



**FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
3355 MACARTHUR ROAD  
WHITEHALL, PA 18052**

**The Rev. June E. Wann  
Pastor**

**Robert Billig  
President, Church Council**

**Zach Keenan  
Vice President, Church  
Council**

**Secretary  
Judy Ehret**

**Margy Muthard  
Treasurer**

**Joanne Gantz-Jalowiecki  
Dir. Of Children, Youth,  
and Family Ministries  
And Financial Secretary**

**Jennifer Kishbaugh  
Dir. Of Music**

**Claudette Nia  
Office Administrator**

**April 1 is April Fools' Day**

**April 12 is the start of Passover, which begins at sundown.**

**April 17 is Maundy Thursday**

**April 18 is Good Friday.**

**April 20 is Easter Sunday. (May 5 is Orthodox Easter.)**

**April 22 is Earth Day.**

**April 28 is National Arbor Day.**

#### **Amazing Facts About April**

- April is named for the Greek goddess of love, Aphrodite.
- America's first astronauts were announced by NASA on April 9, 1959.
- The first Webster Dictionary was copyrighted by Noah Webster on April 14, 1828.
- The Titanic sank on April 15, 1912.
- The Revolutionary War in America began on April 19, 1775.
- The United States Library of Congress was established April 24, 1800.
- Our first President George Washington was inaugurated on April 30, 1789.

*"You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God!" "I believe, help my unbelief!" "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." "And they were all amazed at the greatness of God, and marveled at all Jesus did." "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest!"*

*"Crucify him! Crucify him!" "But Peter denied it. 'Woman, I don't know him.'" "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" "And they said many other insulting things to him." "One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: 'Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!'"*

How did we get here? How did we go from praise, excitement, and hope... to insults, disappointment, and denial? When the road ahead seemed difficult, it seems that many forgot all Jesus had said and done. It's easy to remember God's goodness when life is going well. When prayers are answered, blessings are obvious, and joy overflows, we can see God's faithfulness to us. It's easy to praise Him when there's nothing going wrong and everything seems great. But, once life gets hard, it's easy to forget these good moments. Suddenly, God seems to be absent, and we begin to wonder if He was ever with us in the first place. Suffering has a way of clouding our vision, and we forget those moments when God was so clearly present. Even in the wilderness, the Israelites quickly forgot how God had delivered them from Egypt (Exodus 16:3). The disciples, after witnessing miracles, still panicked in the storm, forgetting Jesus was with them (Mark 4:35-41).

But, time and time again, the Bible tells us to remember. Remember what God has done for you. Remember how God has been faithful. Remember where God has been active in your life. Remember those moments where everything seemed so clear. *"Remember your Creator in the days of your youth" (Eccles 12:1). "Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the Lord your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm" (Deu 5:15). "I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember Your wonders of old" (Ps 77:11). "This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me" (Luke 22:19).*

As we enter the month of April, we are heading into Holy Week. It is a journey from the joyful shouts of Palm Sunday, to the sorrow of Good Friday, to the unimaginable hope of Easter. Holy week calls us to remember. Remember God's faithfulness; remember what God has done!

We remember Palm Sunday, when the crowds cheered, *"Hosanna!"* welcoming Jesus as a king. Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promised Messiah, and Palm Sunday calls us to remember God's faithfulness in keeping His promises, Jesus' kingship, and the ways in which God's Kingdom is set apart from the world in humility, love, and peace. We remember the meal Jesus shared with his disciples on Maundy Thursday. *"Do this in remembrance of me,"* he says. In the Lord's Supper, Christ is truly present, offering us grace, forgiveness, and unity as the body of Christ. Jesus gave us a new commandment: *"Love one another as I have loved you."*

We remember the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross on Good Friday. The cross shows us both the wisdom and love of God. While a king dying on a cross to save us rather than engaging in battle would seem foolish to the world, it reflects the ultimate wisdom of God that surpasses all our understanding. Jesus takes our sin on himself out of his great love for us, and he shows us who He is and the lengths he will go for us. God is not distant or uninvolved - He knows suffering, pain, and challenges beyond belief. He walks with us through our hardest moments because he, too, has been there.

We remember the resurrection of Jesus that we celebrate on Easter. This is the moment that changed everything! As Paul says in 1 Cor 15:14, *"And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless."* Jesus, who had been crucified and buried, rose from the dead, defeating sin and death once and for all. The resurrection is the foundation of our hope, a promise of new life and victory over death. No matter the darkness we face, the light of Christ shines brighter. It is a day of rejoicing, as we proclaim, *"Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!"* Easter calls us to live in the reality of the resurrection, to be transformed by the power of Christ's love, and to share the good news of his victory with the world. *"He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Remember what he told you" (Luke 24:6).*

As we journey through Holy Week, we are reminded that even in the most difficult times, we are not alone, and God is faithful. And so we continue each year to return to the greatest story of all time to remember God's goodness, promises, and grace. Christ's victory over the grave gives us hope, no matter the challenges we face. In moments of hardship, we hold fast to these truths, remembering that the same God who triumphed over death is with us, offering us strength, peace, and the promise of new life. Happy Easter! God Bless You!

With love,

Pastor June



♦ Worship Service at 10:00 AM

Sunday School classes for all ages at 9 am

- ♦ Sunday School classes available from Bible Babies to Adult Forum.
- ♦ Confirmation Classes for our youth in Seventh & Eighth grades.  
This is a two-year program
- ♦ Adult Forum classes are held in the Gathering Place

Communion—The first Tuesday of each month,  
join us for a light lunch at noon  
followed by communion at 1:00.

*We hope to encourage our members who are uncomfortable driving at night, to use this time for fellowship that was enjoyed at our Wednesday night Hotdogs and Hymns. All are welcome!*

*Bring a friend.*

Altar Communion—The first Sunday of each month  
celebrate Communion around the Altar. Please join us!





