

2023



Partners
in Ministry

Serving God and others through the
Evangelical Lutheran Churches
of America

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

1409 South Eighth Avenue, East
Newton, Iowa 50208
Church Phone: (641) 792-1683
www.HTLchurch.com

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

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Words from Pastor Kari's Pen.

*Office Hours for
Holy Trinity :
Tuesday-Thursday
1:00 - 4:00 PM.
By appointment
only.*

8 But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. 9 Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.[a] 10 For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life.

- *Romans 5:8-10 (NRSV)*

On Easter Sunday Jesus is resurrected.

On Easter Monday Pastors (really all ministers) are resurrected.

Or at least that is how the joke goes.

But it is no joke that resurrection does happen. Not just on the last day when Christ returns to complete His redemption of all creation. But resurrection really happens. All around us. And Jesus Christ rises from the dead on Easter Sunday, whether worship goes as planned or not. Death has forever lost its sting come Easter morning even if you end up skipping the egg hunt or order take out instead of cooking your own meal.

Easter happens regardless of how effective we found our Lenten practices. The stone will be rolled away and we will see an empty tomb no matter how much or little spring cleaning we accomplished. There is nothing you can do to make Easter come faster. Neither can you do anything to prevent its arrival. Like Christ, Resurrection is coming. It has already arrived. And it most certainly will come again.

And this unavoidable occurrence of Jesus securing our salvation is as liberating as it is terrifying. No matter how pious we think we have been during Lent there is a little voice that pops up and says "are you sure you did enough?"... "You may not be good enough!"... "Why didn't you try harder to be impressive/holy/righteous?"

I like many of you go back and forth between panicking that I haven't done enough to make this holiday special. I worry that I didn't get the full value out of what I was hoping to cultivate spiritually, personally, and in my community.

Easter comes whether we are ready or not. And here is the good news. It's supposed to be that way.

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Pastor Kari Lee
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pastorkari18@gmail.com

You can never achieve the goal of earning your salvation. So we are never truly ready for it when it comes. As a Lutheran, my community of faith uses Martin Luther’s explanation of the third article of the Apostles Creed to explain how “sanctification” is obtained on our behalf.

“I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all

believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.”

You can never be ready for Easter. The whole point of Easter is that God’s love comes to you and meets you right where you are. The resurrection of Jesus is meant to surprise us when we are in the depth of despair, in the clutches of anger. God’s love catches up to us when we are lost to our apathy or have been misled by greed. Resurrection surprises us when we thought we had it all planned perfectly and realize that God still does for us what we could never do for ourselves.

Give yourself some grace as we approach Easter morning. If you were perfect, you wouldn’t need a savior.

Trust that what you are doing to follow Christ to the cross is enough! Resurrection is coming to gather you up in joy and love. Let the nerves of preparing for Easter Sunday remind you just how important it is to us, then let Jesus be enough cause for celebration. Not the trimmings, not the eggs, not even the special music we have planned. Jesus is always enough. And he proves it by defeating death and securing our salvation before we do anything. May this be the blessing you bless others with.

Pastor Kari Lee



2023 St. Andrew's Lutheran Church - Service Helper List

updated 1/21/23

Date	Greeter	Lector	Comm. Asst.	Altar Guild	Candle Lighting
4/2/2023	Todd & Melanie Sharp	Nancy Wright	John Freeborn	Barb Freeborn	Kahlia Sharp
4/9/2023	Marcia Goodrich	Teri Bowlin			
4/16/2023	Mark & Amy Collum	Pat Johnson			
4/23/2023	Beth, Madie & Charly Fenner	Jessica Winegar			
4/30/2023	Sophia & Jacob Bell	Carol Naeseth			
5/7/2023	Stacey Simbro	Doug Bell	Amy Collum	Nancy Wright	Addi Collum
5/14/2023	Katie & Hunter Neleman	Nancy Wright			
5/21/2023	Wayne & Marlene Sharp	Teri Bowlin			
5/28/2023	Mike & Norene Paulson	Pat Johnson			
6/4/2023	John & Barb Freeborn	Jessica Winegar	Vicky Bell	Carol Naeseth	Payton Bowlin
6/11/2023	Carol Naeseth	Carol Naeseth			
6/18/2023	Doug & Jaci Bell	Doug Bell			
6/25/2023	Nancy Wright	Nancy Wright			
7/2/2023	Brad & Teri Bowlin	Teri Bowlin	Mike Paulson	Norene Paulson	Charly Fenner
7/9/2023	Mark Bell	Pat Johnson			
7/16/2023	Todd & Melanie Sharp	Jessica Winegar			
7/23/2023	Marcia Goodrich	Carol Naeseth			
7/30/2023	Mark & Amy Collum	Doug Bell			

