

April 2026

Heart2Heart Ministries

WHO WILL ROLL THE STONE AWAY?

"When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?' And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large." Mark 16:1-4

As the women approached the tomb early on that first Resurrection morning, carrying spices to anoint the body of Jesus, they went with love, faith, and intention. Despite her grief, Mary Magdalene had kept her eye on Jesus through his death and burial - she knew where they had buried him (Mark 15:47). So, on the third day after his death, she and the other women bought spices and went to the tomb with faith that they would have access to Jesus. They had been devoted followers of Jesus and wanted to express their devotion, care, and commitment to Him.

As they walked, one question weighed on their minds: "Who will roll the stone away?" Mary knew the stone they placed in front of the tomb was large. It was a real obstacle that they had not planned for, like they did with the spices. They did not ask one of the disciples to come and help them. They did not know if the soldier guarding the tomb would help them roll away the stone or even allow them close to the tomb. Yet they kept walking toward the tomb anyway, full of hope that they would get to Jesus. They didn't know that the stone had already been rolled away.

Are you facing any large stones in your life that just seem insurmountable? Perhaps you are facing a health diagnosis that only God can heal. Keep walking toward Jesus. Are you overwhelmed with grief and uncertainty from the death of a loved one? Keep leaning into the God who gives peace and comfort. Perhaps you are experiencing brokenness in your relationships. Trust the One who reconciles and brings healing in the midst of brokenness. During uncertainty, I encourage you to lean into Jesus: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." (Hebrews 11:1)

This issue:

Who Will Roll
the Stone Away?
Pages 1-2

Heart2Heart
Ministries Luncheon
Page 3

April Birthdays/
Testimony
Page 4

Women's Ministry
Leaders Directory
Page 5

International Assembly
Welcome Bags
Page 6





In many ways, discipleship begins in the same place. God often calls us forward before the obstacle is removed. We pursue relationships with unchurched women, trusting that God can remove the barriers that stand in the way of them getting to Jesus.

I recently experienced my own “stone” moment. Earlier this week, I had a meeting with one of my students. After we finished discussing the academic portion of our conversation, we moved on to talk about personal things. The student had just had a baby and was expressing how tough it was for them as a couple as they adjust to their new normal. I encouraged my student and felt the inclination to ask to pray with the student. The student is very warm toward me and often speaks freely with me about their faith and their life, but they are of a different faith that does not embrace Christianity.

I did not offer to pray with my student in that moment because of their beliefs and practical wisdom in my role, but I left the door open for my student to talk to me about anything marriage and parenthood. I left the conversation feeling like I missed an important opportunity. I wondered how I can represent Christ in a way that will not jeopardize my job, yet still exercise faith that God is opening a door to indeed share the gospel. It felt like standing before a large stone, unsure how God would make a way.

Have you ever been there, wanting to express your faith but felt like there was a large barrier in front of you? Mary Magdalene and the other women felt the same way when they approached the tomb. The women did not yet know that God had already moved the stone. But they showed up anyway. Disciple making often looks and feels the same way—taking faithful steps toward Jesus even when the path is unclear. The Resurrection reminds us that the power of God is already at work before we arrive. Our calling is to walk faithfully, trusting that the stone will not have the final word.

Sometimes the “stones” we face in ministry look like exhaustion, discouragement, leadership pressure, fear, caring for others while neglecting ourselves, and other crises. Yet the resurrection story shows us something powerful: **God honors those who keep walking toward Jesus, even with unanswered questions.**

Discipleship is not about having every obstacle solved. It is about faithfully following Christ, leading others to commit to Jesus, and multiplying followers along the way.

This Easter season, consider:

- Who is walking behind you that you can disciple?
- What stone might God already be moving that you cannot yet see?
- Where is Jesus inviting you to walk forward in faith?

