



Bethany Lutheran Outlook
April 2011

Serving God, Community, and Individuals



“He has risen from the dead...”

Matthew 28:7



PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Unlike Christmas Eve, for most of us Easter Vigil wasn't part of what we did when we were growing up. The principle of the two is the same, that the celebration of any of the major church festivals begins the evening before. Yet until I went to seminary, while every church I ever attended had Christmas Eve services, I don't remember any of them having an Easter Vigil. From the beginning of Christianity though, Easter Eve was the central and most holy night of the church year. The 40 day period of preparation and fasting prior to Easter and the 50 day period of rejoicing after Easter then developed around this night of watching and all of this before the celebration of Christmas was even on the liturgical calendar.

For whatever reasons the tradition of Easter Vigil wound up being lost to a large degree, but with the publication of the green hymnal (LBW) back in the early 70's there was an effort to recover its significance among Lutherans. Here at Bethany Easter Vigil has been a part of things for quite a while and in more recent years we have tried to be even more authentic in our observance.



It's a unique observance, unlike anything else that is done during the year. We start in the parking lot with a roaring fire from which the new Paschal Candle is lit. We proceed by candlelight into the fellowship hall for the singing of the Easter Proclamation, the Exsultet. In a sense, it is following the Easter Proclamation that the vigil begins and, as is the case with any vigil, one of the things that you do is tell stories. So we tell the stories of creation, the first sin and the flood along with stories of deliverance such as the exodus, Jonah and the whale and Daniel in the fiery furnace. This part of the night concludes with baptism or the renewal of baptismal vows along with some final prayers.

Then the most unique part of our Easter Vigil begins. Some go home at this point, but others take turns keeping watch through the night in "a vigil to be kept for the Lord" (Exodus 12:42), a time of watching for the first light of Easter morning. This is what the early church did to celebrate Easter and to my knowledge, we are the only church anywhere that observes this practice in its fullness. During these quiet overnight hours the Paschal candle burns in the darkness of the fellowship hall as a

reminder of the light of Christ. Gathered around other candles in the library area, those present experience times of quiet, times of prayer, times of conversation as people come and go through the night. Again it is unlike anything else we do during the church year and it is especially moving when the first light of morning begins to appear in the sky; the darkness begins to break and the light brings with it a unique sense of Resurrection.

If you've never been part of this before I would urge you to give up a couple of hours of sleep and be part of the vigil. It is quite different from most of what we normally think of as worship and it will enhance your experience of Easter.

I have to add that it always kind of saddens me that so few people attend the Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil services as the events we remember on those days are so central to who we are as Christians. It is a lot of church over the period of a few days, but through each of these unique and moving liturgies we are reminded of our core identity and especially of what God has done through Jesus so that we can be in relationship with Him. As a church, the most important thing we do is worship and these services along with Easter morning are probably *the* most important worship services we do all year. Plan to be part of as much of Holy Week as you can. You honor God with your worship, but you'll be surprised at what it does for you.



April 17 Palm Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Palm Sunday brunch follows worship.

April 21 Maundy Thursday 8:00 p.m.

April 22 Good Friday
Ecumenical Service at Bethany Lutheran Church
12:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Tenebrae Service 9 p.m.

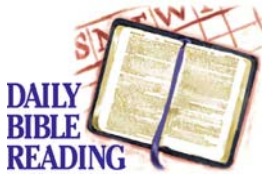
April 23
Easter Vigil 9 p.m.
All Night Vigil 11:00 p.m.

April 24 Easter Sunday 10:30 a.m.

**Schedule
of Worship for
Holy Week**



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.

