

# ROOTED IN GOD'S LOVE & Grace

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## *Alleluia, Christ is Risen!*

Alleluia Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed Alleluia. We begin every Easter service this way and I love the proclamation of God's victory over sin, death and the devil. Which is why sometimes it is so shocking to us that the very first Easter did not start this way. In fact the very first Easter started in sadness and proceeded to great confusion. Confusion about what had happened, what was happening, and what was going to happen.

*We hear in John 20: 11But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; 12and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. 13They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." 14When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." 16Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). 17Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" 18Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.*

As you read the text, I hope you could hear the confusion that was about that first Easter. There was confusion about what had happened because what they knew to be defeat Jesus had been unjustly crucified, all of a sudden might not be the tragedy they thought it. Now when you read the gospels you probably wonder if the disciples are all very dense. After all, Jesus says things so clearly that he will be betrayed and killed.

However, remember the gospel writers have taken over a year's worth of ministry and boiled it down into a small book. Jesus taught them so many things over that year and he did so many miracles that I think we can realize that those teachings about him being betrayed, killed, and raised, might have been less prominent before he was betrayed, killed, and raised. On that morning, they were confused about what they had been through the last week.

Could it really have been God's will? Could it really have been that Jesus knew it was going to happen and didn't stop it? And how did they feel about all the tears that they shed if in truth it was all for God's glory? We sometimes find out new information about the past that doesn't change what happened, but how we understand it. For instance, sometimes when Mary and I have an argument, at the end of the argument I gain some insight into what she was thinking, and it changes the entire tenor of what we have been fighting about. She still has said the same thing...but they are changed because I know understand the why of what she said. It can be hard to find your footing when you are not sure about the past.

The disciples were also confused about what was happening. In John 20 we hear that John and Peter run to the tomb, but they leave confused. What they see, an empty tomb, is so unusual, that they do not have an immediate explanation.

*Continued on the next page.*

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*& Grace*

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It could have been so many things: grave robbers, they are looking at the wrong grave, Joseph of Arimathea wanted the grave back, enemies of Jesus stole the body, or even alien abduction. It could also have been that Jesus was raised from the dead, but I wonder if they would even let their minds go there, after all could their hearts handle it if it were not true? We sometimes live in times when we do not know what is happening, or we know what is happening but have no idea why! It is hard to wait when you are in uncertain times and all we want is a secure explanation for what is happening.

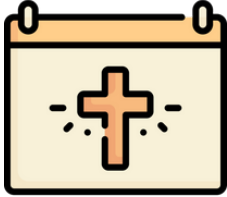
The disciples are also confused about the future. Though John and Peter go home, Mary waits by the tomb. She just wonders about what the past means and what is going on there, but mostly she just waits to see what she should do next. And because of her willingness to just wait on the Lord, she is rewarded as the first witness to the resurrection. She then gets to proclaim what has been and what is going on because she has been joined to God's future.

For us today we live in that future, we do not have the disciples' confusion because Mary's proclamation makes the story clear to us. In the same way we need to bind ourselves to waiting for God's leading in our lives and in the church. Let us wait with anticipation for God to move us as we continue to celebrate God's grace and appreciates all God's people through sharing Christ's Story. When we as Christians are in confusion we pray and wait for God's clear action, if this season in your life is one of confusion wait and pray as Mary did, so that when God acts in your life you may be ready to proclaim God's great gifts! Again, I proclaim Alleluia Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Blessings,  
Pastor Tim

# UPCOMING EVENTS

*at Church*



CLICK ON THE CALENDAR ICON TO SEE THE CHURCH CALENDAR, HERE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SAVE THE EVENT THAT YOU WANT.

**APRIL 1: PROPERTY & WORSHIP MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETS AT 7 PM**

**APRIL 3: SHEEP SHACK AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES RESUME SHEEP SHACK @ 3:30 PM AND CONFIRMATION @ 6:30 PM**

**APRIL 4: QUILT GROUP MEETS @ 9 AM, CHRISTIAN ED MEETS VIA ZOOM @ 7 PM**

**APRIL 9: DC SUSTAINABLE LIVING: RAISED BED & VERTICAL GARDENING**

**APRIL 13: MEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ 7 AM LEE BRIDAL SHOWER @ 9 AM**

**APRIL 14: SERVICE WILL BE LED BY PASTOR HANS PETERSON AND THE SYNOD YOUTH BAND**

**APRIL 15: STAFF MEETING @ 10 AM, COUNCIL MEETS @ 7 PM**

**APRIL 16: BOOK CLUB MEETS @ 2 PM**

**APRIL 20: MEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ 7 AM, GIRLS OF GRACE MEETS @ 9 AM**

**APRIL 21: USE OF SPACE MEETING #2, AFTER SERVICE**

# YOUTH & FAMILY

*News*

● **ALL AGES**   ● **SUNDAY SCHOOL / SHEEP SHACK (AGES 3-6TH GR.)**   ● **YOUTH / CONFIRMATION (7-12TH GR.)**

CLICK ON THE CALENDAR ICON BELOW TO SEE THE CHURCH CALENDAR,  
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## FAMILY DEVOTIONALS FOR APRIL

Family Devotionals are in the Narthex.  
These are for families to do!

### *Upcoming Events*

**Did you  
Grab Your  
Family Devotional  
from the  
Narthex?**



YOUTH & FAMILY COORDINATOR: ABBEY PRUDHOMME | PHONE: 763.213.3029  
EMAIL: ABBEY.JEAN.NELSON@GMAIL.COM

# YOUTH & FAMILY

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### CHERUB CHOIR PERFORMS

On April 14th

### CAMP SHAMINEAU

Friday, April 19-Sunday, April 21.



