



Resurrection Reminders

There were a number of spiritual exercises that our 10-person **"Deeper in Christ"** participants tried during five days at an Episcopal retreat center near Memphis, TN a week ago. One of them was reading a text from the gospel of John in a **"Lectio Divina"** that incorporates multiple looks at scripture with various perspectives from which to read from. As I considered the end of the Lenten season from this text, I thought of a few things to share.

John 1:35-39 – "The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, **'Look, here is the Lamb of God!'** The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, **'What are you looking for?'** They said to him, **'Rabbi,'** (which translated means Teacher), **'Where are you staying?'** He said to them, **'Come and see.'** They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

My first revelation from this text is where John the Baptist announced to his disciples, **"Look, here is the Lamb of God!"**

We don't get this from our text, but the two disciples who ask this question are disciples of John the Baptist first. John has prepared the way; he's told them that, eventually, there would be someone more worthy for them to follow. But these disciples had been loyal to John. They had put their lot with him. So it would take quite an endorsement for those disciples to move from one leader to another. Clearly, they heard enough in that glowing endorsement as we're told the disciples heard and they followed.

The second thing from the John 1 text I focused upon was the question: **What are you looking for?** Easter brings a lot of images to the forefront. One that tends to be poignant for me is the suffering Christ on the cross. That he could – in the end of life – forgive those who were hurting him (by word, by deed) is an amazing thing to me. But there was a lot of suffering going on; Jesus suffering in the Garden as he prayed to have this burden taken away before accepting it;

the Son asking the Father, **"Why have you forsaken me?"** The Son making arrangements for his earthly mother to be taken care of, another hard thing. So, often the suffering Christ is what I look for. But maybe not this year. How about you? What do you need to see...or see again...this season to rekindle or embolden your faith?

Later on, John the Baptist is in jail, discouraged, and in Luke 7 he asks disciples to go back and ask Jesus, **"Are you the one who is to come or should we look for someone else?"** And Jesus sends back the message that he has done certain things (giving sight to the blind, cleansing lepers, raising the dead, giving Good News to the poor, etc.) and John would know that his faith was not in vain.

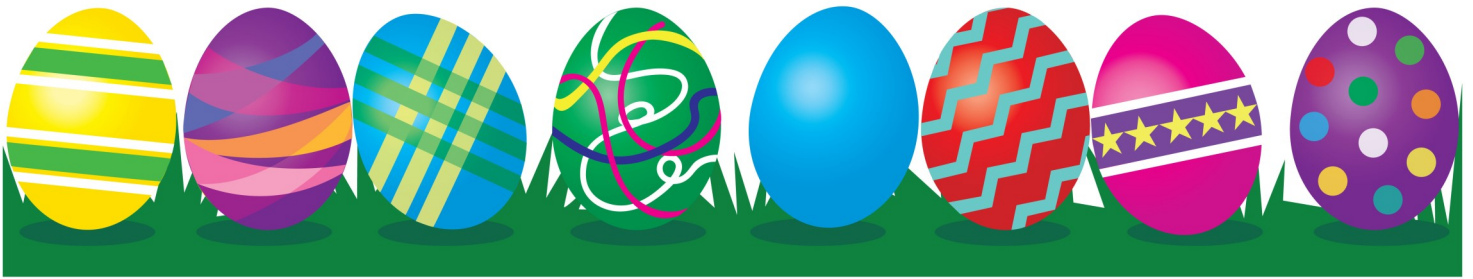
The third question that caught my eye from this text was the two disciples asking Jesus, **"Where are you staying?"** And the reply by Jesus was intriguing too: **'Come and see.'**

The disciples had gotten a pretty good testimonial about the Savior. However, it might take more than just hearing Jesus teach to move them to become full-fledged disciples. This short text in John 1 brings to light the relational aspect that would ultimately draw disciples to the Savior. And there are no promises by Jesus, no loud platitudes about how great he'll be to follow. He offers them a look at who he is – Come and see. And they would remain with him that day and, after doing so, were intrigued enough to tell friends about the Lord.

The fact is, many people who know ABOUT Jesus don't **know** Jesus. It's the difference between being a baseball fan and knowing the statistics of a favorite player and actually hanging out with them. Jesus offers that opportunity; Revelation 3:20 reminds us, **"Behold, I stand**



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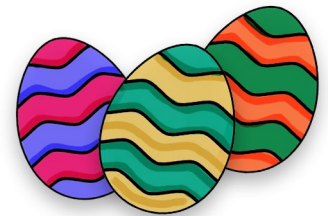
Resurrection Reminders...(continued)

at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with them and they'll eat with me."

So while some of your friends, family and neighbors may know some of the Jesus story on Easter; where they're staying (spiritually) might be quite far from the door Jesus is standing right outside of. We have the chance to ask those we know where they're staying and walk with them as they experience Jesus. One of the ways we can do that this season is by handing them a postcard, inviting them to celebrate Easter with us on April 17, 2022. These postcards will be available in the foyer **soon** for handing out.

