



**MAUNDY THURSDAY
THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH**

**GOOD FRIDAY
FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH**

**HOLY SATURDAY
SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH**

**EASTER SUNDAY
SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH**

MODIFIED CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - 9:00AM-11:00AM
TUESDAY - 9:00-11:00AM
WEDNESDAY - CLOSED
THURSDAY - 9:00AM-11:00AM
FRIDAY - 9:00AM-11:00AM

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are a Stephen Ministry Church

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LIKE US on Facebook: @ United Lutheran Church



April 2020

FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE:

In troubling times...we trust

There are moments in our lives when time seems to stand still, when everything changes ... Where were you when you heard that they bombed Pearl Harbor? When John F. Kennedy was assassinated? When Neil Armstrong took that first step on the moon? When the space shuttle Challenger exploded? When the Murrah Federal Building was bombed? Where were you on 9-11, when you heard about the World Trade Center terrorist attacks, and then the Pentagon, and then a plane in Pennsylvania? Where were you when you first heard the word Pandemic and realized it would impact you?



For most of us, it started with an awareness of something happening in China. China is along way away; we'll be alright. Then we heard of Italy, and still ... that's over there, but now it's here. Who would have imagined that they would close schools, restaurants, small businesses ... churches. It seems unreal.

What are you doing that is different. I hope you are staying home, and staying safe. And yet, we have first responders, medical professionals, cashiers, and food chain providers in our congregation. We have teachers who are striving to do things in whole new ways, for the sake of the kids. We have those who are out doing what needs to be done, because they must.

Things are different, and things are hard ... worship reimagined, gatherings postponed, funerals on hold, this is all hard. When will we all get back to 'normal'? How are you feeling? What is your greatest concern? What is the hidden joy in the midst? Where do we go from here?

The world is a different place. There is mass suffering, not only in our community, and our country, but around the world. We've all been impacted in various ways. And, to add to the list of concerns, there have been numerous studies in the last couple of years that indicate loneliness is at an epidemic level. This forced distancing is not helping. There are so many emotions: frustration, anger, vulnerability, insecurity, sadness, and hope. It still seems unreal. Yet, it is real, and we are in the midst of the unimaginable, where everything seems changed. So we pray, and we hope.

We all handle it differently. For most of us, we are coping. The people most involved, our sick, our health care providers, our emergency responders, our law enforcement community, our elected officials, and our researchers -- they are not far from our minds and hearts. We are all praying. Some of us pray like we've never prayed before, or at least not in a long time. Bishop Eaton has asked that we take time each day, at the same time, to pray for those most effected. (I set an alarm on my phone to remind me it's time.)

What else can we do? **We trust.**

"God is our refuge and strength," Psalm 46 reminds us, "a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea" ... although there is a pandemic ... although people are sick ... although countless lives will be changed forever.

The psalm goes on to promise that God is in the midst of the city, and that God will help when the morning dawns. Although the nations are in an uproar and the kingdoms totter, God remains in control. "The Lord of hosts is with us," claims this song of faith, "the God of Jacob is our refuge." At a time like this, we lean into our faith. We lean into the solid ground that is our creating, redeeming, and sustaining Lord.

At a time like this, we land on the firmest of foundations, the mighty fortress that is our God. We keep trusting and praying and serving. That's right. In times like this God calls us to serve, to make a call to a friend, to a neighbor, to a co-worker, to make a call to someone who lives alone and may be fighting loneliness, to make a call to the church if you need groceries. If you can't get out. If you just need to talk or call me, or Ms. Sarah, Roz or one of the nurses, we will chat. Keep helping to stock the little pantry. You can leave the food by the front door, and Jeff will pull it in and distribute it. Keep praying, hoping, and reaching out. We will get through this; we will.

God is our place of strength and stability, in these crazy changed times. May God bless you, until we see each other again.

A thousand blessings, - *Pastor Karen*

From The Council President's Desk



This message from Isaiah has given me and my family comfort since I was a young man. Fresh out of the Navy and training for a new job, I found life isn't always going the way you planned. I always seemed to be waiting for something. Waiting for a raise in pay, or the right soul mate, or my children to be born and of course life to settle down (it never does for long). Other translations of this verse use the word WAIT ON instead of HOPE IN. The news is the same. God works in His own time and we WAIT in faith.

These are fearful and trying times. Find comfort in the Lord and His promises. "Fear not for I am with you" says the Lord. I find this message from Max Lucado a reminder of hope in our waiting.

Anxiety is a meteor shower of what-ifs. The sky is falling, and it's falling disproportionately on you. Anxiety ain't fun!

One would think Christians would be exempt from anxiety, but we are not. It's enough to make us wonder if the apostle Paul was out of touch with reality when he wrote in Philippians 4:6, "Be anxious for nothing."

