

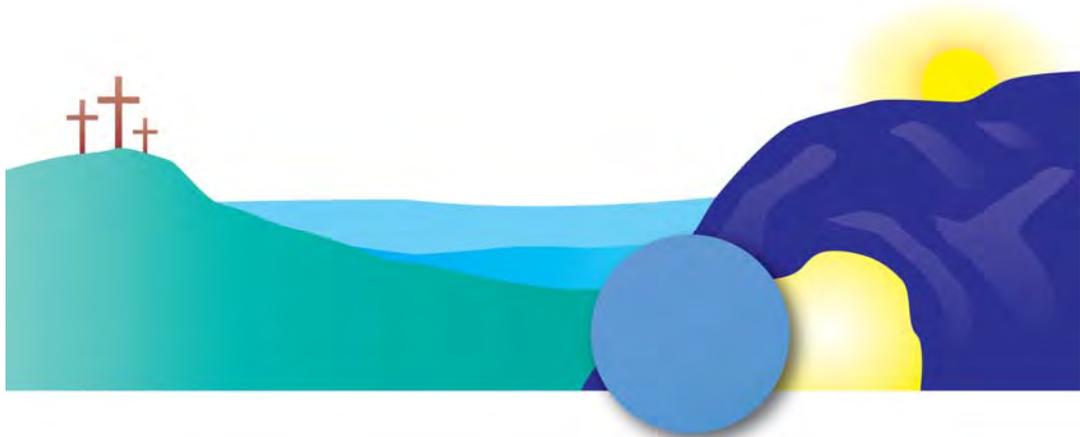


Bethany Lutheran Outlook
March 2016

Serving God, Community, and Individuals

**But the angel said to the women,
“Do not be afraid;
I know that you are looking for Jesus
who was crucified.
He is not here; for he has been raised,
as he said.**

Matthew 27:5-6





PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

In last year's March Outlook article I said that for many of us, March doesn't have much to recommend it. This year however, Easter falls in March! March 20th is the first day of spring, there's a full moon on the 23rd, so Easter is the following Sunday, the 27th, within a few days of being as early as it can be. In some places Easter and spring have a strong connection but when Easter comes as early as it does this year, even though spring has officially started, that connection becomes a bit more problematical. Around here though, it's not so problematical. In the UP, it doesn't make much difference when Easter is; even when it falls later in April, the chances of nice spring weather are still not very good. Maybe this year will be different, but in the UP, winter tends to hang on.

Easter doesn't come with as much cultural and sentimental baggage as Christmas. With just a dusting of snow, last Christmas felt a little strange to many of us. With Easter though, the weather doesn't have the same impact on how we feel. If we happen to get an early spring, that's a nice bonus, but we don't count on it. We'll have beautiful flowers inside, but we don't expect to see them outside. It may be though, that not being concerned about the weather helps us to better focus on the meaning of the events that we recall on Easter and on the days preceding it.

Easter is the central celebration of the church year as we proclaim the resurrection of Jesus. It's an announcement of new life and hope beyond anything we can imagine, beyond anything we deserve. Easter though, is the culmination of a week that starts on the previous Sunday with the observance of Palm/Passion Sunday and then continues on Thursday, Friday and Saturday with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil.

Many people are present for the two Sundays, Palm Sunday and Easter, but they miss the services that mark what we call the "Triduum" or the "Three Days." We are a church that takes worship very seriously and these services are among the most important ones that we do all year. Obviously one can celebrate Easter without being in church on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, but the scope of the drama that unfolds is missing. Much of what is done on those days is done in dim light or in candlelight, late in the evening. On Saturday the Easter Vigil observance even extends through the overnight hours. All of these services though, create a stark contrast with the light of Easter morning. The tone and the mood are different which serves to make the celebration of Easter different.

Every year I urge people to be present for as much of the Three Days as they can, not so I can feel good because there are a lot of people in church, but because I truly believe it will impact you in ways you might not realize. It's a lot of church and for some of us it means staying up well past our bedtime, but once a year, it's worth it.

Make a note of the times of the services and, especially if you haven't done so before or if you haven't done so for awhile, plan to be part of them.

Pastor Geier

Triduum

Maundy Thursday

I wept for Him today.

He washed the dust from our feet; opened our hearts
to His Commandment of Love.

'Stay with me, remain with me' – the betrayal was our own.



Good Friday

I wept for Him today.

He understood the burden of this world.

Forgive our ignorance:

We are engulfed in darkness; our own agony begun.



Holy Saturday

I wept for Him today.

The world is silent, shrouded in sorrow.

- Loss beyond imagining -

We lay in a tomb of shallow breath – not yet alive.



Easter Sunday

I wept for Him today.

He told us The Truth – hidden within ourselves:

We are not forsaken;

We can awaken - radiant in The Light.