**Please join us to welcome new members to our**

**Faith Family**

**Sunday, April 6, 2025**

**If you are interested in becoming a member of our  
Faith Family, please speak with Pastor June**

## **LENTEN SCHEDULE**

### **WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT (4/2. 4/9)**

- ◆ 7:00 p.m. Lenten Study

◆

### **PALM SUNDAY— APRIL 13, 2025**

- \* 10:00 Reading of the Passion/Worship

\*

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY— APRIL 17, 2025**

- ◇ 7:00 pm includes Holy Communion

◇

### **GOOD FRIDAY— APRIL 18, 2025**

- 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae

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### **EASTER SUNDAY—APRIL 20, 2025**

- Sunrise Worship
- 8:00 a.m. breakfast
- 10:00 a.m. worship

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**APRIL 27, 2025**

- ◆ Holy Humor Sunday

## **FOOD BOXES**

**We will again be distributing food boxes this Easter season.**

**If you know of a family in need, please contact Claudette in the office, M-Th 9-3.**

**We are in need of hams, instant mashed potatoes, stuffing, canned vegetables, cake mixes, frostings and canned fruit.**



# Mark your calendar and join us!



## **Ash Wednesday**

March 5, 2025

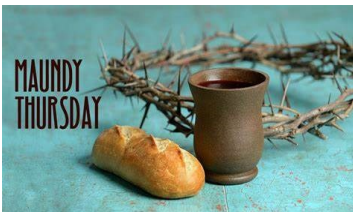
1:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday  
Worship w/Communion

## **Mid Week Lenten Gatherings**

Join us on Wednesday  
during Lent for a midweek  
Lenten Gathering at  
7:00 p.m.  
April 2, 9



## **Maundy Thursday**

April 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Worship will include Holy Communion and the stripping of the altar.

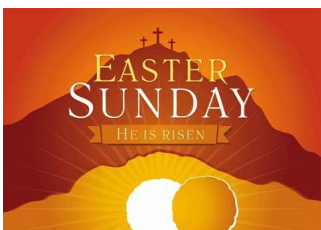


## **Good Friday**

April 18

7:00 p.m.

Worship will be Tenebrae,  
also known as the service  
of darkness.



## **Easter Sunday**

April 20

Sunrise worship  
outside (weather  
permitting)

10:00 a.m. Traditional Easter  
Worship with Holy Communion



Sunday after Easter!

You won't want to miss it!!!!

## CHRISTIAN CALENDAR APRIL DATES

**April 13, 2025: The Feast of the Lord's Passion (Palm Sunday)**  
Sunday before Easter.

This feast marks the beginning of Holy Week and recalls Jesus' entrance to Jerusalem. This marked the beginning of His Passion. His entry into Jerusalem is sometimes called the Triumphal Entry in anticipation of his victory of all spiritual powers. This day is also called Palm Sunday in recollection of the palm branches laid in his path of entry. Palm branches are commonly used in Christian gatherings.

**April 16, 2025: Holy Wednesday**  
Wednesday before Easter.

Holy Wednesday, or Spy Wednesday, commemorates the day of the betrayal of Christ by Judas.

**April 17, 2025: Maundy Thursday**  
Thursday before Easter.

"Maundy" comes from the Latin word *Mandatum*, which means "commandment." It recalls Jesus' words, "I give you a new commandment," in John 13:31-35. Maundy Thursday recalls the Jesus' washing the disciples' feet and gathering for the last supper.

**April 18, 2025: Good Friday**  
Friday before Easter.

Good Friday is a day of irony. Although it is a day of lament and quiet reflection upon our Savior's death for our sin, it is also "good" because we do not sorrow as people without hope. We often recount the "seven sayings" of Christ from the cross. A Tenebrae service may be held. The cross, a crown of thorns, a black veil, a tomb, and nails are common symbols.

**April 19, 2025: Holy Saturday**  
Saturday before Easter.

Holy Saturday remembers our Savior's burial and descent to the dead. On this day we remember that we need not fear to go where Christ has been, for there is no place left untouched by our Savior. Scriptures on the descent of Christ include the Gospel accounts of Christ's burial, Peter's description of the descent in 1 Peter 3:18-20 and 4:1-6, Psalm 31, Lamentations 3, and Job 14. This day marks the end of the Lenten season.

**April 20, 2025: The Feast of the Lord's Resurrection**  
The first Sunday after the first full moon following the  
Spring equinox.

The Feast of the Lord's Resurrection is also called Easter, Resurrection Sunday, and Passover. This is the most widely celebrated feast day by Christians around the world. In a sense, every Sunday of the year is a celebration of the risen Christ. The old English word Easter means "east" in reference to the dawning light of the sun. For the Church, Easter is the dawning of the Son of God. The Feast of Easter begins fifty days of celebration of the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the Lutheran Churches, the Gospel for Easter Monday concerns the Road to Emmaus appearance.

**April 20 – June 7, 2025: Season of Easter**  
Fifty days from Easter Day to Pentecost Day.

The season of Easter is a continued celebration of the resurrection of Jesus for fifty days. This is the final season of the Christian calendar.

# EASTER FUN FACTS

Do you know why we celebrate with Easter eggs, Easter bunnies, lilies, and lambs?

Easter is the most important feast day in the Christian church, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The feast day is “movable” and always falls on the first Sunday after the first full Moon after the spring equinox.

## **Easter Traditions**

When you think of Easter—whether you’re religious or not—which family traditions come to mind? We decorate homes with colored Easter eggs, put out baskets for the Easter bunny to fill, give Easter lilies as gifts, and even eat traditional foods, from lamb to ham to special sweet breads.

## **Why Do We Celebrate Easter with Eggs?**

The oval-shaped egg has been a universal symbol in many religions across the millennia, symbolizing new life, rebirth, and fertility.

