

**St. John's Lutheran Church**

# Happenings



APRIL 2019

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**Join us for Lenten Worship Services**

During the season of Lent we worship together on Wednesdays at 11:00a.m.  
and 7:00p.m. through April 10th.

**St. John's Holy Week Schedule**

Palm Sunday April 14th, 9:00am

Easter Egg/Scavenger Hunt April 14th, 11:30pm

Service of Healing, April 17th, 2019 7:00pm

Maundy Thursday April 18th, 2019—Worship 7:00pm

Good Friday—Stations of the Cross April 19th, 7:00pm

Easter Sunrise Vigil—April 21st, 6:30am

Easter Breakfast 8:00am

Easter Sunday—Traditional Worship at 9:00am



**Holy Week  
& Easter**

Happy April dear Sisters and Brothers,

I write this newsletter article sitting by the ocean in Gulfport, Mississippi. What a treat for me – thank you for the beautiful vacation with my god children.



All through March we have listened as John and Kathy presented on Making Sense of the Cross. The conversation was taken directly from a book written by Pastor David Lose. It is a wonderful book and I highly recommend reading it. The point of the "sermon series" wasn't about telling you how to make sense of the cross but more about giving you some confidence as you work through what the cross means for you. As you will learn – theologians have been discussing and disagreeing on the meaning of the cross for some 2000 years now. So as you struggle with making sense of it – recognize that you are in good company.

We heard about the differences in how the 4 gospel writers taught their congregations – some differences grand and some small enough to not be noticeable. After Easter, John will go a little more into depth on the theories that the different theologians have put forward over the years: Theories of atonement, theories of penal substitution, and theories of satisfaction. Again, this isn't to tell you what to think but to give you some tools to use as you work to make sense of the cross.

While I know that this all seems like it might be too deep and too much work and we might be enticed to leave it to the "Professionals", I urge you to do the work. One thing we do know for sure is that how we make sense of the cross defines what we think about God and what we think about God defines who we are – gives us our identity. I promise you won't be left alone to do this work without any support.

As Holy Week arrives later on this month, I want to encourage you to take part in as much of the drama as you possible can. On Palm Sunday we will remember how the last week of Jesus' life began. We will process through the neighborhood and take part in the reading of the passion. On Wednesday evening we will have a service of healing, a time for repentance and a reminder of the forgiveness that is already ours. On Thursday, we will remember the last meal that Jesus shared with his disciples before the drama began. After the Eucharist is celebrated on Maundy Thursday we strip the altar, which symbolized the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples and his stripping by the soldiers before his crucifixion. It represents the humiliation of Jesus and the consequences of sin as a preparation for the celebration of new life.

Friday evening, again our youth will teach us about the Stations of the Cross. The stations of the cross, which we have hanging on the walls in our sanctuary, are part of a devotional practice each station standing for an event that occurred during the passion of Jesus.

Early Sunday morning – 6:30 am we will celebrate the Easter Vigil. The Easter Vigil is the pinnacle of the church year. It is held between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter morning. It is the first celebration of Easter. We will begin outside the building where our paschal candle will be blessed. We will be reminded of the connection between the Passover of ancient Israel and the new Passover, which is Christ's victory over sin and death. The Alleluias will return, and we will celebrate new beginnings as we come into the church to baptize new sisters and brothers and welcome our young people to the table for their first communion.

Following the vigil and early morning service – everyone is invited to come and share Easter morning breakfast. We will have an additional service at 9:00am for those who can't quite make it at 6:30. As you can see there will be lots going on during Holy Week. Please, come and take part and let the cross wash over you and through you. Feel the forgiveness and celebrate the new life Jesus brings.

Now the sun is up over the ocean and I ask God to bless each of you.

Your sister in Christ,

**Sunday April 7th CAR WASH!!** We will begin around 8:30 and continue until there is no dirt left! You may drop your keys off at table near the entrance to the church and we will take care of the rest. Free-will offering. All proceeds help defray the cost of summer camp and are very much appreciated.



**Coffee Cakes** It is time again for our My Grandma's Coffee Cakes fundraiser. Cakes will be delivered Sunday May 12. These make a great Mother's Day gift. These delicious cakes can be frozen up to a year and there are fourteen flavors to choose from. Please see any youth attending summer camp or going on the mission trip if you would like to place an order. We also have an order form on the Youth Board in the narthex.

**Easter Egg Hunt** We will have an Easter Egg hunt for children up to 5<sup>th</sup> grade on Palm Sunday, April 14, starting after Sunday School. There are empty Easter eggs in the narthex and in the Fellowship Hall if you would like to fill them with candy or treats. (No chocolate, please, as it may melt). If you would like to help hide eggs, please see Barbara.



**Scavenger Hunt** While the younger children are hunting Easter eggs, the junior high and high school youth will enjoy a scavenger hunt. This will start after Sunday School, also. If you would like to help, please see Shelbi.



**Stations of the Cross** Our high school youth will present the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, April 19 at 7 p.m.

**SMYLE Box Sending Many Youth to Lutheran Events** Our SMYLE Box is coming soon to the narthex. If you would like to help sponsor our youth attending Lutherhill summer camp or the Mission trip, please pick up an envelope. Your donations are greatly needed and appreciated.