Vicky M. Semones

DAILY LECTIONARY



The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

“The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid.”
—Martin Luther

1 Psalm 39			Ezekiel
17:1-10	Romans 2:12-16		
2 Psalm 39	Numbers 13:17-27	Luke 13:18-21	
3 Psalm 32	Joshua 4:1-13 2	Cor. 4:16 — 5:5	
4 Psalm 32	Joshua 4:14-24 2	Cor. 5:6-15	
5 Psalm 32	Exodus 32:7-14	Luke 15:1-10	

6 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5:9-12 Psalm 32 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

7 Psalm 53	Leviticus 23:26-41	Revelation 19:1-8
8 Psalm 53	Leviticus 25:1-19	Revelation 19:9-10
9 Psalm 53	2 Kings 4:1-7	Luke 9:10-17
10 Psalm 126	Isaiah 43:1-7	Philippians 2:19-24
11 Psalm 126	Isaiah 43:8-15	Philippians 2:25 — 3:1
12 Psalm 126	Exodus 12:21-27	John 11:45-57

13 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21 Psalm 126 Philippians 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8

14 Psalm 20	Exodus 40:1-5	Hebrews 10:19-25
15 Psalm 20	Judges 9:7-15	1 John 2:18-28
16 Psalm 20	Habakkuk 3:2-15	Luke 18:31-34
17 Psalm 31:9-16	Isaiah 53:10-12	Hebrews 2:1-9
18 Psalm 31:9-16	Isaiah 54:9-10	Hebrews 2:10-18
19 Psalm 31:9-16	Leviticus 23:1-8	Luke 22:1-13

20 Sunday of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Luke 22:14 — 23:56



21 Monday in Holy Week

Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 36:5-11 Hebrews 9:11-15 John 12:1-11

22 Tuesday in Holy Week

Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 71:1-14 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 John 12:20-36

23 Wednesday in Holy Week

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 70 Hebrews 12:1-3 John 13:21-32

24 Maundy Thursday

Exodus 1-14 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35

25 Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13 — 53:12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 John 18:1 — 19:42

26 Vigil of Easter

Romans 6:3-11 John 20:1-18

Readings for Easter Vigil

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-2:4a - Creation

Response: Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26

Second Reading: Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13 - Flood

Response: Psalm 46

Third Reading: Genesis 22:1-18 - Testing of Abraham

Response: Psalm 16

Fourth Reading: Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21 - Deliverance at the Red Sea

Response: Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18

Fifth Reading: Isaiah 55:1-11 - Salvation freely offered to all

Response: Isaiah 12:2-6



Sixth Reading: Proverbs 8:1-8, 19-21; 9:4b-6 or Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4 - The wisdom of God

Response: Psalm 19

Seventh Reading: Ezekiel 36:24-28 - A new heart and a new spirit

Response: Psalm 42 and Psalm 43



Eighth Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14 - Valley of the dry bones

Response: Psalm 143

Ninth Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20 - The gathering of God's people

Response: Psalm 98

Tenth Reading: Jonah 1:1-2:1 - The deliverance of Jonah

Response: Jonah 2:2-3 [4-6] 7-9

Eleventh Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 9-11 - Clothed in the garments of salvation

Response: Deuteronomy 32:1-4, 7, 36a, 43a

Twelfth Reading: Daniel 3:1-29 - Deliverance from the fiery furnace

Response: Song of the Three 35-65

27 Resurrection of Our Lord

Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 Luke 24:1-12

28 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Joshua 10:16-27

1 Cor. 5:6b-8

29 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

Judges 4:17-23 ; 5:24-31a

Revelation 12:1-12

30 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

2 Samuel 6:1-15

Luke 24:1-12

31 Psalm 150

1 Samuel 17:1-23

Acts 5:12-16





HOLY WEEK *Worship Services*

March 20 Palm Sunday
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Palm Sunday brunch follows worship.

As we ponder what it would've been like to throw coats and branches in your path as you entered Jerusalem, Lord, help us lay our lives at your feet.

March 24 Maundy Thursday 8:00 p.m.

God, after the first Passover, you delivered Israel from slavery. Today we share that meal, transformed by your Son, and trust in your delivery from slavery to sin. Amen.

March 25 Good Friday
Ecumenical Service @ Wesley Methodist Church 12:30—3:00 p.m.
Tenebrae Service 9:00 p.m.

Holy God, mighty and immortal, have mercy on us. We praise you, for by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

March 26 Easter Vigil 9:00 p.m.
All Night Vigil 11:00 p.m.

March 27 Easter Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Hallelujah! Christ is risen! Welcome into Easter joy. The power of God raised Jesus from the dead and offers eternal life to all.



Enjoy the Poetry of Hymns

He Lives

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today;
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,
And just the time I need Him, He's always near.

In all the world around me I see His loving care,
And tho' my heart grows weary I never will despair;
I know that He is leading thro' all the stormy blast,
The day of His appearing will come at last.

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find,
None other is so loving, so good and kind.