Daily Lectionary for April 2011

- | | | | | |
|----|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Psalm 23 | 1 Samuel 15:10-21 | Ephesians 4:25-32 | |
| 2 | Psalm 23 | 1 Samuel 15:32-34 | John 1:1-9 | |
| 3 | Fourth Sunday of Lent | | | |
| | 1 Samuel 16:1-13 | Psalm 23 | Ephesians 5:8-14 | John 9:1-41 |
| 4 | Psalm 146 | Isaiah 59:9-19 | Acts 9:1-20 | |
| 5 | Psalm 146 | Isaiah 42:14-21 | Colossians 1:9-14 | |
| 6 | Psalm 146 | Isaiah 60:17-22 | Matthew 9:27-34 | |
| 7 | Psalm 130 | Ezekiel 1:1-3; 2:8--3:3 | Revelation 10:1-11 | |
| 8 | Psalm 130 | Ezekiel 33:10-16 | Revelation 11:15-19 | |
| 9 | Psalm 130 | Ezekiel 36:8-15 | Luke 24:44-53 | |
| 10 | Fifth Sunday of Lent | | | |
| | Ezekiel 37:1-14 | Psalm 130 | Romans 8:6-11 | John 11:1-45 |
| 11 | Psalm 143 | 1 Kings 17:17-24 | Acts 20:7-12 | |
| 12 | Psalm 143 | 2 Kings 4:18-37 | Ephesians 2:1-10 | |
| 13 | Psalm 143 | Jeremiah 32: 1-9, 36-41 | Matthew 22: 23-33 | |
| 14 | Psalm 31:9-16 | 1 Samuel 16:11-13 | Philippians. 1:1-11 | |
| 15 | Psalm 31:9-16 | Job 13:13-19 | Philippians 1:21-30 | |
| 16 | Psalm 31:9-16 | Lamentations 3:55-66 | Mark 10:32-34 | |



17 **Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday Procession with Palms**

Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 21:1-11 Matthew 26:14--27:66



18 **Monday of Holy Week**

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

19 **Tuesday of Holy Week**

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

20 **Wednesday of Holy Week**

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

21 **Maundy Thursday**

Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 1 Cor. 11:23-26 John 13:1-7, 31b-35

22 **Good Friday**

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

23 **Vigil of Easter**

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

24 **Resurrection of Our Lord**

Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 Matthew 28:1-10

| | | | |
|----|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 25 | Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 | Exodus 14:10-31, 15:20-21 | Colossians 3:5-11 |
| 26 | Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 | Exodus 15:1-18 | Colossians 3:12-17 |
| 27 | Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 | Joshua 3:1-17 | Matthew 28:1-10 |
| 28 | Psalm 16 | Song of Solomon 2:8-15 | Colossians 4:2-5 |
| 29 | Psalm 16 | Song of Solomon 5:9--6:3 | 1 Cor. 15:1-11 |
| 30 | Psalm 16 | Song of Solomon 8:6-7 | 1 Cor. 15:1-11 |



ALLELUIA!
He Is Risen!

Paschal candle



On the Saturday before Easter Sunday, many liturgical churches spend the hours before midnight waiting and watching for the presence of the risen Christ.

The Paschal candle, also called the Easter candle, is lit as the vigil begins. This large, white candle is an ancient symbol for Christ, the light of the world. The candle contains a cross and an Alpha and Omega to symbolize that Jesus is eternal and always present with his people. The service starts with the pastor saying, "Sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through water and oil, bread and wine, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory."

In this Passover of Jesus Christ we contemplate the passing over of our Lord from death into Resurrection. It is proper that we meditate upon our glorious Lord and the salvation that is ours because of God's action in and through Jesus. Our worship and meditation is deepened through our silent reflection, scripture readings, song, and prayer.



The fasts are done; the Aves said;
The moon has filled her horn
And in the solemn night I watch
Before the Easter morn.
So pure, so still the starry heaven,
So hushed the brooding air,
I could hear the sweep of an angel's wings
If one should earthward fare.



~Edna Dean Proctor, "Easter Morning"

Everyone's invited!

Palm Sunday Brunch



Bethany's Palm Sunday Brunch

*April 17
after worship service*



*Egg Bake
French Toast
Fruit
Muffins
Coffee
Milk*



*Sponsored by the
Board of Worship and Music*



*All donations will benefit
Bethany's Fortune Lake Scholarship Fund*



Enjoy the Poetry of Hymns

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

O Love, how deep, how broad, how high,
how passing thought and fantasy,
that God, the Son of God should take
our mortal form for mortals' sake.



For us baptized, for us he bore
his holy fast and hungered sore.
For us temptations sharp he knew,
for us the tempter overthrew.

For us he prayed, for us he taught,
for us his daily works he wrought,
by words and signs and actions,
thus still seeking not himself but us.

For us by evil pow'r betrayed,
scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed.
He bore the shameful cross and death,
for us gave up his dying breath.

For us he rose from death again;
for us he went on high to reign;
for us he sent his Spirit here
to guide, to strengthen and to cheer.

All glory to our Lord and God
for love so deep, so high, so broad;
the Trinity whom we adore
forever and forevermore!