The origin of the Easter egg is based on the fertility lore of the Indo-European races. To our pre-Christian ancestors, it was a most startling event to see a new and live creature emerge from a seemingly dead object. The egg, to them, became a symbol of spring.

In Judaism, eggs are an important part of the Passover seder plate. For some Christians, the egg symbolizes the rock tomb out of which Christ emerged to the new life of his Resurrection. Also, there was a practical reason that eggs became popular on Easter: They were forbidden during the 40 days of Lent. However, chickens still laid eggs, so they were often collected and decorated.

In most countries, the eggs are stained in plain vegetable dye colors. Among Orthodox Christians, the faithful present each other with crimson eggs in honor of the blood of Christ. In parts of Eastern Europe, it’s tradition to create intricate designs on the egg with wax or twine before coloring. Called *pysanki*, these special eggs are saved from year to year like symbolic heirlooms and can be seen seasonally in Ukrainian shops. In Germany and other countries, the eggs are pierced and made hollow so that they can be suspended from shrubs and trees during Easter Week—much like decorations on a Christmas tree.

Many countries have egg hunts and games, too. Plastic eggs are often filled with candy treats since it’s the end of Lent. Every year in Washington, D.C., there is an egg-rolling party on the lawn of the White House. This custom is traced back to Sunday School picnics and parades at Easter in the years before the Civil War. At these picnics, the children amused themselves with a variety of games, and egg rolling was one of them.

## **What Does the Easter Bunny Have to Do with Easter?**

Easter comes during spring and celebrates new life. What springtime animals better represent fertility than the rabbit or the hare, which produce so many offspring?

The rabbit symbolism had its origin in pre-Christian fertility lore, while the hare was the Egyptian symbol of fertility. The ancient Greeks thought that rabbits could reproduce as virgins, and in the early medieval times, the rabbit became associated with the Virgin Mary and commonly appeared in medieval art.

However, the “Easter Bunny,” who visits children on Easter morning, was an invention of German Protestants; the *Osterhase* or “Easter Hare,” brought eggs and sweets to “good children,” in the same way that Santa Claus brought gifts to well-behaved youngsters.

The Easter Hare played this Santa Claus–like role at the start of the Easter season, judging whether or not children had been obedient to their parents. The symbolism is not particularly religious, but we can be reasonably certain that the Lutherans of long ago did not intend to teach their children about fertility. Like Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny is something fun to do with the kids.

The Easter Bunny followed German immigrants to the American colonies in the 18th century, and the folklore spread across the United States. Initially, children fashioned nests for their Easter Bunnies out of bonnets, hats, or boxes; eventually, these became the colorful Easter baskets that we use today!

### **Why is Lamb Popular at Easter?**

Among the popular Easter symbols, the lamb is by far the most significant of this great feast. The lamb is said to symbolize Jesus, as it embodies purity and goodness but also represents sacrifice.

The lamb was a sacrifice made during the Jewish Passover, which is a holiday commemorating the passage of the “angel of death” over the homes of those who had smeared the blood of sacrificial lambs on their doorposts, thus sparing the firstborn sons. Roasted lamb shanks are an important part of the Passover seder plate; roasted leg of lamb is popular for Easter in Mediterranean countries such as Italy and Greece.

Jesus was crucified during Passover week and then made the ultimate sacrifice, his life. He is referred to as the “Lamb of God” and “our Passover lamb” in the Bible. During Easter, we celebrate Jesus’ Passover from death to life.

The ancient tradition of the Paschal lamb also inspired the Christians’ use of lamb meat as a popular food at Eastertime

### **Why Do We Eat Ham at Easter?**

Since we’re talking about the Easter lamb, let’s not forget the Easter ham. It, too, is an age-old custom, handed down from pre-Christian times, to eat the meat of this animal on festive occasions, feast days, and weddings.

The pig is an ancient symbol of good luck and prosperity. In some popular German expressions, the word “pig” is synonymous with “good luck” (*Schwein haben*, i.e., “to have a pig”). In Hungary, the highest card (ace) in card games is called “pig” (*disznó*). Not too long ago, it was fashionable for men to wear little pig figurines as good luck charms on their watch Chains.

### **Easter Breads**

Sweet bread is also a tradition, especially with the conclusion of Lent, a period when many people do not indulge in sweets. For Christians, the resurrected Christ is called “the bread of life” (John 6:35), in whom believers will find their daily spiritual sustenance.

In Russia and Austria, the sweet breads are often marked with a cross or image of a lamb. In Germany, the Easter bread is baked in loaves of twisted or braided strands (*Osterstollen*). Another kind of Austrian Easter bread is the *Osterlaib* (Easter loaf), a large, flat, round loaf marked with a cross or an image of the lamb. In Poland and other countries, folks enjoy a special cake called the Easter *baba* (*Baba Wielkanocna*).

In Greece, the traditional Easter bread is baked with a red-dyed egg on top, covered with two strips of dough in the form of a cross.

In Italy, the Easter bread is braided with eggs, symbolizing new life.

### **Hot Cross Buns**

Hot cross buns, hot cross buns! Traditionally, this delicious, sweet bun was served on Good Friday. Good Friday marks the end of Lent and is the day that Jesus died on the cross. The sweet bun is marked with a cross to help the bread rise and as a visible sign that the bread was “blessed.”