He lives, he lives Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives? **He lives within my heart!**

— Alfred H. Ackley, 1887-1960d



He Lives: a Hymn History

Alfred H. Ackley was born on January 21, 1887. His father, a Methodist preacher and musically gifted man, gave Alfred his foundation in music at an early age. Alfred went on to study harmony and composition in New York and London. His specialty was cello. Over time, he felt a call to preach and he pastored for many years, but never stopped writing music and hymns.

One particular morning, Easter Sunday in 1932, Rev. Ackley was preparing for his services of the day. As he was shaving, he tuned in to the radio in time to hear a special Easter broadcast.

“Good morning!” The well-known liberal preacher began. “It’s Easter! You know folks, it really doesn’t make any difference to me if Christ be risen or not. As far as I am concerned His body could be as dust in some Palestinian tomb. The man thing is, His truth goes marching on!”

Rev. Ackley was furious. “**It’s a lie!**” he shouted at the radio set, forgetting that the speaker could not hear him.

Mrs. Ackley did hear him, however, and questioned, “Why are you shouting so early in the morning?”

“Didn’t you hear what that good-for-nothing preacher said?” he replied. “He said it didn’t matter whether Christ be risen or not!”

Rev. Ackley knew that the truth of the resurrection DID matter, as evidenced by a conversation he had had with a young Jewish man just a few weeks prior. “Why should I worship a dead Jew?” the young man asked; to which Rev. Ackley had replied, “That’s the whole point. **He isn’t dead; He’s alive!**”

Rev. Ackley, in telling the story later, said that he preached that Easter Sunday quite differently than he had ever preached before, but at the end of the day, still felt that he had not yet said everything he wanted to say!

His wife sized up the situation and said, “Listen here, Alfred Ackley, it’s time you did that which you can do best. Why don’t you write a song about it and then maybe you’ll feel better. You’ll have something that will go on telling the story.”

That very night, Rev. Alfred Ackley wrote out the words, and then composed the melody just as it appears in our hymnals today.

Adapted from Music in the Air, Mark Ward Sr. and Al Smith’s Treasury of Hymn Histories



Internship Project Update

Back in the December-January issue of the Outlook, I explained that as part of my Internship responsibilities, I am asked by the seminary to complete a major project. The project is new for me and for Bethany, and it is designed to serve Bethany in meaningful, positive, and sustainable ways. At the time, I asked the congregation this question: What would you most like to see happen at Bethany Lutheran?

I want to thank everyone who passed along suggestions. I received quite a number of them and plan to follow up on each one, letting you know how the idea might fit into Bethany's overall ministry. Some ideas are potentially quick action items, while others may require additional thought, as well as resources.

The Internship Project that I ultimately submitted to Luther Seminary is in the area of our young people and is entitled "Youth Worship Participation." I defined a number of expected outcomes, including ensuring that younger children and their parents will be familiar with the elements of the Worship Tool Kit and that confirmation-age youth will have ongoing opportunities to serve as Youth Ushers and Worship Assistants.

I also outlined specific tasks that need to be accomplished in my remaining six months, such as defining the administrative tasks and resources needed to enable the project to continue after I return to seminary.

I recently had a very interesting suggestion for the Worship Tool Kits, and I'd really like to follow-up on implementing it. **Why not put the items from the Worship Tool Kits into cloth carry bags that the kids can pick up and take to their seats?** That way, they'll have everything available to participate in worship: from the tealight to the Whirl Bible to the streamer and more! I wish I could make this wonderful idea happen on my own, but alas, I don't have the specific talent needed. **Would anyone be willing to help design, select materials, and sew Worship Tool Kit bags?** If this is something you would consider, please let me know. Thanks!

Thank you also, everyone, for supporting my Internship Project with words of encouragement for our young people in the months ahead!

Palm Sunday Brunch



*Bethany's Palm Sunday Brunch
March 20
after worship service*



*Decorated Eggs
Ham & cheese on rolls
Fruit
Muffins
Coffee
Milk*

*Sponsored by the
Board of Worship and Music*





Social Ministry

Social ministry is looking for a few good people, or more than a few.

What is involved? Here it is: “Everything you want to know about Social Ministry but were afraid to ask,”

Social Ministry’s mission is to help various groups and/or individuals who are in need. The help usually involves monetary support, but it can also be the gift of time.

We are NOT a line item in our church budget. The larger part of our money comes from noisy offering totaling \$3134.96 in 2014. Noisy offering is self-explanatory and loose change is appreciated. The other portion of our budget comes as money received from serving Sunday morning coffee, as well as from people who make memorial and miscellaneous donations. That total was \$1450 in 2014. Committee members have no responsibility to directly donate money.

Now let’s look at the time commitment.

The first gift of time is attending meetings. Social Ministry meets in the church social room on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. The meeting usually takes an hour or less depending on our socializing. One person VOLUNTEERS to do devotions for each meeting.

The next gift of time involves the Sunday morning coffee hour. We usually serve on the second Sunday of each month. This involves a small monetary commitment as we need at least five people to bake or purchase some goodies to serve. These same people set up, make and serve coffee, and clean up afterwards. Occasionally, we are asked to help out with a special event.



