



“Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter”

What is this thing we call Holy Week and the special days within it? What is the history of the annual celebrations that happen in this week leading to Easter? In other words, though we know that the events that we remember during Holy Week really happened to Jesus (e.g., the procession into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, His death on the cross, His resurrection), when did Christians begin to annually observe them as we do? And, what is the significance of our observances today? This newsletter article will attempt to offer a brief introduction.

Holy Week

As we now practice it, Holy Week is the last week of the 40 day season of Lent and the week preceding Easter. In Holy Week, which begins on Palm Sunday, we focus on the last week of Christ's life, remembering especially His passion and resurrection. Though calling this week “Holy Week” is more of a recent innovation, the annual observance of the festivals within it is of ancient origin.

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday (also known as Holy Thursday and Green Thursday) remembers the events in the upper room the night before Jesus died. These upper room events are described in Matthew 26:20-30, Mark 14:17-26, Luke 22:14-35, and John 13 - 17. Matthew, Mark, and Luke focus on the institution of the Lord's Supper and the eating of the Passover meal. John focuses on the words of Jesus and His washing of the disciple's feet.

The name “Maundy” comes from the words of Jesus, “*Mandatum novum*” (“a new commandment,” John 13:34). From the Fourth Century on, Maundy Thursday was viewed as the last day of the Lenten fast and also as the day of reconciliation (i.e., when those excommunicated could repent and be reconciled, that is, received back into the Church).

Since it was on this night that Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, that sacred meal has often been the chief emphasis of Maundy Thursday. The Lord's Supper is celebrated and

often its meaning is explained. At the end of the service, the altar is stripped, in preparation for Good Friday. This symbolizes Christ being stripped by the Roman soldiers prior to His crucifixion. Psalm 22, a Messianic psalm which clearly prophesies the Messiah's death, is read after the altar is stripped.

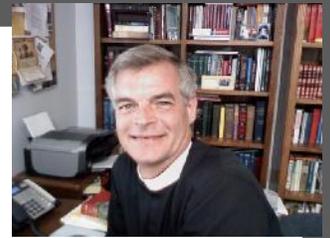
Good Friday and Easter

As we would expect, Christ's crucifixion and resurrection have been annually observed from the earliest times. Christ's crucifixion and resurrection are described in detail in Matthew chapters 27-28, Mark chapters 15-16, Luke chapters 23-24, and John chapters 19-21. However, Christ's crucifixion and resurrection were not celebrated exactly as we do now. With texts such as John 1:29 and 1 Corinthians 5:7-8 in mind, the first Christians celebrated Christ's crucifixion and resurrection in one festival, called the *Pascha* (Greek for “Passover”).

The earliest evidence we possess points to the *Pascha* as the first of the annual Christian festivals. In fact, in the Second Century a church-wide split of staggering proportions almost occurred over the correct dating and meaning of the *Pascha*.

The Christians in Asia Minor, citing the practice of the apostle John, bishop Polycarp and others, claimed that the Christian *Pascha* should be observed on the 14/15 of Nisan (the seventh day of the week), just as the Old Testament commanded (cf. Exodus 12). The rest of Christendom, including the bishop of Rome, Irenaeus, and the bishop of Jerusalem, held that the *Pascha* should culminate on the Sunday (since it was the day Jesus rose) after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. In the end the majority view won out. In recent years there has been a return in some quarters to a celebration of the *Pascha*, one festival celebrated over three days: Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday.

(continued on page 14)



REDEEMER LUTHERAN
CHURCH

President's Corner



The President's Corner

Pastor Rev. James Kress

Office Secretary Jennifer Steele

Organists Doris Dykhuizen
Bill Bowers

OFFICERS

President Ron Beaber

Vice President Ed Sheahan

Treasurer Leta Stender

Secretary Dorothy Sinowetski

BOARDS

Assimilation Pam DeGourse

Property Management Charlie Vovcsko
(Interim)

Christian Ed. Pam Replinger

Elders Tim Byrne

Human Care

Outreach Karen Kirkland
(Interim)

School Board Bill Bowers

Stewardship Joe Friess

Youth Jim Wright
Lisa Vasallo

Finance Sec'y. Karen Kirkland

Newsletter Editor Leta Stender

CLUBS/GUILDS

Ladies Guild Carol Sheahan

Men's Group Bob Mortenson

Christian Support Group

You will be seeing me back in church each Sunday now that Tim and I have made our rounds to explain the new Thrivent Choice program to all the Lutheran Church's in Charlotte County and several in Sarasota County. Coffee hours at these churches will take us away one or two Sunday's a month, but we will be back on a regular basis.

