

First Fruits

April 2020

Volume 24, Number 4

Worship Ministry

AS OF THIS PRINTING, THERE WILL NOT BE ANY SERVICES AT FIRST LUTHERAN IN CHARITON OR CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN MINISTRY IN CORYDON UNTIL EASTER SUNDAY. AT THIS TIME, WE ARE PLANNING ON HAVING SERVICES ON EASTER SUNDAY AT BOTH LOCATIONS.

ON EASTER SUNDAY, WE WILL STRIVE TO MAINTAIN OUR DISTANCE FROM EACH OTHER - ENCOURAGING YOU TO LEAVE SOME SPACE BETWEEN YOU AND OTHERS. WE WILL SPREAD OUT INTO THE NARTHEX AT BOTH CHURCHES AND ALSO INTO THE FIRESIDE ROOM IN CHARITON.

IN ADDITION, THERE WILL **NOT** BE EASTER BREAKFAST AT EITHER LOCATION.

EASTER LILIES: At Chariton: If you plan to donate a lily for Easter Sunday, you may designate it as a memorial or in honor of someone. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Fireside Room or you can call the church office (641-774-4875) with your information. The list of names will be printed in the Easter bulletin. **Please call or sign up by Monday, April 6, to be included in the Easter bulletin.**

At Corydon : Corydon members please bring your Easter lilies to the church with you on Easter Sunday morning.



EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP

APRIL 12

7 AM - Corydon

9 AM - Chariton

(no Sunday School)

(Please note that there will NOT be an 11 AM service at Christ the Servant on Easter Sunday.)

OUR SERMONS ARE NOW RADIO BROADCAST!!

Every Sunday, at 10:30 AM, you can listen to the weekly sermon and prayers from First Lutheran Church and Christ the Servant Lutheran Church on KIIC Radio – 96.7 FM out of Albia, IA. This broadcast will be an ongoing ministry of the two congregations every Sunday at 10:30 AM.

With this ministry, if the weather impacts us, or someone is sick, shut in, or out of town, all will be able to listen to the weekly sermon and prayers on the radio. You can listen on your personal radio, or via of the “Simple Radio” App on your Smart Phone, or a Radio App on your computer. Just turn on your radio or download one of the apps and you’ll be ready to listen.

Now, if you would like to sponsor a weekly broadcast for any occasion, an anniversary, a birthday, in memory or honor of someone, or some other reason, we invite you to consider giving a gift to sponsor the broadcast. The cost of a weekly sponsorship is \$35, or you can just give any amount to help us pay for the broadcast. It will be our intent to acknowledge the sponsor each week at the conclusion of the broadcast, unless you prefer to remain anonymous. To check and find out if the Sunday you’d like to sponsor is available, please call the church office and talk to Wendy – 641-774-4875.

To sponsor the weekly broadcast or give a gift to the radio broadcast, just note on the Memo line of your check - for “Radio Broadcast” - or put your contribution in an envelope and either mail it to the church or drop it in the Sunday offering plate.

March & April Broadcast Sponsors:

March 29: Roger & Kary Blunk in honor of their 52nd Wedding Anniversary on March 31.

April 5: In honor of Harlan & Delores Ranshaw by their children and grandchildren:
Dan & Karen Adams, Dalton & Megan Royer, and Matt & Rachel Strong

April 12: Denny & Patti Bisgard Family

April 19: Geneva Wilson

April 26: LuAnn & Tom Mosbach Family

Pastoral Pondering

On the first day of the week, Mary stood outside an open tomb believing someone had taken Jesus' body, weeping. It had been a horrendous few days with the arrest of her Lord, his trial, conviction, and crucifixion. Now, thinking someone has taken his body, confronted her with more pain and suffering. When, suddenly, to her amazement, the risen Lord stands before her and calls her by name - "Mary." Imagine the joy and comfort of hearing your name spoken by the one who you thought was dead.

Imagine yourself standing before the tomb early in the morning years ago, greeted by an angel, who says to you: *"Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, ... Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!'"* (Matthew 28:5-9). What a joyful shock to be greeted by one you thought was dead, the risen Lord Jesus. One who has conquered and destroyed the power of death itself.

Today, we are living through the pain and suffering of a shocking virus that is shutting down factories, forcing people to work from home, closing schools, overwhelming hospitals and medical resources – all of which seems unbelievable, almost like death itself. Facing an unknown future, the likes of which history has never seen before, I pray that it is with courage and hope that we face that which is before us. Knowing that the comforting words of the risen Lord, who said: *"Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."* (Matthew 28:20) are as valid today as they were centuries ago.