Mark your Calendars  
Sunday, May 5th



Upcoming Events: -

- .....Hour of Prayer 4/2, 4/9, 4/16
- .....LAMP 4/3
- .....Lenten Worship 4/3, 4/10
- .....Car Wash 4/7
- .....Hope Circle 4/11 & 4/25
- .....Palm Sunday 4/14
- .....Easter Egg & Scavenger Hunt 4/14
- .....WARM collection 4/14
- .....Soup Lunch 4/15
- .....Service of Healing 4/17
- .....Maundy Thursday 4/18
- .....Good Friday—Stations of the Cross 4/19
- .....Easter 4/21
- .....Earth Day 4/22
- .....Brazos Cluster Women of ELCA 4/27
- .....Change for Children 4/28



## WARM SUNDAY

*April 14th*

Thank you for your continued support for WARM.

This month we will be collecting

**JELLY & Ramen Noodles**



## HAPPY HOUR MEAL MENU:

- April 3: Chicken Patties
- April 10: Sloppy Joes
- April 17: No Activities
- April 24: Breakfast

*Please remember we ask for a dollar donation for meals each week.*



## **Community Soup Luncheon**

Dates: April 15th and May 20th

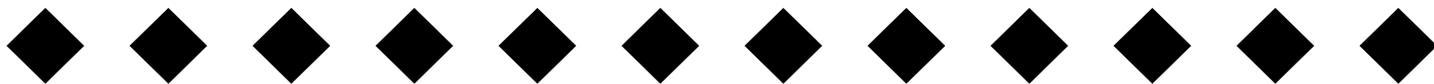
Time: 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall

Invite your friends and neighbors.



God chose Earth to be home for His children. Let's keep it looking nice for when He comes again.

Our pancake supper on March 5th was a huge success. A big thank you to our youth volunteers: Wyatt, Nicole, Justin, Ian, Paige, Mya, Aaron, Adrian, Corbin, Brenden, Madyson, Clayton, Rafe, Ben, Grace, and Andy. Also thanks to our adult volunteers: Cindy, Belinda, Kathleen, Gary, Donna, Megan, Sadie, Kim, Mike, Troy and Stephanie. Thank you Pancake Eaters!! With your help we raised almost \$400 to send to WARM.



You're invited to the Brazos Cluster of Women of the ELCA



**SPRING HAPPENING**

**Saturday, April 27th, 2019**

At

**Martin Luther Lutheran Church**

**202 Luther LN, Carmine**

**Theme: New Beginnings**

8:30am registration & snacks; 9am program; lunch provided.

Guest Speaker: Melinda VanOstrand of New Beginnings, a non-profit pregnancy center in Brenham, that offers services to women and couples for unplanned pregnancies, loss and healing, and parenting skills.

Monetary offerings may be given to New Beginnings. Physical offerings being accepted are: diapers, wipes, baby soap, baby shampoo, baby lotion, pacifiers and baby clothes (sizes 6mo. or less)



**March Attendance**

Worship	Sunday School	Text Study	Wed. Bible Study	Lent	Hope Circle
03/03—74	03/03—36		03/06—6	03/06—64	
03/10—61	03/10—26	03/12—2	03/13—6	03/13—40	03/14—8
03/17—79	03/17—44	03/19—2	03/20—5	03/20—50	
03/24—80	03/24—51				

# Anniversaries and Birthdays



4/2 Maurice & Jeanell Hart  
4/16 Greg & Alison Christian  
4/17 Alan & Beverly Gunderson  
4/27 Sam & Linda Thomas

4/6 Dora Braun  
4/7 Sarah Friedel, Donald Sims  
4/10 Cindy Grant, Aaron Stewart  
4/11 Layne Christian  
4/14 Brantley Fletcher, C.J. Singh  
4/15 Jason Guidry, Ian Lehman  
4/17 Butch Bremer Jr.  
4/23 Kyle Friedel  
4/25 Larry Daniels, Mia Wilson  
4/26 Stephanie Fletcher, Lori Gartman, Kathy Reinhardt  
4/27 Sharon Boldt, Mary McBride  
4/28 Molly Johnson, Kay Marburger



## PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS...

**We ask for prayers of healing for:** *Those in our congregation: Ashley Brye (healing), Kathleen Reynolds (healing from surgery), Dorothy Friedel (healing from knee surgery), Eunice Harrison (healing), Dorothy Bremer (healing), Lou Wawarofsky (The Heights in Tomball for healing), Beverly Gunderson (encouraging results for medical tests), William Gunderson (healing for cancer treatments), Lois King (healing), Betty Jean Hoff (healing), and George Bartges (healing from treatments). Friends in need of prayers: Lester Turpin (healing from bone infection), Paula (friend of Gretchen Lamson, for a ruptured brain aneurysm), Evelyn Loewe (Dora Braun sister in College Station after having a stroke), Alan Lockley (healing), Rusty Brown (friend of Sharon Thomas for healing of wounds), Gary Richards (healing), Bob Willis (Cora Langdon's brother-in-law for healing for cancer and back surgery), Darlene Zabava (Kathleen Hargrave's sister, for lung cancer treatments), Brenda Mize (Herman & Betty Hoff's daughter for healing), Andrew Mize (Herman & Betty Hoff's grandson for healing), Robin Hoff (Herman & Betty Hoff's daughter in law for healing), Patrick Dube (friend of Paul & Carol Tesch for healing), Gabriel Werner (healing), and Pat Bruegger (healing).*

**We remember our members who are either homebound or in care facilities:** Waller— Dora Braun, Berry & Eunice Harrison; Hempstead – Tim Perkins; Tomball - Rosetta Guess; Brenham - Frances Frey **AND** Cypress - Elsa Hoff.

**We remember the children for whom we collect special offering each month:** Chintya from Indonesia and Ely from Guatemala

**We extend our love, prayers, and sympathy to:** the families of Edith Tong, Keith Whitten, and Kathy Glass upon their deaths.