For me, the beginnings of the ministry of Jesus here in John 1 brought a perspective that will help me see the end parts more memorably. If that isn't your catalyst for a new look at the season, try the New Testament gospels - Matthew chapter 21, and chapters 26-28; Mark 14-16; Luke 19-24; and John 13-21 give the Easter week story and events after the resurrection.

IN CHRIST,
Pastor Craig



Ministry Teams

Ministry Teams: It's not too late to join a ministry team if you haven't done so. The signup sheets are on a clipboard in the office. Teams need to choose a chair for the year if they haven't done so already. Below are the current team chairs and their contact information.

Lead Team:
Dennis Nuttelman
402-366-9803

Fellowship & Hospitality:
Pat Everingham
402-764-0345

Outreach:
Julia Schram—402-710-9561
Shayla Hier—402-764-0261

Worship Ministry Team:
Neeli Noyd
402-363-3082

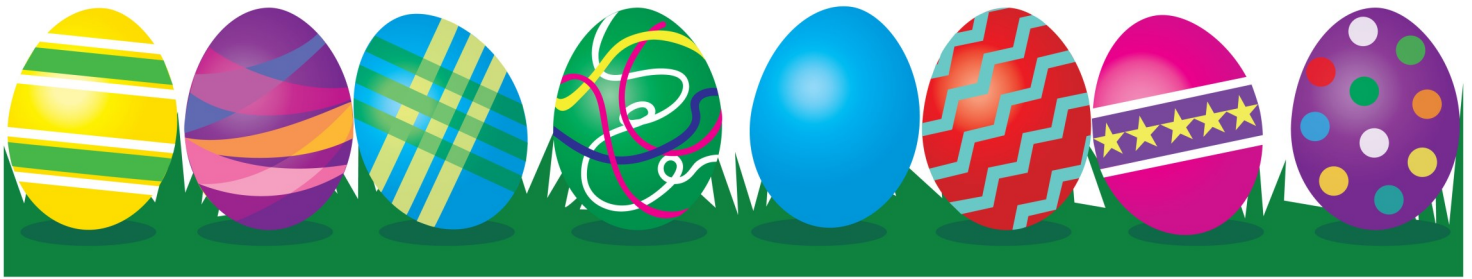
Christian Formation:
Judy Hanson
402-764-6681

Properties:
Marv Wadell (contact person)
402-764-7651

Meals on Wheels Calendar for April

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1. Neeli Noyd	2. Bev Bauer
4. Pastor Craig	5. Pastor Craig	6. Marv Wadell	7. Marv Wadell	8. Bev Bauer	9. Bev Bauer
11. Pastor Craig	12. Pastor Craig	13. Bob & Eleanor Greenwall	14. Gaylen Ahlquist	15. Bev Bauer	16. Bev Bauer
18. Neeli Noyd	19. Bob & Eleanor Greenwall	20. Bob & Eleanor Greenwall	21. Gaylen Ahlquist	22. Bev Bauer	23. Bev Bauer
25. Bob Johnson	26. Bob Johnson	27. Bob Johnson	28. Bob Johnson	29. Bob Johnson	30. Bob Johnson





Financial Update:

2022 Budget Summary (1/1/22 through 2/28/22)

Needed Income: \$ 25,741.83

Actual Income: \$ 14,126.60

Difference: **(\$ 11,615.23)**

Budgeted Exp: \$ 25,741.83

Actual Exp: \$ 17,178.03

Under Budget: \$ 8,563.80

ONLINE GIVING: To make a one-time or scheduled reoccurring gift to our church, please visit:

www.stromsburgcov.org and click on ONLINE GIVING.



Alex Noyd	Apr 3
Jay Platt	Apr 3
Jolienne Anderson	Apr 16
Ruth Hanson	Apr 16
Julie Hennessy	Apr 18
Shane Noble	Apr 24
Ray Nelson	Apr 25
Lorrain Nielsen	Apr 25
Julia Schram	Apr 26



Brian & Shayla Hier	Apr 5, 2002
Ryan & Sunni Cooper	Apr 12, 2003

Prayer Concerns? Please contact Connie Nuttelman to have a request go out on the prayer chain or to be included in the bulletin. Connie's number is 402-366-9045 or you can send an email to prayerchain@stromsburgcov.org.



Ministry Partners:

Sunday, Apr 3, 2022

Greeters: Dan & Lorrain Nielsen

Fellowship: TBD

Scripture: Worship Team

Pianist/Worship Leader: Ryan Cooper

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Dianne Nielsen, Neeli Noyd, Sue Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Ellie Pinley, Jodi Johnson

