



Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Greetings of joy and peace in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Spring is a time of new life, as nature comes to life after a long and cold winter. This is also a time when we celebrate our Lord's resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus is central to the celebration of Easter, but less than half of adult Americans link the two. The Barna Group found that only 42% of adults tied Easter to the Resurrection. Adults between the ages of 18 and 25 did the worst. David Kinnaman, president of the Barna Group, said, "The Easter holiday in particular still has a distinctly religious connection for people, but the specifics of it are really fading in a lot of people's minds."

The church year has several important observance and two of the most important are Christmas and Easter. Someone once said, "Christmas is the promise, and Easter is the proof." We have celebrated our Lord's birth, as God's promise of a Savior for all mankind was fulfilled in Bethlehem. The promise of One who would rescue all mankind had arrived. We must move forward to the celebration of Easter where we find the proof that the promise was fulfilled.

Our Lord's resurrection is central to our faith for several reasons: 1- It demonstrates that Jesus is who he said He was, the Son of God, our Lord and Savior; 2- It proclaims that the Father has accepted the sacrifice of His Son for the sins of the world, here we have the assurance that our sins are forgiven; 3-It gives us the assurance that God's Word is true, the promise of forgiveness, God's love and presence for us, the hope that is found in Jesus and all the other promises that our Lord makes and gives to us through faith are true and sure; 4- It proclaims that that because Jesus lives we shall live as well, we have the assurance of our resurrection and a heavenly home when we are called home to be with the Lord.

The women found the tomb empty on that first Easter morning. The following story is told of a little girl. McKenzie wasn't trying to start a theological debate, she just wanted to make a point about Jesus' resurrection. Her Sunday school teacher had tried to encourage her class with the assurance that Jesus is everywhere. But for McKenzie, that didn't sound right. So she said, "I know one place where Jesus isn't." The teacher curiously replied, "Oh, really? Where is that?" The bright little girl declared, "He's not in the grave!" What a great reminder. Our omnipresent God has chosen to keep His presence absent from the grave. For just as the angel said, "He is not here, for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay" (Matthew 28:6). He is risen and that makes all the difference in the world.

A story is told of an African Muslim who became a Christian. His friends asked, "Why have you become a Christian?" He answered, "Well, it's like this. Suppose you were going down the road and suddenly the road forked in two directions, and you didn't know which way to go. There at the fork were two men, one dead and one alive—who would you ask which way to go?"

The Lord is risen, He is risen indeed and we celebrate His resurrection not only on Easter but every day of our lives. He gives us life, hope and assurance for life and eternity.

May the joy of Easter be yours now and always.

In Christ,

Pastor Raether

Pastor Raether

Maybe Today!

During the week before His Crucifixion, Jesus talked about the End of the Age (Matthew 24). He indicated what some of the signs of the end will be, and He described what His return will be like. What He did not tell us, though, is exactly when these things will happen. In fact, Jesus said, "...the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." That is why, He emphasized, "Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect" (Matthew 24:44).

How would you spend your last day if you knew when it was? What would be most important to you? What would you do to "be ready"? Jesus' point is that we should spend each day as if it is the last. He told us that the "faithful and wise servant" is the one "whom his master has set over his household, to give them their food at the proper time. Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes" (Matthew 24:45). In this parable, Jesus is the master, and we are His servants. Whom is Jesus placing under our care?

What are those responsibilities that our Master has given us? Are they not all summed up in the Great Commandments to love the Lord our God with all our heart and soul and mind and our neighbors as ourselves? And are we not to be baptizing and teaching the Faith to all the world? Surely these are the tasks our Lord has given us along with His promise to go with us, to provide for us all the gifts we need to carry out His mission, to empower us to do His will, and to forgive and renew us when we fail and get discouraged.

Did you wake up this morning and look out your window and say, "Maybe today!"? For the Christian, this hope brings joy and urgency – joy that Heaven is near and urgency that we want everyone to be there. Let us, then, live every day imagining that this is the day of Christ's coming. Let us not get discouraged as we go about the business of the Kingdom, keeping in mind the unbelievable prize God has in store for His faithful stewards.

Even though we do not know the time of Jesus' return, we "must be ready" for His coming. Beware of any teacher who claims to know when Jesus will come again. What we can do is stay steadfast in our faith and

to feed and take care of the people whom God has placed under our care. How blessed we are that God wants to use our hands, feet, and mouth to help and minister to others!

FROM STEWARDSHIP ADVISORS  
PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

### CONFIRMATION SUNDAY



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church will have one confirmand this year. Madelyn Davis, the daughter of Kurt and Jill Davis, will complete her study in the basic teachings of Scripture as presented in Luther's Small Catechism and will profess her Confirmation vows on Sunday April 24th. She will be questioned before her parents and representatives of the congregation on April 20th. Please remember Madelyn in your prayers as she prepares for this important day in her spiritual life. A reception for Madelyn will follow the service in the Fellowship Hall.

