



April 2024



More than One Day of Easter



Easter 2024 was a little early, March 31st to be exact. Here's some facts about Easter. The latest Easter can be is April 25th, while March 21st is the earliest possible date for Easter, and only if the 1st full day of spring is March 20. The date of Easter is easy to figure out. It is always the 1st Sunday after the 1st Full Moon of Spring. Easy peasy, lemon squeezy, right? Is your head spinning yet? Sounds like a lot of trouble to identify the one day to celebrate a major Festival of the Church. Here's my point.

Why celebrate just one day? The reality is we live every day in Easter. Yes, Jesus' resurrection was a onetime event, but it carries eternal and everyday consequences. We know if Jesus did not rise from the dead, our faith is in a dead man and it is futile. Since he did rise, our faith means something. It makes a difference in everyday life. We know we are never alone. We know that we can talk to God any time and any place [despite what government & people of the world might think]. The victory over sin and death has already been won. We have full and free forgiveness of sins. Our Lord intercedes for us at the Father's right hand. He has gone to prepare your place and my place in eternity. We have no reason to fear death. All this is because Christ died on the cross and rose again Easter morning.

Have I given you enough reasons to celebrate Easter a little every day? But the reality is the joy of Easter quickly fades. We get back to work. Kids go back to school. We return home from visiting, or the guests return home. Life gets back to the routine rather quickly. That's what the world does. It takes all the joy away from Easter. Wars rage on, seemingly innocent people die each day, crime happens everywhere, families are broken. It gets tiring to see the same kind of things in the news every day. But there is great joy in the Christian life.

Will your joy of Easter fade? I'm writing this in the middle of Holy Week. Palm Sunday on the 24th marked our entry into Holy Week and we remembered the Passion of our Lord. But His Passion and resurrection are inseparable. The somberness of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday always gives way to the joy of Easter. Let that joy filter into each day. Read again from the Gospels the resurrection accounts. Know that the tomb is still empty. Jesus Christ is still risen from the dead, just as he said. He is our living Lord. *"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice"* Philippians 4:4

Pastor Sundbom



Substitutionary Atonement: We only live because He died

By Joshua Hayes

About a year ago my family decided to raise a few sheep for fun and to teach our kids more about God's creation. Since we live in rural Kansas, this was an easy undertaking, and we figured that it would help our kids gain a practical knowledge of where food comes from.

I was caught off-guard, however, after our first harvest last fall. As we were enjoying a tasty lamb stew, my then three-year-old son looked up from the table and asked, "Why did we have to kill the lamb?" In a rare moment of clarity, I somehow managed to answer: "Because we only live if something else dies for us. All food that we eat died for us so that we can live. That's why we thank God for it." My older children jumped on the obvious connection: "Just like Jesus, the Lamb of God." "Yes," I said, "just like Jesus."

Food from God

You see, food doesn't come from the store. It comes from life in the fields and forests. It doesn't come from us. It comes from God, the author of life: "Know that the Lord, He is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture" (Psalm 100:3, NKJV). The more disconnected we are from the source of the food we eat, the more prone we are to forget to thank God for the plant and animal life He creates so that we may eat it and live.

Not everyone can or needs to raise their own food. For Christians, even more important than remembering the source of our daily bread is remembering the source of our eternal life. After all, we only live because Jesus, the Lamb of God, died for us (John 6:53:54): "So Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day'" (John 6:53-54).

Substitutionary atonement

Again, you don't have to raise your own food to know what Christ has done for you on the cross. The Bible teaches that Jesus is our substitute and Savior. In fact, God has taught this from the beginning. When Adam

SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONEMENT: WE ONLY LIVE BECAUSE HE DIED *continued*

and Eve sinned, God instituted the sacrifices by clothing our first parents with skins (Gen. 3:21). Imagine the horror when Adam and Eve first saw the blood and death that their sin had brought into the world. God killed so that they could live and be clothed.

When Abraham went to sacrifice his son Isaac, God substituted a ram (Gen. 22:13). When the Lord later visited Egypt in judgment, He substituted the blood of the Passover lamb for the lives of His people.

Numbers 8 teaches that all the firstborn belong to God because of this Passover, but that God selected the Levites to substitute for them in serving at the tabernacle. The Levites and priests were responsible for placing the sins of Israel on the sacrificial animals that were brought to the temple. All of this substituting and sacrificing for sin pointed forward to Christ, who took our sins and died once for all so that we can live.

