

**April
2014**

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Ithaca, OH

The Messenger

Worshiping God, Growing in Faith, Serving Neighbors--near and far

Midweek Lenten Services

Please join us for the last few Midweek services this year, preceded by a Soup Supper at 6:30 p.m. On April 2, we will hear about "Change of Heart"; and on April 9, the sermon theme will be "Change of Plans."

Holy Week Services

Passion / Palm Sunday– April 13 @ 9 a.m.
Holy Communion Celebrated Special Gospel Reading

Maundy Thursday – April 17 @ 7:30 p.m.
Holy Communion Celebrated Foot Washing

Good Friday – April 18 @ 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday

Resurrection of Our Lord – April 20
Holy Communion Celebrated
6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service
7:45 a.m. Breakfast hosted by Sunday School
9:00 a.m. Easter Service

Restroom Project



The new surveys have been available since March 16. If you haven't done so yet, please fill it out and return it to the wooden box on the back table, or give (or mail) them to Ron Fasick. All surveys, are due by Easter Sunday, April 20. If you are not able to worship with us, and would like to fill out a survey, please call Shannon at 884-7006 and she will send you one.

Please take the time to share with us—your opinion is important.



OUR MONTHLY WELCA MEETING

will be held at the home of Earlene Morris on Tuesday, April 8 at 7 p.m. We will continue our studies in the Gather magazine with "A Living Hope", based on Judges 11:30-31.

During the months of April through June, we collect bath size bars of soap for Lutheran World Relief. Any donations you are able to make are greatly appreciated! A donation box is located at the back of the sanctuary. Monetary donations can be given to any WELCA officer: Sherry, Anita, Jane, Rhonda or Mary Lou.

ONE Ministry— Castine Food Bank item of the month: Cereal



Mark your calendars for March 24, April 28, May 26, June 23, at 1pm in the church basement.

We will take July and August off, but will have two quilting sessions in September (22nd & 29th) to prepare for shipment the first week in October.

All supplies are furnished and each quilting session usually lasts 2 hours, we usually try to tie 6 quilts.

Thank you to all who have donated to the Mission Quilting Project in any form whether it be fabric, thread, blankets for batting, money and help sewing and tying the quilts. Blessings to all for your generous donations.



Church Bells and the Lord's Prayer

Have you noticed? You might wonder why have begun ringing the church bells while the congregation prays the Lord's Prayer together. This is an old custom that is not for the sake of the congregation who are worshipping inside the building, it is the intention that our neighbors who are unable to attend, will be able to hear the bell being rung and participate with the congregation in praying the Lord's Prayer. It enables us to call the community into prayer with us.

In Germany this bell was often called the "Kartoffelglock" (Potato Bell). In many places it was the custom for the servants to attend worship early in the morning, a shorter service, and then to return home to prepare the meal for the family whom they served. The family would attend the later and longer service; so when the servants in charge of the meal heard the Lord's Prayer Bell being rung they could both pray with the congregation where the master was worshipping, and know that it was time to put the potatoes on to cook because the family would soon be home for the noon meal.

REMEMBERED

in our thoughts & prayers

April Birthdays

3rd Chris Stump
Karla Guinigundo
5th Delbert Hofacker
7th Joel Hoke
11th Frank Flint
12th Floyd Hoke
TJ Kress
22nd Dave Shoemaker
24th Donna Miller
25th Bea Zimmer
Kristie Stump

April Anniversaries

3rd Ted & Gloria Scheiding—49th
6th Marvin & Carolyn Fourman—51st
17th Rick & Faye Harman—32nd
20th Leon & Phyllis Fisher—46th

March Prayer Concerns

Matt Donohoo
Joyce Burns
Hal Crowl
Pam Yeomans
Tiffany Burkett
Concheta Moore
Ken Bailey
Helen Garner
Sandy Thompson
Joshua's baby girl
Clarence Wert
Shirley McCall
Albert Weimer
Jennifer Womack
Cara Harman
Linda Myers
Hazel
Bradley Thompson
Linda Holt
Stan Johnson

Prayers of sympathy and healing for the families of:

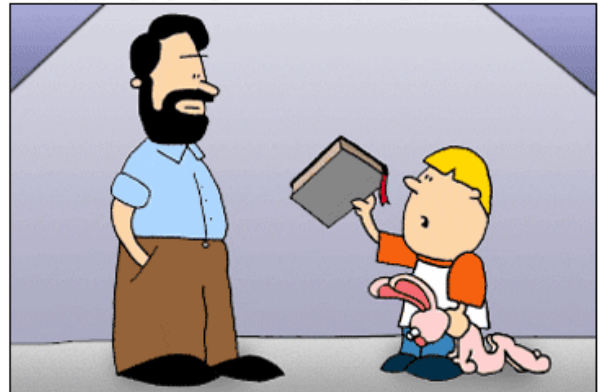
Mike Baker
Jerry Thacker
Jayden Kirksen
Vivian Bruchey
Miriam Clark
Kenny Garner
Dan Huffman
Jack McGlothlin
Pat Dever

To reach us for the prayer chain, please call Rhonda Kress at 417-7412 or email rhonda.j.kress@gmail.com

We don't know who gave us 6 of these.....
but they are very much appreciated!