The next gift of time is for Habitat for Humanity. The workers are volunteers and various groups provide lunch for them. We commit to one lunch during the summer. Social Ministry purchases the groceries. We prepare sandwiches and other lunch items, and then we deliver the lunches to the worksite.



One person commits time every Sunday to setting out and then putting away our Equal Exchange coffee and chocolate. We make no money, but committing to this program makes sure farmers and others receive fair prices for their products. This person is also responsible for ordering the Equal Exchange products. Thanks, Kathy!



Now you know everything about Social ministry. We would love to have you join us. See you at 11:00 a.m. on the second Tuesday. If you are unable to commit to these meetings, please consider volunteering in some other way. There is always a need for help somewhere.

**Deuteronomy 15:11 World English Bible
For the poor will never cease out of the land:
therefore I command you, saying,
you shall surely open your hand to your brother,
to your needy, and to the poor, in your land.**



**The March/April Noisy Offering will be given to the
Lutheran Social Services in the Great Lakes Synod for
their area of greatest need.**

Thanks to everyone for your generosity!

Lay School Update

Lutheran Confessions will start on March 8th and go until April 19th
4-6pm Kenneth Lahners

Ethics will also start on March 8th and go until April 19th
6:30-8:30 Jim Duehring

No classes Holy Week, March 22nd

My Grandfather

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Way back when, during the Spanish Influenza pandemic, my grandfather was a fresh eighteen year old lad on his way to join the ranks of fighting men during the last year of WWI. It was 1918. However, he never made it very far, as he, along with so many others, was struck down by Spanish Influenza. As there was nothing more that could be done for him in the army hospital where so many languished, he was sent home to live or die. He remembered being brought by stretcher, onto the train, and carried through an open window, since the stretcher was not able to bend around the tight corners that people normally walked through to find their seat.

While at home, a nurse was engaged to care for him. Now my grandfather was the youngest of 10 children, and by his own admission, he was arrogant and spoiled. He was the only one of his siblings granted the privilege of an education, the other nine boys and girls had to be content with contributing to the workings of the family farm. But he was sent to school. And so obviously he felt he knew more than anyone else.

And he owned that it is not uncommon for 18 year old boys to know everything. He felt invincible, ready to take on the world, until that is, he was literally knocked off his feet by this illness.

After his journey back home, as he lay in his bed, wondering if he would live or die, he remembered his nurse praying daily at his bedside for his recovery. And when so many others, millions of men and boys, women and daughters, died of this illness, he once again felt special and chosen that he should live.

Only this time, he felt humbled and grateful. My grandfather, Clarence Rittmann, gave God the glory, and dedicated his life to God's service. He went to missionary school where he met his wife, Emma, and the two of them, in 1925, took a steamer ship and made the two month voyage to India, to become missionaries there. They served there for 45 years, had five children together (including my mother), founded a school and seminary, and were instrumental in helping Christianity gain a foothold in a small corner of the world.

I know that my grandfather was passionate about his work. I know that he kept track of the number of baptisms he performed, and he counted those children and adults as souls saved, and Christians made.

But how do you make a Christian? Really. How is it done?

On Facebook and Youtube there are countless “How to” videos - How to make a shelf, some lovely dessert, something new with crescent rolls or refrigerator biscuits. When we order something where “assembly is required,” we always receive a set of instructions, connect point A to point B etc. And even if they are illegible, or make no sense, we know that assembly is possible and hopefully all the parts came in the package.

But what about assembling a Christian? What are the steps, the ingredients, the parts?



I don't know what my grandfather learned in Missionary school. I assume it included a crash course in the language of the people he would be evangelizing to, Hindi, and the culture of the area. I assume my grandfather was given some kind of strategy, perhaps a time of getting to know the area, the people, a time of knocking on doors maybe, or offering the community something that they needed. Regardless of the training, I know my grandfather expected it to be difficult, he expected to have to work at it, he expected that there would be challenges and obstacles and difficulties and failures. But still he fortified himself with prayer, and immersed himself in the mission.

And he did this on behalf of the church that he served and his Lord whom he loved. And the church responded with funds that supported his efforts - Because that's how mission work worked back then.

At home, church was easy. People came to church to have their children baptized. Church was the social center of the community, and folks gathered willingly and joyfully to worship, giving from what God gave to them, to send people like my grandfather “over there” to the heathen people, to do the hard work, to tell those people about Jesus, to spread the good news, and make more Christians.

We still have missionaries with perhaps some special training who go to foreign places with a missionary attitude to spread the gospel.

But the thing is....the mission field is no longer only “over there”. Rather, it is here, it is next door and across the street, it is sitting next to you at supper, and across the table at the café. The mission field is in the hallways of your school, the coffee station at work, the desk next to yours, the weight room at the gym.