## Upcoming Events

### APRIL

14: **CHERUB CHOIR PERFORMS**

19: **CAMP SHAMINEAU (GR. 4-6TH)**



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# YOUTH & FAMILY

## News

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### BIBLE STUDY RESUMES

First Sunday of the Month: JR & SR High Bible Study, on April 7th at 9:15 a.m. in the Chapel after Cherub Choir.

### NEW ORLEANS BONDING DAY

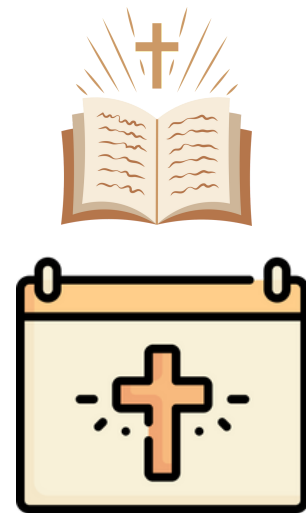
On Sunday, April 14th from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. will be our next New Orleans Bonding day. Youth and Chaperones need to attend. Located in the Fellowship Hall.

### Upcoming Events

#### APRIL

**7: JR. & SR. HIGH BIBLE STUDY**

**14: NEW ORLEANS BONDING DAY**



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EMAIL: ABBEY.JEAN.NELSON@GMAIL.COM

# IN THE COMMUNITY *& beyond*

**STOCKHOLM LUTHERAN CHURCH IS HOSTING A CHILI COOK-OFF** on Saturday, April 13th beginning at 11:00 am.

Many contestants are providing their top-notch chili concoctions / masterpieces for all to taste / test and consume! Winners of the chili cook-off will be announced at 1:00 pm.

ALL are Welcome to this fine chili feast! Please join us! A Free-Will donation will be received.



## Spring Gathering

Saturday, April 20th at Peace Lutheran Church.

Registration @ 8 a.m. and Brunch at 8:30 a.m.

\$10 per person. Please make checks payable to Women of the ELCA by April 10th.

In kind offering: LWR Personal Care kits, you may bring any kits, quilts and shipping cost contributions.

Please contact Kathy Bergs with any questions at 507-317-6802 or dkbergs@gmail.com.



**CONNECTED FAMILIES, STRONG COMMUNITIES!**

**Please join us! RESOURCE FAIR**

5:00 - 7:00 pm

**DINNER**

5:30 - 6:30 pm

**SPEAKER TOPICS**

6:30 - 8:30 pm

- Learning from Mistakes
- Social Media
- Resiliency/Social Connections



**PARENT SYMPOSIUM**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 22ND, 5-8:30 PM**



**DASSEL-COKATO PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

A free dinner is included in the evening.

This event was made possible in part due to a

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr 2024 (Central Time - Chicago)

ELC Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am - Bulletin Copy</li> <li>10am - Staff Meeting</li> <li>7pm - Property</li> <li>7pm - Worship &amp; Music</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3:30pm - Sheep Shack</li> <li>5:30pm - Soren Borthnem</li> <li>6:30pm - 7-9th Gr.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am - Quilt Group</li> <li>7pm - Christian Ed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PASTOR'S DAY OFF</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7am - Men's Bible Study</li> </ul>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am - Adult Forum</li> <li>9am - Sunday School</li> <li>10am - Sunday Worship</li> <li>10am - YouTube Live</li> <li>11am - Soren Borthnem</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am - Bulletin Copy</li> <li>10am - Staff Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm - Sustainable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3:30pm - Sheep Shack</li> <li>5:30pm - Soren Borthnem</li> <li>6:30pm - 7-9th Gr.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am - Quilt Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PASTOR'S DAY OFF</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7am - Men's Bible Study</li> <li>9am - Lee Bridal Shower</li> </ul>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am - Adult Forum</li> <li>9am - Sunday School</li> <li>10am - Cherub Choir</li> <li>10am - Sunday Worship</li> <li>10am - YouTube Live</li> <li>11am - Soren Borthnem</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am - Bulletin Copy</li> <li>10am - Staff Meeting</li> <li>7pm - Council meets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2pm - The Book Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3:30pm - Sheep Shack</li> <li>5:30pm - Soren Borthnem</li> <li>6:30pm - 7-9th Gr.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am - Quilt Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PASTOR'S DAY OFF</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7am - Men's Bible Study</li> <li>8am - Fellowship Hall</li> <li>9am - Girls of Grace</li> </ul>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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28	29	30	1	2	3	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am - Adult Forum</li> <li>9am - Sunday School</li> <li>10am - Sunday Worship</li> <li>10am - YouTube Live</li> <li>11am - Soren Borthnem</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am - Bulletin Copy</li> <li>10am - Staff Meeting</li> </ul>					



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM HOLY WEEK

PASSOVER PLAY



STATIONS OF THE CROSS



If you missed our Holy Week and Easter service, please click [here](#) to watch it online.



Check out some of our Youth playing in the Synod Band, [here](#).

THANKS TO ALL WHO FOLLOW, LIKE, SHARE, SUBSCRIBE AND WATCH! WE APPRECIATE IT!

*Follow Us!*



WE HAVE 401 FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS!



WE HAVE 158 SUBSCRIBERS!

[WWW.ELCHOME.NET](http://WWW.ELCHOME.NET) | PHONE: 320.286.5964 | EMAIL: [JENNY.DENNIS.ELC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JENNY.DENNIS.ELC@GMAIL.COM)

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