Is that what he meant? Not exactly. He wrote the phrase in the present active tense—implying an ongoing state...as if to say Don't let anything in life leave you perpetually breathless and in angst. The presence of anxiety is unavoidable, but the prison of anxiety is optional.

Could you use some calm? Of course you could. We all could! We all could use a word of comfort. And God is ready to give it.

From: "Anxious for Nothing" by Max Lucado

Jerry Shaw
ULC Council President

A NOTE FROM OUR COUNCIL TREASURER

Thank you for the continued support of our church with your offerings during these weeks that we aren't able to worship in-person. The majority of the expenses for our church continue even in times when we can't worship in-person. Now is a great time to consider Simply Giving if you aren't already signed up for it. This is an automated giving channel in which you can select the frequency and offering amount. To get setup you can call the church. Another option is to call into the church during Marilyn's office hours and provide a credit card to submit an offering. As always you can mail your offerings to the church. Thanks again for your continued support throughout March!

Susannah Hoang
ULC Council Treasurer

Congregational Care

PARISH NURSES

COVID-19: What you can do to stay healthy

We all need to do what is necessary to deal with the infectious disease caused by a new virus.

- ⇒ **Regular hand washing** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Sing twice through either Happy Birthday, Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, Row Row your Boat, or hum the Jeopardy theme song. Sing This little light of Mine or Say the Lords Prayers.
- ⇒ **Use** alcohol sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- ⇒ **Stop** shaking hands and hugging.
- ⇒ **Create** habits and reminders to avoid touching your face and cover coughs and sneezes.
- ⇒ **Disinfect** surfaces like doorknobs, tables, desks, handrails, counters, kitchens, bathrooms, computers, phone, and anything you touch.
- ⇒ **Avoid** people who are sick - avoid close contact
- ⇒ **Handle** food carefully
- ⇒ **Stay** at home unless you have to go to work. Stay away from people if you can.
- ⇒ **If you are 65 or older - or any age who have serious underlying medical conditions-you may be at a higher risk for more serious complications from the virus.**
- ⇒ **Ask for help for what you need. ULC is here for our members.**



STRESS during this pandemic is real. It is normal to feel sad, stressed, or scared during all this information we are receiving. For those of us staying home, maintain a healthy lifestyle - pray- healthy diet- sleep-exercise- and social contacts with loved ones at home by phone calls, or use technology if you are able. Draw on skills that have helped you to manage life's adversities and use those skills to help you manage your emotions. If you are feeling overwhelmed talk to someone.

STAY HOME



STAY SAFE

COVID - 19 coronavirus pandemic has shut down our favorite restaurants, non-essential business, school, theaters, and our church. Theologians are quick to point out, a church is not a building, but a congregation. United Lutheran has so many caring people who are willing to help others. ULC is also using social media for those who have it; simply go to www.unitedlutheranbv.org and get connected with sermons for the week and other pertinent information. We are here for our members. Members ask for help if you need it. ULC is here for you. Churches all over are dealing with the questions of how to keep active with the congregations. Social distancing is the norm at the present. We at United will work thru this pandemic with God's help and our members. **GOD BLESS** each one of you.

This I declare about the LORD: He is alone is my refuge, my place of safety, he is my God, and I trust him. For he will rescue you from every trap and protect you from deadly disease. Psalm 91:2-3

Your Parish Nurses: Charlotte Spencer & Tonja Seusy

Congregational Care

STEPHEN MINISTRY



It's important to note that we are not helpless in light of current news events. We can always choose our response. If you are struggling, here are some things you can do to take care of your mental health in the face of uncertainty:

Separate what is in your control from what is not. There are things you can do, and it's helpful to focus on those. Wash your hands. Remind others to wash theirs. Take your vitamins. Limit your consumption of news (Do you really need to know what is happening on a cruise ship you aren't on?).

Do what helps you feel a sense of safety. This will be different for everyone, and it's important not to compare yourself to others. It's ok if you've decided what makes you feel safe is to limit attendance of large social events, but make sure you separate when you are isolating based on potential for sickness versus isolating because it's part of depression.

Get outside in nature—even if you are avoiding crowds. I took a walk yesterday afternoon in my neighborhood with my daughter. The sun was shining, we got our dose of vitamin D, and it felt good to both get some fresh air and quality time together. Exercise also helps both your physical and mental health.

Challenge yourself to stay in the present. Perhaps your worry is compounding—you are not only thinking about what is currently happening, but also projecting into the future. When you find yourself worrying about something that hasn't happened, gently bring yourself back to the present moment. Notice the sights, sounds, tastes and other sensory experiences in your immediate moment and name them. Engaging in mindfulness activities is one way to help stay grounded when things feel beyond your control.

Stay connected and reach out if you need more support. Talk to trusted friends about what you are feeling. If you are feeling particularly anxious or if you are struggling with your mental health, it's ok to reach out to a mental health professional for support. You don't have to be alone with your worry and it can be comforting to share what you are experiencing with those trained to help.