We call this the doctrine of substitutionary (or vicarious) atonement. It means that Jesus died in our place so that we can live. He took our sins, and we are clothed with His righteousness.

Not just a theory

Some people still struggle to understand why Jesus had to die for us. In fact, many liberal theologians reject the Bible's teaching of substitutionary atonement. They dismiss the truth that God had to die in our place for our sins, calling it a "theory." Don't fall for that trick. The cross of Christ is no theory.

It is one thing to have a theory about where food comes from. We all understand theoretically where food comes from. People eat chicken every day even if they have never seen one before. It is another thing to raise an animal and take its life for yours. Then the connection of one life being substituted for another quickly becomes more than theoretical. We realize our great need for life. When Christians see the cross, we know where our salvation comes from. Without sacrifice, we cannot go on living, even as "without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins" (Heb. 9:22).

And so, when we ponder the mystery of the cross upon which the Lamb was slain on that Good Friday so long ago, we should ask that simple question. We should ask, "Why did God have to kill His Son? Why did the Lamb have to die?" Answer: To substitute for me. My sins put Him there. In order to live, I need a substitute. Indeed, to live eternally, I need an eternal substitute: "He entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption" (Heb. 9:12).

Photo: LCMS Communications/Erik M. Lunsford

About The Author

The Rev. Joshua Hayes serves as pastor of St. John Lutheran Church, Palmer, Kan.



Life Quotes for April

April 7 "In the resurrection we find solace in our mourning, in our uncertainty, and in our troubles. Our longing for escape finds its hope in the resurrection of Christ. It is God's approval upon the redemptive work of His Son. It is the assurance that as He was raised from the dead, so shall we, and all who have 'fallen asleep in Him' shall be raised to life eternal." Pastor Robert Fleischmann, Christian Life Resources – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

April 14 "So, what can we do? We must keep doing what we have always done. We must continue to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life. We must be sure our own church members, families, friends, and co-workers understand the value that God places on all human life." Diane Albers, President of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

April 21 "Scripture and prayer are our strongest weapons to change hearts, and we must persist and never give up, no matter how disappointing things get with evil laws being enacted or evil intent coming our way." Virginia Flo, Director of Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

April 28 "It is He who sustains us each and every day. It is He who brings us into the world, and He who draws our earthly lives to a close at the proper time. It is He who was born for us, He who died for us, He who rose for us, and He who reigns on high for us. His is the pattern of our lives." Deaconess Bethany Stoeber, Director-at-Large, LFL of Kansas – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Announcements

LWML Spring Rally

The Northeast Zone Spring Rally will be held here at St. Paul's on April 27. The theme, "Life is Like That" will build on the theme verse from Hebrews 4:16 "Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Coffee and fellowship begins at 9:30 followed by the rally at 10 AM. The speaker will be a representative from the Hope Lodge in Cleveland. The business of the zone is also conducted at this meeting. A light lunch will be provided. Please sign up on the sheet provided on the Friendship Circle board if you plan to attend.

LWML Spring Rally Ingathering Items

Spring Rally Ingathering: The Friendship Circle is gathering items for *Hope Lodge from March 23-April 21. The following items may be placed in the designated containers:

Blue Container – These specific food items only:

Ritz Peanut Butter Crackers , Del Monte Fruit Cups in Juice Chewy Granola Chocolate Chip Bars, Snyder Mini Pretzel (Individual Bags), Other Nutritional Individual Snacks ; Keurig K-Cups (Regular Medium Roast, Decaf, Vanilla, Hazelnut, French Roast and Hot Chocolate)

Gray Container (nonfood items)

Supplies:

Disposable Coffee Cups with Lids (12oz), Wooden Coffee Stirrers ,Silicon Oven Mitts, Non-slip Silicon Pot Holders

Personal Items:

Caps: Both Men and Women

Entertainment:

Art Supplies: Colored Pencils, Chalk, Drawing Pads, Adult Coloring Books, etc.

Please put any monetary donations in an envelope marked for Hope Lodge and give it to Billie Lelle (Checks payable to LWML Northeast Zone)

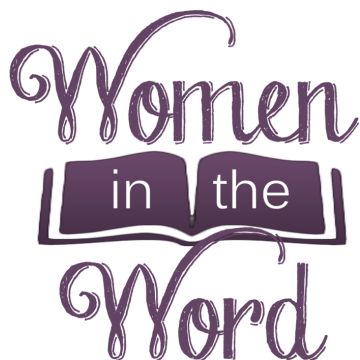
*Hope Lodge accommodates adult cancer patients who travel to Cleveland for treatment at area hospitals. This nurturing 24/7 facility is FREE for the cancer patient as well as one caregiver.