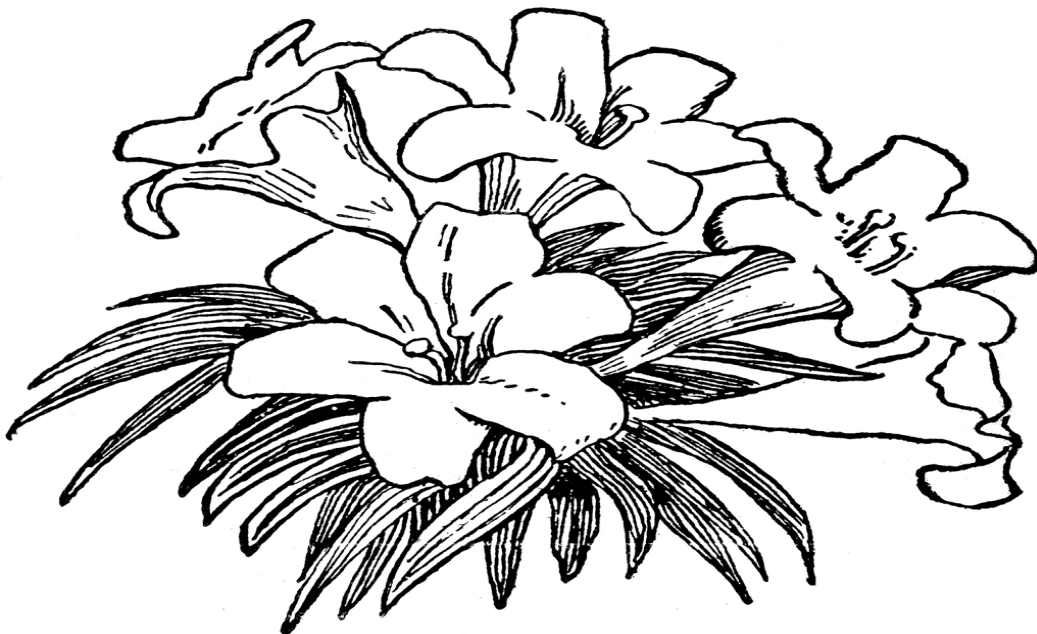
### **Easter Lily**

The magnificent Easter lily, with its sheer white petals, symbolizes life, purity, innocence, joy, and peace. The beautiful white flowers of the lily related to these traits. Many ancient allegories connect the flower with motherhood

In early paintings, the Angel Gabriel is seen handing a bouquet of white lilies to the Virgin Mary. In other paintings, the saints are bringing vessels full of lilies to Mary and the baby Jesus. It is said that beautiful white lilies sprang up in the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus wept in the last hours before he was betrayed by Judas. The lilies sprang up where drops of Christ’s sweat fell to the ground in his final hours of sorrow.

The lilies from Christ’s time were not the Easter lily that we know today. The lilies in Jesus’ area were wild lilies of the valleys and fields. Still, our Easter lily serves as a reminder of the lilies mentioned frequently throughout the Bible. Easter lilies grace homes and churches each spring as a symbol of new life.

There are many other purely religious symbols that are related to the Lenten season: marking the forehead with ashes on Ash Wednesday, waving palms on [Palm Sunday](#), and the symbolism of the crucifix (cross) on which Jesus died.



## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND OTHER FAITH FYI'S**

**Please join us to welcome new members to our Faith Family**

**Sunday, April 6, 2025**

If you are interested in becoming a member of our Faith Family, please speak with Pastor June

**UPCOMING: PIONEER BAND JAZZ CONCERT APRIL 27, 2025 AT 2 PM IN THE SANCTUARY**

**SEE PREVIOUS PAGES FOR ALL LENT INFO**

### **KUDOS**

**THANK YOU to all our WONDERFUL BAKERS who responded to my calls to bake for**

### **OUR BASKET SOCIAL!**

What a beautiful array of delicious homemade baked goods was offered! Your talents and donations are truly appreciated in helping to make our Basket Social (as well as other events at Church) a success!

Thanks to Linda Wehr, Sandy Bodnyk, and Jackie Daniel for organizing, displaying, and selling these wonderful baked goods for the Basket Social.

God bless you all!  
Pat Walschburger

### **A BIG SHOUT OUT TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH OUR BASKET SOCIAL**

ESPECIALLY TO MARGY MUTHARD AND HER DAUGHTER ERIKA MILLER, CO-CHAIRS  
PLUS THE MANY VOLUNTEERS SELLING TICKETS, RUNNING THE REGISTERS, ORGANIZING, PLANNING, COOKING, BAKING, RUNNING THE KITCHEN, SHOPPING—A FAITH COMMUNITY EFFORT!

**THANK YOU EVERYONE!**

**THANK YOU TO OUR PROPERTY COMMITTEE FOR THE BANG UP JOB THEY DO KEEPING OUR FACILITY RUNNING SMOOTHLY**

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORT OUR SOCIAL MINISTRY EFFORTS**

**THANK YOU, CATHY HALLER, FOR LEADING ALTAR GUILD AND KEEPING OUR PLACE OF WORSHIP BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED**

**THANK YOU TO OUR GROUPS: ALTAR GUILD, PIECE MAKERS, PRAYER GROUP, SCOUTS, CHOIR, BELL CHOIR**

**THANK YOU FOR THOSE WHO RENT OUR SPACE: PIONEER BAND, AA, PETITE SCHOLARS**

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATES IN OUR WEEKLY AND MONTHLY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS— WE ARE THE CHURCH! THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR TALENTS, SKILLS, ENERGY, AND FAITH PRACTICES WITH OTHERS**

# WORSHIP TEAMS FOR APRIL

APRIL 6

APRIL 13

APRIL 17

APRIL 18

APRIL 20

APRIL 27

ALTAR GUILD	Shel And Judy Ehret	Diane Batza and Charlene Frack	Cathy Haller	Cathy Haller	Cathy Haller And Gloria Senchak	Linda Johnston And Barb Yurasits
ASSIST- ING MINISTER	Gail Herzog	Zach Keenan	Karen Blayle		Kindall Wann	Howard Schaffer
LECTOR	Kindall Wann					
GREETER	Pat Walschburger					
FLOWER SPONSOR					Adrianna And Rhynier Minnich	Pam And Laura Blacker
BULLETIN SPONSOR					Adrianna And Rhynier Minnich	Pam and Laura Blacker