Text: from the 15th century with words attributed to Thomas á Kempis

ELW #322

Measuring the Love of Christ

“I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”

Ephesians 3: 18-19

How do we fathom the depth of Christ’s love for us? It is an interesting idea, and not just because we have no objective way to measure love. The word fathom itself is interesting. It is a verb that tells us that something (usually water depth) is being measured. It is also a reference to the unit of measure being used, equal to six feet. But where did this measure come from? If we search back into the origins of the word, we find an answer. In Old English, the word *fæthm* meant outstretched arms, or the length of outstretched arms. With this understanding, it is somehow even more wonderful to consider measuring love against a standard of arms stretched wide to embrace us. Arms stretched wide on a cross to atone for us. Arms stretched wide by Christ the Savior who lives this day and calls us and welcomes us into his kingdom.

This month's featured hymn comes from the 1400s. No author is known, but the time and the themes and the haunting melody carry us back to an image of grand cathedrals and secluded monasteries. With this picture of a time when Latin was already a dead language and few people could read or write, how much more the mystery of love is impressed on our senses. Even in its English translation, the words stir a place inside us that can only be made complete by filling it with the peace and love of our eternal God. Open your heart to fathom the depth of love expressed as you read and reread the words.

Fathom the depth of God's love. Know that the Lord's arms are stretched to welcome and embrace. Know also that those mighty, outstretched arms are greater than we can measure, sufficient in every situation, reaching to every circumstance.



O Love, How Deep,
How Broad, How High

“He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.”

I Peter 2: 24



Dear God,

Jesus taught us the depth of your love, a love that he demonstrated:

A love that accepts others, all others, not just some;

A love that respects others, all others, not just some;

A love that helps others, all others, not just some;

A love that forgives others, not just some.

Thank you, God,

For letting us see love in action,

Feel the presence of love in the depths of our being,

Experience love in real time,

Hear love spoken in words that resonate sincerity

And provide comfort, love being lived,

Love at its lovingest, the Cross.

Thank you, God, for Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

—Dr. Mahlon Miller



Dying with Christ

For the new to come forth
something must die;
For transformation to take place
something must be left behind;
the seed is no longer exactly what it was:
it has left its seedness behind
to become moonflower -
it has left its hard husk behind
to become vulnerable.



“I tell you,” said Jesus,
“Unless the grain of wheat dies,
it cannot bear fruit.”

Jesus set aside power
and became vulnerable.
Jesus left behind security
and became the Crucified One,
and ultimately the Risen One.

And so we must ask. what must we leave behind?
And we must ask, what in us must die?



Susan Palo Cherwien
Crossings: Meditations for Worship

Being Among the Disciples of Bethany



One of my favorite things about Bethany is the opportunity we have to participate in many different types of ministry. I personally respond to that. Sometimes it just feels good – like delivering a basket of goodies to one of our home bound brothers or sisters. Also, I just like to stretch myself and try or learn new things.

I hadn't really thought how central that has been to my experience at Bethany until a conversation I had with Dorothy Dominiak, Director of Financial Aid and Admissions at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. We were talking about what I was planning to do over the course of the year before I started attending seminary in Fall 2011. I mentioned things like attending Lay School, strengthening my habits of daily prayer and also the fact that Pastor Geier was giving me the opportunity to preach while he was on vacation in November. Her response really made me realize how blessed we are at Bethany to have an environment where we can be more than simply Bethany members. We can be Bethany disciples. She asked me to personally thank Pastor for allowing a lay person this opportunity and said it is not all that typical.

It's not just Pastor who offers us Bethany disciples the opportunity to provide ministry, to stretch ourselves or to increase our understanding of what it means to be Christians in the 21st century. The women of Joy Circle have offered me and Melissa Chartre the opportunity to create and present a couple of Bible studies for the group. We're working on studies that center on issues of change and healing for women in particular.



Miriam

“The Lord is My Strength and My Song”

Exodus 2:2

Using the stories of Miriam and the hemorrhaging woman we'll explore:

What kind of change Miriam experienced in her life and as a leader in the exodus from Egypt?

How did Miriam respond to that change and how can we relate?

How did God respond to Miriam?

What do we know about the hemorrhaging woman's ailment and the story of her healing?

How did the hemorrhaging woman respond to being healed by Jesus?

How do we/should we respond when we experience God's life-changing grace and healing in our own lives?



Melissa and I are very excited to be invited to explore these stories and facilitate this discussion with the Joy Circle. We look forward to what we learn about ourselves, others and our relationships with God through this experience!