Northeast Zone
Ohio District

Announcements

Women's Bible Study Resumes



Women's Bible Study resumes on April 10 at 6:30.

All women of the congregation are invited to participate as we share God's Word and uplift one another as Sisters in Christ.

The studies come from the LWML Quarterly and all materials are provided. Please consider this faith strengthening opportunity.

LWML Ohio District Convention

The LWML Ohio District will hold its convention on June 21 -22 at the Holiday Inn Belden Village (4520 Everhard Rd. NW, Canton OH). The theme is "The Lord is my Strength and My Shield" (Psalm 28:7a). Kelly Hines and Starshine Graziadei will be the Friendship Circle delegates and will vote on mission grants (St. Paul's has a grant on the ballot), officers and one bylaw amendment. They will also hear speakers, enjoy servant events and participate in meaningful Bible studies and take part in worship opportunities. If you would like to know more about the convention, go to <https://www.lwmlohio.org/> and under the events tab click on District Convention 2024. Registrations forms are available on the website, if you would like to attend.



March Madness to March Gladness



Praise God for the outpouring of mites during March. \$887.96 was collected and has been sent to the LWML Ohio District financial secretary. The 2022-2024 fiscal biennium ended March 31. During the time period from April 2022-March 2024, St. Paul's members prayerfully contributed \$7,230.65 for the mission work of the LWML Ohio District. To God be the glory.

Outreach Hotdog Lunch and Open House

The Outreach Board will be hosting a combined Open House for both the Church and the Preschool on Saturday, August 17th from 11 am to 2 pm at St. Paul's. This will be an outgrowth of the Free Hot Dog Lunch we held in the past and will be combined with the registration for the Preschool families. More on this in the weeks to come.



6th Annual Trunk-or-Treat

Our 6th Annual Trunk or Treat will be held Sunday, October 20th from 2 pm to 4 pm also at St. Paul's.

This event continues to grow each year and is a great opportunity to provide a fun afternoon for the children and their families.

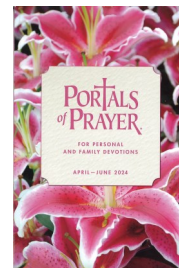
Lake County Captains Game

St. Paul's along with Zion and Faith in Mentor will be attending the Captains game on Friday, June 14th. First pitch is 7 pm along with post game fireworks. Cost is \$30/person which includes game ticket and a pregame picnic of breaded chicken breast, hamburgers, mac & cheese, cookies and drinks from 6 to 7:30 pm. Sign-up sheet is posted on the double doors at the back of the sanctuary. Payment is cash or check ONLY. Checks must be made out to St. Paul's. Sign up and payment deadline is June 1st. All payments should be put in Dale Kerber's mail box.



Portals of Prayer

The April - June Portals of Prayer daily devotions is now available. Copies can be found on the table at the back of the sanctuary



Altar Flowers



A great way to remember any occasion is with Altar Flowers. The Altar Flower Chart is located on the double doors at the back of the Sanctuary. Just sign up next to the appropriate weekend. Clearly print the occasion being remembered, who the flowers are for and who they're from. Altar flowers are \$40.00. Please place the monies in an envelope labeled "Altar Flowers" with the date of the weekend and put it in the collection plate.

April is Blue Ribbon Month

April is Child Abuse Prevention month. Join the Lake County Department of Job and Family Services in making April a [Blue Ribbon Month](#). This can be done by tying a blue ribbon on your car, wearing a blue wristband, wearing a blue ribbon pin, telling a friend about child abuse or becoming involved. Additionally, April 10 is Wear Blue to Work Day. Wearing blue to work will show your support for the prevention of child abuse.



Rummage & Bake Sale



Zion will be holding a Rummage Sale & Bake Sale to benefit Birthright Lake, Inc. on Saturday, April 13, 2024 from 9 am to 2 pm at Zion Lutheran Church, 508 Mentor Ave., Painesville. There will be two huge rooms overflowing with: Housewares, toys, baby items, clothing, books, hardware, seasonal decorations, shoes, boots, handbags, linens, coats, jewelry and great unique finds! Bake Sale with homemade goodies! Members of our sister congregations are welcome to join the fun of serving at this great event either on Friday April 12th from 4-8 for set-up or on Saturday, April 13th from 9-2 for the Sale! Contact Lisa Reed for more information 440-391-8968.



