

Our Redeemer's Voice

APRIL 2024



GOD IS IN CONTROL....



Rev. Jeremy Lo-

As Sharron works on the April newsletter and as all the other Holy Week things need to take place, and as I worried about whether or not Barkley was behaving himself at the new groomer or was filled with anxiety because of other dogs, clippers, and scissors and as I was wondering about insurance and taxes, and children, and family, and parents and and and and...whew, I stopped, took a deep breath, and told God that I was

glad He was in control. And Sharron said that this newsletter article doesn't have to be long. Extra grace! It's March 26th, the Tuesday of Holy Week. It's a sunny day, with a hint of warmth, and there are so many flowers blooming. It's also the day when people in this area are learning of the container ship that lost power and collided with the Key Bridge in Baltimore, causing the landmark bridge to completely collapse.

It was stunning to see the video. It was horrendous to think of how life was completely turned upside down for some people. It is the reason we sometimes pray that God would watch over those who work the night shift- firefighters, police, EMS, hospital workers. For this tragedy we add the Coast Guard and MD Transportation Authority workers. This event was just not something you thought would happen.



I shared an email that day that hopefully got us to focus on Psalm 118:24- "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." Each day is a gift from the Lord and we have opportunities to be grateful for His presence in our life. Knowing that the Lord of heaven and earth is present in your life can be humbling. And the Lord's presence can be a comfort that helps bridge the daily highs and lows.

When things are swirling around you, it helps to find some calm. Relating this to the bridge collapse, a report on WDEL said that the ship captain knew something very bad could happen because he couldn't steer or stop the ship. So while he was trying to right things on the ship, he put out a Mayday call to shore roughly 15 minutes before the collision. That call allowed authorities to stop traffic on the interstate and alert the construction workers that were repairing potholes on the bridge to evacuate. The loss of life could have been much higher. The captain knew something bad was about to happen, took charge, and he did what he could to minimize how bad it was going to be.

The Tuesday of Holy Week was quite a day- lots of loveliness, sharing communion with church members at Newark Manor, getting a long overdue cut for Barkley, and reflecting on the tragic bridge collapse. But it was a day the Lord had made. It was filled with His presence. Since the Lord is in each one of your days, we are able to rejoice.

April Blessings—Pastor

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Reverend Jeremy Loesch

LETTING OUR LIGHT SHINE



GRATEFUL FOR THE RAKES & POLISH— Thanks to everyone who came out to help beautify the church inside and out. Many hands make the job much lighter— *Bob*

FENCE IS UP — The Property Board finished construction of the cable fence along the turn around at the end of Johnson Road. The purpose of this fence is to prevent motor vehicles from driving on Church property and creating tire tracks that must be repaired. The Church had experienced several instances of “joy riding” over the last several years from vehicles driving off the turnaround. Pastor Loesch, Arlen Besel, Steven Debenedetto, Robert Ford and Kirk Tackitt helped measure, cut and assembled the fence posts in this effort. Ace Hardware of Rising Sun and Dannon Cooley donated the 6” auger to dig the holes for each post. Sharron and Ed Boyle donated marine cable used to run between the posts. These donations saved the Church several hundreds of dollars in material and rental costs, and everyone’s help saved time and a lot of back pain and sore muscles.—*Bob*



BUILD A BAG— Six additional sleeping bags have been delivered to the Newark Empowerment Center this year. According to the Farmer’s Almanac meteorological spring begins March 1 and astronomical spring arrived on March 19 at 11:06 p.m. in the northern hemisphere. Despite the snowstorms, spring started showing up in our bulb gardens in February this year. The change of season is according to God’s schedule. What does spring have to do with making sleeping bags? Yes, the weather gets warmer, but we will continue to make sleeping bags into April and May.

Please keep our mission project in mind when you start your spring-cleaning. Insulated or heavy drapes make strong waterproof outer layers. Comforters, blankets, quilts, mattress pads and fleece throws make warm lining layers. Sheets make a seamless interior layer. Large pieces of upholstery, home décor, fleece, quilt, and apparel fabric by the yard could also be used to make sleeping bags. And as always, we are always looking for new friends to help build a bag. Share our mission project’s needs with family, friends, and neighbors and plant a seed for God. —*MaryBeth*



LETTING OUR LIGHT SHINE



ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN—After a chilly ‘March Madness’ week of heavy rain, high winds, and even a snow squall, our first real taste of balmy spring weather arrived just in time to load for Republic of Georgia on March 13th. Thanks to excellent pre-staging and organization the loading went off without a hitch. Our Mid-Atlantic Branch in West Grove, PA had seven adults and two teen-



agers begin on time right after the truck arrived at 9am. We finished loading all the

clothing, Kids Against Hunger meals, medical equipment, sewing machines, and bicycles at 11:45am, perhaps a new record for MAB. Twelve additional volunteers came just to sort and pack, so we had lots of reasons to smile for our team photo!