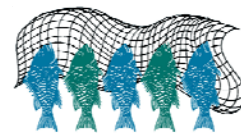
Ann Gonyea



The Meaning of Discipleship

If we are disciples of Christ, we are learners under the instruction of Christ. Quite literally, a disciple is a pupil, scholar, student or learner. In the Oriental world a teacher with his band of disciples was to that culture what schools and universities are to our society. To be a disciple of Jesus is to go to school with him.

Dwight E. Stevenson in Faith Takes a Name





The Ministry of The Bethany Quilters

Today and every day, Lutheran World Relief Quilts and Kits give families throughout the world help, comfort and hope. Bethany shipped 142 quilts out of the Minneapolis warehouse last year. Sue Holmgren said on average, we send 125 quilts each year, which is quite a number for 8 quilters who meet once a week in the winter. The quilts are also donated locally when there is a need such as a fire or contributed to a fund raiser (Fortune Lake, Lutheran Campus Ministry). The destinations served by the Minneapolis warehouse are: Burkina Faso, Haiti, India, Nicaragua, Serbia and Thailand. The Maryland warehouse ships to other countries. When a quilt finds a home it may end up being used as a tent, a camel blanket or even a floor. 319,610 quilts were shipped worldwide last year. According to LWR in Baltimore, there is a 15% increase in need for quilts in 2011 and that does not include Japan!

Let's meet our quilters:

Ida Anderson, Shirley Tyni, Kaye Fredrickson, Gerry Maki, Loreth Johnson, Sue Holmgren, Marilyn Pontti and Tonya Perry.



The ministry of the quilters offers members an opportunity to contribute, the fellowship of a caring community and an outlet for creative gifts. While sewing is one skill needed, some members do other tasks. Quilts are assembled, tied, folded and packed. Supplies need to be acquired. Sheets or fabric are sewn together and put over batting which must be purchased (\$84 a roll which yields filling for about 20 quilts). WELCA and Social Ministry have contributed toward needed purchases. Quilters raise funds to cover purchases through activities as hosting a coffee hour.

Loreth Johnson scours rummage sales for cotton flat sheets, cotton curtains or fabric for the quilts. She also likes to assemble, tie and box the quilts. Ida Anderson, the longest working member recalls that Helen Peterson and Hilda Holmgren visited the quilters at Messiah in Marquette and started a group at Bethany. She explained that the quilters used to do more piece work and cutting and sewing of strips. Ruth Solberg said she used to take apart men's trousers and cut them into squares. Ida Anderson and Shirley Tyni do most of the sewing of the quilts. Kaye Fredrickson enjoys the ministry, fellowship and putting the quilts together. She also scouts for needed materials.

April Worship Assistants

April 3

Assisting Minister - Greg Stahlmann
Acolytes - Jessica Penhale and Nora Seppanen
Altar - Loreth Johnson and Pat Liivoja
Coffee Hosts - Quilters
Nursery - Max Alexander
Bread - Marian Medlyn

April 21 Maundy Thursday

Assisting Minister - Carl Pellonpaa
Acolytes - Jessica Penhale
Bread - Dan & Sharon Argall

April 10

Assisting Minister - Tom Ryan
Acolytes - Sabrina Holm-Brown and Courtney Allen
Altar - Debbie Cain
Coffee Hosts - Social Ministry
Nursery - Kate Clark
Bread - Terra Frustaglio

Thank You!

April 17 PALM SUNDAY

Assisting Minister - Terra Frustaglio
Acolytes - Joshua Argall and Nora Seppanen
Altar - Carrie Goldsworthy
Coffee Hosts - Palm Sunday Brunch
Nursery - Mindy Harrington
Bread - Meta Leverton

April 24 EASTER SUNDAY

Assisting Minister - Matt Waters and Lindsey Waters
Acolytes - Courtney Allen and Sabrina Holm-Brown
Altar - Sue Holmgren
Flowers - In honor of our family by Debbie & Peter Cain
Nursery - Jordan Dault
Bread - Kathy Geier and Ann Gonyea

April Ushers:

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



May Ushers:

James Chapman
Ed Johns
Jim Kinnunen
Craig Kitchen
Roy Koski
Ray Leverton
Jerry Plaisier
Knut Strom

Happy Birthday!

