

Friendship

Lutheran Church of



From the Pastor's Desk

As I'm writing this article, it is not yet April. This is nothing new. Every month the articles that you read here are written in advance – sometimes weeks ahead of time. But, truth be told, the monthly newsletter article usually starts to come together when Sally reminds me that the end of another month is upon us and the time has come for another installment of what I like to call "Pastor's Prerogative." Sometimes it may be about a pet peeve of mine that I have worked (or am working) through with the help of the Lord and through His Word. That is not to say that every month I am venting to you about what is driving me crazy. It is probably more accurate to say that I am sharing with you the things that are taking up significant amounts of the limited space in my mind. Sometimes it may be something that I find we need to think, pray, and act on. Sometimes I am sharing information about a particular social issue that needs to be addressed by the children of God. There are times where attempt to teach certain aspects of our faith through this newsletter. I have been known to call out "shenanigans" when I see them, particularly from leaders, both secular and spiritual, that are leading people astray. Then there are times that I attempt to get you to see

past the mundane and embrace the opportunities that we can find in the midst of the lives we lead. Simple, but not always easy. So, what could I write about for the month of April 2021?

The world is still crazy - world leaders still appear to have no clue - and the sad truth is that we are often left to fend for ourselves.

OOH, I know, let's talk about Jesus! Most of you will be reading this before Easter Sunday (service at 9am live and streaming – tell people!), but let's take a look at that beautiful day when Jesus was resurrected according to the 16th chapter of Mark's gospel. ***"Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him."*** But when they got there, ***"they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶ And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here."***

(continued on next page)

From the Pastor's Desk, (cont'd.)

He Is Risen, indeed! And what exactly were they told to do? **“See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples”**. Now, Mark tells that they were afraid, but that Mary **“went and told those who had been with him, as they mourned and wept”**. They went and they told, first they told the other followers who were desperately mourning Jesus' death.

The lesson for us here is that we encourage one another in the Church with the good news that He Is Risen! Encourage one another that no matter how bad things are here on the 3rd rock from the sun, that those who trust that in this fulfilled promise of Jesus, have complete atonement and forgiveness of all sins and are assured life everlasting because He has defeated death for us. Then Jesus appears to them and tells them,” And he said to them to, **“Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. ¹⁶ Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”**

Easter Sunday we proclaim that He Is Risen to one another, but let's not forget to proclaim the gospel to the crazy, messed up, unbelieving world who increasingly have never even heard the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ. We say we're excited about the empty tomb, but do we proclaim this eternal destination game changer to the whole creation? Do we believe it matters? Do we believe that more people coming to know of Jesus and entering into His eternal Kingdom could maybe, just maybe, make this world a little less crazy? Jesus seems to think so and that's good enough for me.

He Is Risen! He Is Risen, Indeed! Alleluia and Amen!
Rev. Glen Triplett

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Elders Corner

What God made, God loves and keeps. God made man and loves us.

This is April 2021, and we celebrate Easter just like every other year. Easter is a celebration of God raising Jesus from the dead and His resurrection. The coming of Jesus, God's Son, was promised way back in the Old Testament. So, what are the events that led up to Easter? As we look through the Bible, we can see how it all starts with God. The following events are recorded.

1. God creates all things: The universe, the earth and MAN.
2. Man eats the apple disobeying God and God promises the Savior.
3. God sends a flood and saves only Noah's family after man abandoned God.
4. Man builds the Tower of Babel to reach God their own way and man is scattered over the earth.
5. God called Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to create his people, Israel and bring forth our savior.
6. Joseph was sent to Egypt to save God's people, the Israelites and grow them into a nation.
7. Moses was sent 400 years later to free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.
8. God called Joshua to lead the Israelite people into the promised land.
9. The Israelite people were led by: Judges – Samuel the last judge.
Kings -- Saul, David, Solomon, and many more to King Herod.
10. God called prophets like Abraham, Moses, Samuel, Isaiah and Jeremiah, just to name a few, who spoke on God's behalf, including some 55 messianic prophecies about Jesus.
11. Jesus is born in Bethlehem to Mary and Joseph.
12. Jesus' ministry, healing the sick and teaching His disciples.
13. Palm Sunday, Jesus goes to Jerusalem to accomplish His mission to die for the sins of mankind.
14. Good Friday, Jesus lays down His human life for our sins by dying on the cross. At noon the sky turns dark as Jesus takes on our sins. At 3:00 pm Jesus announces "IT IS FINISHED" and He laid down His life. At that time, the curtain of the temple is torn from top to bottom.
15. Easter morning, God raises Jesus from the grave for our Salvation. In Jesus, we will also be raised from the dead.