# APRIL CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT 1
		1 <u>Light lunch and new commun- ion noon, 1:00 pm</u>  10:30 AM Prayer Group 6:45 PM Boy Scouts	2  6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	3  6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH)  6:15 Bell Choir  7:30 Senior Choir	4	5
6  Sunday School: 9:00 AM <u>Welcome new members</u>  Worship Ser- vice 10:00 AM  AA 7:00 PM	7  6:00 PM Brownies  7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	8  10:30 AM Prayer Group  <u>Executive mtg</u>  6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	9  6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	10  6:00 PM Cub Scouts  6:15 Bell Choir  7:30 Senior Choir	11	12
13 PALM SUNDAY Sunday School: 9:00 AM  Worship Ser- vice 10:00 AM  7:00 PM AA	14  6:00 PM Brownies  7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	15  10:30 AM Prayer Group 6:45 PM Boy Scouts <u>7:00 PM Church Council</u>	16  6:00 PM Eagle Scouts  6:15 Bell Choir  7:30 Senior Choir	17  6:00 PM Cub Scouts  7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	18  7:00 PM Good Friday Service	19
20 <u>EASTER</u> Sunrise Service  8 am Breakfast  Worship Ser- vice 10:00 AM  AA 7:00 PM	21  6:00 PM Brownies  7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	22  10:30 AM Prayer Group  6:45 PM Boy Scouts	23  6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	24  6:00 PM Cub Scouts  6:15 Bell Choir  7:30 Senior Choir	25	26
27 Holy Humor Sunday  Sunday School: 9:00 AM  Worship Ser- vice 10:00 AM  7:00 PM AA (PH)	28  6:00 PM Brownies  7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	29  10:30 AM Prayer Group  6:45 PM Boy Scouts	30  6:00 PM Eagle Scouts  12			



*I hope ☆  
your day  
☆ is full of  
fun and ☆  
celebration!*

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## HAPPY HAPPY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wendy Wehr	April 3
Paula Buchvalt	April 9
Paulette Hawkey	April 9
Kim Hofstetter	April 9
Mary Gartner	April 10
Herman Sodl	April 10
Pearl Wagner	April 11
Ryley Colburn	April 12
Gunther Kurrasch	April 12
April Spaits	April 20
Denise Baltsar	April 24
Diane Batza	April 26

## HAPPY 63RD ANNIVERSARY!

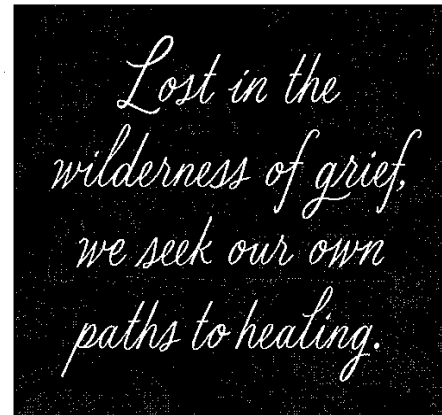
Adrianna and Rhynier Minnnich      April 21

# Choices

Psychologist William Worden stated that when faced with a loss, you are forced to make a choice between two alternatives:

- ⇒ Wallow in despair over what you have lost, wishing what has changed had never changed.
- ⇒ Engage with grief, which allows you to adapt and keep moving forward.

Engaging with grief is active. It provides the opportunity for storytelling, learning, finding support for yourself, being a support to others, growth, and healing.



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## The Four Tasks of Mourning - William Worden

### Accept the Reality of the Loss

- \* While denial is a method of coping meant to allow you to slowly absorb the weight of the loss, it is not a place you can stay. Coming to terms with the reality of your loss is the first step in moving forward and healing.

### Experience the Pain of Grief

- \* As a culture, we try so hard not to feel. However, avoidance compounds our grief. You have to give yourself the time and space to feel the way you feel. "You have to feel it to heal it."

### Adjust to a World without Them

- \* You may feel like adjusting to life without them is in some way a betrayal. This reasoning can keep you "stuck" in your grief. You have to adjust and adapt to your new normal which involves reorienting and restructure what you do without your loved one being physically present.

### Find a way to Remember and Stay Connected to Them while Moving Forward with Your Life

- \* Moving forward does not mean forgetting. It means finding a place for them, while leaving room for others. It is about cherishing their memory and sharing their legacy, while moving forward with your own life.

## Our Monthly Support Groups

Our bereavement support groups are facilitated by one of our grief counselors. We provide a safe and collaborative space to process your grief journey. For more information, call us at 484-526-2499.



### Bethlehem Area Support Groups—

Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center Street (Route 512) Bethlehem, PA 18017.

**Join us from 10-11:30am on these dates:** March 7, April 4

**NEW!** Hanover Township Community Center, 3660 Jacksonville Rd, Bethlehem, PA 18017.

**Join us from 6:30-8pm on these dates:** March 18, April 15

### Brodheadsville Area Support Group

Western Pocono Community Library, 131 Pilgrim Way, Brodheadsville, PA 18322.

**Join us from 1-2:30pm on these dates:** March 19, April 16

### **NEW!** Carbon/Schuylkill Area Support Group

St. Luke's Miners Campus, 360 W. Ruddle St. Coaldale, PA 18218

**Join us from 1-2:30pm on these dates:** March 12, April 9

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## Good Grief Workshops

These virtual 90-minute workshops are offered monthly to provide you with a better understanding of what grief is, how it may affect you emotionally, physically, spiritually and psychologically, provide coping strategies, and ways to reconcile the loss.

For more information and to receive an invitation to join the meeting, call 484-526-2499. You will be asked to download the Microsoft Teams app on your smart phone or computer.

**Join us from 1-2:30pm on these dates:** March 20, April 24

**Join us from 6-7:30pm on these dates:** March 5, April 9

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## St. Luke's Senior Meals



St. Luke's University Health Network provides healthy, affordable meals for seniors (65 or older). It's a great opportunity for a great meal at a great price (under \$5 for an entrée, salad, side, veggie, dessert and drink) along with meeting new people.