OUR REDEEMER NEWS AND NOTES

OUT OF OFFICE — Secretary will be on vacation from April 3 through April 17. Pastor will be attending conference in North Carolina the week of April 8th.

MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP/SOCIAL HOUR—Social & fellowship hour is held on the 3rd Sunday each month. We ask that 2 to 3 people bring items such as simple snacks, desserts, finger foods, etc. Next fellowship is April 21.—*Lina*

BIBLE STUDY—Each Sunday at 8:45 a.m. You can also participate online as we explore the book of Isaiah.

DEADLINE—For information to be included in Sunday’s bulletin is Tue. morning each week; newsletter deadline is 20th of each month.

COUNCIL — Council meets the third Tuesday via Zoom

BUILD A BAG SEEKS SUPPLIES —We are in short supply for razors, hats, gloves, toothpaste, ChapStick, socks, small hand towels and cotton crochet thread. There is a basket in the overflow room to place these items. Join us on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. All are welcome to help make sleeping bags for the homeless. No sewing experience required. Thank You – *Marybeth, Lina, and Ruth*

LUTHERAN WOMAN IN MISSION— Spring Rally Saturday April 20, 2024 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church 9 a.m.—2 p.m. See flyer on page 4.

AIR CONDITIONING/HEATING PROTOCOLS—Please shut all doors to rooms not being used to help with cooling efficiency during the summer and winter months.—*Bob*

ORCHARD GARDEN — ORCHARD has once again been awarded a grant to further the efforts of the garden. This year’s grant is \$3,000 and will go towards the building of an additional 10 raised beds. The grant is from the New Castle County Conservation District.

MEN’S BREAKFAST— All men are invited to join us Sat. April 27th at 8 a.m. for fellowship. All men and those in your household are invited to talk, eat, and enjoy each other’s company. Bring your own breakfast. We make the coffee. Group discussions and possible service projects that can be done at church, or in neighborhood explored.



LIFE FOOD COLLECTION— April begins our drive to collect food items for Lutheran Community Services emergency food program. Canned and boxed meals along with spices, condiments, peanut butter, jams, baking mixes, baby formula, bottles, pastas, canned fruits and meats are greatly appreciated. — *Ruth*

IF CHRIST HAD NOT BEEN RAISED FROM DEATH



This Daily Devotion was written by Dr. Carol Geisler. It is based on the hymn, "If Christ Had Not Been Raised from Death," which is number 486 in the *Lutheran Service Book*.

"If Christ had not been raised from death our faith would be in vain, Our preaching but a waste of breath, our sin and guilt remain. But now the Lord is risen indeed; He rules in earth and heaven: His Gospel meets a world of need—in Christ we are forgiven."

It would be unthinkable, a "what-if" kind of question that we never want to consider: What if Jesus had not risen from the dead? Our hymn echoes the words of the apostle Paul, who considers that exact thought, "If Christ has not been raised ..." (1 Corinthians 15:14a).

If Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead, then what would follow that terrible outcome? The apostle lists the frightening—and very personal—possibilities. If Jesus is still dead and buried, all apostolic teaching is useless. The apostles would be lying about God, because they said God raised Jesus from the dead. If Jesus was not raised, then the dead will not be raised either. Without a living Savior, our faith would be futile, pointless. We would still be lost in sin, with no forgiveness. Those who die in faith would perish eternally; there would be no heavenly reunion with our brothers and sisters in Christ. A dead Savior might provide some hope for this earthly life, but nothing beyond that (see 1 Corinthians 15:12-19).

It is difficult to even imagine such things, but we know that none of it is true: "In fact, Christ has been raised from the dead" (1 Corinthians 15:20a). On the first Easter morning Jesus' tomb was found open and empty. Jesus has risen from the dead! Everything on the apostle's frightening and deadly list is reversed, a list that only served to show us the immeasurable gifts that are ours because our Lord lives!

