April 2021 Newsletter

Our Savior Lutheran Church

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Our Mission...

...is to equip and encourage followers of Christ to share the love of Jesus with people in our community and in the world so that all may have eternal life.



April Memory Verse

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone the new has come.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Church Staff:

Peter Kufahl, Pastor 715-479-6226 (Church Office) 507-822-3606 (Cell)

Marlene Rieck, Director of Music & Children's Ministry 715-479-7466 (Office) 715-891-0991 (Home)

Jean Walker, Office Administrator 715-479-6226 (Church Office)

Vicki Holewinski, JuBELLation Director

Tim Kadlec, Congregational President 715-479-6226 (Church Office)

Upcoming Events:

Maundy Thursday Worship with Holy Communion
April 1 @ 7:00 pm

Good Friday Worship April 2 @ 1:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday Worship with Holy Communion 7:30 am & 10:00 am

Children's Easter Mini-Musical
April 25th @ 10:00 am



April 2021 Newsletter

The Saturday before Easter is an odd day for us as Christians. We have journeyed with Jesus on the way to Jerusalem through the 40 days of Lent. There is the celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, the institution of the Lord's Supper on that night Jesus was betrayed, followed by the stress and horrors of Jesus' arrest, trials, beatings, crucifixion, death, and burial on Good Friday. We skip Saturday, and then the joys of the resurrection celebration on Easter morning. The Sabbath rest of Saturday becomes lost in the shuffle. Yet this is an important day for us as Christians that is good for our reflection and meditation.

We all remember that when our Triune God created the heavens and the earth, at the close of each day He looked at His creation and saw it to be good. After six days of creating, God looked at His whole creation and saw that it was very good, so for the seventh day, God rested from the work He had done. That seventh day was a day of Sabbath rest for the Lord.

We are not told specifically what took place on that day of rest, or what happened that was so different for the Lord our God on that first day of the week. What we do know was that it was not long before the devil slithered in to corrupt that which the Lord God created to be good. Sin, death, and temptation all crept in to corrupt God's good creation, and we have been struggling and suffering with them ever since.

Thanks be to God for this reason He sent His Christ into our world. With promises given to prophets until the day when the Word became flesh and dwelt among us to bring forgiveness, life, and salvation, God was at work to save His people. Through Gospel writers inspired by the Holy Spirit, we have been privileged to come to know Jesus' ministry of calling people to repentance. By that Word, we are witnesses to Jesus' power and authority as He cast out demons, healed the sick, raised the dead, and commanded the elements to obey Him.

But it was there on that hill of death, everything appeared to come to a screeching halt as the Son of God was crucified for all to see. With one of His seven final decrees from the cross, Jesus proclaimed, "It is finished!" before He gave up His Spirit and died. That which was finished was His redemptive work. Just as He decreed from that moment at the dawn of time; the work was done, it was good, and it was now time to rest on that seventh and final day of the week.

For many of us, this Sabbath day of April 3, 2021 it will be just a typical Saturday. Errands will be run. Chores will get done. Maybe some relaxation enjoying a nice spring day outside. But will you remember the rest our Lord was taking that second day in the tomb? Will you take a moment to be in reflection for what that Sabbath rest meant for Jesus, the disciples, and you today?

It is when we see the Lord or His people resting in Scripture, He is often giving them a respite before a new chapter of life begins. From the Garden we find life with Adam and Eve and a broken world. From the garden with an open tomb, we find life in a world that is now redeemed with a sore loser of a defeated fallen angel who vows to take vengeance upon those whom the Life of the world now lives for. The devil hates you and his trap are all ready to destroy you.

In your times of rest, let the One who knows a thing or two about proper rest restore you and the faith He has given you. Jesus died, rested, and lives for you, that you may find rest in His Words that actively do something. Just as Jesus displayed His authority over the demons, diseases, and elements throughout His ministry, His Word has power to restore faith as forgiveness and endurance is worked within you. Go to worship. Read your Bible. Think, meditate, and pray about what it is that has come to your ears.

The day is coming when those whose rest in their personal tomb will come to an end. For the Light of the Word will shine in a manner that all will see Him as He is, and the calling of each name will sound like that of a trumpet. For the life that is to come, you are going to want to be well rested for.

Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

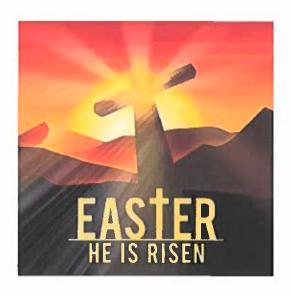
Holy Week 2021

He is risen! He is risen indeed!

