springtime tradition with the assistance of Canada Post.

The next day, a shrub in our yard that had been nothing but bare sticks all winter was suddenly covered with a profusion of yellow flowers. Next, the hard ground in the park I traverse through on the way to and from work was transformed by velvety green new grass.

These improbable bursts of life after the frozen days of winter were so fitting in the Holy Week time of preparation for death and Resurrection.

Even as we struggle to take in the miracles and mysteries of Easter, we find evidence all around us of God's living presence in our world.

A very different example presented itself this week in the form of an [Easter message](#) from the churches of South Sudan. Our fellow Christians — in a place where war, displacement, and starvation are the realities of everyday life — offered these astounding words of hope and faith.

"The Resurrection he offers us is certainly connected with the eternal life promised to us, but it is not only something for the future... the Resurrection reminds us that even in this world, evil and death will not continue for ever; goodness and light will triumph."

May this powerful Easter faith inspire us all. May we each live in ways that offer the hope of Easter to a world full of Good Fridays.

Nora

---

This message has been sent to subscribers to the General Secretary's Letter, "Note from Nora."

---