### BIBLE CLASSES

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS** Following our worship service 10:15 am. We continue our study of the Book of Revelation as John relays the vision he received from Christ concerning the time from our Lord's Ascension until His return at the end of time. Understood correctly this book is one of comfort for the believer as it lays out the ultimate victory that is ours in Christ Jesus. This is a book of comfort and hope.

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS (10:00 am).** The title of our study is "Unshakable Hope," video series led by Pastor Max Lucado. Our hope rests upon the assurance that is ours in the promises of our gracious God. Following is the tentative schedule for the coming weeks:

March 23 – "You are and Heir of God"

April 6 - "Your Prayers Have Power"

April 13 - "God's Grace to the Humble"

April 20 - "God Gets You" (If class is agreeable we will meet during Holy Week – if not this session will be held on April 27.

April 27 - "Jesus is Praying for You"

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER

From our Bible Story Apostle Peter had an eye opener. In Acts 10 Peter had a vision from God while taking a nap. He had a dream about a great sheet caught at four corners and was filled with tame and wild animals. The Jewish law forbade him to eat common or unclean meat. God spoke to him - "What I have made do not call common." God wanted Peter to reach out to the Gentiles with the Gospel. How blessed we are that we Gentile believers will also be with Jesus in heaven. How great is our God!!

Sue Macek



APRIL

### SUNDAY & MIDWEEK LENT SCHEDULE

**April 3 – Fifth Sunday in Lent:** - Psalm 23:5 – "Traveling Light - Shame & disappointment"

**APRIL 6 – MID-WEEK V-** Pastor Jahnke, St. Paul Lutheran Church, John 19:1-16 – "Pontius Pilate"

**April 10 – Palm Sunday** – Holy Communion Psalm 23:6a – "Traveling Light –Doubt"

**April 14 – Maundy Thursday** – Holy Communion – John 13:21,26-27 - "Witnesses to Christ – Barabbas"

**April 15 – Good Friday** -John 19:25-37 – "Witnesses to Christ – John, The Gospel Writer"

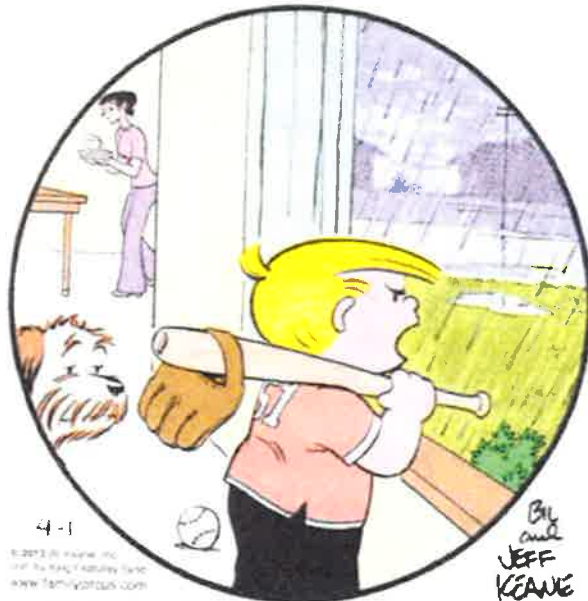
**April 17 – Feast of the Resurrection** - Holy Communion Psalm 23:6b – "Traveling Light - Home"



**April 24 – Second Sunday of Easter** – CONFIRMATION SUNDAY – Holy Communion Celebrated

# ATTENDANCE

Sunday	Worship	Communion
March 6	49	
March 13	34	30
March 20	40	
March 27	51	43
<u>Lent</u>		
March 2	23	
March 9	32	
March 16	29	
March 23	30	
March 30	28	



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**"I think Mother Nature is tryin' to pull an April Fools' trick."**

## APRIL Birthdays & Anniversaries

Violet Fischer -4/2, Keiarrah Brookshire -4/7, Angie Vinson -4/7, Don Peters -4/8, Sharon McPherson -4/11, Fred McPherson -4/15, Gerald McInville -4/16, Harlan Peterson -4/18, Caitlin Waddell -4/20, Ron Brown -4/24, Whitney Clawson -4/24, Daniel Martinson -4/27, Jennifer Valley -4/28, Elara Thanupakorn -4/29

Attachai & Jeanette Thanupakorn 31st 4/14  
 Monte & Judy Dorothy 35th 4/17

### Lutheran Women's Fellowship March 3, 2022

The Lutheran Women's Fellowship met on March 3, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Twelve members attended the meeting. Florence Sandgren began the meeting with devotions: "Sin Painted Cross" and disciple "Andrew". Sally Zuspenn called the March meeting to order.