Maundy Thursday, April 1 – "Jesus Comes to Feed My Hungry Soul" Worship with Holy Communion 7 p.m.

Good Friday, April 2 – "Jesus is Lord, Even Over My Death" Worship 1 & 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 4 – "Christ Is Risen! In Him We Rise!" Worship with Holy Communion 7:30 & 10 a.m.



Lent/Easter Mission Project -

As we reflect on Jesus' sacrifice and glorious resurrection for us, we have the opportunity to love others as He loved us. This year our Lenten offerings will be given to support the Tiews family, missionaries to Germany. Please pray for Rev. Christian Tiews, his wife Lula, and their daughter Lillian as they transition to life in Germany. Their daughter Mariam will be starting college here in the United States. Germany has become a country with few Christians and a high rate of Muslim immigrants. Please pray for the Tiews family as they share the amazing news of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation with all the people they meet in Germany. Your financial support is appreciated as they rely on us and other Lutheran congregations for all they need!



To give to our mission project, consider putting money in containers located at our display table in the narthex. Please indicate who you would like to have a pie to the face! You can choose from Pastor Kufahl, Elder Pat Crum, Elder Tim Kadlec, or Elder Jacob Husing. You can also use Lenten or designated offering envelopes. Please label envelopes "Tiews Family". Thank you for your gifts of love!



2021 Vacation Bible School "The Incredible Race"

Ages 3 - 12

July 19th-22nd

9 a.m. - Noon

To register: www.oursavioreagleriver.org

At The Incredible Race, we're off on a race around the world as we discover that no matter where we live, what language we speak, or what we look like, we are all part of the same family! Kids will enjoy singing, crafts, games, snacks, and time in God's Word as they discover that we are all part of the same race, the human race. We will rejoice that we have one Savior, Jesus Christ!

Kids, don't miss this awesome week of summer! Tell your friends! Grade 6+ and adults are needed as volunteers. Please contact Marlene Rieck if interested.



Board of Christian Education Meeting

<u>Thursday 3/4/21 – 7:00pm @ Church</u> <u>In Attendance: Rick Behrens, Carol Litchfield, Sue Kurth, Pastor Kufahl, Marlene Rieck</u>

MEETING AGENDA (MINUTES IN PARENTHESIS)

- 1. Opening: Prayer/ Devotional (Devotion and prayer led by Rick)
- 2. Review minutes from February 2021 Meeting (Emailed to all. Lynn motioned to accept, Sue 2nd. Passed unanimously.)
- 3. Financial Report- Rick (Carol motioned, Sue 2nd. Passed unanimously.)
- 4. Children's Report-Marlene (Please see Marlene's report for information.)
- 5. Youth Updates- Youth Leader or Representative (Confirmation keeps plugging along and has been fun for the kids and adults alike. Confirmation is May 2nd, 2021. Servant event is canceled again this year due to restrictions still in place. Some adult team members may be going for a "workbee" to take care of some things that need to be done for the host church.)
- 6. Old business Items:
- 7. New Business:
 - 1. Mother/Daughter Retreat- Financial Decisions (April 9th-10th, Marlene is facilitating with Anna Reineke, and the Rieck's are putting her up for her time during the retreat. Approximately 5 families have committed so far. \$122 per family includes lodging Friday eve and 2 meals on Saturday. Possibility of financial help if families need? Gifts? Board voted and will provide a \$500 stipend to Anna for her mileage and her activity with the retreat.)
 - 2. Sunday School Classroom Painting (4-5-K for sure)
 - 3. Wish List for Sunday School Level
 - 1. Shelves for 4-5-K & Grade 3-4 rooms (Cupboards or shelving are being looked into for two rooms.)
 - 2. Small refrigerator for lower level (Lynn and Dave might be able to provide this)
 - 3. New Water Station- Lower Level (Approximately \$1000 to \$1500 depending on models. Maybe request from Endowment Funds for this?)
 - 4. Possible to change the VBS date to July 19th-22nd? Several of our youth volunteers would be at Camp during the week of the 26th-29th (And they would like to be part of the Drama Team!)
- 8. Next meeting: April 8th, 2021 @ 7pm @ Church (April 1st is Maundy Thursday)
- 9. Close with the Lord's Prayer

Evangelism Committee

01 March 2021

1700 hrs.