- 2 Tammie Sundquist
- 3 Casey Hares
- 3 Hope Kaukola
- 3 Raegan Niemela
- 4 Jennifer Bertucci
- 4 Michael Swanson
- 5 Joanna Smail
- 6 Sara Barton
- 6 Karen Plaisier
- 8 Marie Jensen
- 8 Ann Sundblad
- 9 Danielle Nelson
- 10 Eric Jarvi
- 11 Gerald Anderson Jr.
- 11 Clifford Mattson
- 13 Carlo Balzarini
- 15 Alex Goldsworthy
- 15 Katelyn Ombrello
- 15 Tom Sodergren
- 16 Pat Varda
- 17 Jeanne Sikkila
- 18 Terry Holmgren
- 19 Lindsey Cain
- 19 Kaitlin Hares
- 19 Lisa Mattson
- 21 Nancy Carlyon
- 21 Sara Ombrello
- 21 Laura Sleeman
- 22 Melissa Chartre
- 22 James Bjerne
- 24 Claudia Thompson
- 25 ShyAnn Brown
- 25 Tammy Swanson
- 27 Donald Frederickson
- 27 Savannah Marietti
- 29 Marian Medlyn
- 30 Keenan Tunnell



April

Happy Anniversary!

Michael & Kathy Richards
4/7/1973 38 years

Peter & Debra Cain
4/15/1978 33 years

Daniel & Cheryl Sleeman
4/16/1977 34 years

Donald & Judith Meyer
4/18/1964 47 years



Gerry Maki, a “tie-er”, was invited to the quilters by Kaye and Shirley and joined the ministry in 2004. She said of the quilting, “This is so special, it’s a wonderful outlet for me and a way to give.” Sue Holmgren describes herself as a jack-of-all-trades. She makes sure the quilts are packed and sent on their way. This year, so far, they have constructed 82 quilts. Marilyn Pontti used to drive her mother, Fern Sundberg to quilting. She saw the service and social part of quilting and soon joined as a “tie-er.” “Helen Peterson taught me how to make a square knot,” she said. The newest member of the quilting ministry is Tonya Perry who enjoys the fellowship and sewing in a community.



The work of our quilters' hearts and hands is an immeasurable blessing to families in need here and around the world.



“This is so special; it’s a wonderful outlet for me and a way to give.”

Some Quilting Alumnae

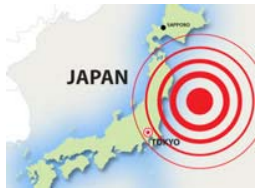
Esther Robinson, Clara Seem (Irene Portale’s Grandmother), Ruth Solberg, Marie Mayry (Denise Clark’s Grandmother / Kathy Chapman’s Mother), Joyce Lehto, Evelyn Hammer, Mayme Madsen, Georgiana Bancroft, Alice Jacobson, Teresa Beerling, Ruth Heavyside (Bill Heavyside’s Mother), Dora Swanson.



ELCA Commits \$240,000 for Response to Japan Disaster

March 18, 2011

The Evangelical Lutheran church in America today committed \$240,000 in response to the massive earthquake and tsunami that struck northern Japan March 11.



“It is with our strong, expansive network of global companions that we as the ELCA are responding to Japan’s devastating earthquake and tsunami,” said the Rev. Mark S. Hanson. “Our church’s long-established relationships—both Lutheran and ecumenical—are enabling us to engage effectively with communities as they recover from this massive disaster.”

“I urge all of our members and congregations to give generously and to pray for the people of Japan and for our companion church there, as they face both dangers relating to the damaged nuclear facilities and the massive humanitarian crisis resulting from the earthquake and tsunami.”

Specifically, the ELCA is sending \$40,000 to The Lutheran World Federation, Geneva, to support a disaster response expert from India who will assist the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church and two other Lutheran churches. The ELCA is sending \$100,000 to the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church, the ELCA’s companion church, for its disaster response efforts. The ELCA commitment includes another \$100,000 for Church World Service, New York, to support an ecumenical disaster response in Japan through the Japan Platform, a consortium of 32 Japanese nonprofit organizations, and the National Council of Churches Japan. The ELCA’s gift to Church World Service will help provide an “immediate response to 5000 families and a broader coordinated effort among the Christian family.”

“Thank you for your payers, and for encouraging the congregations of your synod to join with others throughout The Lutheran World Federation in prayer for the people of Japan and for our companion church there as this crisis continues to unfold.” Hanson added.

Financial gifts for the Pacific Earthquake and Tsunami can be contributed at <http://www.ELCA.org/japanearthquake> on the ELCA website. Credit card gifts may be contributed by calling 1-800-638-3522. Gifts designated for the Pacific Earthquake and Tsunami can also be sent to ELCA Disaster Response, 39330 Treasury Center, Chicago, IL 60694-9300



**Relief for
Japan**
You Can Help!

Japanese Lutheran Church President Thanks ELCA Members

The president of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran church, the Rev. Sumijuki Watanabe, expressed his gratitude to members of the ELCA for their response to the massive March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

“I am very thankful to Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson and members of the ELCA for their prayers and encouragement,” Watanabe said. “You can only imagine how encouraged we are as the Japanese, and especially, members of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church for these sentiments...Please continue to remember and pray for us.”