- **Anderson, Carbon, Miners, Upper Bucks Campuses:** M-F, 4-6pm
- **Monroe Campus:** 7 days a week, 4-6pm
- **Bethlehem Campus:** Thursdays, 4-6pm (Speaker on the first Thursday)

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## Video Library

St. Luke's website includes a dozen short videos that provide information about the grieving and mourning process and ways to care for yourself after a loss.

To view the videos, go to <https://www.sluhn.org/vna/hospice>. Scroll down to "Grief Support".

Click onto the video library heading

"Want to understand your grief?" at the bottom of the page.

Then view the videos from the comfort of your home.

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## Other Places to Find Support

We encourage you to call the number on the back of your insurance card to find resources paid by your individual insurance plan. Find an individual therapist at [psychologytoday.com](http://psychologytoday.com)

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### Community Bereavement Resources

**Bradbury Sullivan LGBT Community Center** offers bereavement support for LGBT people who have experienced loss. Visit [bradburysullivancenter.org](http://bradburysullivancenter.org) or email at [reilly@bradburysullivancenter.org](mailto:reilly@bradburysullivancenter.org).

**Cancer Support Community of the Greater Lehigh Valley** provides professional programs of emotional support and education. Visit [cancersupportglv.org](http://cancersupportglv.org).

**The Compassionate Friends** offers ongoing support for parents, grandparents, and adult siblings grieving the loss of a child, grandchild, or sibling. Visit [thecompassionatefriends.org](http://thecompassionatefriends.org). Enter your zip code to locate the local chapter and contact person near you.

**Doylestown Hospital Hospice** offers a variety of support groups and programs that change seasonally. Visit [doylestownhealth.org/hospital/services/bereavement](http://doylestownhealth.org/hospital/services/bereavement) or call 215-345-2079.

**Gentle Yoga for Grief, Stress and Life Transitions** is currently being offered virtually by Wendy Littner Thompson, M.Ed., LPC, RYT. Visit [givinggriefavoice.com](http://givinggriefavoice.com) or call 610-730-1992. Be sure to indicate if your loved one was a St. Luke's Hospice patient.

**GRASP (Grief Recovery After a Substance Passing)** currently offers two virtual evening meetings per month, plus an afternoon meeting at the Oasis Center. Call 484-788-9440.

**Grand View Hospital Hospice** offers groups and services that change seasonally. Call 215-453-4210.

**Grief Share** is a faith-based support group offered throughout the Lehigh Valley. Visit [griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org) and enter your zip code to find the contact person and program near you.

**Lehigh Valley Health Network** offers many groups and services for adults and children between the ages of 6-17. Call 610-402-7481. For information about program offerings in the Pocono area, call 272-762-3826 or email [Bryson.Boes@lvhn.org](mailto:Bryson.Boes@lvhn.org).

**OASIS Community Center** offers a variety of support groups to those grieving a loss due to substance-related causes. Therapist-led meetings are held in-person and virtually for bereaved parents and young adults (siblings, partners, friends, etc.). Groups for bereaved youth ages 7-17 and bereaved caregivers raising bereaved children are offered in-person. Visit [oasisbethlehem.org](http://oasisbethlehem.org), call 484-747-6825 or email at [rhonda@oasisbethlehem.org](mailto:rhonda@oasisbethlehem.org).

**Suicide Loss.** The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention has excellent information on risk factors, statistics, and education about suicide. Visit [afsp.org](http://afsp.org) and enter your zip code to find the chapter/contact person near you. All chapters are run by people who have experienced the suicide of a loved one.

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### Support Information in New Jersey

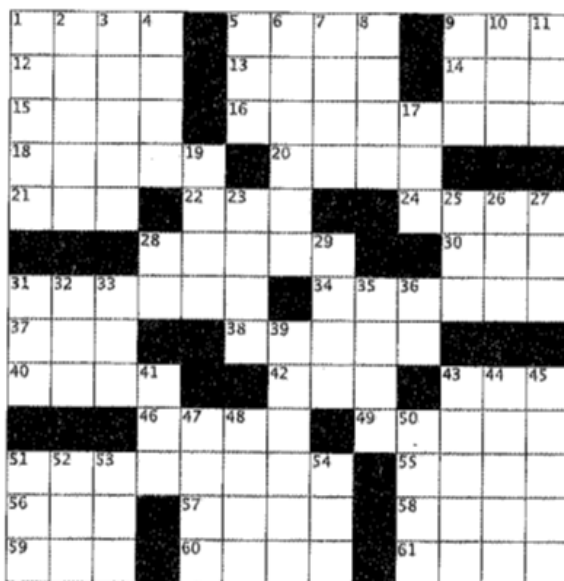
**Karen Ann Quinlan Hospice** offers support to those who are grieving the death of a loved one. For more information, call 973-948-2283 or visit [karenannquinlanhospice.org/services/bereavement](http://karenannquinlanhospice.org/services/bereavement).