"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved". – Romans 10:9-10

By our Faith in Jesus, Ephesians 2:8 assures us our salvation: "For it is by Grace you have been Saved, through Faith -- and this is not from yourselves, it is a Gift of God -- not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Praise God for His wonderful plan for our salvation.

Mission News

This month I want to thank you once again for your faithfulness to support reaching the Unreached especially in the midst of Covid. Americans are generous but the problem is that only two pennies out of every mission dollar go to reach the Unreached people. That means the other 98 pennies go to help those who have heard or have a chance to hear.

Most large cities in the world have a church. The places that are Unreached are mostly villages of 50 to 1000 people. Reaching the Unreached (RTUR) missionaries were mostly in the villages where the people are illiterate. There's often no electricity or running water. The people make their living by farming a small amount of land with hand implements. Our missionaries go out to these villages to make believers and train them to know the bible stories and basic fundamental truths all believers should know. The churches they plant are usually started under the tree.

RTUR missionaries needed a place for their family to live. They need a motorcycle to travel to this village. We helped provide a car for Pascal to reach the Baoule tribe, as well as helped him initially to build his house and later paid the fee to hook up to electricity which had just been brought to the village. We also helped them to dig a new well which has served the whole village.

When we get to heaven, we will be able to meet the people who have come to know Jesus through your prayers and giving. I Samuel 30:25 says "The share of the man who stayed with the supplies is to be the same as that of him whom went down to battle". All will share of like. What a joy that will be for us and for our RTUR missionaries! **Thank You!**

P.T.O. (Pass This On)

"He is not here!" Such good news, but such an odd choice of words. We hear these words from the angel in the Bible reading from Mark this Sunday. Mark describes the angel as a young man. But we know from other places in the Bible that this is an angel, there to deliver this good news.

Some of the women who had been following Jesus are there at the tomb, early on Easter morning, to care for Jesus' body. There wasn't time on Friday when the soldiers took Him down from the cross, and His followers laid Him in a tomb. The women love Jesus. They are coming to care for Him in the best way they know how.

But **"He is not here,"** they hear. Why? **"He has risen"** from the dead! Just as Jesus promised, the grave cannot hold Him. Death is defeated. Sin is paid for. The Fall into Sin of the first parents, Adam and Eve, no more has hold over the fate of mankind. Instead, in Christ, man shall not die but shall live and call upon the name of the Lord.

The women trembled with astonishment and fear as they ran away. Their hearts and minds couldn't quite grasp this wonderful news. Though they will, soon.

We are tempted to think that **"He is not here"** even today. That is, that Jesus isn't present with us in the church service on Sundays. Or, when things go wrong, that Jesus isn't with us any longer and doesn't care for us. But none of this is true. Whenever Christians gather to hear the good news of Christ's death and resurrection for our sins, Jesus *is* present. He *is* here. He continues to care for you. Jesus promises, **"Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."**

Every Sunday is a little Easter. This Sunday is the big one. Jesus isn't in the tomb. He is risen!