By Doreen Marshall, Ph.D.

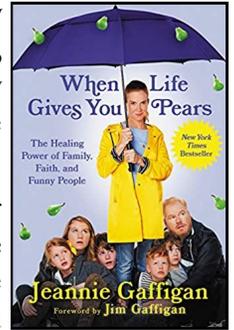
Education

BOOK CLUB - MONDAY, APRIL 6TH @ 6:30PM

When Life Gives You Pears
by Jeannie Gaffigan

With the call to shelter in place, we did not meet to discuss **When Life Gives You Pears** by Jeannie Gaffigan in March. The discussion has been rescheduled for **Monday, April 6th, 6:30pm**, via Zoom. The book is available on Kindle and from Amazon, if you do not already have it. We will send out a Zoom link Monday morning. Let Pastor know if you would like to be included on the email list.

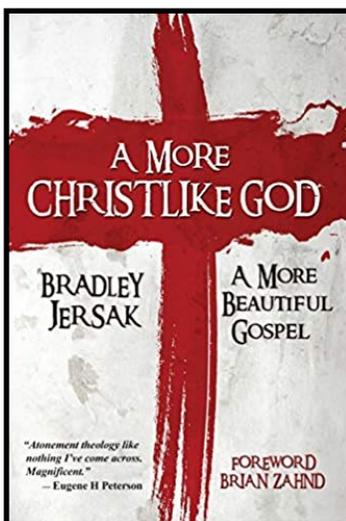
A quick word about Zoom.us: You will need to down load the free app. either to your computer or smart phone. You will need to set up a log-in account, again it's free. When we send you an email inviting you to join the group, you will simply klick on the link and the app will open to the meeting. It will ask if you would like to use your camera, and audio, you would respond yes.



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BOOK CLUB - MONDAY, APRIL 27TH @ 6:30PM

A More Christlike God
by Bradley Jersak



What is God like? A punishing judge? A doting grandfather? A deadbeat dad? A vengeful warrior? 'Believers' and atheists alike typically carry and finally reject the toxic images of God in their own hearts and minds. Even the Christian gospel has repeatedly lapsed into a vision of God where the wrathful King must be appeased by his victim Son. How do such 'good cop/bad cop' distortions of the divine arise and come to dominate churches and cultures? Whether our notions of 'god' are personal projections or inherited traditions, author and theologian Brad Jersak proposes a radical reassessment, arguing for A More Christlike God: a More Beautiful Gospel. If Christ is "the image of the invisible God, the radiance of God's glory and exact representation of God's likeness," what if we conceived of God as completely Christlike--the perfect Incarnation of self-giving, radically forgiving, co-suffering love? What if God has always been and forever will be 'cruciform' (crossshaped) in his character and actions? A More Christlike God suggests that such a God would be very good news indeed--a God who Jesus "unwrathed" from dead religion, a Love that is always toward us, and a Grace that pours into this suffering world through willing, human partners.

Join the Zoom meeting, April 27th, 6:30pm. Let Pastor know to send you the link.

Evangelism

CALL CALL CALL

SEND A NOTE • SEND A CARD • SEND A GREETING

Evangelism is all about sharing good news, the good news of God's love and care. In this time of intentional isolation, reach out with care and concern to those who need to be reminded that they are not alone, that they are loved and beloved. Think about the people you see everyday, friends, relatives, neighbors. Give a call, send a text ... thinking of you, how is it going today? I was just sitting down to pray, what might I add for you? Talk about your faith, your love of God, your desire to serve, it may be the light someone needs that day.

Kids Corner

**The kid's activities for April are up in the air.
Please check in with their families to see how things shape up for the month.**



Parish Updates

DIAMOND JUBILEE UPDATE

Attention Diamond Jubilee Group, Doris Horning with the help of Marlene Doran will be scheduling events for the group this year. Any thoughts or suggestions are always appreciated. Stay tuned for an upcoming Spring luncheon news!

- Doris Horning

IT'S EGG STUFFIN' TIME!

Please bring donations of candy and eggs to the Youth Office!



UPDATE FROM THE COLUMBARIUM COMMITTEE

Due to owners leaving Bella Vista, four niches are available in the original section of the columbarium. Sale price is the original selling price of \$450.00 per niche. If interested in this bargain price, contact Darwin Krumrey or the church office. Thank you!

DON'T FORGET TO SMILE!

Amazon. com has set up a way to send a percentage of their sales to charity. I set my charity as United Lutheran Church, Bella Vista, AR. It's not a large amount, but every bit helps and I hope that more people will do the same. **Here's how to do it: instead of just going to amazon.com, go to the Amazon site of <http://smile.amazon.com> - Here you choose United Lutheran Church of Bella Vista.** You can still use the app or your cart on amazon as usual. But, whenever you want to check out go through the smile.amazon.com site. Your cart is the same, your payments are the same, everything is the same, but they will send a little bit of money to United. If you have any questions, let me know.