St. Andrew's has had a request for a card shower

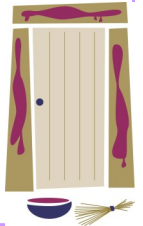
Hello, I am Marla Betz, daughter of Kay and Randall Betz who attended St. Andrews from around 1984 to 1995. My father is turning 90 years of age this coming April 16th and we would like to have him receive cards from St. Andrews folks who knew him. Randall also served as Superintendent at Lynnville-Sully during those years.

Thank you and God's Blessings, Marla Betz, Forest City, Iowa

Randall Betz
 1992 "G" Ave. Marengo,
 Iowa 52301-8617

**~Christian symbol~
 DOORPOSTS —**

The image of a blood-marked doorframe is from the Passover account in Exodus. God directed the Israelites to slaughter lambs for a final meal and paint their doorposts with the blood. God sent the Angel of Death to kill the firstborn sons of Egypt, but the blood signaled that the Destroyer should "pass over" those homes. Likewise, the blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God, saves us from eternal death.



Happy Anniversary

**Don & Karen
 Blank (April 25th)**

Happy Birthday to...

**Marcia Goodrich
 (April 10th)**

**Maxine Shutts
 (April 12th)**

**Peggy Hiemstra
 (April 26th)**

**Kari Lee (
 April 29th)**

**Makenzee Downing
 (April 29th)**

**Melanie Sharp
 (April 30th)**

SUNDAY MORNING ASSISTANTS

Any questions contact Linda Bennett
 Phone 641-218-1547

LITURGIST

04/02/23 Shawnae Nilles
 04/09/23 Vicky Bennett
 04/16/23 Wes Ranard
 04/23/23 Staci Arnold
 04/30/23 Vicky Bennett

READER

Shawnae Nilles
 Vicky Bennett
 Sue Ranard
 Staci Arnold
 Vicky Bennett

USHERS/GREETERS

04/02/23 Bill & Linda Bennett
 04/09/23 Wes & Sue Ranard
 04/16/23 Marilyn Butler & Dianne Clemon
 04/23/23 Keith & Kathy Sevenbergen
 04/30/23 Bret & Linda Pugh

ACOLYTES

Devon Wolf
 Ian Bennett
 Charlie Bennett
 Presley Arnold
 Charlie Bennett

Campbell

"Mom's really worried about being late for Easter sunrise service, isn't she?"

Bible Quiz

The night before Jesus' crucifixion, he demonstrates humble service by washing his disciples' _____.

- A. hands
- B. feet
- C. hair
- D. supper dishes



In March, our mission support to the synod was \$631. There was also a \$350 donation to ELCA World Hunger and \$100 to ELCA Disaster Response.

Our monthly mission emphasis was for the Clearview Recovery Center in Prairie City, and we have received \$120 in donations for a total of \$620 with our budgeted funds.

For April, the council has chosen the Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach (LCO). The mission of LCO is “to compassionately share the good news of God's healing love and grace through providing an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America chaplain at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.” If you'd like to contribute to this mission in March, please write “LCO” on your check or offering envelope.

The Jasper Co. Take Away Hunger event originally scheduled for March 25th has been moved to April 29th. There is a new sign up sheet posted on the hallway bulletin board. Our team is still scheduled for packaging at 11am.



Getting to know: Jim Vermillion from Holy Trinity

We are going to try and high light members now and then. This way we can all get to know some of our members a little better. This month we will be featuring Jim Vermillion.