The women came carrying spices to anoint the body of a dead Savior. They left, encountering the **resurrected Christ**. That is the promise of discipleship. The stone may look heavy. The path may feel uncertain. But resurrection power is already at work. So, keep walking toward Jesus. Because when we move toward Jesus in faith, we often discover **the stone has already been rolled away.**

Aileen Reid



Heart2Heart Ministries Luncheon

Nineteen of us gathered for lunch at Olive Garden just before the Uplift Conference. It was a wonderful time to slow down, share a meal, and enjoy meaningful conversation before the conference began. We enjoyed laughter, encouragement, and genuine connection. The gathering gave us the chance to get to know one another, uplift each other in faith, and pray together for each other and the conference. This simple time together reminded us how important fellowship is. Before heading into the conference, the luncheon gave everyone a moment to connect heart-to-heart, leaving refreshed, encouraged, and excited for what God would do during the Uplift Conference.

We missed you at our Heart2Heart Lunch connection. Hope to see you next year.





April Birthdays

1	Jacynth Downs	16	Amy Hile
6	Judy Ferguson	19	Connie Mote
10	Paula Wilson	23	Tiffany Hughes
11	Ann Nester		

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the gift of my sisters' lives and the grace You have placed upon their calling. As they celebrate another year, renew their strength and fill them with Your peace and joy. *"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you"* (Numbers 6:24-26).

Bless the work of their hands, the thoughts of their mind, and the desires of their heart as they align with Your will. May they continue to grow in love, faith, and service, and may their life be a testimony of Your goodness.

Cover them with wisdom, protect their heart, and reward their faithfulness—seen and unseen. May they continue to be *"clothed with strength and dignity"* and face the days ahead with confidence in You (Proverbs 31:25). Bless their coming and going and let this new year overflow with Your favor and rest.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Heart2Heart Testimony

"At the Prayer Conference during the prayer service, Bishop Trevor laid hands on me, walked away, and prayed for others. But returning back to me, twice he said, "you're healed", not knowing what I was praying for.

For many years, I was in a running group along with my husband. We ran many road and local races. Well, I tripped and had a nasty fall on the pavement on Bayshore, resulting in delayed hip arthritis.

Praying for the pain and desiring to walk normally again, I went back to my Orthopedic physician again after 3 years in December last year. He said, "The arthritis had gotten worse, but we're not talking surgery just yet. Let's do some injections, add some PT, and in three months, let's see where you are."

Well, at a follow-up visit yesterday, his nurse asked if we were doing a shot today. I told her not yet, I was feeling better. When the doctor came in, he said, "The arthritis has not gotten any worse, and at this point, if you did surgery, you would feel the same way you feel right now," and I quote, "Surgery is not an option for you, I don't recommend it for you." Praise the Lord.

I am walking by faith. I accepted the message Bishop Trevor received from God for me."

Mary Forbes
Tampa



*"Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul."
Psalm 66:16 ESV*

Women's Ministry Leaders Directory

Help Us Build a Women's Ministry Leaders Directory

We are prayerfully working to develop a **Women's Ministry Leaders Directory** to strengthen connection, communication, and collaboration among women serving in leadership across our churches.

This directory will help us:

- Encourage one another in ministry
- Share resources and best practices
- Strengthen discipleship efforts
- Foster meaningful relationships among leaders
- Improve communication regarding trainings, gatherings, and ministry opportunities

We kindly ask you to take a few minutes to submit your local church information. Your participation will help us build a stronger network of support for women serving in ministry.

Please have your women's ministry leader (and/or each team member) complete this form: [Florida Women's Ministry Leader Directory](#).

Together, we can continue building strong and healthy ministries that impact lives for Christ.



Click or Scan Code
to complete form



International Assembly

Help Us Welcome Our International Delegates with Love

As our delegates arrive for our International Assembly, we have a beautiful opportunity to show the heart of Christ through practical care and encouragement. One meaningful way we can do this is by providing **Welcome Bags** filled with essential items, thoughtful gifts, and messages of support to help them in their ministry assignments.

We are inviting each local church to partner with us by contributing **\$50-\$100** toward this special initiative. Your gift will help us prepare bags that communicate appreciation, hospitality, and prayerful support for our international presbytery.

Together, we can ensure that every delegate feels valued, supported, and warmly received from the very beginning.

To participate, please submit your church's contribution by **May 15, 2026** via check or through our online giving. Please indicate in memo field: Assembly Welcome Bag.

[**GIVE**](#)

Click here to give

For more information or to give, contact Aileen Reid or Frankie Dotson in the State Office.

Thank you for helping us extend Christ's love in tangible ways.