Sunday, Apr 10, 2022

Greeters: Dennis & Connie Nuttelman

Fellowship: The Hier Family

Scripture: Dennis Nuttelman

Pianist: Sue Rosenbaum

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley

Audio/Visual: Ellie Pinley, Sara Noble

Sunday, Apr 17, 2022—EASTER SUNDAY

Greeters: Kent & Cheryl Erickson

Fellowship: Easter Breakfast at UMC

Scripture: Eleanor Greenwall

Pianists: Sue Rosenbaum, Ryan Cooper

Worship Leader: Ryan Cooper

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Dianne Nielsen, Neeli Noyd

Audio/Visual: Sara Noble, Jodi Johnson

Thursday, Apr 21, 2022

Rescue Mission Meal: Lori Rystrom

Sunday, Apr 24, 2022

Greeters: Charles & Neeli Noyd

Fellowship: TBD

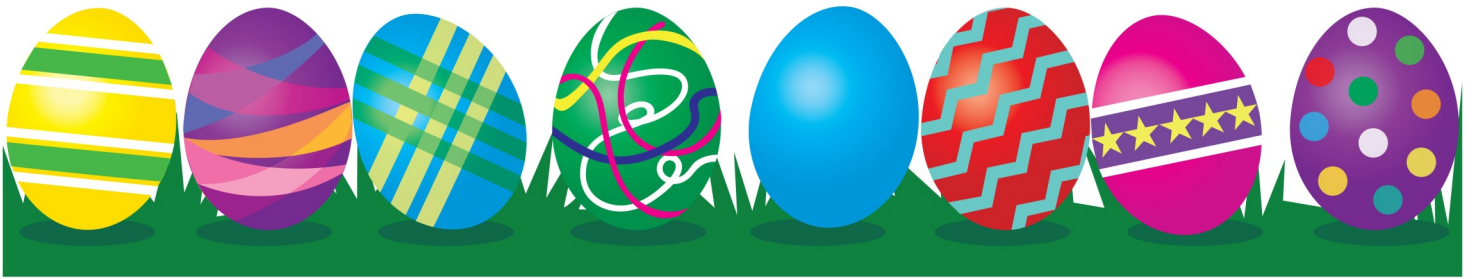
Scripture: Jeannie Ahlquist

Pianist/Worship Leader: Ryan Cooper

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Dianne Nielsen, Neeli Noyd

Audio/Visual: Ellie Pinley, Sara Noble





Important Dates in April

PALM



Sunday, April 10, 2022—Palm Sunday

6:30 pm—Lead Team Meeting

Wednesday, April 13, 2022—Ecumenical Easter Prayer Breakfast

7:00 am—Stromsburg Baptist Church

Please see Pastors Craig or Mary if you would like to purchase a \$5 ticket.



Maundy Thursday, April 14, 2022

7:00 pm—The Last Supper reenactment for ALL ages! Parents, bring your kids—they will have a roll in this interactive experience.

THE LAST SUPPER

Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022



Combined Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast: With the Lutheran and Methodist Churches.

7:00 am—at United Methodist Church, Stromsburg

Easter Egg Hunt for Kids: (Coffee & Treats for parents!)

9:30 am—At Stromsburg Covenant Church

Easter Worship Service at Stromsburg Covenant:

10:30 am—Invite your friends, family, and neighbors!



Important Announcements:



Church Custodian Position Available: The church is looking for a new janitor to begin mid-April. If you are interested in the position please talk to Marv Wadell (402) 764-7651.

Easter Lilies: We have ordered 12 Easter lilies. There will be an order form in your bulletin April 3 if you would like to purchase one in memory of a loved one. You can return the form and payment to the office or put it in the offering plate.



AUDIO-VISUAL
Team

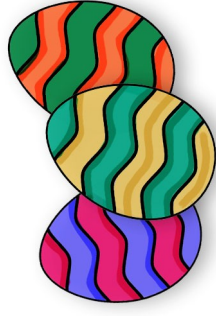
Sound Board Help Needed! Want to learn something new? We are in need of people to help with running the slides for our worship services. Talk to Jodi Johnson or Pastor Mary if you are interested in learning.

Candy & Egg Donations Needed: Since we are offering an Easter Egg Hunt for kids on Easter as an outreach event we will be needing lots of Easter candy and plastic eggs. Please bring donations to the church office. Thank you!!! If you would like to help with the Easter Egg hunt please let Pastor Mary, Shayla Hier, or Judy Hanson know.



Congratulations to Nikki & Josh Patrick! Baby Katherine Lorryne Patrick was delivered on Wed., 3/30/22 at 8:00 am. She weighs 7 lbs 13.4 oz and is 21" long. Everyone is doing well!

For anyone interested in providing a meal to the Patrick family the next few weeks we have set up an online Meal Train where you can sign up. Here is the link: <https://mealtrain.com/yv40gy>



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sundays: 8:30 Worship Team 9:30 Sunday School (youth/adult) 10:30 Worship (Children's Church) 11:45 Fellowship			Wednesdays: 9:00 Moms in Prayer 5:30 Kingdom Kids (at Salem Lutheran)		1	2
3 12:00 Christian Formation Team Mtg.	4	5	6	7	8	9
10  Palm Sunday 6:30 Lead Team Mtg.	11	12	13  Easter Prayer Breakfast 7 am—Baptist Church	14  THE LAST SUPPER Reenactment 7:00 pm	15  GOOD FRIDAY	16
17  EASTER SUNDAY	18	19	20 5:30 Rescue Mission Meal	21 5:30  SERVING MEALS TO THE HOMELESS	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Midwest Conference Annual Meeting Colorado						