Jim Vermillion's father William vermilion brought electricity to taboon Iowa before Jem was born. Before 1927 Jim worked at Maytag twice before he graduated. He was then drafted and went straight to Japan to do his basic training. He was sent there to relieve other soldiers so they could return home. Jim was in Japan for one and a 1/2 to 2 years. He then returned home and returned to Maytag for 42 years. He married Roberta, they went to 1st Lutheran church and after a while, 8 couples broke off and started at holy Trinity Lutheran church on the Southeast Side of town. They were the charter members. Jim has been there ever since, and he is the only one left.



Easter errors

The Resurrection occurred without a hitch, but church services aren't always as fortunate. Pastors shared Easter goofs with Outreach magazine — and you can share them for Holy Humor Sunday on April 16.

- During a prayer, one pastor said, “Jesus, we love you to death.” Though it was fitting, the slip-up led to chuckles.
- Actors in Passion Plays apparently tend to fall off crosses. After one did so and muttered a swear word, the pastor said, “At least he's the unbelieving thief.” And when a man playing Jesus had to be reattached to his cross, a pastor said the real Jesus “would have climbed back on out of love.”
- Shocked by the early rehearsal time, a guitarist asked, “Whose idea was it for Easter to be in the morning?”
- Before leading a sunrise service, a pastor was informed of a member's death. So he was briefly “thrown ... when she walked up in the early morning shadows.” Turns out there'd been a name mixup. “I believe in resurrection power,” says the pastor. “But I was more than a little surprised at what I was seeing!”

Good news flags

Use batik, a unique fabric-dyeing method, to create flags celebrating the good news of Christ's resurrection.



What you need:

- Colored chalk
- White linen fabric
- Washable gel glue
- Acrylic craft paint
- Textile medium
- Paintbrushes

What you do:

1. Cut fabric to the desired size and shape. Set it on a flat, protected surface. With chalk, lightly sketch an Easter design or message.
2. Completely cover the chalk lines with gel glue. Let dry.
3. Mix equal parts paint and textile medium. Paint the flag with that mixture, which makes paint permanent. Let dry.
4. Soak the dried fabric in warm water a few minutes. Then gently peel away the glue to reveal the unpainted areas. Lay flat to dry.
5. Hang the flags and celebrate!

April 2023, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

At LSI, we work tirelessly to provide crisis childcare, in-home visits and parenting classes to families across Iowa through our Early Childhood Services. In these services, we provide Iowa parents the support they need to provide a healthy, stable home for their children.

Through our Family Centered Services, we help children and families already involved in a crisis or abuse situation to become safer and more stable. We also provide therapy services to adults, children and families to help build healthier, more secure homes.

You can make a direct impact on these children and families through your support of LSI. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Senior Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

The God who hides

Isaiah declares, "Truly, you are a God who hides himself, O God of Israel, the Savior" (45:15, ESV). But why would God hide? Isn't our knowing God the point? Martin Luther explained that God hides in unexpected places so as not to be found where the world assumes a god would be — in power, status, fame, wealth — but to be found in weakness, humility and places of suffering.

"Those who have found God in the cross of Jesus Christ," said 20th-century theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, "know how wonderfully God hides himself in this world and how he is closest precisely when we believe him to be most distant." So God assures us of his presence in the humble manger, among the poor and outcast during his ministry, in the excruciating suffering of the cross, and with us in every struggle.

God hides not to avoid us but so we will discover him precisely where we need him most, and where others need us most.

Thanks to the support from faith-based organizations across Iowa...

...a young mom now has the education and resources she needs to create a better life for her and her family,

...a person with a disability learned to be a little more independent,

...a former refugee found a new home in Iowa and has found new ways to successfully support their family.

All of these successes are possible with the support we receive from congregations and people like you! LSI is proud to provide these essential services to people all across Iowa.

Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

"Social work can be so hard... so I think being able to see those small and big wins along the way is important," said Mallory.

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9:00 am

St. Andrew's Worship

10:00 am

Fellowship & Sunday School

@ St. Andrew's 10:30 am

Holy Trinity Worship

11:30 am

Fellowship @ Holy Trinity

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday 6 pm @ Holy Trinity

Good Friday 6 pm @ St Andrew's

Join us April 9th, 2023



Pastor Kari Lee

*Easter
Sunday*

He is Risen!