Thanks! - Jeremy Fowler-Lindemulder



Parish Fellowship

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO ULC?

While we may be practicing proper social distancing and the church calendar looks a little more open than usual, that does not mean ULC is just “sitting around doing nothing”. Members are occupying their day with a number of activities during this downtime. So we asked, ‘What are you up to ULC?’

We have been enjoying time together around the home and have almost finished a 1000 piece puzzle!

- Russ Pope

I'm continuing to do what I can to assist in getting packets/assignments ready for my kiddos at Gravette Middle School and also preparing for my son's upcoming graduation from Gravette High! I miss my kiddos at ULC and Gravette...hope to see them soon! - Barbie Heaton

I have actually enjoyed having a few days at home. It's nice not to have to be on the go constantly. Charli Anne and I have done yardwork, cleaned closets and sat in the sun and read. I sure miss my Church babies though. So, I've been sending them Sunday School lessons and crafts in the mail. And...my kitchen table is a hot mess....full of VBS decorations in the making! Miss you all!

- Sarah Stephenson



Binh and I have been working from home and helping Hannah and Tanner with their online schooling. Last week during spring break we did a lot of indoor and outdoor house projects like painting, cleaning and organizing closets, preparing our vegetable and flower beds and we camped in Ponca for one night and hiked to see Eden Falls which was beautiful! We've been playing a lot of basketball in our driveway and baseball and softball too! I've been doing daily workouts and walks around the neighborhood with the kids. We have also used the time to write letters to friends and family and are calling too. I have never played so much Go Fish before in my life;) Tanner remains the champion of Go Fish in our house!

- Susannah Hoang

Here's what I'm up to! Trying new recipes, reading new books, figuring out on-line grocery shopping and pickup, going through stacks and stacks of old pictures to sort and store, making things on my Cricut, and trying to stay healthy and positive. I see my grandkids if we can do outside activities together, but I miss them. I'm trying to contact at least two people per week to check on them, and have caught up with some old friends recently. I miss church and our community, but wholeheartedly agree that we must do the right thing, and physically distance ourselves. Take care everyone! - Kathy Bassett

I'm catching up on my reading...you should to! - Pastor Karen



Parish Fellowship

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO ULC?

FEELLDHRINSO (hello friends in scrabble!) Fred and I send you greetings! To cope with the social isolation in this unprecedented time, we look for a bit of joy and happiness each day by watching movies (new and classic), reading books and magazines, working crossword puzzles (Fred) and jigsaw puzzles (Robin), playing scrabble (Robin leads!) and walks in the beautiful weather. We also like to stay connected to friends and family via social media and recently added Zoom to our media skills. God's blessings to you all. - Robin Nelson



Mike and I were in Arizona when this all started getting more serious, so we've been back now for 2 weeks. We've been fortunate to have pretty nice weather, so walks outside and visiting with the neighbors from a distance. I've learned how to accomplish ordering groceries online and picking them up. I still would rather pick it out myself, but probably not so much impulse buying. I FaceTime with family in Kansas City and Mike keeps busy in his workshop. We feed and watch the birds and read. Maybe we'll get in the car and Cruise Main Street and wave at people, (if only BV had a Main Street). We are more blessed than some at this time and praying like all of us, for an end to this soon. Looking forward to being all together in worship sometime. When it's possible this summer, I hope to plan a picnic in the parking lot.

- Barb Marrs

The staff is still here! Our hours have been modified to accommodate the current social distancing protocols as well as give some staffers time to homeschool their kiddos; but, we remain working and present for ULC! Jeff is still cleaning and disinfecting daily to ensure ULC is ready for when our doors can fully open again. Marilyn is busy ensuring all financial business is attended to. Charlotte and Tonja continue to reach out to members to ensure they are doing what they can to stay healthy. Jerry and the entire council have been taking time to call and chat with members to see if they need anything. Liz works weekly to give us some music worthy of praise for Sunday online services. Pastor Karen continues to prepare for upcoming online services while helping us all upgrade our technology savvy by introducing many of us to Zoom meetings (check out the pic from the staff's first Zoom meeting...we were very serious about getting it right). Roz continues to check emails and voicemails, send updates, and work on the Voice.



While we may not be together in the office at the same time, we continue to keep our connection strong during this time to ensure we are able to be here for you.

We'd love to hear what you've been up to! **Email: admin@unitedlutheranbv.org with an update we can share with ULC. Send a picture too if you can; we'd love to see you!** Even without in person parish fellowship, remember to reach out and call someone you're thinking of, join in a Book Club Zoom session, or even host a prayer call. There are many ways to keep our connection even in our distance.