As our hymn declares, the Lord is risen indeed, and "His Gospel meets a world of need." In the risen Savior our greatest needs are met—the need for forgiveness and the need to overcome death. The proclamation of the crucified and risen Christ is never in vain or useless because the Holy Spirit is at work in the Gospel Word, calling people to faith. Jesus took onto Himself the penalty of death that we deserved for our sins and then He overcame death. By God's grace through faith in Jesus, our sins are forgiven. When we fall asleep in Christ, we will be at home with the Lord. When Jesus returns on the Last Day, we will be raised bodily, physically from death just as He was raised, and we will live in His presence forever. We have hope for this earthly life, but it is hope that reaches into eternity. It is hope that lives even in the face of death because Jesus lives! **WE PRAY:** Risen Lord, in You I have forgiveness and the hope of eternal life. Amen.

SPRING RALLY



Lutheran Women
in Mission
LWML

Bloom where you are planted.

Saturday, April 20, 2024
9am-2pm

Continental Breakfast	Service Project Craft
Bible Study	Business Meeting
Speaker Lunch	Door Prizes!
	Fellowship

Ingathering:

*NEW Men's Socks to be distributed to the homeless
*Canned Goods
*We will also have a freewill offering.

RSVP by March 30 to

omalleykathmar@gmail.com

or cannavoam@gmail.com

Let us know if babysitting services will be needed.

LOCATION:

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
10 Johnson Road, Newark, DE



LUTHERAN WOMEN

IN MISSION—The Spring Rally is Sat. Apr. 20th at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church 9 a.m. Join us for fellowship and fun. Bring a friend—2 p.m. Save the date.

MITE BOXES - Please pick up a Mite Box on the table in the overflow room. Keep it in a visible place in your home, drop in your change or a gratitude donation.

Boxes will be collected in early June. This project is based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4).

These small donations amount to millions of dollars that fund local, district and national, and international grants through the LWML. There is also a box on the in the office on the secretary's desk where you may drop a few coins.

Local Districts retain 75% of mite offerings for the work of the Lutheran Woman's Missionary League at that level with 25% going to the National Organization where mites fund over \$1 million in mission grants.



THIS AND THAT...

NEIGHBORHOOD EASTER PARTY WITH CHECA A SUCCESS!



THE DONKEY'S LESSON

One day a farmer's donkey fell down into a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do. Finally, he decided the animal was old, and the well needed to be covered up anyway; it just wasn't worth it to retrieve the donkey.



He invited all his neighbors to come over and help him. They all grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well. At first, the donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly. Then, to everyone's amazement he quieted down.

A few shovel loads later, the farmer finally looked down the well. He was astonished at what he saw. With each shovel of dirt that hit his back, the donkey was doing something amazing. He would shake it off and take a step up.

As the farmer's neighbors continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take a step up. Pretty soon, everyone was amazed as the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and happily trotted off! **AND THE MORAL IS...**

Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of the well is to shake it off and take a step up. Each of our troubles is a steppingstone. We can get out of the deepest wells just by not stopping, never giving up! Shake it off and take a step up.

Remember the five simple rules to be happy: 1. Free your heart from hatred - Forgive. 2. Free your mind from worries - Most never happens. 3. Live simply and appreciate what you have 4. Give more. 5. Expect less from people but more from yourself.... And remember... God is in control.



LUTHERANS AROUND US



Spring Blessings from LCM at UD!



April is a beautiful month, as the days grow longer and many delicate flowers come into view. For students, who are juggling such full and demanding schedules, it's also retreat time! We're looking forward to a spring getaway near Rehoboth Beach, which will include beach games, meals, worship, and a service project component. Please pray for good weather during the weekend of the 20th.

Our next **property workday** has been scheduled for Saturday, April 6, beginning at 10 AM. Students, staff, board members, and community members are all invited to chip in to help spruce up the LCM property at 247 Haines Street for the spring season. If you have a few hours to spare, please drop by.

We're also looking for new members for our **Directing Committee** (governing board), as well as members for LCM's sub-committees, such as property care and Mutual Ministry. If you have a heart for this ministry and you'd like to get more involved in LCM at UD, please reach out. Thank you!

We're very grateful for all the tasty meals that have been provided to LCM since September by teams from local congregations. Yum! We still have open dates for **meals in May**. For more information, please call our office or refer to our website: <https://lcmde.org/bring-a-tuesday-dinner>. Our students are always grateful for the dinners and shared fellowship.

Thank you again for your ongoing support, care, and prayers! Please pray for our students, as the intensity of projects, papers, and other activities builds up, that they will continue to prioritize faith in the midst of all that they're navigating... and that they will know the peace of Christ amid their daily walks of faith.

May God's love and joy surround and delight you during this blessed Easter season!

*In Christ, Mindy Holland, Minister of Word and Service +
Chaplain, Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD
302-368-3078; chaplain@lcmde.org*



Joyful greetings from some of our student leaders...and UD's cows! Gabby and Elizabeth, in the foreground, are two of our seniors.