And I think we know this, but I don't think we know what to do about it. Maybe we're waiting for special training, a crash course in gym language that can be turned expertly to Jesus, or a crash course in café culture that shows us how to preach Jesus without actually having to say anything. This is new territory, a foreign land, and while we see that something needs to be done, I will dare to say that we don't know what that is.

I do not believe my grandfather received any remarkable training. When he set foot on the shores of India, he was not fully equipped with all he would need. There was no instruction manual or "how to" directions. The only thing he knew, that we are just beginning to realize, is that making Christians is hard work. It is not easy. It takes effort and yes, maybe even an intentional strategy. There are conversations that need to happen, and relationships that need to be started, and trust needs to be built, and yes, a witness needs to be given.

In this new year, in this year where together we focus on Witness, consider girding up your loins and making an effort to be a missionary, right where you are, as you live the life you are already living. There is no need to jump a steamer ship and make a two month voyage. And you already know the language and the culture. So you are already three steps ahead of my grandfather.

But consider that this is going to take effort and hard work. It is not going to be easy. There will be challenges and obstacles and failures. Pray about it. Ask God how in the world you can be of use to build up the body of Christ. Pray for wisdom and strength as you seek to make your life a witness to the one who died and rose again.

As a church, we need to stop expecting that people will simply come. Perhaps we have stopped expecting that. Perhaps now, we're noticing, and now we're in a stage of lament. We wring our hands and worry. We grieve the changes we see happening.

Well, I suggest we move on from that place, and venture into the new and uncharted territory of being missionaries in our own land, in our own communities, in our own families. Rise up, people of God, and brace yourselves for the work ahead. Rise up, believers in Christ, and when you get up tomorrow morning and every morning, consider how you might try and make a Christian. The Holy Spirit will guide you. The presence of Christ will be with you. And that, really, is all you need.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Katherine Finegan

Reprinted from February/March issue of Notes and Quotes (NGLS)

**Easter Trivia Challenge:
Important Dates and Events in the History of Easter**

1. What Jewish holiday is Easter connected to?
 - A. Yom Kippur
 - B. Hanukkah
 - C. Passover

2. True or False? Eggs were a valuable commodity during the Middle Ages and obligations were often paid in eggs?

3. When did Edward I give over 450 gilded Easter Eggs as presents as part of an Easter celebration?
 - A. 1290s
 - B. 1390s
 - C. 1790s

4. When did Easter become a popular secular celebration in the United States?
 - A. 1830s
 - B. 1850s
 - C. 1870s

5. Easter cards became popular in the 1880s. What was the most popular theme on such cards?
 - A. Crosses
 - B. Flowers
 - C. The Easter bunny

6. When did Easter lilies become common as a decoration at Easter in the United States?
 - A. 1880s
 - B. 1900s
 - C. 1920s

7. What president reinstated the White House Easter Egg Roll?
 - A. Rutherford Hayes
 - B. James Garfield
 - C. Benjamin Harrison



Answers to Easter Trivia Challenge

1. **C** Easter is connected to the Jewish holiday of Passover.
2. **True** Eggs were a valuable commodity during the Middle Ages and obligations were often paid in eggs. This included clergy being sometimes paid in eggs and also certain taxes being levied in eggs. These taxes were highly unpopular given the value of eggs.
3. **A** In the 1290s, Edward I gave over 450 gilded Easter Eggs as presents as part of an Easter celebration. Edward I also participated in the footwashing and gift-giving to the poor.
4. **C** Easter became a popular secular celebration in the United States during the 1870s. This was also around the time that Christmas was becoming a national holiday.
5. **B** Flowers were the most popular Easter card theme in the 1880s.
6. **A** In the 1880s Easter lilies became common as a decoration at Easter in the United States. Easter lilies are originally from Japan.
7. **A** Rutherford Hayes, actually his wife Lucy Hayes, reinstated the White House Easter Egg Roll. The rolling Easter Eggs symbolize the stone rolling away from the tomb.





**The Lutheran— February 2016
Embracing Diversity**



COVER STORY

Embracing diversity

Multicultural congregations share their successes, struggles

BY KARRIS GOLDEN



COVER STORY

Truly inclusive membership requires intention, support

BY KARRIS GOLDEN



FEATURES

A life laid down

BY FRANK G. HONEYCUTT



FEATURES

A place to start over

With support from Lutheran agency, Syrians find refuge in Michigan

BY ERIN STRYBIS



FEATURES

Burnout blues

Causes of volunteer exhaustion and ways to avoid it

BY MARK BREWER



A LEXICON OF FAITH:

Curiosity

BY PETER W. MARTY



PRESIDING BISHOP:

Time to get to know each other

BY ELIZABETH A. EATON

Fellowship Hall Floor original 1962 Will patch asbestos floor and put down carpet squares which are replaceable if ruined.