The Rev. George Oshiba, president of the eastern district of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church, reported March 13 that he had made contact with the pastor of Sendai Lutheran Church, the Rev. Hiroaki Fujii. Sendai is a city of more than 1 million people in northern Japan and was near the epicenter of the earthquake and tsunami.



Oshiba reported that Fujii, his family, and all of the children in the congregation's preschool program are safe. However, some of the preschool program's teachers have not been heard from. Cell phones do not work and gasoline supplies are scarce. “The greatest need is food and water,” he said.

The ELCA, along with predecessor churches has worked in Japan since 1892. Currently, there are 22 missionaries serving in Japan, and all are safe. Among them is Dana Dutcher, stationed in Tokyo. She told ELCA News, “The earthquake was quite powerful here in Tokyo, although we have managed to escape any large catastrophes. The aftershocks are still coming here in Tokyo as new earthquakes are still striking around the country...Now the church is looking into relief efforts and trying to find out in what ways we can help. Our prayers are now focused on Sendai and Fukushima prefectures as they were affected severely in the earthquake and the tsunamis. We are praying that further devastation does not come, but are preparing for the worst.”

The Rev. Daniel Rift, director for the ELCA world Hunger and Disaster Appeal, said financial gifts for the ELCA's response to the disaster in Japan can be made to ELCA International Disaster Response for the Pacific Earthquake and Tsunami Response. One hundred percent of all gifts will go to the people most affected. “Please continue to pray for those affected by this disaster, he said. “Your gifts will be used to assist those whose lives and livelihoods have been affected by this disaster in Japan and other affected islands. Your prayers and partnership are needed.”



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

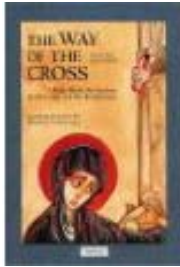


New Books for April

By Keenan Tunnell

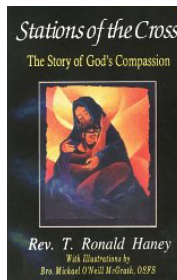
Well, I'm back!! It was a fun two months in California with my sister Kathy and her Boston terrier Ozzie...and lots of sunshine, but now it's back to Spring ?? in the UP! Below are listed a few new books for Lent/Easter...two different approaches to the Stations of the Cross, a children's boardbook, and a Lutheran classic. See which one(s) will help you on your journey through Lent!

Biffi, Inos. **The Way of the Cross...** JUV 232.96 BIF



"This book has been written and illustrated as a children's guide to the celebration of Holy Week, which begins with Palm Sunday and concludes with Easter Sunday. During these days of the liturgical year, the Church recalls with special fervor the events of the Lord's life—in particular his suffering, death, burial and resurrection. This commemoration enkindles a more intense, ardent prayer and the rites of the liturgy become more solemn and striking...the illustrations portray with strong and lively clarity the scriptural accounts that the Church reads during Holy Week...along with the text, which explains what the Scripture recounts and what the Church's celebration commemorates and relives." (from the Introduction)

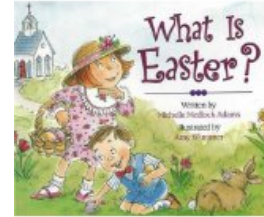
Haney, Rev. T. Ronald. **Stations of the Cross; the story of God's Compassion.** 232.96 HAN



"Praying the Stations of the Cross enables us to walk in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, himself. Evidence dating as far back as the second century AD acknowledges the fact that Christians began this holy practice from the very earliest times in the Church. The Stations of the Cross recall the passion and death of the savior. They help us remember the great price that Jesus paid for our salvation. In this book, Father Haney provides three additional features to the traditional stations that help the reader become even more enriched by this practice: a fresh emphasis on God's compassion through Scripture; a series of new virtues associated with each station; and a strong meditation applying each virtue to our contemporary society." (from the jacket)

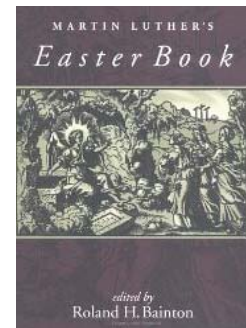
Adams, Michelle Medlock. **What is Easter?** JUV FIC ADA