As we conclude the Easter season, I have had many comments from members about viewing the events surrounding the Passion from several different characters. Most all agree that this has been a very positive, educational experience. We must prepare in the coming months for the return north of our migrating members. Travel safe and I promise next winter will be a warmer one (not a money back guarantee, just an optimistic prediction).

Your Council continues to meet monthly to conduct the business of your church. Each month this summer I will personally thank the folks in the church that work hard to do the Lord's work in different areas, and sometimes I think we take them for granted. I will start with our Council. Some of you may not even be aware of the people and positions they hold. Our Vice President is ED SHEAHAN, Treasurer is LETA STENDER, Council Secretary is DORTHY SINOWETSKI (you will see Dorothy's name in this feature A LOT), Assimilation is PAM DEGOURSE, Christian Education is PAM REPLINGER, Finance Secretary is KAREN KIRKLAND, Head Elder is TIM BYRNE, Human Care is vacant, Long Range Planning is BUD HARTY, Outreach is vacant, School Board is BILL BOWERS, Stewardship is JOE FRIESS, and Youth are JIM WRIGHT and LISA VASSALLO. I want to personally thank all of our council members for the hard work they put in to make the business of our church run smoothly. I want to assure you that two vacant positions are only missing a Chairman and that these two vital Boards continue to operate effectively.

The Child Care continues to have 80 children enrolled. We have begun to lay the ground work on our investigation into the possibility of a new building project. The first step is to look at the possibility of starting a project, funding a feasibility study to identify a firm to look into things like costs, projected enrollment, employee requirements, permits, and all the other questions that must be answered before we commit any funds to a project. Pastor, Tim Byrne, and I met with Pastor Redman of LCC, to "pick his brain" on how they proceeded on their completed fellowship hall project, and the stages they have recently taken for their present Senior Housing project. We will report to the Council our findings and see what the next step will be.

See you in Church!

Ron Beaber

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submission of articles for May is **Sunday, April 25th by 6 p.m.** If you have an article you would like to submit for the newsletter, either e-mail it to letastender@gmail.com or place it in the newsletter box in the church office. Articles received after **April 25th** will be held for the June, 2010 newsletter. Please be sure to put your name on the article so I can contact you if there are any questions.



Leta Stender

Outreach

Outreach has sent out 226 post cards to residents surrounding the church from Gulfstream to Sunnybrook. Residents were invited to our Wednesday Lenten services, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. We also invited the children for an Easter Egg Hunt at Redeemer at 9:15 in the Fellowship Hall on Easter Sunday.

The Outreach Committee, Youth and Christian Education are working together to have a very successful Easter Egg Hunt. We have over 300 eggs filled with candy generously donated by congregation members. Many thanks.

God bless everyone for their assistance and donations.

Submitted by Karen Kirkland

Lutheran Women In Mission—IWML

MITES for Children in India on April 4

With these small MITES from across the United States we can assist India, our neighbor in need. In the tsunami-devastated town of Kanyakumari, youth are in need of education and employment to avoid opting for a life of crime. Girls who drop out of school are in need of training to learn skills to become nurse's assistants and save them from lives of prostitution. A grant of \$50,000 provides soul care and education through the India Evangelical Lutheran Church. The large MITE BOX will be in the Narthex on April 4. Please take a complimentary box, and also a box for the children.