Sanctuary original 1970 Carpet

Church Pews and Choir Chairs 1970 reupholster both



Library Thoughts for March 2016

By Keenan Tunnell

I'm still in California as I write this, but I'll be home soon after you receive this issue of the OUTLOOK...and I'm looking forward to it, snow and all!! But, down to business: Here's a brief look at a few of the holy days occurring this month, some of which we celebrate and others we don't, for various reasons. There will be materials on the Library Kiosk relating to most of them and I hope there will be something among them to enlighten your faith. Please observe Lent to the fullest with Prayer, Fasting, and works of charity and especially the drama of the Easter Vigil leading to the glorious celebration of Easter!! See you soon.



17 March – St. Patrick & the Saints of Ireland

St. Patrick (c. 386-17 March 493) was a Christian missionary and patron saint of Ireland, along with Saint Brigid of Kildare and Saint Columba, and is traditionally considered the introducer of the Christian religion on the island. Born on the west coast of Britain, when he was sixteen he was captured and sold into slavery in Ireland, from where he escaped and returned home to his family six years later. Then he started his religious life and returned to Ireland as an ordained bishop in the north and west of the island, where he had fled to preach the Gospel. See the hymn “St. Patrick’s Breastplate” in the hymnal for his devotion to the Holy Trinity.



20 March – Palm/Passion Sunday (Beginning of Holy Week)

Palm Sunday has a dual focus today. The service begins with a joyful procession with palms to remember our Lord's jubilant entry into Jerusalem. The hymns, prayers, and lectionary Scripture readings also reflect this joy. A second focus on Palm Sunday is our Lord's Passion. When this second focus is observed, the entire passion story (Matthew, Mark, or Luke) is read (in place of the sermon).

Originally, however, Passion Sunday was held two weeks before Easter (since the ninth century) and it began the two week period known as "Passiontide" in which special stress was placed on Christ's suffering and crucifixion. Actually, the two week Passiontide is older than Lent, having been observed since the third century.

25 March -- Annunciation to the Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Annunciation always occurs sometime during Lent and its life-affirming message is a bright light in the darkness of the penitential season. This year the holy day occurs on Good Friday so there will certainly be no “feast”; rather think on Mary’s suffering this day...the ultimate thing she must treasure and ponder in her heart. Please join your voices in this prayer, which is the conclusion of the Prayer of the Church for this holy day:



“O Loving One, as your messenger came to Mary with words of your favor and the pledge of wondrous new life, may we, in our day, prove ourselves as ready to serve you, and as willing to bear the life you offer, for the blessing of our world. *Amen.*”

24 – 26 March -- The Great Three Days: the Easter Triduum

These days are the highlight of the Christian Year, including Maundy Thursday’s institution of the Eucharist, Good Friday’s crucifixion and death of our Lord, and the Easter Vigil celebrating our Lord’s movement from death to life, His once for all sacrifice and conquest of sin and death for all mankind. Join with the Church around the world in observing these holy days as the true preparation for Easter Joy!!



27 March – Easter; Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord

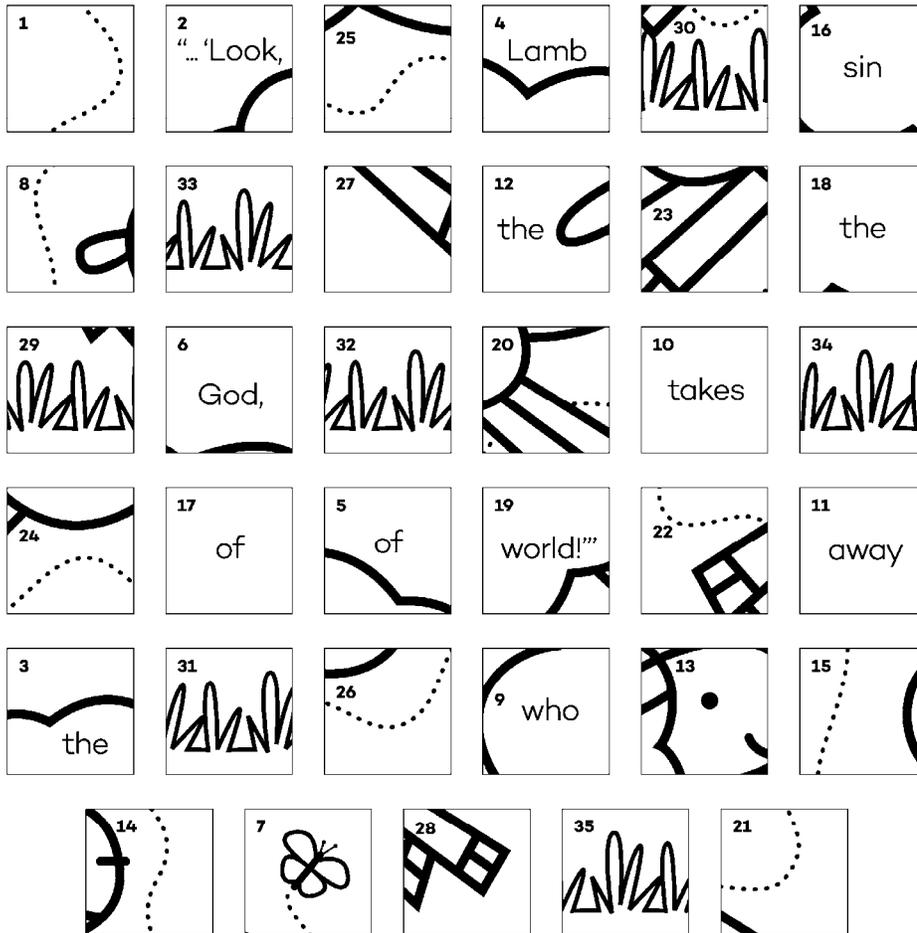
Eastertide begins today and we celebrate the season for fifty days, until the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost...but more about Eastertide next month. Check out the Easter books on the kiosk. The majority of them are children’s books but their message is probably clearer for that. See what you think!