Worship Schedule April—June 2021

| Date | Worship Time | Elder | Opener | Readers | Upstairs Greeter/Usher | Downstairs Greeter/Usher |
|---------|--------------|--------|------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Apr. 1 | 7 pm | Rodzen | Hagen | Jeff Oehmke | Weatherford | Bauman |
| Apr. 2 | 7 pm | Zuehls | Johnson | Jon Fisher | Johnson | Piper |
| Apr. 4 | 9 am | Rodzen | G. Oostdyk | Jon Fisher | Drews | Hutchison |
| Apr. 11 | 9 am | Zuehls | Hellmer | Ron Courtright | Hellmer | Stoller |
| Apr. 18 | 9 am | Rodzen | Hagen | Hagen | Weatherford | Bauman |
| Apr. 25 | 9 am | Zuehls | Johnson | Ron Arends | Johnson | Piper |
| May 2 | 9 am | Rodzen | Hagen | Gayle Zuehls | Morgan | Hutchison |
| May 9 | 9 am | Zuehls | Hellmer | Jon Fisher | Hellmer | Stoller |
| May 16 | 9 am | Rodzen | G. Oostdyk | G. Oostdyk | Drews | Bauman |
| May 23 | 9 am | Zuehls | Johnson | Jeff Oehmke | Johnson | Piper |
| May 30 | 9 am | Rodzen | Hagen | Ron Arends | Hagen | Hutchison |
| June 6 | 9 am | Zuehls | Hellmer | Elmer Zuehls | Hellmer | Stoller |
| June 13 | 9 am | Rodzen | Hagen | Jon Fisher | Weatherford | Bauman |
| June 20 | 9 am | Zuehls | Johnson | Ron Courtright | Johnson | Piper |
| June 27 | 9 am | Rodzen | G. Oostdyk | G. Oostdyk | Morgan | Hutchison |
| | | | | | | |

If you cannot serve on your scheduled day,
please find a substitute and notify the church office.

L W M L

Friendship LWML will meet on Wednesday, April 14 at 6:30 p.m. We will have a devotion and Bible Study and whatever business is necessary. Please join us!

One Month Bible Reading Plan

Most people professing faith in Jesus have never completely read their Bible. Many people start reading the Bible but then become overwhelmed by the number of chapters (1,189) and verses (31,102) there are. What we don't realize is that we can read the Bible in a year by reading fewer than four chapters a day. Every month we will post the "reading schedule" in the Newsletter. This structured approach of reading Scripture brings a fresh approach to each day's reading, while providing a clearer understanding of the Bible's larger message.

Tips on Reading the Bible Daily

1. Start reading the Bible today — there is no better time than now!
2. Set aside a specific time each day. Set your schedule and then stick to it. Feel free to use any time that works consistently for you. If you miss a day, just make it up (don't give up); habits both good and bad are formed easily.
3. Read the Bible for the sake of learning, not simply to accomplish your next reading. Say a short prayer to God before you begin, asking the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom and understanding, then be refreshed by the words you read!

APRIL

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 1 Samuel 30:11-31:13; 2 Samuel 1-2 | 2 2 Samuel 3:1-6:11 | 3 2 Samuel 6:12-10:19 |
| 4 2 Samuel 11-13 | 5 2 Samuel 14-16 | 6 2 Samuel 17-19 | 7 2 Samuel 20:1-22:34 | 8 2 Samuel 22:35-24:17 | 9 2 Samuel 24:18-25; 1 Kings 1:1-2:18 | 10 1 Kings 2:19-4:19 |
| 11 1 Kings 4:20-7:39 | 12 1 Kings 7:40-9:9 | 13 1 Kings 9:10-11:25 | 14 1 Kings 11:26-13:34 | 15 1 Kings 14-17 | 16 1 Kings 18:1-20:25 | 17 1 Kings 20:26-22:36 |
| 18 1 Kings 22:37-53; 2 Kings 1:1-4:28 | 19 2 Kings 4:29-8:15 | 20 2 Kings 8:16-10:24 | 21 2 Kings 10:25-14:10 | 22 2 Kings 14:11-17:18 | 23 2 Kings 17:19-19:24 | 24 2 Kings 19:25-23:9 |
| 25 2 Kings 23:10-25; 1 Chron. 1:1-16 | 26 1 Chron. 1:17-3:9 | 27 1 Chron. 3:10-6:30 | 28 1 Chron. 6:31-8:28 | 29 1 Chron. 8:29-11:21 | 30 1 Chron. 11:22-15:29 | |