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DAD, I NEED YOUR HELP TO FIND OUT WHERE IT TALKS ABOUT THE EASTER BUNNY IN THE BIBLE

04-13-2006

From the Pastor

Easter...the season of tulips and daffodils, the season of greening fields and lawns. Easter and spring. I write this on March 26th, with a healthy dusting of snow (yes, snow) on the dead grass and sidewalks. It's hard to trust the promise of spring, the promise of new life after a long and hard winter that hasn't yet given up.

I love that we are in the northern hemisphere to celebrate Easter; we do and have the season of spring to go along with the church season of Easter. Easter is all about new life, resurrection life. And, Easter is more than a day, it is a season, it is a way of life.

Though in early April we still have a couple weeks of Lent, and we still have Maundy Thursday and Good Friday to live through, there is the promise of Easter, the promise of the resurrection to hold onto. As Christians, we are Easter people, we are resurrection people. We can see new life even in the midst of the darkest moments, in the midst of the deepest pain. Even if others look at a tornado and see nothing but destruction, resurrection people can look and see glimpses of hope and healing. Resurrection people can look and see glimpses of hope and healing, and reach out with their hearts and hands, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to help bring about new life.

So, as people of the resurrection, as Easter people, where might we help bring about new life? Who do you know who is hurting, who could benefit from your compassion? Who do you have in your life that has hurt you, who could find new life in your forgiveness? (and you'd find new life in letting go, in forgiving as well) With spring in the Midwest, tornadoes are almost a certainty. How might you be ready to reach out with hearts and hands? With prayers, with a special offering of money or items needed at time of disaster. Maybe even with time and effort to help serve those in need. The Second Sunday of Easter this year, April 27th is also World Malaria Day, a time to remember, to pray for and to lift up those who live with daily death from the disease of malaria. I attended a three day conference recently in Chicago and learned about the ways the ELCA is making a difference with our brothers and sisters in Christ in thirteen countries in Africa. Our monies, our prayers are bringing new life!

What are the stories of the resurrection in your life? How and where have you been "dead" or close to death, and have been brought into new life through your faith in Jesus Christ? How might you learn to share those stories with others that they might come to believe and become resurrection people as well? For, as Christians we are called to run and tell others of the empty tomb, of the miracle of new life as much as we are invited to believe in it for ourselves.

So, throughout early April, may you continue to trust in the promise of new life. May you open your hearts to the new life that only Christ can deliver. May you share that new life in this world that is so in need of the Good News.

In Christ's Peace,

Pastor Joene

A P R I L

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
 <p><i>April Greeter:</i> Ron Fasick</p>			6:30 pm Soup Supper 7:30 pm Midweek service Lector: Mickie Ary	9-11 am—Clergy Meeting/W. Milton <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Change the World Conference - Ginghamburg</div>		
6 5th Sunday in Lent Communion Baptism—Erin Nicole Carity 6-7:30 Confirmation Lector: Rhonda Kress Acolyte: Julia McCullough Bread: Linda Holt	7 7 pm—Council Meeting	8 7 pm WELCA	9 6:30 pm Soup Supper 7:30 pm Midweek service Lector: Mickie Ary	10 9-11 am—Clergy Meeting/W. Milton	11	12
13 Palm Sunday Communion 6-7:30 Confirmation Lector: Several Acolyte: Joel Hoke Bread: Neva Birt	14	15	16 10 am GRCC Soup Kitchen	17 7:30—Maundy Thursday service with Communion Lector: Mickie Ary Acolyte: Mickie Ary Bread: Charlotte Delong	18 7:30—Good Friday service Lector: Mickie Ary	19
20 Easter Sunday Communion 6:30 Sunrise service 7:45 Breakfast 9:00 Regular worship See below for worship assistants	21 Newsletter entries due	22	23	24 9-11 am—Clergy Meeting/W. Milton	25	26
27 2nd Sunday of Easter Communion 6-7:30 Confirmation Lector: Anita Schneider Acolyte: Julia McCullough Bread: Neva Birt	28 1 pm—Quilting meeting in the basement	29	30	Easter Sunday Worship Assistants Sunrise Lector: Chris Stump Acolyte: Karr Stump Bread: Neva Birt	Easter Sunday Worship Assistants 9 am service Lector: Donna Miller Acolyte: Alysson Pahl Bread: Charlotte Delong	

Church Address

6825 St. Route 722
Ithaca, OH 45304
Office Phone/Fax: 937-884-7006
E-mail: skmccullough@earthlink.net



Pastor Joene Herr
Phone: 937-564-5802
E-mail: joeneherr@yahoo.com

*Wheelchair accessible + Elevator on premises +
Holy Communion celebrated - 1st Sunday of every month- major church festivals*

We're on the web!!
www.smlc-ithaca.com
Facebook: St. Matthew

Sunday Worship services:
9 am —Traditional worship
10 am— Coffee Break (food & fellowship)
10:15 am—Sunday School for all ages



St. Matthew Lutheran Church – Ithaca
7820 State Route 722
Arcanum, Ohio 45304

Dated Material