Social Ministry

Good morning everyone! I'm sitting at my dinning room table, the sun is shinning brightly, the flowers are blooming beautifully. It looks like a beautiful calm day to enjoy in God's marvelous world. The reality is that the world is actually a very scary, fearful place at the moment and I, like most of you are pretty well staying at home. The ministry aim of Social Ministries is to help take care of people in a multitude of situations. This situation we are in is no different. Many of the groups and organizations that our Social Ministries supports are at work all over the world to help people. That means you are at work helping people all over the world because you are a caring, giving part of United Lutheran Church.

Despite all the scary things that are happening in our world with this virus, remember that the God who made this world is ever present with us -- "Low, I am with you always" Jesus told us.

I pray for all of you that you will stay well! I would leave you with this thought from a little Pass It On card -- HELLO! This is GOD. I will be handling all of your problems and concerns today. That's my job. Your job is to give them to me, and then trust me? Have a great day!!

Do not be anxious about anything but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. - Philippians 4:6-7

Love and blessings to each one of you.
- Joyce Jebsen

THE LITTLE PANTRY & THE LITTLE LIBRARY UPDATES

During these times of isolation, it is still important to remember our neighbors in need. You can still bring donations for the Little Pantry up to the church office during the new modified office hours, or you can leave your donations in the Little Pantry itself. You can also drop off a book donation to the Little Library as well.

PLEASE NOTE: there will be a LIMITED amount of copies of the Voice available for pick up in the Little Library as well. We ask our members that are able to view the Voice through their email to be considerate to those that are unable to. So, before running to the Little Library to get a copy of the Voice, please keep in mind those that do not have access to email or internet and would like a copy to read. Thank you!





A Community of Women



Morning Circles

Apr 1 - 9:15 a.m.

Deborah.....

Apr 1 - 9:30 a.m.

Mary.....

Naomi.....

Rachel.....

Sarah.....

REMINDER: Circles will NOT Meet this month. Fill the void by working through the Bible study in *Gather* magazine and read the great articles, too! Don't forget to put aside your offering, too. Our commitments continue

Apr 20 6:30 p.m.

General Meeting*

Apr 22 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study Leaders*

Please note these meetings are tentative this month. Check in with the church office or online at unitedlutheranbv.org to find out if these events will be held.

Afternoon Circles

Apr 7 - 1:00 p.m.

Hannah.....

Apr 9 - 1:00 p.m.

Martha.....Nan

Evening Circle

Apr 6 - 6:30 p.m.

Priscilla.....



Let's Gather!

Monday, April 20

6:30 pm Dessert

NW Arkansas Letter Writing Society



The Piecemakers are not meeting at this time. We will let you know once we begin to meet again.

Love snail mail? Then join the NWA Letter Writing Society! This group of letter lovers meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Bella Vista library to share mail art ideas, postal ephemera, special correspondence, and to write letters. Come and hear what they are all about! **Note: this meeting is tentatively set for this month and may be cancelled. Please check with the church office or Robin Nelson to see if we will meet.**

Don't forget the Bakeless Bake Sale going on through May!

Your gifts provide the income we need for the local charities we support. Envelopes are available by the "cake" in the narthex. You can also mail in your envelope to the church office if you are unable to make it up to the church. Thank you for your help!



LOVE —
DEEPLY ROOTED

POSTPONED UNTIL OCTOBER!

**Arkansas-Oklahoma Synodical Women's Organization
Clusters 6 & 7 Spring Gathering
Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Mountain Home
Everyone is Welcome! Gathering Cost: \$10
Hotel and Registration info is at the Women's counter, or call Theda Hall.**

Worship & Music

Updates

Wednesday's Worship in Lent: Convicted

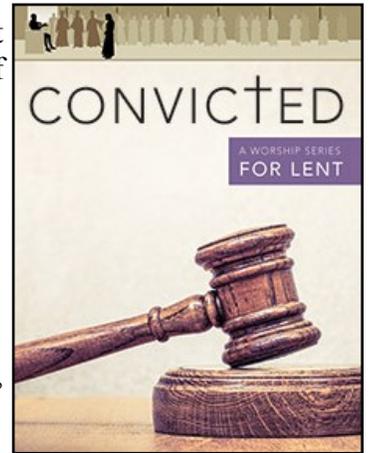
SENT OUT FOR AT HOME USE

Let the church office know if you'd like to be added to the list.

Step into the courtroom in this Lenten Worship series, in which a different biblical person from the story of Christ's passion and death is on trial, accused of an actual crime.

Convicted of
Dereliction of Duty
Treason
Perjury
Obstruction of Justice (April 1)
Rebellion (April 8)

As we listen to the arguments for and against conviction, we ask ourselves, "Would we be convicted of the charges?"



HOLY WEEK/EASTER

Things are fluid, changing daily. That being said, we are not sure what will happen with worship in the future. Holy Week will be provided through a mailed/on-line option. Look for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday liturgy to come to you. We have the capacity to use ZOOM (an on line, free video conferencing site), we may be able to use that for some part of Holy Week, in conjunction with sent liturgy. Stay tuned.