ATTENDEES

• Jim and Gloria Harper, Pastor Kufahl, Marlene Rieck and Jan Nowers

AGENDA

Last Meeting Follow-up

- No old business
- No report on new member recognition event.

New Business

Bags assembled and packaged for the upcoming Easter Basket event. Thanks to the Kufahl girls Adalynn and Alayna for their assistance in this event!

NOTES

Pastor Kufahl opened the meeting with prayer.

- Discussion on Our Savior's participation and theme for this year's 4th of July parade. Committee decided that we would include a food drive/collection for the Vilas Food Pantry with our float. We are working out the details and any suggestions are welcome. Congregational support and participation is requested and greatly encouraged. Eagle River Chamber of Commerce was contacted as to whether there will be a 4th of July Parade. As of right now, they ARE planning to hold the parade.
- Easter bags/baskets for the school program were discussed. Trig's is assembling the bags and arrangements have been made for the deliveries.
- Next meeting of the Evangelism Board will be on April 12th at 1700 hrs.

NEXT WEEK'S AGENDA

- Church picnic/Outdoor worship
- 4th of July Parade

Whom Are You Looking At?

The disciples were thrilled. They had their Lord back in their presence once again. Since His Resurrection, He had appeared to them and others several times. They were still a little confused, though, when He talked about "wait[ing] for the gift [His] Father promised" (Acts 1:5), and, then, "He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid Him from their sight" (Acts 1:9).

You can imagine their bewilderment. He had died and been buried and then had risen from the dead! He had walked among them and taught them again, and now . . . He is taken up into the clouds. No wonder they stood there – probably with mouths agape – looking into the sky where they had last seen Him.

It took "two men dressed in white" (Acts 1:10) to bring them back to their senses. "Men of Galilee," they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, Who has been taken from you into Heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into Heaven" (Acts 1:11).

Back they went to Jerusalem. Their eyes were no longer on the clouds, but they were still looking at Jesus. They waited. They prayed. They chose another disciple. And they waited some more – all the while looking at Jesus.

Whom are you looking at? Yes, Jesus has ascended. We can only imagine His joyful, triumphant return as all the hosts of Heaven welcomed back the risen, victorious Savior. Because He is that Savior, because He is the Author and perfecter of our faith, "let us fix our eyes on Jesus" (Hebrews 12:2). Through His Word and Sacraments, He will lead us in His ways; He will teach us obedience and self-sacrifice; He will teach us love for our neighbors. With joyful and generous hearts, we celebrate the new life that Easter brings us by sharing the message of the Cross and the Empty Tomb with all who will listen. Keep looking at Jesus until in Heaven you see him face to face!

To the Congregation of Our Savior Lutheran Church,

"The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor."

– Proverbs 22:9

The organization, Feed Our Rural Kids (FORK) would like to express our deepest appreciation to Our Savior Lutheran Church for their support of our organization's efforts to feed area children through the "Buy a Plate for FORK" this past December.

Our Savior's effort to help the kids through this program is the kind of organic support we prayed for when we first created this organization. As a project of the Evangelism Committee, I can think of no better way to spread the love of Christ to children who are food insecure.

For those of you who have not yet heard about Feed Our Rural Kids, we are a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization providing nutritional support to children from food insecure homes across eastern and central Vilas County.

It is because so many people share FORK's commitment to the children, that we have been able to provide over thirty thousand meals to local kids through our five nutritional support programs: FORK Cares, Meals NOW, JUMP START, Formula Support, and the Children's Pantries.

To help us continue the nutritional support of area kids, we invite all congregation members to consider making the support of local children an important part of your charitable giving and local mission. To make an online donation, or simply to learn more about this organizations effort to mitigate childhood food insecurity, just go online to FeedOurRuralKids.Org.

Finally, you can help FORK tell our story around nutrition and childhood food insecurity when you - Like us, Follow us, and Share us on Facebook at Feed Our Rural Kids.

With gratitude,

Perry Pokrandt

President of Feed Our Rural Kids Inc

Perry.pokrandt@feedourruralkids.org

www.feedourruralkids.org



Martha Society News

MARTHA SOCIETY

April 2021

Our April meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2021. Our meetings are always held on the second Wednesday of every month. The Board meets at 10:30 followed by a luncheon at 11:30. The general membership meeting starts at 12 Noon with a devotion given at that time by Pastor Kufahl. Our hostesses will be Dawn Shantz and Marianne Braun. Marianne will also be giving Christian life.