“Here is a book for toddlers that resolves the dilemma many parents have as they attempt to reconcile their religious faith with the secular celebration of Easter. The author first asks the question: Is this what Easter means? By the end of the story, even the youngest child will agree with the author, 'Now I get it, the eggs are fun and the Easter bunny is okay, but Easter's not about that stuff. It's about God's son.' Ages 2-5. (from Amazon.com)



Bainton, Roland H. **Martin Luther's Easter Book** 232.96 BAI

“This powerful book of passages from Martin Luther's Easter sermons portrays the reformer's lasting thoughts on faith, human imperfection, salvation through grace, and the wonder of God. The sermons explore events from Holy Week through the Resurrection. They combine marvelous insights with inspiring calls to action that are so characteristic of the great reformer: "The resurrection consists not in words, but in life and power. Eighteen handsome engravings by Luther's contemporary, Virgil Solis, depict Luther's treatment of biblical people not as costumed actors in a pageant, but as humans agonizing and exulting over the mysteries of faith” (from back cover).



We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Romans 6:3-5



The Lutheran: March 2011 Congregations confront Struggles

Cover story



Coming to Grips with Struggling Congregations:
While Challenges Abound, So do Ministry Responses
By Linda Nansteel Lovell



Congregation Stops, Looks Around, Sees What's Going Down
— **Now Up:** North Emanuel in St. Paul, Minn., Breaks Out of Rut
by Reaching Out
by Linda Nansteel Lovell



Shuttered Congregation Keeps on Giving to Community
Building, Grounds and Endowment Benefit School, Camp and
Global Partner
by Linda Nansteel Lovell

Features



Civility
A Spaghetti Western: Today's Politics Play Like 'Good Guys' vs.
Bad Guys'
by Sandra D. Guy



Forsaken?
Ponder Hard Lenten Lesson
by William R. Matthews

Columnists



The Sweet Spot of Vocations
by Peter W. Marty

Struggle to Serve the Word
By Bishop Mark S. Hanson





Social Ministry Update April 2011

Thanks to the generosity of the congregation's "noisy offering", the Pastor's Discretionary Fund received \$443 for January and February.

Social Ministry contributed \$50 to Lutheran Campus Ministry this month.

For the months of March and April the Noisy Offering will go to support the general activities of Fortune Lake. These funds are for the general budget of Fortune Lake. Social Ministry tries to balance needs within the congregation and outside our congregation. If you have suggestions for our Ministry, please contact Pastor Geier or anyone on the Social Ministry Board: Marie Chilman, Rae Elliot, Kathy Geier, Loreth Johnson, LaVerne Koski, Pat Liivoja, Harriet Maki, Marian Medlyn, Evelyn Nadeau or Ruth Solberg.

Thank you for your prayers and support of Social Ministry at Bethany.



**The April Noisy Offering
will go to Fortune Lake.
Thanks to everyone for your generosity!**

Life is short
And we do not have
Too much time
To gladden the hearts
Of those who travel
The way with us.
So let us be swift to love
And make haste to be kind,
And the blessing of God will be with us.



Henri Frederick Amiel

Kids!

FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection helps us live with gratitude every day.

Use the picture and number code to fill in the blanks for Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV.


























- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Jesus | 5. cross |
| 2. weary | 6. endured |
| 3. endured | 7. scorning |
| 4. opposition | 8. shame |



- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. Jesus | 5. perfecter |
| 2. lose | 6. him |
| 3. pioneer | 7. faith |
| 4. sinners | 8. hand |



- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. eyes | 5. right |
| 2. us | 6. grow |
| 3. joy | 7. God |
| 4. heart | 8. throne |

“... fixing our  1 on  1, the  3 and
 5 of  7. For the  3 set before  6
he  3 the  5,  7 its  8, and
sat down at the  5 of the  8 of  8  7.
Consider  6 who  6 such  4
from  4, so that you will not  6  2
and  2  4.” HEBREWS 12:2-3, NIV

The Bible declares that "laughter does good - like medicine," so read and laugh, and you'll feel better!



These BLOOPERS actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow..