# CROSSWORD: JESUS SAYS ...

By Andrea Kulik

## ACROSS

1. Hammer end
5. Hieroglyphics snakes
9. Cranberry "field"
12. *So Big* novelist  
Ferber
13. A portico
14. One in Spanish
15. River islets
16. "See, I am sending  
upon you what my  
Father \_\_\_" (Luke  
24:49)
18. "And you are \_\_\_,  
though not all of  
you" (John 13:10)
20. States of anger
21. Suffix with auction
22. Yellowstone beast
24. Before the Passover  
\_\_\_, Jesus washed the  
feet of his disciples
28. "Feed my \_\_\_" (John  
21:17)
30. Genetic carrier
31. "Father, into your  
hands I commend  
my \_\_\_" (Luke 23:46)
34. "You \_\_\_ have the 7D  
with you, but you  
do not \_\_\_ have me"  
(John 12:8)
37. "\_\_\_ Father, who art in  
heaven"
38. Test a metal's purity
40. Let it stand
42. "Here I am, Lord. Is  
\_\_\_, Lord?" (ELW  
574)
43. *The Cat in the \_\_\_*
46. \_\_\_ estate
49. Joseph wrapped  
Jesus' body in a  
"clean linen \_\_\_"  
(Matthew 27:59)



51. "It is \_\_\_" (John 19:30)
55. Father of King Ahab  
(Micah 6:16)
56. Thal's neighbor
57. "I A be with you. As  
the Father has sent  
me, so I \_\_\_ you"  
(John 20:21)
58. Swerve sharply
59. Qty.
60. CPR pros
61. Word with "bug" or  
"googly"

## DOWN

1. "\_\_\_ be with you. As  
the Father has sent  
me, so I 57A you"  
(John 20:21)
2. Roman magistrate  
(var.)
3. "As you \_\_\_ [the  
village] you will find  
tied there a colt"  
(Luke 19:30)
4. Space agency
5. Only one of 5A

6. "If I have spoken  
rightly, why do you  
\_\_\_ me?" (John 18:23)
7. "You 34A have the  
\_\_\_ with you, but you  
do not 34A have me"  
(John 12:8)
8. "It's all the \_\_\_ to me"
9. Student carrier
10. "The Father and I are  
\_\_\_" (John 10:30)
11. "Now the Son of Man  
has been glorified,  
and \_\_\_ has been  
glorified in him"  
(John 13:31)
17. "Lutheran" finish
19. Vintage soda
23. "\_\_\_ smile be your  
umbrella"
25. Major division of  
time
26. "If you forgive the  
sins of \_\_\_, they are  
forgiven them" (John  
20:23)
27. \_\_\_ Cruces, N.M.
28. Dad to Jr.
29. Time gone by
31. Distress call
32. "\_\_\_ your finger here  
and see my hands"  
(John 20:27)
33. Great fury
35. Non-ordained
36. Wyoming postal  
abbr.
39. "I tell you, if these  
were \_\_\_, the stones  
would shout out"  
(Luke 19:40)
41. Prefix with corn or  
pod
43. Warm and comfy
44. "I think that I shall  
never see, a poem  
lovely as \_\_\_"
45. "The Messiah is to  
suffer and to rise  
from the dead on the  
\_\_\_ day" (Luke 24:46)
47. Latin existence
48. Throat clearing  
noise?
50. "I give you a new  
commandment, that  
you \_\_\_ one another"  
(John 13:34)
51. Cape Canaveral's st.
52. "Little children, \_\_\_  
\_\_\_ with you only a  
little longer" (John  
13:33)
53. "I have told you, and  
you do \_\_\_ believe"  
(John 10:25)
54. Cavity filler's deg.

Solution is on page 59.  
All clues are from the New  
Revised Standard Version  
Updated Edition

**100+**  
*Birthdays*

Living Lutheran is bringing back the 100+ Club in print. Submit 100+ birthdays (include the person's name, date of birth and congregation name) to [livinglutheran@elca.org](mailto:livinglutheran@elca.org) or call 773-380-2545. Deadline for the summer 2025 issue is April 25.

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod

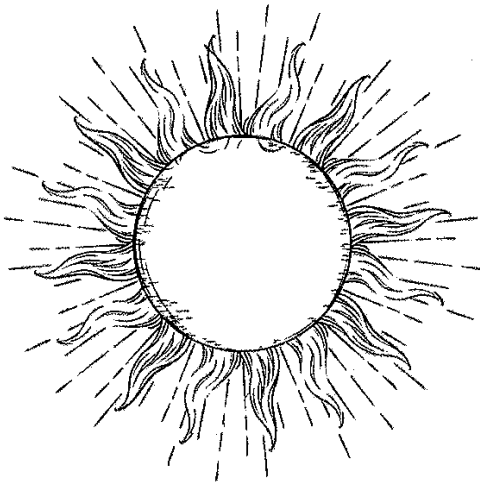
35th Annual Convention

June 14, 2025

St. John's Lutheran Church, Nazareth, PA

Registration - 9 AM    Voting Member Orientation - 9:30 AM

*Renew Yourself with Gods Word:*



Isaiah 40:31 but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint. (NRSV)



# AMERICAN

## *Family Services*

American Family Services is a ministry of the Family Thrift Shoppes.

American Family Services' mission is to assist churches in strengthening families and marriages.

### Day Care Center



Our ministry provides a beautiful Day Care facility in Whitehall Pennsylvania. Our center offers affordable tuition rates to children ages 3-5 years old..



### Family Lending Libraries

The Family Lending Libraries are open to the public and contain Christian DVDs/ books of over 1,000 Christian family related titles. These are all available without charge. The libraries are located in Whitehall and Hellertown., Pennsylvania and Santa Barbara, California

### Loving Marriage Weekends



American Family Services conducts Loving Marriage Weekends .

The weekends are designed to enrich and strengthen marriages.

They are available free of charge to couples.

For more information please call 610-351-3069.

Ministry Office Address:

1025 Macarthur Road

Whitehall, PA 18052

Phone : 610-351-3069

Email: [afsofficepa@ptd.net](mailto:afsofficepa@ptd.net)

Visit our website at [www.amfamilyservices.com](http://www.amfamilyservices.com)

# Boutique For Hope

Join us for the 49th annual Boutique for Hope, formerly known as Boutique at the Rink. The event will be moving to a new location to accommodate its growing needs and will be held this year at St. Luke's SportsPlex, 4636 Crackersport Road, Allentown. The proceeds benefit Cancer Support Community of the Greater Lehigh Valley, St. Luke's Cancer Center, and St. Luke's Hospice.

## OUR SERVICES



### Donate

Bring your gently used items to the SportsPlex May 21st-24th and May 27th-31st. See our website for a full list of items accepted.