As we celebrate Easter with the fantastic news that the risen Lord, who conquered death, will also guide us in destroying the Corvid-19 virus plaguing our world. Sometimes as we look at the pain and suffering around us, it becomes important to look beyond a specific moment and realize - the love of our Lord, the risen Lord, continues to bear our burdens inspiring us with hope. St. Paul wrote to the church at Rome: *"suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts."* (Rom. 5:3-5)

Our Lord knows our pain and suffering and is more than willing to walk with us into the future. Therefore, I pray we will not lose hope, but remain steadfast and confident, knowing with assurance that God is with us.

St. Paul also wrote: *"Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you."* (Phil. 4:8-9)

Blessings to all!
Pastor Dick

Discipleship Ministry

PLEASE HOLD THE DATES!!

**Vacation Bible School is being planned
for June 9-12, 2020 from 9-11:30 AM.**

This year we will pair with Homestead!
The theme is "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus".
More details will come later!

Gayle Bortz

Stewardship Ministry

APRIL 19 - CINNAMON ROLL SUNDAY

The youth attending the next Youth Gathering will be serving cinnamon rolls on Sunday, April 19, in exchange for a free-will donation. All donations will be put toward the next Youth Gathering!



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH!

CANCELLED STAMPS: We are doing very well collecting cancelled stamps. We have an opportunity in April to hand deliver all that we have collected so far. If you have a pile at home, please remember to bring them to the church. We will continue to collect the stamps through the month of May. We will mail those to their destination. Thank you!



ATTENTION: To anyone that is cleaning closets or decluttering during these days at home!

The Breakfast Gals have decided to plan the annual basement sale at FLC in June 2020. Donated items such as clothing, household items, etc. would be appreciated. We cannot accept TV's or computers. Items may be placed in the church basement. If you need items picked up or have any questions, please contact Linda Comstock (641-774-4406) or Fay Utesch (515-451-1232).



LET US LIVE GENEROUSLY!

We are certainly living in unprecedented times. People are encouraged to stay inside, work from home, while many people battle the Corvid-19 virus.

For the past two weeks there have been no worship services at either First Lutheran or Christ the Servant Lutheran, which confronts us with how we remain faithful in our Christian stewardship.

Since no offering plates have been passed down the pews at church on Sunday, and the vast majority of us give our financial gifts on Sunday, neither congregation has had any income for the past two weeks. Our gracious God has always encouraged us to share our "first fruits" and live generously. And, even though we are not gathering for worship, let us continue supporting the ministry of our Lord.

Therefore, while we are not worshipping every Sunday, let us consider supporting our congregation and ministry by utilizing the United States Postal Service. To do so, I'd like to encourage you to give your offering by mailing a personal check to either:

First Lutheran Church
1004 Curtis Ave,
Chariton, IA 50049

or

For Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry, please mail your checks to:

Doug Thiel
15400 287th Avenue
Garden Grove, IA 50103

Truly Almighty God has been gracious; and I pray, we might respond by living generously too!

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT
WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU!**

We know that some of you are currently reluctant to leave your home for the next few weeks. So, if you find yourself in need of groceries or prescription medications, we would be honored to help, by shopping for you and delivering your order to your home or apartment. We have a list of people ready and willing to help you. Please call the church office (641-774-4875) and give Wendy your order, and we'll shop and deliver your order to you.

The church office is open Monday – Thursday from 8 AM – 3 PM.



⋮⋮⋮ On the Vine

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT DUE TO THE SITUATION WITH THE CORONAVIRUS, THESE PLANS AND DATES MAY CHANGE.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Group will not meet in the month of April unless you are notified otherwise.

The Women of the ELCA will meet on Thursday, **April 9**, at 1 PM. The gathering place will be announced. All women are invited!

“Sharing the Weight” Blanket Making Party at CTS will be held on Tuesday, **April 14**, from 9 AM-3 PM. We invite everyone to come and join us. Come as early as you can and stay as long as you like.

The CTS (Christ the Servant) Women’s Bible Study Group will meet on Tuesday, **April 21**, at Noon. Watch the bulletins for the meeting place to be announced.

LAF : Lutheran Adult Fellowship will “tentatively” gather in the Fireside Room at First Lutheran beginning at **6 PM on Sunday, April 26**. Duane & Cindy Bedford will be your hosts.

