

First Fruits

April 2023
Volume 27, Number 4

Worship Ministry



Palm Sunday
April 2 - 9 AM

First Lutheran will celebrate with palms—members gather in **Narthex** and process into sanctuary on opening hymn



Maundy Thursday

April 6 - 7 PM

Special Joint Worship at
First Lutheran in Chariton



Good Friday

April 7 - 7 PM

Special Joint Worship at
Christ the Servant Lutheran in Corydon

Easter Sunday

The Resurrection of Our Lord

April 9

First Lutheran

7-8:45 AM—Easter Breakfast

9 AM—Festival Worship

Christ The Servant

9:30-10:45 AM—Easter Breakfast

11 AM – Festival Worship



EASTER LILY @ FLC

If you plan to donate a lily for Easter Sunday at First Lutheran, you may designate it as a memorial or in honor of someone. The sign up sheet is on the table in the Narthex. **SIGN UP DEADLINE IS PALM SUNDAY.** You can call the office 774-4875 if you want added to the list. **DEADLINE TO CALL WILL BE MONDAY, APRIL 3.** The list of names will be printed in the Easter bulletin.

EASTER LILY @ CTS

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

LUTHERAN ADULT FELLOWSHIP MARCH MEETING



CONFIRMATION NEWS

Classes will resume on
Wednesday, April 19 at

GOD SAVED US THROUGH THE WATER OF BIRTH AND RENEWAL BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. ROM 6:3
CONFIRMATION



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Discipleship Ministry

CREATED TO BE 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering including MYLE the tAble Young Adult Gathering

The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering will be held July 16-20, 2024 in New Orleans. Youth participants must be in 8th to 12th grade at the time of registration (fall 2023). The theme for the 2024 Gathering is “Created to Be.” The primary Scripture will be Psalm 139, with a specific emphasis on verse 14:

“I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well!”

Youth from both congregations are encouraged to participate. If you will be in 8th to 12th grade next school year, please consider attending this event! Call the church office (641-774-4875) if interested in attending. Funds are available to cover some of the cost. You can also find more information about the event at elca.org/gathering.

Walking in Jesus’ Footsteps... Chariton’s Trinity Lutheran Church members cordially invite you to a pictorial presentation about the **Holy Land** and a potluck luncheon at their church, 825 N. 7th St., on Sunday, May 7. Jenni Pickel, former Chariton resident, will show us the best of her photos from her travels to the Holy Land from Magdala and the Sea of Galilee to Bethlehem in Judea and all points in between. Check out King Herod’s swimming pool, King Ahab and Queen Jezebel’s palace ruins and the view of the Valley of Jezreel, Jesus’ office of Capernaum, and Peter’s Fish and raised fishing boat. The photographs are matched with biblical references and passages and some of Jen’s own personal stories. She will prepare authentic Palestinian hummus and pita bread to sample during the presentation. The Holy Land presentation will begin at 10:30 after church services with the potluck approximately at noon. This time together is geared for all ages.

RADIO BROADCAST



THANK YOU for your support of this ministry!!

The radio broadcast of Pastor Hutton’s sermons is an ongoing ministry of First Lutheran and Christ the Servant. Ways to listen at 10:30 AM each Sunday morning:

KIIC Radio—96.7 FM (Albia)

kiicradio.com—website
(Click on “Listen Live”)

If you miss Sunday, catch it as a podcast on church’s website!

Broadcast Sponsors:

April 2: Del & Karen Kray in honor of their children

April 9: Dave & Lana Kuball in honor of Brad & Allison Krutsinger’s anniversary

April 16: Bob Schmitt in memory of his wife, Shirley

April 23: Kay Tighe in honor of her 91st birthday

April 30: John & Arta Harman

Several dates are still open for 2023! With two members now in care facilities, the broadcast brings our worship to those, plus we have listeners all across southern Iowa. Sponsorships are \$35. Please call the church office to sponsor a Sunday. 641-774-4875 Thank you!

Stewardship Ministry

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES DURING LENT!

- Wednesday mid-week offerings at First Lutheran this year will be divided 50/50 with Lucas County Ministry Center and ELCA World Hunger Appeal.
- “Noisy Offerings” taken on Sundays during Lent will also be divided 50/50 with Lucas County Ministry Center and ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

SAVE YOUR USED STAMPS!

Please trim the stamps off the envelope, leaving 1/4" around each. Deposit them into the box on the desk in the Fireside Room. They will go to a woman in TX who gets them to stamp dealers who in turn sell them to stamp collectors. The **money goes to Lutheran World Relief for shipping quilts and kits.**

Collecting stamps will not stop!



ON THE VINE



PRAYER SHAWL/BABY AFGHAN GROUP will gather in the FLC Library, beginning at 1:30 PM, on Wednesday, April 5.

LAPLANDERS QUILT GUILD AT CTS on Monday, April 10 beginning at 2 PM.

FLC COUNCIL MEETING on Monday, April 10 at 6:30 PM.

BREAKFAST GALS will meet at 8 AM on Tuesday, April 11 at Hardees.

FLC WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet on Tuesday, April 11 at 10 AM.

INTERCHURCH COUNCIL MEETING on Tuesday, April 11 at 11:30 AM.

“SHARING THE WEIGHT” BLANKET MAKING will take place on Tuesday, April 11 from 9 AM-3 PM at CTS.

THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA will gather on Thursday, April 13, at 1:00 PM at First Lutheran.

CTS TASK FORCE will meet at 12 noon on Sunday, April 16.

LUTHERAN ADULT FELLOWSHIP will meet on Sunday, April 16, at 5 PM. Marleen Oxenreider and Joanne Fletcher will host. Please bring an item to share.