### Volunteer

We need volunteers for setup and the sale! We are looking for individuals, school groups, corporate groups, and more!



### Shop

Shop this one of a kind sale from June 11th-June 14th!

[boutiqueforhope.com](http://boutiqueforhope.com)

Contact Us



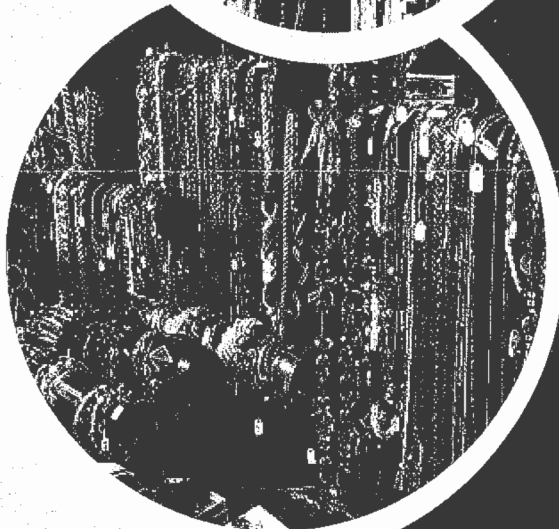
**610-861-7555**



**[info@boutiqueforhope.com](mailto:info@boutiqueforhope.com)**

EST. 1974  
*Boutique*  
FOR HOPE

Supporting cancer patients  
and their loved ones.







## BEAR CREEK CAMP

Greetings!

For over 50 summers youth and family campers have experienced the fun, friendship, and faith formation made possible by time at Bear Creek Camp. We look forward to continuing to build faith in new ways through the power of small group community experiences amongst our 3000 acres!

Research has shown that camp experiences create lasting change in 'horizontal faith' or the *relevance of faith* that campers perceive to their daily lives. This horizontal faith includes: increased self-confidence, more frequent devotional practices, more frequent faith conversations at home, and higher sense of value to belonging to a church community. **Camps and congregations working hand-in-hand to promote the importance of a lifelong faith journey is the key to our shared partnership!**

**Enclosed in this packet are tools for you to utilize in promoting summer camp:**

- Summer Camp Brochures to share with interested campers and families  
*If more brochures are needed, please contact us and we will mail you more!*
- Summer Camp Poster to hang at your church  
*Utilize the space on the bottom left of the poster to write-in contact information for the best person in your congregation (Pastor, Faith Formation Director, Bear Creek Ambassador, etc.) for your community to connect with for information specific to your church such as camperships, and more!*

**Summer Promo Video** – Perfect for Sunday school, youth group, sharing on social media, council meetings, announcement slides, or worship. Connect with campers and families with a highlight reel of the fun to be expected in time spent at camp.

Find this video for streaming or download at [bearcreekcamp.org/congregation-toolkit](http://bearcreekcamp.org/congregation-toolkit).

At Bear Creek Camp, every summer is an opportunity for new adventure and growth.  
Some things to note for Summer 2025:



- Online Registration is easy! – Please encourage your campers to **register online** at [bearcreekcamp.org/registration](http://bearcreekcamp.org/registration).
- If your congregation provides **funds for campers from your congregation** to help offset the cost of camp, we can help by setting up a unique registration code for your congregation. Contact us at [bccamp@bearcreekcamp.org](mailto:bccamp@bearcreekcamp.org) or call 570-472-3741 for more details.
- Families may have questions about camp that aren't fully answered by the brochure materials or our website, please encourage them to contact the camp office directly either by phone (570-472-3741) or email [bccamp@bearcreekcamp.org](mailto:bccamp@bearcreekcamp.org).

Thank you for your partnership in the important shared ministry that is Bear Creek Camp. We look forward to seeing you and your youth this summer!

Collin Grooms  
Executive Director  
[collin@bearcreekcamp.org](mailto:collin@bearcreekcamp.org)

Kallie Handlong  
Associate Director  
[kallie@bearcreekcamp.org](mailto:kallie@bearcreekcamp.org)

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY:  
JOINT VETERANS OF NORTHAMPTON  
& VALLEY HEALTH PARTNERS VETERAN HEALTH PROGRAM**



# **VETERAN'S OUTREACH DAY**

**MAY 3, 2025 FROM 9 AM-1 PM  
HUNGARIAN HALL**

**1300 STEWART STREET | NORTHAMPTON, PA 18067**

**VETERAN NON-PROFITS  
COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS  
& LOCAL RESOURCES**

**RESOURCES INCLUDE:**

- VA Healthcare
- VA Benefits
- Homecare
- Employment
- Education & Training
- ...and more!

This event is open to all veterans who served our country  
faithfully, their families, and their caretakers.

**MORE INFO**

Call 610.969.2082 or Email  
[VeteranHealthProgram@valleyhealthpartners.org](mailto:VeteranHealthProgram@valleyhealthpartners.org)

All fun.

No filter.

Imagine it—you and your forever friends. Dreaming up adventures. Making the whole world sparkle with your own personal brand of magic.



## Special Invitation for Girls in Grades K-5

### Girl Scout Troops are forming in the Whitehall-Coplay School District!

Girl Scouts offers every girl and adult a chance to do something amazing. It's a place where girls have endless opportunities to explore, learn, and grow.

For more information, please contact: [klandry-johnston@gsep.org](mailto:klandry-johnston@gsep.org)

Disclaimer: The Whitehall-Coplay School District is not responsible for, and does not endorse, any statement, sentiment or opinion published or expressed in this document. This document is not part of, and has not been distributed as part of, the district's curricular and extracurricular programs.

**girl scouts**  
of eastern  
pennsylvania

Explore Girl Scouts at [www.gsep.org](http://www.gsep.org)

Ready to join a troop? We'll  
send you the Girl Scout  
with your name on it!