Re:Newed

Baptismal Anniversaries

During April, we remember and give thanks for the baptisms of:

4/2 John Neel	4/14 Emma Fuhs
4/3 Christina Umbenhower	4/16 Duane Bedford
4/4 Kent Seuferer	4/20 Carlie Bennett
4/4 Ian Luehring	4/20 Payton Schaeffer
4/5 Sarah Fuhs	4/20 Sonya Schaeffer
4/7 Nicole Brown	4/22 Troy Trzruc
4/7 Zach Fisher	4/23 Shari Harders
4/8 Kate Krutsinger	4/24 Axel Cunningham
4/10 Joseph Morrett	4/24 Blaze Cunningham
4/11 Linda Comstock	4/25 Trayton Brown
4/11 Allison Krutsinger	4/27 Julie Horstmeier
4/11 Bradley Sobotta	4/28 Joanne Aulwes
4/13 Dave Kuball	4/29 Judd Kruse
4/14 Angela Dachenbach	4/29 Anna Nayeri
4/14 Laura Wilson	

Thanks be to Jesus for the saving waters of baptism!

(In baptism, we all are made one in Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, neither male nor female, neither Chariton nor Corydon! Are we missing your baptismal anniversary? Let us know! Tell us the story of your baptism!)



First Lutheran Church
Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

1004 Curtis Ave • Chariton, Iowa 50049

Pastor Dick Hutton
email: flcchariton@iowatelecom.net
FaceBook: First Lutheran Church ELCA, Chariton, IA
and Christ the Servant Lutheran Ministry
phone: 641-774-4875

April

**** EASTER DAY WORSHIP**

APRIL 12

7 AM – Corydon Service

9 AM – Chariton Service

**Be Bold in our Faith as Children of God
and Share the Good News of Salvation with All People**

(First Lutheran Mission Statement)



Share the Joy of Christ, and Serve Others

(Christ the Servant Mission Statement)

follow flc and cts on twitter
<http://twitter.com/iowalutheran>



First Lutheran Church Chariton, IA
 flcchariton@iowatelecom.net
 (641)774-4875
 Worship 9 AM
 Sunday School 10:15 AM

Pastor Dick Hutton

Christ the Servant Corydon, IA
 Office: 641-774-4875
 Sunday School 10 AM
 Worship 11 AM

April 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Wendy's Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8 AM – 3 PM	AA – Alcoholics Anonymous		1	2	3 Office Closed	4
5 PALM SUNDAY No Services	6	7 10 am – FLC Worship Committee 11:30 am – Lucas Co. ICC at Christian Church	8 8 pm – AA @ CTS	9 1 pm – Women of the ELCA	10 Office Closed	11 8 pm – AA @ CTS
12 EASTER Holy Communion 7 am – CTS Worship 9 am – FLC Worship (no Sunday School at CTS & FLC)	13 2 pm – Laplanders Quilt Guild at CTS	14 8 am – Breakfast Gals at Hardee's 9 am-3 pm – Blanket Making Party at CTS 10 am – Bible Study at St. Andrews Episcopal	15 2 pm – Confirmation Class at FLC 8 pm – AA @ CTS	16 Noon – Wayne Co. Ministers Meet 7 pm – Slavic Worship at FLC	17 Office Closed Newsletter Deadline!	18 8 pm – AA @ CTS
19 Holy Communion Cinnamon Roll Sunday 9 am – First, Chariton 10 am – CTS Sunday School 10:15 am – FLC Sunday School 10:15 am – Executive Comm. at FLC 11 am – Christ the Servant, Corydon	20 6:30 pm – Council at FLC 7 pm – Quilt Guild in Fireside Room	21 10 am – Bible Study at St. Andrews Episcopal Noon – CTS Women's Bible Study (place TBA)	22 2 pm – Confirmation Class at FLC 8 pm – AA @ CTS	23 7 pm – Slavic Worship at FLC	24 Office Closed	25 8 pm – AA @ CTS
26 Holy Communion 9 am – First, Chariton 10 am – CTS Sunday School 10:15 am – FLC Sunday School 11 am – Christ the Servant, Corydon Noon – CTS Task Force & CTS Worship Committee 6:30 pm – Lutheran Adult Fellowship	27	28 10 am – Bible Study at St. Andrews Episcopal	29 2 pm – Confirmation Class at FLC 8 pm – AA @ CTS	30 7 pm – Slavic Worship at FLC		