March Meeting Notes

There was no meeting in March due to Midweek Lenten services, but there were several updates.

- 1) President's report: Dennis reported he is still looking into old insurance policies; several policies were cashed in in the past. He also heard from LWML about our grant request: our application was accepted but at a reduced amount of \$2,000 from \$2,500 which will be voted on at their convention in June (keep this vote in your prayers); they also suggested we send a composite picture of items we are requesting and a few of the church as part of a power point presentation at the convention vote. Dennis also said the Safety/Security Team continues to meet and has identified 50 items to review, resolving about a dozen. The Team is also looking into Ringtone type of security cameras for the front door entrance so Peggy, in her office, can monitor if anyone enters the church during Preschool hours.
- 2) Treasurer's Report: Russ reported that contributions were down \$2300 the 1st seven months, total income was up \$6245, due to a *8400 transfer of a Preschool grant. Expenses for the period were up \$4808(salaries/benefits and maintenance were the largest items); resulting in net gain of \$1436. February's report shows contributions were down \$808 the first 8 months vs. a year ago, with total income up \$8,727 with the Preschool grants. Expenses were up \$1258 vs. last year for a net gain of \$7489 over last year. Education Report: Erin reported Sunday school & Adult Bible study continues to meet and attendance remains steady.
- 3) Outreach Report: Ken reported there will be Easter breakfast, March 31 @ 7-9am.
- 4) Contribution Secty Report: Billie reported February's contributions were up about \$1100, \$14,857.01 vs. \$13,754.50 last year. Weekly average contributors were 31 up from 28 in 2023.
- 5) Dennis cancelled our ad in "The Real Yellow Pages" saving \$35.00/month. The Elders were reviewing suggestions made by several Council members on re-wording their letter to delinquent members to focus on ways to possibly reengage with them.
- 6) Star suggested Preschool staff receive our Constant Contact messages to help improve communication b/t church and Preschool. There were no updates on opening Business credit card or Amazon business accounts.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 3 @ 6:30pm.



From the Preschool

2024-2025 Preschool Registration

Registration for St. Paul's Preschool 2024-2025 is now open. If you are interested in your child attending St. Paul's Preschool in the fall please pick up a registration form located at the back of the sanctuary next to the double doors. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Marizek at 440-354-3000. If you know someone who has a preschool aged child please pass a registration form on to them.



Help Needed

One of the professional development opportunities the preschool staff has received was training in The Science Box. Our program would like to incorporate these boxes into our program and we would like your help. We are in need of the following items and are looking for donations. If you can help, please contact Mrs. Marizek or bring the items to the Preschool Office.



- Hot Wheels or Matchbox cars
- Toy rubber ducks
- Coffee filters any size
- Clear plastic single flower vases
- Small and regular scales
- Round cake pans (metal)
- Fabric measuring tape (for sewing)
- Spools from thread
- Small flashlights
- Small spray bottles
- Potting soil and seeds
- Droppers
- Hair dryer
- Child size metal hammers

Any other items that you think would be fun for science!

Science is all around us and there are many other things that can be used.



April Birthdays

Emma Randa	Apr 3rd
Jan Shutic	Apr 4th
Charlotte West	Apr 7th
Madeline West	Apr 11th
Vicki Ulmann	Apr 16th
Leah Shutic	Apr 17th
Charlene Sullivan	Apr 17th
Gayle Morgan	Apr 18th
Gabriella Bennington-Casto	Apr 24th
Riley Javins	Apr 26th
Hudson Michalak	Apr 28th

April Anniversaries

Richard and Vicki Ulmann 57 years on Apr 22



March

Baptisms, Weddings, New Members, Funerals

Baptisms

Wren Louise Seyler March 10

New Members

Name/Date or None

Weddings

Name/Date or None

Funerals

Name/Date or None



Those Who Serve: April 2024

ELDERS:

6:00 P Saturday Aaron Lindrose
 9:30 A Sunday Craig McConnell

COUNTERS:

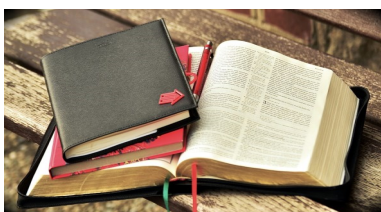
Terry Wakelee, Connie Concooby,
 Dennis Concooby

LECTORS:

04-06-24	6:00 P	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
04-07-24	9:30 A	Sunday	Craig McConnell
04-13-24	6:00 P	Saturday	Dave Murphy
04-14-24	9:30 A	Sunday	Jack Lelle
04-20-24	6:00 P	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
04-21-24	9:30 A	Sunday	Ken Chaffe
04-27-24	6:00 P	Saturday	Dale Kerver
04-28-24	9:30 A	Sunday	Jennifer Drake

**SIGN UP IN APRIL TO GREET
 YOUR FELLOW DISCIPLES.**

*Sign-up sheet located on the
 double doors at the back of the
 Sanctuary.*



Scripture Readings for April

April 6/7

Acts 4:32-35
 1 John 1:1-2:2
 John 20:19-31

April 20/21

Acts 4:1-12
 1 John 3:16-24
 John 10:11-18

April 13/14

Acts 3:11-21
 1 John 3:1-7
 Luke 24:36-49

April 27/28

Acts 8:26-40
 1 John 4:1-21
 John 15:1-8

April Word Search—Words of Spring

P	W	N	I	A	R	C	R	N	A	M	G	R	A
L	I	R	P	A	D	L	O	O	S	U	I	A	S
I	L	C	T	E	G	E	M	E	B	D	A	L	Y
R	I	H	L	U	I	A	W	S	L	I	I	B	S
E	A	I	H	S	L	N	S	E	O	D	N	L	I
N	S	C	D	P	L	I	H	P	O	R	B	O	A
E	B	K	G	A	N	N	P	F	M	B	U	S	D
W	S	S	A	R	U	G	F	S	I	S	D	S	L
H	T	U	R	R	N	A	B	K	N	O	S	O	L
T	H	R	D	O	D	E	E	N	G	G	M	M	B
W	B	O	E	W	H	L	O	T	Y	R	S	S	I
O	G	R	N	E	P	U	D	D	L	E	S	D	R
R	D	C	M	E	S	E	U	R	I	E	D	R	D
G	R	P	L	A	N	T	I	N	G	N	E	R	S

TREES
PUDDLES
CLEANING
TULIPS
DAISYS
DAFFODILS
CHICKS
GARDEN
ROBIN
GREEN
BLOSSOMS
RENEW
PLANTING
APRIL
GROWTH
BIRDS
MUD
SPARROW
BLOOMING
RAIN
BUDS
CRORUS

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/6823227/>

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St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Preschool

250 Bowhall Road Painesville, OH 44077

(440)354-3000 | www.splcpainesville.org | office@splcpainesville.org

Staff

Paul D. Sundbom, Pastor
Matt Chaffe, Organist
Peggy McDonnell, Admin Assistant

Worship Services

Saturday 6:00 pm
Sunday 9:30 am

Sunday Bible Study

Adult 8:30am & 10:45 am
Children 10:45 am

St. Paul's Preschool

Amy Marizek, Director
preschool@splcpainesville.org
www.stpaulspainesville.com

Also Supporting



April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
National Autism Awareness Month National Poetry Month	1 April Fool's Day	2	3 Preschool Classes Resume 6:30 pm Council Meeting	4 Safety Committee 6:30 pm	5	6
7	8	9 9:30 am Circuit Meeting	10 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11 Preschool Chapel 6:30 pm Elder's Meeting	12 International Day of Human Space Flight	13 
14 	15 	16	17	18	19 <div style="border: 1px dashed green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> April Newsletter Articles and Announcements Due </div> Bicycle Day	20 Record Store Day
21	22 	23 Preschool NLSA Visitation	24 Preschool NLSA Visitation	25	26 	27  10:00 am LWML Northeast Zone Spring Rally
28 	29 International Dance Day	30 International Jazz Day	<div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 10px;">  <p>COMMUNION SERVICE</p> </div>		<div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 10px;"> <p>WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <p>Saturdays - 6:00pm Sundays - 9:30am Sunday School - 10:45am Adult Bible Study—8:30am & 10:45am</p> </div>	
			April Birthstone Diamond & Crystal	April Flower Daily & Sweet Pea	<div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px;"> Bulletin Announcements Due Wednesdays </div> <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am-12:00pm </div>	