As to **Easter Sunday**, again, we'll let you know. We will celebrate Easter, one way or another, we need to continue to hear the good news ... there is life following death, good following bad, hope following despair. **We will celebrate** on April 12th, if we are together in one location, praise be to God. If we are still in our homes, we will still celebrate, and then, the first Sunday we are back together, we will celebrate the Resurrection all over again.

There is the possibility of a drive-by communion opportunity, Easter Sunday. Again, stay tuned.

A NOTE FROM THE WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

To all ULC members and friends, pay attention and stay safe.

Many thanks to Pastor Karen and all the others who are putting together the online Sunday Services. Last Sundays was wonderful, go to the website if you didn't tune in, watch and pray.

Due to the coronavirus, the Watoto concert has again been canceled. The organizers are working to get the children home safely. This is sad but understandable.

We are not sure when we will resume regular ULC activities, but you all will be first to know.

God bless ULC and the world!

Betty Wehner
Worship & Music Chair

Worship & Music

The Chronology of the Last Week of Christ's Life

Palm Sunday

Triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Matthew 21:1-11

The children's hosannas and healings in the temple.
Matthew 21:14-16

Return to Bethany. Matthew 21:17

People looked at Jesus in three ways--as king; as prophet; as judge. He went as Savior.

In Mark he healed some sick people and left. In Matthew he cleansed the temple on this day. We traditionally follow the account according to Mark.



Second Day-Monday

Return from Bethany. Matthew 21:18

Cursing of the fig tree. Matthew 21:19; Mark 11:12-14

Cleansing of the temple. Mark 11:15-17

Retires to Bethany. Mark 11:19

Enemies conspire against him. Luke 19:47; Mark 11:18

Third Day-Tuesday

Fig tree has withered. Mark 11:20-25

He taught in the temple; he lamented over Jerusalem; he told the judgment parables. Matthew 24 and 25

The Council of Caiaphas to kill Jesus. Matthew 26:3-5

Fourth Day-Wednesday

Little is known of this day in Jesus' life. Most likely he spent the day in Bethany visiting with his friends. John 12:3-6

On the evening of the day there was a supper at which Jesus was anointed for his death and burial.
Mark 14:1-9

The bargain was made with Judas on this day to betray Jesus. Matthew 26:14-16

Fifth Day-Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday comes from the Latin, Mandatum Novum, which means new commandment. It was on this day that Jesus celebrated the Passover Supper with his disciples and gave them the new commandment to love and to serve one another. This was commemorated by the foot washing ceremony.

John 13:12-17



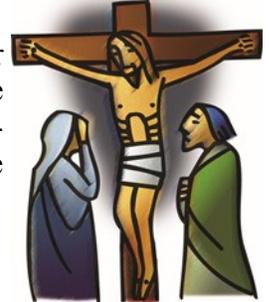
After communion Jesus goes to the Garden of Gethsemane with a few of his disciples to pray. There in the Garden he was arrested. He is taken to trial and is shuttled back and forth between Pilate, Caiaphas and Herod. Matthew 26:36-56

Worship & Music

The Chronology of the Last Week of Christ's Life

Sixth Day-Good Friday

This is the day that Jesus was crucified. Some say he was crucified at the third hour which would be 9:00; others say he was crucified at the sixth hour which would be 12:00 noon. All accounts agree that he died at the 9th hour which is 3:00 in the afternoon. The earthquake comes, the curtain in the temple is torn in two and one of the centurians makes a confession of faith. Jesus dies. Mark 15:22-47



Seventh Day-The Sabbath-Saturday

No one was to work or to be with the dead on the Sabbath. Jesus now rests in the tomb. Matthew 27:62-66; Matthew 28:1



Prayer for Maundy Thursday

Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayer for Good Friday

Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Prayer for Holy Saturday

O God, you are the creator of the world, the liberator of your people, and the wisdom of the earth. By the resurrection of your Son free us from our fears, restore us in your image, and ignite us with your light, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayer for Easter Sunday

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayer Corner

A REMINDER TO REMEMBER THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

The **butterfly** has long been a symbol of the RESURRECTION, of new life and hope. Our thanks to our Youth and Ms. Sarah for the visual reminders around the church. Look around for other signs of resurrection, with the coming of Spring, there are so many.



Prayers for Times of Public Health Concern: COVID-19/Coronavirus

God, our peace and our strength, we pray for our nation and the world as we face new uncertainties around coronavirus. Protect the most vulnerable among us, especially all who are currently sick or in isolation. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to health care workers, especially as their work caring for others puts them at great risk. Guide us as we consider how best to prepare and respond in our families, congregations, workplaces, and communities. Give us courage to face these days not with fear but with compassion, concern, and acts of service, trusting that you abide with us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For a situation in which a worship community may be advised against gathering:

Gracious God, it is good for us to gather as your beloved in community. We treasure your presence with us in word and meal, song and prayer. Be with us in these days when gathering together as often as we would like is not possible. When we must be apart for reasons of safety, we trust that you surround us with your sheltering wings. Encourage us in connecting as we are able, reaching out to our neighbors in need and being persistent in prayer. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our constant companion. **Amen.**

We include in our prayers ...