Lamb of God

 John the Baptist knew Jesus was the Messiah —  and offered a special greeting when he saw Jesus.

Directions: Cut apart the squares and arrange them in a rectangle in numerical order, starting with #1 in the top left and going across to #7. Continue building four more rows of seven squares each, to reveal John 1:29, NIV.





**Bethany youth assisting
during worship**



**Daylight Savings Time begins
March 13**

Remember to turn your clocks ahead.



"An Easter bonnet? I thought you were Lady Gaga."

Thrivent Choice Dollars

For those members with Thrivent investments, it is time to designate where you would like your 2014 Thrivent Choice Dollars to go. If you wish, your Choice Dollars can be designated to Bethany.

Reminder

You can make your designation online or you may get help from your Thrivent representative. Your designation must be made before the end of March.



YTD Income: \$16,129.71

YTD Expenses: \$19,951.77

(January)





Easter Flowers

Easter Lilies will be \$14
Mums, Daffodils, Hyacinths &
Tulips will be \$15
Azaleas and Hydrangeas will be \$25

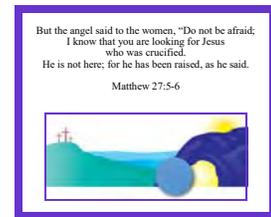
The deadline for ordering is March 18.

Easter Postcard Included in Outlook

Enclosed in each copy of March's Outlook is the Holy Week worship schedule. The schedule is written on a postcard.

Feel free to use it as...

- Your special reminder
- A book mark
- An invitation (Add postage and send it to someone inviting them to take part in our Holy Week services at Bethany.)



Lenten Services and Soup Suppers Continue

The Wednesday Lenten Services continue during March at 6:30 p.m. with the last three plays in the series *Half-Baked Lent* by John P. Trump.



Prior to the service there will be the Lenten Soup Suppers which begin at 5:30 p.m.

These Boards of Bethany will provide the soups during March.

March 2 - Worship and Music
March 9 - Stewardship and Personnel
March 16 - Council

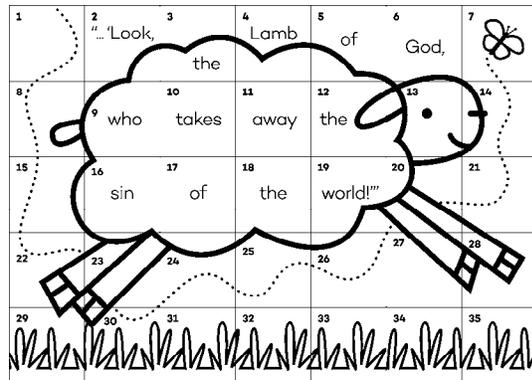


The Memorial Committee would like to thank all those who gave memorials in the name of....

Shirley Sundblad
Geri Maki



Answer to the *Lamb of God* puzzle:



Bethany's Website

www.bethanyishpeming.org

To view the latest edition of the Outlook in color, please visit Bethany's website.



Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, Cocoa and Chocolate
Are Available at Bethany



- Café Salvador Coffee
- Organic Decaf Coffee
- Whole Bean Coffee
- Whole Bean Decaf
- Sisters' Blend, Reg. & Decaf Teas
- Hot cocoa
- Baking Cocoa
- Milk Chocolate Bar
- Dark Chocolate Mini Bars

From Small Farmers With Love



Keep In Your Prayers

- Remember our home-bound and nursing home residents:
Doreen Brown (Valente), Joyce Lehto (Mill Creek), Marjorie Rosten (Valente), Anna Mae Collins (Mather), Jean Anderson (Valente), Allen Maki (Jacobetti), Bob Waters (Jacobetti), Jean Sandstrom (Valente), Don Doney (Valente)
- The family and friends of Shirley Sundblad who mourn her loss
- The family and friends of Geri Maki who mourn her loss
 - Pastor Bob Sutherland
 - Pastor Rudy Keppainen
 - Ned Johns
 - Carl Pellonpaa
 - Ralph Goethe
 - Robert Maki
 - Betty Geier
 - Zander Atkins
 - Jim Sodergren, Sr.
 - Jim Bjorne
 - Pastor Marcia Solberg
 - Angie Kempainen
 - June Forsberg
 - Carol and Juan Papaleo and family
 - Pam Waters
 - Those in the military that they may remain safe
- Cindy Warner
- Judy Hogan
- Jean Johns
- Karmen Slown
- Brown family
- John Hansen
- Mark
- Jim Sodergren, Jr.
- Lois Goethe
- Kaukola family
- Clara Carlson
- Ruthie Solberg
- Pam Allen
- Mark Ulrickson
- Doris Pellonpaa



Contact **Linda Dahl** by phone, e-mail, or by dropping a note in the newsletter mailbox at church.