Terry Cherney will not be handling the card sales anymore and Diana Sell has agreed to take over. I am assisting her. Just a reminder for all of our church that there are very nice cards for sale at the back of the Fellowship Hall. There are cards for every occasion including, at present, Easter and Confirmation. They all sell for 50 cents each. On the card rack are cards donated to us from the "Kings Bookshelf" when they closed. These are cards that would normally sell for between 4-6 dollars in the store. We are selling them for \$1. Please put your money in the box on the shelf by the other cards. It is an honor system. You're probably wondering where the money that is donated goes too. It goes to support the Missions that our Martha Society has decided to donate too. Please take time to browse before or after church.

I received a phone call from our Zone 5 President today to let me know that the 2021 convention in Lexington is a "Go". Our own Sue Kurth will be attending. Also, the Spring LWML retreat will be held at Camp Luther April 9-10th.

I have more exciting news to share. Please attend our April Meeting. If you would like to find out what we're all about, attend our meeting. All women who are Lutheran are welcome to attend.

Have a very Blessed Easter. "He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Teri Kressin

President



April Birthdays

- Ashlin Messner Perry Pokrandt
- 2 Ken Holdmann
- 5 Hunter Behnke Woody Eno
- 7 Payton Mayo
- 8 Brian Uttech
- 9 Margo Granat Susan Frank
- 10 Karen Olson
- 11 Tobias Kadlec
- 12 Diana Sell Joyce Rawlins Krystal Kasmarek
- 13 Teri Kressin
- 15 Theresa Cherney
- 16 Adalyn Otto Hilde Becker

- 19 James Husing Wendy Sisavath
- 20 Pastor Peter Kufahl
- 21 Bill LaFriske Donna Liedtke
- 24 Dawn Shantz Gail Trosien
- 25 Janet Nowers-Meyer Sophia Sisavath
- 26 Casey Stenschke
- 27 Carol Hendricks
- 28 Cindy Gauger
- 29 Larry Mortimer Ronald Hagen
- 30 Jean Meyer Paul Kurth Rosemary Strook

April Anniversaries

- 12 Dan & Janette Marien
- 16 Donald & Kristy Secord
- 17 Daryl & Robin Nikolaus

- 23 Jerry & Sharon Gifford
- 28 Richard & Elizabeth Schmidt

April 2021

1 12
30 9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilters 6pm JuBELLation 7pm Choir
9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilters 6pm JuBELLation
13 9:30am Quilters 6pm JuBELLation
9am Bible Study 9:30am Quilters 6pm JuBELLation Class
9am Bible Study 9am Aging with Grace 9:30am Quilters 5:30pm Confirmation Class (8th Grade Only)

April 1 Maundy Thursday	Jacob Husing			
	D::>3:-)	Need volunteers		
7:00 PM				Camera:
April 2 Good Friday	8.00 (C)			XXX
1:00 PM	Art Granat	Need Volunteers		
7:00 PM	7:00 PM Jim Bonson	Need Volunteers		XXX
April 4 7:30 AM	Dick Cherney	Dick Cherney	Debbie Holewinski	Dan Scafaro
Easter		Debbie Holewinski		
Communion				
Acolyte. Cole Crum				
April 4 10:00 AM	Tim Kadlec	Dave Parker	Sue Kurth	
Easter		Lynn Parker		
Communion				Camera:
Acolyte: Christian Forss				Dan Scafaro
April 11 7:30 AM	7:30 AM Jim Bonson	Jim Walker	Pat Crum	Jonah Walker
		Jean Walker		
				Camera:
Acolyte: Sam Gensler				
April 11 10:00 AM	10:00 AM Jacob Husing	Pat Grosse	Marianne Braun	Jackie Pearce
Communion		Jan Grosse		
		Tim Forss		
Acolyte: Alex Gensch				
April 18 7:30 AM	Pat Crum	Mary Jarvis	Kris Secord	Vicki Holewinski
Communion		Sue Frank		
		Bob Merz		
Acolyte: Matthew Klein				
April 18 10:00 AM	10:00 AM Gary Fawcett	Andy Ellenberger	Cindy Gauger	
		Gerald Yetter		
Acolyte: Addison Rottier				Camera:

April 25 7:30 AM	7:30 AM Art Granat	Del Keup	Pat Crum	
		Jim Bonson		
				Camera:
Acolyte: EJ Apfel				
April 25 10:00 AM	10:00 AM Keith Kentala	Grant Meyer	Priscilla Ellenberger	Sharon Gifford
Communion		Jerry Gifford		
		Paul Kurth		
Acolyte: Evan Wanta				