THE CTS WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY GROUP will meet on Tuesday, April 18, at Christ the Servant beginning at 11:30 AM.

“THE STORY” DISCUSSION GROUP will resume meeting on Wednesday, April 19 at 10 AM.

CONFIRMATION CLASS AT FLC will be held on Wednesday, April 19 and 26.

APRIL IS

SNACK

MONTH for the Ministry

Center. Examples would be cake mixes, frostings, fruit snacks, Jell-O, popcorn, pudding, cookies, etc.

Thank you! **The Ministry Center is currently in need of toilet paper and laundry soap. Start saving ½ gallon milk jugs again! Please consider helping with this ministry!**



Thank You



for your Kindness

The Ministry Center would like to thank everyone for ALL the donations received! Your kindness and generosity help many in the community!!

Pastoral Pondering

“Jesus said, “It is finished.”

Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.” — John 19:30

Now, if this is where our story stopped, we would not be living as people of the resurrection. We would be stymied at the crossroads, having no clue where to go and what to do. We would not know who we are or where we were going. But, thanks be to God, that is not where our story ends, that is just the beginning. God does something miraculous through Jesus Christ, so we are able to shout with joy-filled hearts on Easter Sunday, "CHRIST IS RISEN!"

“He is not here; for he has been raised.” — Matthew 28:6

This is what we will proclaim on Easter Sunday and every day following. Because of God's greatest promise, that he is not dead, but Christ lives! And through Christ's life, death and resurrection we are granted grace upon grace. Through this unflinching, unfaltering, unparalleled love, we are set free to be people of the resurrection, covered by grace and forgiven. No longer finding ourselves at a crossroads, but rather, covered in grace.

The celebration of Easter is absolutely central to the life of the church and to faithful Christians. Why? Without the new life of Christ touching every aspect of who we are and what we do, we are simply going through religious motions, playing religious games, and putting a religious veneer over lives that are just like anyone else's.

To live lives touched by the Resurrection means many things, but I'd like you to think about these two:

- It means that we **live unafraid of death and all that it brings with it**. Many live in such a way that they will do anything to avoid pain, aging, illness and death. They go to extraordinary lengths to deny the inevitability of it, fooling only themselves and a few select others who are in on the game. We choose inappropriate and (ultimately) damaging lifestyles, or we try to fool ourselves into acting or looking (sort of) much younger than we are, or we are simply paralyzed by fear into a kind of stupor that keeps us from doing or being anything.

- It also means that we **live free from sin's power**. Has someone done something to you that still controls your heart and mind? Have you done something that has clouded or affected your whole life? Have you taken a road of temptation that leads only to damage to you and others? Have you allowed prejudice or fear to warp your heart so that you cannot love and forgive?

Easter isn't just about eggs, bunnies, jelly beans, hollow chocolate Easter bunnies, and dressing up. It's about the **new life we have in Christ**, in which we are set free to love, forgive, and serve, and thereby find a sense of peace and joy in all that we do. By grabbing hold of the cross, we share in Jesus' victory over sin, death and all that would destroy us.

Please join us as we prepare for and celebrate Easter - **Palm Sunday** on April 2nd, and during Holy Week at our **Maundy Thursday** service at 7pm (FLC), and our **Good Friday** service at 7 pm (CTS). **Easter Sunday** begins with breakfast at both First Lutheran and Christ the Servant Lutheran – both followed with Celebration Worship services at 9:00 am (FLC) and 11:00 am (CTS)

Join us and shout Alleluia! He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Blessings!

Pastor Dick



MANY, MANY THANKS to all who have helped keep the church sidewalks free of ice and snow at First Lutheran and Christ the Servant this winter. Your help with this ministry is greatly appreciated by all!

Roger Blunk wishes to thank everyone who sent cards and greetings to help him celebrate his 80th birthday!!



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE who signed up to teach the Sunday School classes. Our last class will be May 7 and we have all the positions filled. We will have a new schedule in the Fall and you will have the opportunity to sign up again!! Thanks everyone!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

CORYDON BIRTHDAYS

- 4/4 Maverick Goben
- 4/14 Ann Sipma

CHARITON BIRTHDAYS

- 4/2 Ben Morrett
- 4/10 Logan Shore
- 4/11 Evan Wood
- 4/12 Marleen Oxenreider
- 4/12 Justin Sharp
- 4/16 Kary Blunk
- 4/17 Karen Wilker
- 4/17 Rusty Stansbery
- 4/19 Ben Wantland
- 4/19 Bethany Lahart
- 4/23 Kay Tighe
- 4/25 Avery Fuhs
- 4/25 Julie Stansbery
- 4/26 Gayle Bortz
- 4/26 Dan Morrett
- 4/28 Max Kuball
- 4/30 Karen Kray

CORYDON ANNIVERSARIES

- 4/10 George & Shari Harders

CHARITON ANNIVERSARIES

- 4/2 Allison & Brad Krutsinger
- 4/10 Chad & Cynda Mehlert
- 4/25 Jim & Lori Moore

Re:Newed

April Baptismal Anniversaries

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

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 4/3 Christina Umbenhower | 4/14 Angela Dachenbach |
| 4/4 Kent Seuferer | 4/14 Laura Wilson |
| 4/4 Ian Luehring | 4/14 Emma Kempen |
| 4/5 Sarah Fuhs | 4/16 Duane Bedford |
| 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 |
| | 4/29 Anna Nayeri |

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!)

Minutes and Reports

Copies of recent meeting minutes and financial reports are available on site at both First Lutheran and Christ the Servant. At FLC, please look on the bulletin board outside the church office. At CTS, check the table by the windows on the lower level.