In Our Prayers

The Power of Prayer



- ♥ Prayers of comfort and healing for Tami's nephew, Jared
- ♥ Prayers of healing and strength for Tracie Paulsrud's uncle and his family
- ♥ Prayers for Jacquie Voeks' brother and guidance for his doctors
- ♥ Prayers of healing and comfort for Marty Carlson's friend, Sheila
- ♥ LCMS Synod, Districts, Members and Pastors
- ♥ Church members
- ♥ Those who have yet to believe
- ♥ All who travel
- ♥ Country, state, and local governments
- ♥ All who serve (first responders, military, police, fire, EMTs)

Celebrations



April Birthdays

- 2 Nancy Morris
- 4 Eileen Busboom
- 7 Edward Rodzen
- 5 Ryan Munsterman
- 10 Mindy Piper
- 12 Sharon Rohlfig
- 13 Beth Annin
- 13 John Drews
- 15 Dave Miller
- 18 Paul Peterson
- 19 Andrew Paulsrud
- 25 Brett Penick
- 26 Jenna Clark
- 26 Joshua Clark
- 28 John Morris
- 29 Trish Feugen
- 29 Tami Vaughn Broderick
- 30 Roger Ferguson
- 30 Leslie Miller

April Anniversaries


- 2 David & Sharon Beth
- 10 Eric & Patti Rodzen
- 30 Ryan & Kelsey Munsterman



April Baptism Birthdays

Davida Bluhm, Eileen Busboom, Scott Currid, Kelly Dennemann, Jon Fisher, Kim Johnson, Brent Ladage, Gabriel Luhrsen, Brooke Miller, Ryan Munsterman, Kelsey Munsterman,



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|-----------|
| | | | | 1 7 pm service*  | 2 7 pm service  | 3 |
| 4 9am Worship*  | 5 Elizabeth Circle 10 am | 6 Council 6pm | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 9am Worship 10am Bible Study | 12 | 13 | 14 LWML meeting 6:30 pm | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 9am Worship* 10am Bible Study | 19 Elizabeth Circle 10 am | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 9am Worship 10am Bible Study | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 Prayer Shawl 6:30 pm | 30 | |

* **Bolded** signifies communion will be offered at this service.



The Camp CILCA Lowdown
 April, 2021
 217-487-7497 / camp@cilca.org / 4124 Camp Cilca Rd,
 Centraill, IL 62625

- **Spring Clean Up Day: Saturday, March 27**
 - 8:30-11:30, then lunch.
 - Lots of cleaning to be done.
 - A controlled burn on 7 acres will also be done.
 - Contact the camp office to let us know you are coming!

- **Women's Scrapbooking Retreat: April 16-18** at the Christian Growth Center
 - \$80 covers your stay and 5 meals
 - Saturday evening worship service
 - Space is limited. Contact the camp office and reserve your spot today!

- **HELP NEEDED!** Camp CILCA is seeking to fill 2 positions year-round:
 - **Assistant Cook:** \$14/hr, part-time
 - **Maintenance:** \$12/hr, part-time
 - For more information contact the camp office today!

Summer Camp Registration is OPEN!



Find out more on-line at www.cilca.org
 Email camp@cilca.org
 Call 217-487-7497

Please continue to watch our worship services on You Tube, Facebook and our website.

Friendship Lutheran Church of 

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Pastoral Care
 Pastor Glen Triplett
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Staff
 Sally Nourie - Church Secretary
office@friendshiplutheran.com
 (Office hours 9:00-2:00
 Monday—Thursday)

Visit us on the Internet!
www.friendshiplutheran.com

Worship Schedule 

9:00 a.m. Blended Service

10:15 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Studies

Holy Communion is offered on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month .

OUR MISSION:

To *Joyfully* connect people to Christ and His family.