- Hospitals, nursing homes, other health care facilities The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- The World Health Organization
- Medical researchers and scientists
- Schools, teachers, administrators, students, parent teachers
- Calm to children who are fearful from all they hear and see around them
- Patience in times of school closures
- Workers who are anxious about the safety of their workplaces
- Uncertainty in how work will be accomplished in the days ahead
- Calm and guidance amid financial uncertainties
- Government institutions and municipal agencies, guidance when making decisions for our communities
- Houses of worship and their ministries at this time
- For all who travel
- For all who grieve the loss of loved ones
- For other needs particular to your community

National Distress

Eternal God, amid all the turmoil and changes of the world your love is steadfast and your strength never fails. In this time of danger and trouble, be to us a sure guardian and rock of defense. Guide the leaders of our nation with your wisdom, comfort those in distress, and grant us courage and hope to face the future; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 76*)

Continued on next page...

Prayer Corner

The Neglected

Almighty and most merciful God, we call to mind before you all whom it is easy to forget: those who are homeless, destitute, sick, isolated, and all who have no one to care for them. May we bring help and healing to those who are broken in body or spirit, that they may have comfort in sorrow, company in loneliness, and a place of safety and warmth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (*ELW*, p. 79)

Caregivers and others who support the sick

God, our refuge and strength, our present help in time of trouble, care for those who tend the needs of the sick. Strengthen them in body and spirit. Refresh them when weary; console them when anxious; comfort them in grief; and hearten them in discouragement. Be with us all, and give us peace at all times and in every way; through Christ our peace. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 85)

Health care providers

Merciful God, your healing power is everywhere about us. Strengthen those who work among the sick; give them courage and confidence in all they do. Encourage them when their efforts seem futile or when death prevails. Increase their trust in your power even to overcome death and pain and crying. May they be thankful for every sign of health you give, and humble before the mystery of your healing grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 85)

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Prayer Corner

UNITED IN PRAYER - MONDAYS @ 3:00PM

We will use Zoom for our United in Prayer sessions. If you would like to join in, please let Pastor Karen or the church office know and the link for the meeting will be given to you. Please note - you can use your computer, tablet, or phone for Zoom. You do not have to use the video option if you would prefer to use your phone. Zoom has options for all! Everyone is welcome to join in!

Members in Need of Prayer

Lucile Aasmundstad	Mark Maki
Frank Barbieri's Family & Friends	Maxine McClain
Bonnie Buechler	Heidi Ortega
Margaret Christianson	Susie Parker
Roger & Anne Costa	Ardythe Schultz
Ruth Dronen	Mable Shaw
Dar Dykema	Mike & Charlotte Spencer
Helen Eidem	Joyce Strunk
Ruth Gabriel	Bud Taylor
Loruss Grasmick	Don Whittlesey's Family & Friends
Ed Graf's Family & Friends	
John & Liz Hanson	
Nancy Krumrey	
Ruby Kroona	
Red & Bonnie Larson	
Sally Leffler	

Family & Friends in Need of Prayer

Janine Copley
Hannah Dykema
Craig Farrow
Beth Haney
Sandi Johnson
Mike Lynch
Bella Matakas
Mackaiah Medlock
Karen Murray
Inez Polaski & Daughters
Thomas Pyle
Rachel Sparks
Heather Spencer
Colleen Sullivan
Darlene Tamburini
Don Wallman
Hunter West

Members in Care Centers

Highlands – Cleo Sundal
Innisfree - Vern Sutter

Let us continue to pray for all those we know who are experiencing isolation or loneliness while in a care center or facility here or elsewhere.

Local Churches & Area ELCA Churches

Peace in Joplin	Christ the King
Neighborhood	Peace in Rogers
Good Shepherd	St. Luke's
Faith	Emmanuel
Living Word	Bishop & Staff
	Bella Vista Christian Fellowship
	Eben Ezer Lutheran Church

Pray for: the world & our country, our church, Pastor Karen & Jeremy, church council, staff, music, children's ministry, members, the Phobes and shut-ins, Stephen Ministers & care receivers, friends & family members.

There are many times when your phone call to the church office is the only way we may discover that someone is in the hospital, ill or in need of a pastoral visit. Please, let us know if you have special needs outside of the regular office hours.



Thank You's



I received a THANK YOU note from KNIT FROM KIDS after I sent the a box of 15 sweaters that Beth Pautsch and I (Delores Sadenwasser) made for them in 2019 which they send overseas to little kids who need them. They said they shipped our handmade items overseas to little kids who really, really need them. They also need hats, gloves/mittens and school-aged children's blankets knit, crochet or fleece (size 36 in. by 42 in). So, if anyone wants any information about the sweaters and how to make them, ask them to contact me & I will give them information.

