

Note from the Pastor's Desk

It is hard to believe that Spring has come, and Easter is here! The year seems to be flying by. I hope that your Lenten disciplines enabled you to feel closer to our amazing God. As Easter is upon us, we pause now and consider how Jesus' life, death and resurrection forever changed the world and our understanding of God and His great love for us.

On Sunday, April 9th we will celebrate the most important and oldest festival of the Christian Church – Christ's resurrection. Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb on the third day after his crucifixion. Easter is the fulfilled prophecy of the Messiah who would be persecuted, die for our sins, and rise on the third day (Isaiah 53). Remembering the resurrection of Jesus is a way to renew daily hope that we have victory over sin and death. I think that is why it draws so many people to worship. Easter Sunday is a day filled with hope and promise.

I have sent this prayer out over the years and wanted us to consider praying it once again over the 50 days of Easter.

Lord God,
You loved this world so much,
that you gave your one and only Son,
that we might be called your children too.
Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace
of Easter Sunday, every day.
Let us have hearts of thankfulness
for your sacrifice.
Let us have eyes that look upon
your grace and rejoice in our salvation.
Help us to walk in that mighty grace
and tell your good news to the world.
All for your glory do we pray, Lord,
Amen,

by Rachel Marie Stone

God's blessings in this most holy time and season, Pastor Patti Sue

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BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG REMINDER

Please remember to fill and return your bottles by Easter Sunday (4/9/2023.) LaVie is a pro-life organization dedicated to helping women and men facing unplanned pregnancy with free, confidential services and the love of Christ. Its services include free pregnancy tests, on-site ultrasound confirmation, and classes on parenting. LaVie also provides:

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| ✝ Adoption Agency Referrals | ✝ Medical Referrals | ✝ STD/STI Information |
| ✝ Adoption Information | ✝ Parenting Education | ✝ Support for Men |
| ✝ Maternity & Infant Supplies | ✝ Post-Abortion Support | |

Holy Week Services

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on April 2nd. We will have several opportunities to gather for worship virtually as we move from Palm Sunday through Good Friday. I encourage you to please try to attend our evening worship opportunities during Holy Week via Facebook so that the meaning of Easter is all the more significant.

The worship schedule is as follows:

- April 2nd Palm/Passion Sunday worship & Holden Evening Prayer
April 6th Maundy Thursday worship
April 7th Good Friday Tenebrae worship



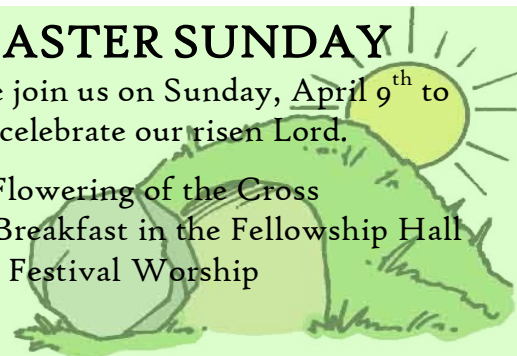
EASTER SUNDAY

Please join us on Sunday, April 9th to celebrate our risen Lord.

8:15 a.m. Flowering of the Cross

8:30 a.m. Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall

10:00 a.m. Festival Worship



TREASURER'S UPDATE

Attached you will find the financial report for February. Please consider your financial commitment to our congregational ministry and staff. Donations are tax deductible and can be made online, via mail, or in person.

The church council asks that we each prayerfully consider how our giving might be able to help/keep/expand the ministries going. Thank you.

THANK YOU!

We would just like to say a very heartfelt "thank you" to Pastor Donna Florio as she leads us in worship and provides pastoral care in Pastor Patti Sue's absence. We are so grateful for you Donna!

Across the ELCA we are connected through the stories we tell, the stories we hear and the stories we experience in ministry with, among and for one another. Our church has stories that span the country and the globe. By engaging with these stories, we become connected to those people and places, not physically present yet still responding to God's call to serve.

We are so pleased to share with you one of the ways to engage with the stories of this church, through the new format of "Stories of Faith in Action." As we have continued to transition "Stories of Faith in Action" to a fully digital resource, we also wanted to offer a more dynamic experience. That is what we hope you find on the new Stories of Faith in Action website (www.livinglutheran.org/sofia).

On this site is a helpful graphic showing how Mission Support starts as a congregational gift from regular offerings shared with ELCA synods and the churchwide expression to fund ministries near and far. You will also find a snapshot of the Mission Support financials. Then, to really show your Mission Support dollars in action, you will find five inspiring stories from around the country and around the world, paired with beautiful images. Each story also has a .pdf version available to print and share.