At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered

**Lutheran Campus Ministry, ELCA, Presents
Annual Spring Mission Support Event**

QUILT AUCTION

**Bidding Open April 3rd-17th at
www.nmulutherans.org
906-228-8033**



See Facebook Page and Website
for photos, bidding, and more information





March Council Highlights

- Received thanks from Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp for Bethany's annual pledge
- Received thanks from Lutheran Campus Ministry
- Funds from the Lenten suppers will be designated for Bethany's Scholarship Fund for Fortune Lake
- Synod Assembly will be May 12-14. Pastor, Tom Ryan, and Ann Gonyea-Alexander will attend.
- Council accepted with understanding and regret the resignation of Assistant Executive Director Jim Bjorne due to health reasons. Council recognizes and appreciates the valuable contributions Jim made to Bethany's Council.
- Council appointed Ted Swanson to fulfill the remainder of Jim Bjorne's term.
- A notice of Bethany's Holy Week worship services will be in the Mining Journal.



Answer to "Fix Your Eyes on Jesus"

Answer: "...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV



YTD Income: \$30,272.69
YTD Expenses: \$35,798.19

Can You Help?

Bethany is in need of "**flat fold diapers**" for layettes. They are available at Pamida, Target, Walmart and Shopko. We have a lot of other items for the layettes but are in GREAT need of the flat fold diapers. They come in 12 to a pack and are around \$12 a pack

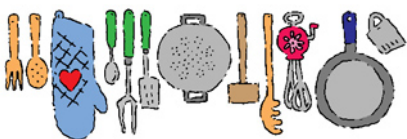


The supply of coffee depletes rather quickly. Since there are no church funds designated for resupplying the coffee, Bethany depends on its congregational members to keep us resupplied. If you can periodically purchase a can of coffee (regular or decaffeinated) from the grocery store or from our Fair Trade supplies, it will be greatly appreciated.

Quilters are in need of **Flat Sheets**, any size. Two sheets plus filler are used for each quilt. With 5-6 quilts made per week, the quilters go through a lot of sheets. In addition to the sheets, quilters also need **mattress pads**. The flat sheets and mattress pads can be new or gently used.



Thank You WELCA



Much needed kitchen supplies have been restocked thanks to funding from WELCA. Also special thanks to Peggy Clark who shopped for the supplies.

Ishpeming High School's Hematites in Harmony will be performing at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City this April. Of those performing with the group will be three Bethany members: Katie Johns, Megan Hough, and Alex Goldsworthy.



**Hematites in Harmony
Will Sing in NYC**



Fortune Lake Upcoming Events

**April 10: Final Second Sunday Folk Dance
of the 25th season;**
Guest- Anne Hills

April 27, April 28 (9 to 5 each day): Spring Work Bee



Dear Members of Bethany,

Thank you for the overwhelming help in my family's time of need. Your generosity was greatly appreciated. Your kindness will forever be remembered. Thank you again.

James Chartre and family



Bethany's Website

www.bethanyishpeming.org

The picture quality of the photos in the printed edition of the Outlook is often not good. To see the crystal clear photos in color, please visit the website.

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



Café Salvador Coffee
Organic Decaf Coffee
Whole Bean Coffee
Whole Bean 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: Teckla Holmgren (home), Barbara Crabb (Mather), Doreen Brown (Valente), Joyce Lehto (Mill Creek), Marjorie Rosten (home)
- Jim Sodergren Jr.
- Jim Bjorne
- Ray Sundblad
- Kathy Geier, as she travels to Spain to visit family and also to make a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, the burial place of St. James
- Marian Franti
- Melissa Chartre
- June Forsberg
- Allen Beauchamp
- James Chapman
- Erica Teichman, a member of the National Guard, who is deployed to Afghanistan
- Alice Eman
- Jim Chartre
- Pauline Toivonen
- Allen Maki
- Steven Leverton
- Carol and Juan Papaleo and family
- Paul Blomgren
- Nancy Swanson
- Pam Rushford
- Those in the military that they may remain safe



Easter Postcard Included in Outlook



Enclosed in each copy of April'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 bookmark
- An invitation (Add postage and send it to someone inviting them to take part in our Holy Week services at Bethany.)

Contributions to and ideas for the newsletter can be made by contacting **Linda Dahl** by phone, e-mail, or by dropping a note in the newsletter mailbox at church.

485-1625

linkarzig@netscape.com

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Asst. Exec. Director, James Bjorne
Christian Education, Brent Clark
Finance, Cheryl Sleeman
Personnel, Debbie Bussone
Property, Bill Heavyside
Social Ministry, Rae Elliot
Stewardship, John Pontti
Worship & Music, Ann Gonyea
Youth member, Alexandra Kitchen



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Northern Great Lakes Synod