485-1625
linkarzig@gmail.com



Bethany Lutheran Church
715 Mather Avenue
Ishpeming, MI 49849

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
ISHPEMING MI 49849
Permit No. 75

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Bethany Lutheran Church
Phone: 906-486-4351
Fax: 906-486-9640
E-mail: bethanyim@hotmail.com
Website: www.bethanyishpeming.org

Rev. Warren Geier, Pastor
Home Phone: 485-4218
E-mail: pastor@bethanyishpeming.org

Parish Planning Council:
Exec. Director, Robert Nadeau
Asst. Exec. Director, Ted Swanson
Christian Education, Tonya Perry
Finance, Jim Kinnunen
Personnel, Tom Ryan
Property, Bill Heavyside
Social Ministry, Marie Chilman
Stewardship, Tom Perry
Worship & Music, Keenan Tunnell



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Northern Great Lakes Synod



March Worship Assistants

March 6

Assisting Minister - Kathy Harrington
Acolyte - Hope Kaukola & Kyra
Holmgren
Altar - Debbie Cain
Coffee Hosts - Personnel
Nursery - Hannah Skewis
Bread - Terra Frustaglio
Youth Ushers—Blake Forbes &
Matthew Skewis

March 24 Maundy Thursday

Assisting Minister - Brent Clark
Acolytes - Abbi Bruhnke & Morgan Rhoades
Altar - Sue Holmgren
Bread - Kathy Geier

March 13

Assisting Minister - Jackson Cardoni
Acolytes - Abby Koski & Abbi Bruhnke
Altar - Pat Liivoja and Carol Holmgren
Coffee Hosts - Social Ministry
Nursery - Ben Bruhnke
Bread - Tonya Perry
Youth Ushers - Hope Kaukola & Mackenzie Ryan

March 20 Palm Sunday

Assisting Minister - Carrie Meyer
Acolytes - Jackson Cardoni & Gavin Argall
Altar - Carrie Goldsworthy
Coffee Hosts - Palm Sunday Brunch W & M
Nursery - Hannah Skewis
Bread - Cheryl Frederickson
Youth Ushers - Abbi Bruhnke & Abby Koski

March 27 Easter

Assisting Minister - Tom Ryan
Acolytes - Mackenzie Ryan & Kayla Koski
Altar - Sue Holmgren
Coffee Hosts - No coffee hour
Nursery - Jessica Penhale
Bread - Shirley Tyni
Youth Usher - Jackson Cardoni & Garrett
Frustaglio

Thank You!

March Ushers:

Bruce Bussone
Tom Perry
Ed Johns
Jim Kinnunen
Craig Kitchen
Jerry Plaisier
Knut Strom
Roy Koski

April Ushers:

John Beerling
Jerry Hager
Bill Heavyside
Robert Maki
Donald Meyer
John Pontti
Dan Sleeman



Happy Birthday!

- 1 Carol Carlson
- 2 Carol Heavyside
- 3 Heidi Sweet
- 4 Marvin Swanson
- 4 Calvin Bertucci
- 5 Addy Lemire
- 5 Joyce Lehto
- 7 Alexandra Kitchen
- 7 Evelyn Valente
- 8 Terra Frustaglio
- 8 Roberta Luokkala
- 9 Gwen Bruhnke
- 10 Rick Dault
- 11 Brett Sandstrom
- 12 Robert Clark
- 12 Trisha Gugin
- 14 William Carne
- 14 Marjorie Rosten
- 15 Jamie Healey
- 15 Beverly Matherne
- 16 Joshua Argall
- 16 Derek Meyer
- 17 Beth Bertucci
- 18 Peggy Clark
- 19 Sue Ryan
- 21 Gregory Stahlmann
- 22 Nicholas Chartre
- 24 Patricia Nault
- 25 Robert Kaukola
- 25 Joseph Lemire
- 27 Gavin Argall
- 27 Allen Maki
- 28 Kimberly Marks
- 28 Doris Pellonpaa
- 28 Donna Stahlmann



- 29 Chad Anderson
- 29 Catherine Barton
- 29 Marie Chilman
- 29 Kenneth Lawson
- 30 Sharla Riutta
- 31 Benjamin Bruhnke
- 31 Lois Goethe

Happy Anniverary!

David & Amanda Bivins
3/2/02 14 years