WHY YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT MATTERS — No one wants to imagine themselves in an emergency, but being prepared is crucial. The emergency contact provides an important role in the event that you cannot be reached, or if you fall, or become ill in church. In May you will receive a form asking for your emergency contacts. It should be returned to the office so the information can be recorded. If for some reason the church cannot contact you, we want to be able to call a neighbor, a friend or a family member who we can call for a wellness check. We will have designated

"captains" who will have a master list. If you are concerned that someone cannot be reached, you can call the "captain" who will make calls to ensure the individual is not in need of medical assistance. Your wellbeing is important to us.



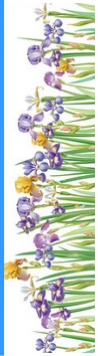
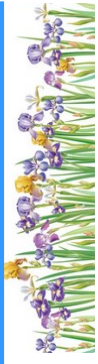
APRIL BIRTHDAYS Happy Birthday!

If your birthday or anniversary does not appear here it is because we do not have it in the church database, please call the office to add.



- 3 Dan Cooley
- 14 Brian Kruelle
- 21 Andrew Steltz

APRIL 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SERVING — Pastor Jeremy Loesch ORGANIST — J. Hockersmith USHERS Arlen Besel Dennis Boon Jim Rose	STREAMING 4/7 4/14 4/21 4/28	LECTORS 4/7 Sarah 4/14 Bob 4/21 Arlen 4/28 Kevin	SECRETARY VACATION	SECRETARY VACATION	SECRETARY VACATION	SECRETARY VACATION
7 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Communion DS24 10 a.m. Sunday School	8 PASTOR CONFERENCE SECRETARY VACATION	9 Announcements Due Build A Bag 10 a.m. PASTOR CONFERENCE SECRETARY VACATION	10 PASTOR CONFERENCE SECRETARY VACATION	11 SECRETARY VACATION	12 SECRETARY VACATION	13
14 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Worship DS4 10 a.m. Sunday School	15 SECRETARY VACATION	16 Announcement Deadline Build A Bag 10 a.m. SECRETARY VACATION	17 SECRETARY VACATION	18	19	20 LWML Spring Rally 9-2 p.m.
21 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Communion DS4 10 a.m. Sunday School Fellowship after service	22	23 Announcement Deadline. Build A Bag 10 a.m. Council Meeting	24	25	26	27 Men's Breakfast
28 Bible Study 8:45 a.m. Worship DS4 10 a.m. Sunday School	29	30 Announcement Deadline Build A Bag 10 a.m.				

APRIL BIBLE READINGS

- 1 Isaiah 25:1-9
Romans 1-3
- 2 Psalm 114
Romans 4-6
- 3 Psalm 115
Romans 7-9
- 4 Psalm 116
Romans 10-13
- 5 Psalm 117
Romans 14-16
- 6 Psalm 118
1 Corinthians 1-3
- 7 Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 4-6
- 8 Psalm 119:9-16
1 Corinthians 7-9
- 9 Psalm 119:17-24
1 Corinthians 10-11
- 10 Psalm 119:25-32
1 Corinthians 12-14
- 11 Psalm 119:33-40
1 Corinthians 15-16
- 12 Psalm 119:41-48
2 Corinthians 1-4
- 13 Psalm 119:49-56
2 Corinthians 5-7
- 14 Psalm 119:57-64
2 Corinthians 8-10
- 15 Psalm 119:65-72
2 Corinthians 11-13



***Read a little
each day and
you will get
through the
entire Bible in
one year***

- 16 Psalm 119:73-80
Galatians 1-3
- 17 Psalm 119:81-88
Galatians 4-6
- 18 Psalm 119:89-96
Ephesians 1-3
- 19 Psalm 119:97-104
Ephesians 4-6
- 20 Psalm 119:105-112
Philippians 1-2
- 21 Psalm 119:113-120
Philippians 3-4
- 22 Psalm 119:121-128
Colossians 1-2
- 23 Psalm 119:129-136
Colossians 3-4
- 24 Psalm 119:137-144
1 Thessalonians 1-3
- 25 Psalm 119:145-152
1 Thessalonians 4-5
- 26 Psalm 119:153-160
2 Thessalonians 1-3
- 27 Psalm 119:161-168
1 Timothy 1-3
- 28 Psalm 119:169-176
1 Timothy 4-6
- 29 Psalm 120
2 Timothy 1-2
- 30 Isaiah 25:1-9
2 Timothy 3-4