#### Committee:

Treasurer, Card Counter, and Funeral Fund reports were all approved. The committee reports were all approved.

#### Old Business:

**LWML "80 Years of God's Grace":** Sally Zuspenn said a special thank you to all who participated in this project. The can donations received will be given to Lord's Cupboard.

**Lenten After Service Coffee:** Dates serving and names on kitchen refrigerator door.

#### New Business:

**March Shut-ins birthdays:** Madelyn Adams, Janet Lennon, Keeka Lynch

**March Funeral Committee:** Sue Macke, Sally Zuspenn.

**April 23 Spring Rally:** Rally will be at Good Shepherd Lutheran. Time: 9:00 A.M. Registration \$5.00.

**LWML Iowa "Lord of the Harvest" Convention:** At Camp Okoboji, Milford, IA. June 16-18. Need registration in by May 31, 2022.

**Mighty Mites Auction:** Women's Fellowship will furnish an item for this auction. The wrapping of the package can give some hint as to the contents. Package can be any size.

**Orphan Train Mission August:** Supplies will be gathered from March to August. Hygiene Kits and School Kits will be assembled in August and sent to Orphan Grain Train. School Kits back packs will be bought by Women's Fellowship.

June meeting kits will be assembled, and if some items are still needed will have them on time for August

**Ukraine Mission:** Connie Tyrrell made a motion to give \$50 and send to Mission Central. Seconded by Jean Martinson.

**August 4 "Guest Invite and Speaker":** Vicky Escobedo will check on speaker.

**Mite Devotion:** Florence Sandgren gave the mite devotion and response prayer, "Our Offering of Love".

**Birthdays.** Vicky Escobedo

**April 7 - Hostess:** Nancy Herzberg, Carol Locke

Sally Zuspenn closed meeting at 1:55 PM, with Lord's Prayer and Table Prayer.

LaVonne Peters, Secretary.

**Board of Education**  
**March 2, 2022**

**Members:** Jill Davis, Rhonda Waddell, Susan Macek, and Pastor Ræther who opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Library:** We now have Season Two of "The Chosen" DVD series.

**St Paul School :** End of third quarter on 3/21/22. Parent/Teacher conference is 3/30/22. Annual Growing Saints for Christ is 3/26/22.

**Catechism report:** Need to check out dates to Camp Okoboji for a Confirmation retreat. The Confirmation Bible Verse needs to be chosen. Confirmation questioning is Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Day of Confirmation is Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> with Holy Communion.

**Sunday School:** Enjoyed having guests on 2/13/22. Made a Valentine reminder hanger that "God Loves Us". Children enjoy working on their crossroad puzzles in connection with the Bible Story.

**Family Fellowship:** Will set up the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. Steve Baedke will be serving the breakfast after church on March 27. There is no charge. We will have a devotion, get acquainted game, breakfast, another game, crafts for kids and then clean-up.

**Wednesday and Sunday Bible Studies:** New video Bible Study on "Hope" by Max Lucado starting March 16. Continuing the Book of Revelation on Sundays.

**Old business:** still need to set the date in June for VBS. We will use "Miraculous Mission" lessons 3 -4 -5. VBS is 6:00 – 8:00 pm.

**New business:** Pastor has some terrific ideas for Palm Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup>. The Board will not be sponsoring an Easter breakfast this year.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Next meeting is Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 6:15 pm.

Sue Macek, Chairman

**Membership Report for March 2022**

**Confirmed +**

**Baptized +**

GAIN

*Augustus Jaekel*

(Baptized)

LOSS

**Communicant = 165**

**Baptized (not confirmed) = 44+ 1 = 45**

**Total baptized souls = 209 + 1 = 210**

**Financial Report March 2022**

**Income** (Offerings)

Home/Current \$7,665.00, Missions Budget \$202.00, Loose Offerings \$77.00, Ash Wednesday \$183.00, Lenten Offering 623.32, Special Offering \$878.00, Miscellaneous \$647.20

**Total Offerings \$10,275.52**

**Expenses**

Pastor \$2,000.00, Payroll \$1,473.44, Organist \$540.00, Pastoral Expenses \$431.52, Ministry Expenses \$14.97, TV Ministry \$74.88, Portals of Prayer \$63.00, Worship Supplies \$7.56, Office Supplies \$1,759.03, Church Supplies \$52.42, Computer/Internet \$233.13, Water \$95.70, Pest Control \$37.00, Gas & Electric \$848.00, Snow Removal \$70.00, Sanitation \$35.31, Telephone \$5.66, W/H Tax \$266.06, Missions \$1,008.32, Charities \$878.00, Advertising \$234.00.

**Total Expenses \$10,398.40**

**Net Income \$ 147.13**



# APRIL

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