We share these stories with you as a reminder of our gratitude for your generosity through the sharing of Mission Support. We invite you to not only read these stories but engage with them personally and with others. We have also included a devotional guide to deeply consider how Scripture, engaging questions and these stories bring us together through this "Stories of Faith and Action." We hope they lead you to be inspired, to ask questions, to share with generous hearts and to be thankful for the work God is doing through the ELCA.



YOUR
MISSION SUPPORT
GIFTS AT WORK

APRIL SCHEDULE

Altar Flowers:

4/2 The Ronans
4/9 The Scurrys
4/16 *Open Availability*
4/23 The Ronans
4/30 The Pyes

Lay Readers:

4/2 Kathy Hendrix
4/9 Deb Kopitskie
4/16 Judy Meetze
4/23 Glenda Oswald
4/30 Ty Yonce

Greeter:

Eva Jimenez

Worship Assistant:

Deb Kopitskie &
Kjell Bakken

Altar Guild:

4/2 Trudy Scurry
4/9 Glenda Oswald
4/16 Kathy Hendrix
4/23 Ricky Jones
4/30 Glenda Oswald

Ushers:

Ken Peacock &
Jimmy Scurry

Nursery Attendant:

Peyton Nash

APRIL BIRTHDAYS!

4/5 Jo Driggers
4/6 Donna Bise & Shane McNorton
4/9 David Monts
4/13 John Martin & Jeanette Swygert
4/25 Tim Van Buren
4/26 Martin Belardo & Tanya Thomas
4/29 Betsy Culler & Shannon Waites
4/30 Russell Pye & Tricia Violette

Did we forget your birthday? Please contact Steph in the church office to let her know!



YOUTH NEWS

Due to Pastor Patti Sue's medical leave, confirmation classes are on-hold until her return from her surgery.

GROWING IN FAITH WITH BIBLE STUDY

Due to Pastor Patti Sue medical leave, Bible study is on hold until her return from her surgery.

PLC PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER

The preschool has been going great! It's hard to believe we are 7 weeks from ending our fall school year and starting our summer school in June. We are officially full for summer and are excited about all the fun things we have planned for the kids.

Back to this school year though: We unfortunately lost a three-year-old teacher due to unforeseen circumstances but found an excellent replacement who jumped right in and is doing an amazing job. She has meshed well with our wonderful team! We are very grateful for her.

The 23-24 school year registration is still going on and we have some limited availability in all classes, we are praying to fill those up sooner rather than later! So please join in praying for this for us! Our rubber mulch fundraiser is still in full effect and in fact we are halfway there. We have a few fundraisers still going on for the fall year! Our next one is our Egg your yard fundraiser and we have 20 houses to play Easter bunny at! This will give us close to \$500 to add to our fundraiser. Please also pray that we can raise the funds and have the playground upgrade done sooner, rather than later!

Lastly we just finished up with the church egg hunt Saturday and had 56 kids and close to 50 adults. It wasn't the best weather but fun was still had by all and we consider it to be a success! As always we thank you for praying for our "little preschool with a big heart!"

PROVIDENCE MEMBERS

Gail Caldwell, Rosemary & Jeff Carmean, Frank & Cissy Corley, Debbie & Jamie Edwards, Donna Florio, Judi Harmon, Christopher Marler, John & Jane Gault-Martin, David & Joan Monts, Peyton Nash, Pastor Patti Sue Pye, Ashley Van Buren and Conner Violette

FRIENDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Stephanie Barnes-Illick, Stephen Barrett, Scott Brazell, The Cafferty Family, Amanda Carnavale, Doug Carter, Minerva Castro, Craig DeMunbrun, Ed Edenfield, Derald Edwards, Kay Elliott, Rachel Ellis, Hellen Farrell, Jeremy Florio, Tricity Florio, David Godwin, Kim Groh, David Guzman, The family of Gene Hall, The family of Chad Hancock, Kathy Harris, Elizabeth Hebert, Hayden Hennemen (Deployed), Jan and Gail Jager, Bobbi Labreque, Bob Muller, Andy Nash, Julie Nowek, Jane Park, Brad Pounds, Doug Rankin, Bryson Raszewski, Luz Roman, Russ and Gray Sarvis, Sherry Strange, Hillary Thomas, Pete Thomas and Cindy Vance

Prayers & Praises

Providence Lutheran Church

840 Old Chapin Road, Lexington, South Carolina 29072
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