



The Evangel

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church
(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

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VOLUME XLVII, Number 4

APRIL, 2022

The Pastor's Desk:

Volume 22

Issue # IV

April 2022



Dear Beloved in Christ:

Does the prospect of another Easter excite or seem mondan to you? Millions and millions of Christians all around the world celebrate Easter every year... but, for too many of us, the story has become too common and rote! We think we have all the basic facts down: Jesus was betrayed, arrested, crucified and, three days later, God raised him from the dead...

Yet we seem to miss something very important. We miss what turns Easter from a one-dimensional "Hallmark" holiday to a multi-dimensional, life-transforming way of life! We miss the fact that the story of the Resurrection is not just Jesus's story – it is our story as well.

You see, you are part of the Resurrection! Jesus' death and Resurrection didn't just prove there was life after death. The Resurrection of Jesus proves you can have life after death and that there is life beyond your grave! Jesus says, if you trust in Him, death becomes a transition, not an ending point!

One day your heart will stop. That will be the end of your body, but death will not be the end of you! God made you last forever; that's why you often have a feeling that there is more to life than this. Jesus made an amazing promise in (John 11:25-26), He said: *"I am the Resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die!"* That's quite a promise! Jesus proved it is true by rising from the dead Himself. Otherwise, we would have no reason to believe it.

If Jesus hadn't died on the cross and been resurrected more than 2,000 years ago, you would have zero chance of getting to heaven, no hope of the afterlife and no eternal life with the KING OF KINGS. The Bible says "By His power God raised the Lord from the dead, and He will raise us also!" (1 Cor 6:14)

As Easter comes our way this year, this is a truth to hang our lives upon...It is great news that Jesus rose from the dead. What turns that truth from monochrome to living color is that one day, if you trust in Him, Jesus will give you eternal life with Him as well.

That is the promise of Easter. I pray that this will be your experience of Easter this year!

God's Blessings Always,

Rev. Donn Woolweber



PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH

Zion Lutheran Church in Lawrenceville will be dedicating their new remodeled kitchen on SUNDAY, APRIL 10 at 1:00 p.m. All are invited to this celebratory Brunch. Please sign up in the narthex.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY !

- 02—Luke Swanson
- 04—Thaddaeus Swanson
- 16—Debbie Woolweber
- 22—Paola Hammer
- 25—Dayna Dorsey



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY !

- 04—Kristen and Paul Hoffman
- 05—Charlotte and Tim Hornish

EASTER BONNET



Let's bring back the tradition of wearing festive Easter bonnets. Join us on SATURDAY, APRIL 9 at 1:30 p.m. when we will have fun decorating a hat for Easter. Bring a hat of your own, there will be extras if you don't have one. Ribbons and frills will be available. All ages are invited.

STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION

This year the Pittsburgh Lutheran Chorus, under the direction of Ruth Miller, will be presenting the *Station of the Resurrection* to three Concordia Lutheran Ministries locations. Through scripture and songs they will focus on the various appearances of Jesus during the 40-day period between His resurrection and His ascension. Below are the dates and locations. If you would like to participate as a reader please contact Shirley Freyer.

- SUNDAY...April 24.....Haven I Cabot.....3:00 p.m.
- SUNDAY...May 15.....Rebecca Residence....2:30 p.m.
- SUNDAY...May 15.....Highpointe.....4:00 p.m.
- SUNDAY...May 22.....South Hills.....3:00 p.m.

HOLY WEEK EVENTS

Palm Sunday Worship Service Holy Communion.....Bethel.....9:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday Worship Service Holy Communion.....Zion.....11:30 p.m.

(dedication Brunch following service)

Maundy Thursday Worship Holy Communion.....Zion.....6:30 p.m.

Good Friday ServiceBethel.....12:00 p.m.

Good Friday Special Worship with *Ballet*.....Zion.....6:30 a.m.

(Jonathan Breight and Amanda Morgan of the Pittsburgh Ballet)

Resurrection Day Worship Service.....Bethel.....9:00 a.m.

Resurrection Day Worship Service.....Zion.....11:30 a.m.

JAVA JAM

The Woolwebers were involved in a “Java Jam” band out west and would like to start one here in the East. So far there are four members. This group will sing praise music with variety of instruments. Pastor plays his guitar, Tyler Owens from Zion plays the piano, Donna Heintz and Debbie Woolweber play different percussion instruments. All invited to “Jam” with us on THURSDAYS, 5:00 p.m.at Bethel.



SEDER CELEBRATION



The annual Seder service/dinner will be held on SUNDAY, APRIL 10 at 4:30 p.m. All are welcome to come and participate in a Pass-over meal. Please make reservations by signing up in the narthex.

COLLECTIONS AT BETHEL

We will still be collecting pull tabs from pop cans that will be taken to Three Rivers Scrap Metal, Inc in Pittsburgh where they will be weighed and exchanged for cash. The money will go to Ronald McDonald House where families can stay for free while their child is hospitalized in the Pittsburgh area for a serious illness. We are no longer collecting plastic grocery bags. We are still also collecting cancelled stamps for LWML missions and unwanted eye glasses. The area to place these items will be in the Social Hall on the table next to the ramp.