- Dee Sadenwasser

My Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the visits, cards, messages and prayers during my recovery. I have felt the love through each one. I have started physical therapy and am getting stronger every day. I hope you all are staying well and look forward to when I can worship with you again.

With love, Lindsey Lawson

Many Thanks!

The kids and I would like to say "Thank You" to everyone who helped with and came to the St. Patrick's Day Stew Supper. You should have seen the "Drive-Thru"! It was hopping! We made almost \$700 to tuck away into our Youth Designated Account.

-Sarah Stephenson





April 2020



****A MAJORITY OF ULC EVENTS FROM APRIL 1ST - APRIL 17TH HAVE BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PROTOCOLS SET FORTH BY THE STATE OF ARKANSAS. PLEASE NOTE THAT AT THIS TIME, ALL EVENTS AFTER APRIL 17TH ARE CONSIDERED TENTATIVE UNTIL WE HAVE UPDATES CONCERNING FUTURE CORONAVIRUS PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES.**

MEETINGS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN CANCELLED FROM APRIL 1ST-17TH WILL EITHER BE ZOOM CONFERENCE SESSIONS OR PHONE CONFERENCE SESSIONS. **

April 6 - Monday	1:00PM - Staff Meeting (<i>via Zoom</i>) 2:45PM - United in Prayer (<i>via Zoom...for the link, please call the church office</i>)
April 9 - Thursday	MAUNDY THURSDAY 6:30PM - Council Meeting (<i>via Zoom</i>)
April 10 - Friday	GOOD FRIDAY
April 11 - Saturday	HOLY SATURDAY
April 12 - Sunday	EASTER SUNDAY 9:30AM - Worship & Communion (<i>available online at www.unitedlutheranbv.org</i>)
April 13 - Monday	1:00PM - Staff Meeting (<i>via Zoom</i>) 2:45PM - United in Prayer (<i>via Zoom...for the link, please call the church office</i>)
April 19 - Sunday	2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:30AM - Worship & Communion (<i>available online at www.unitedlutheranbv.org</i>)
April 20 - Monday**	1:00PM - Staff Meeting 2:45PM - United in Prayer 6:30PM - W-ELCA: A Community of Women Gathering
April 21 - Tuesday**	6:30PM - Blue Grass Gospel Band Practice
April 22 - Wednesday**	10:00AM - W-ELCA Bible Study Leaders Meeting 12:00PM - Bible Study 7:00PM - Choir Practice
April 23 - Thursday**	9:00AM - Piecemakers 3:15PM - Chancel Bells Rehearsal 6:30PM - Movie Night
April 26 - Sunday**	9:30AM - Worship & Communion 10:45AM - Adult Christian Education 10:45AM - Youth Sunday School
April 27 - Monday**	1:00PM - Staff Meeting 2:45PM - United in Prayer 6:30PM - Book Club
April 28 - Tuesday**	6:30PM - Blue Grass Gospel Band Practice
April 29 - Wednesday**	7:00PM - Choir Practice
April 30 - Thursday**	9:00AM - Piecemakers 3:15PM - Chancel Bells Rehearsal

BIRTHDAYS

Tom Anderson - 4/1
Lois Carlson - 4/4
Mary Klotz - 4/4
Jane Nelson - 4/4
Elaine Patton - 4/5
Mike Seusy - 4/9
Connie Bachelder - 4/10
Paul Anderson - 4/12
Ruth Dronen - 4/12
Arlene Nordeen - 4/15

Janice Stevens - 4/18
Dorothy Klitzke - 4/20
Mable Shaw - 4/20
Lanette Bruflat - 4/22
Bonnie Buechler - 4/22
Tom Guarino - 4/22
Nancy Gross - 4/23
Ezra Ortega - 4/23
Russell Pope - 4/26
Brian Kichline - 4/26

ANNIVERSARIES

Thomas & Sarah Stephenson - 4/1
George & Glenda Heist - 4/2
Terry & Cindy Martin - 4/5

If we've missed your birthday or anniversary, please let the church office know. Thank you!

Don't Forget to be an April Fool!

English essayist and poet Charles Lamb (1775-1834) once joked, 'Here cometh April again, and as far as I can see the world hath more fools than ever.' **April Fools' Day** is best known as a day for practical jokes, but it can be used in more beneficial ways. It can be a day of faith and fun - a day to thank God for the joyous times of life, for the days of laughter, for funny stories, for the antics of children and for other things that bring smiles to our faces. There is opportunity for laughter every day. Laugh! Laugh heartily and often. You will find healing in mirth and levity. And remember, '(The one) who sits the in heavens laughs ...' (Psalms 2:4, NRSV).