Women of Redeemer --- Mark your calendars --- April 7 --- Fellowship Hall --- Everyone welcome --- Annual Salad Luncheon at 12 NOON --- mmmmmmm good --- get ready to loosen those belts! Bring a small salad, enjoy the fabulous variety and wear your Name Tag. Mite offerings will be gathered and dedicated. The Village Strummers, a Dulcimer group will entertain us as we renew friendships and make new ones. Our own members, Lanette, Sam and Ed are some of the musicians. This is one program YOU will not want to miss!! No reservations needed.

Submitted by Vicky Davis

473-7522

Newsletter—Email vs. Mailing

Many of us now have e-mail accounts. Do you use Redeemer's Website, www.redeemerfl.com? You can listen to Sunday sermons, the choir hymns, and read and/or print the monthly newsletter and calendar.

Always looking for ways to save money, we are asking for your opinion. How many of you with e-mail accounts would like the newsletter e-mailed to you instead of receiving a hard copy? This would save the cost of mailing 230 newsletters a month, plus the cost of paper and ink estimated to be \$115. We could even save a tree by going green.

Copies would still be mailed to shut-ins and members without e-mail accounts which may not be very many. [Your response is important to us.](#)

If you are interested in receiving the newsletter via e-mail, please e-mail me, letastender@gmail.com. Thank you.

Leta Stender

Service Directory/Classified Ads

Services

Beautician/Manicurist	Debbie Balogh	Purple Palace	941-475-0731
	Linda Pontello	Purple Palace	941-475-0731

Service With A Smile: A ride to the airport, house cleaning, pet sitting in your home. Reasonable and reliable. References Call Lisa Vassallo @ 941-698-0092

John Toth Handyman. If it's broken, I can fix it. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Home: (941) 697-1670
Cell: (910) 320-4987

House Watching - Watch your house while you are back home in the north. Weekly or monthly inspection with written report on findings. Minor repairs if needed included. Monthly - \$25.00 Weekly - \$12.00 If interested, call Ed Sita 475-8116

Sales—Rentals — Pineapple Gulf Properties—Glenda McDorman, Owner/Broker (Lessie Kirch's Daughter)
880 S. McCall Rd., Englewood (941) 473-0300—Office (941) 330-7922—Cell

For Sale — Small "Dorm" Fridg. — 19" x 19" x 19" \$40.00

For Sale — Men's Degree "Driving Iron" \$20.00 Call Sammy Jollay @ 697-5905

Stewardship

Gratitude for God's Blessings, April 2010



"April showers bring May flowers" is an old saying that is fairly well known to adults and children as well. It is very true that God blesses His creation with rain which causes seeds to sprout and grow upon the earth. This blessing of rain is something good that God lavishes upon all people, regardless of whether or not they are believers in Jesus as their Savior. And, because of the blessing of rain, seedtime and harvest will prevail and the earth will yield its increase and provide food for all God's creatures. Not only does rain bring forth flowers but also the fruits and grains from gardens, vineyards, orchards and fields. God is good and His mercy endures forever. His rain will come not only in April but throughout the growing season.

We rejoice and are glad that God takes such bountiful care of our physical needs. That is important, but in April we will celebrate a special day which reminds us that God also takes care of all our spiritual needs. That day is Easter, a day set aside to celebrate the victory of Jesus over sin, death and the devil. As the Bible teaches, because He lives we shall also live. What great, good news that is to celebrate and share with others who also need to hear some good news.

Why does God lavish such rich physical blessings upon us? Dr. Martin Luther explains it so well when in the Small Catechism he wrote: *"All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true!"*

Why does God lavish upon us such rich spiritual blessings because of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus? Again, in the Small Catechism Luther wrote: *"that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true!"*

God lavishes His rich blessings upon us to manage and use in ways that honor Him and bless others as well as ourselves. This is what we mean when we talk about Christian stewardship. God's stewards freely and joyfully manage all of life and life's resources for His purposes. This management includes taking care of God's creation so that the physical needs of all God's creatures are satisfied. It also includes sharing the good news of hope and salvation through Jesus who died for us and rose again.

A blessed Easter to you all!

Joseph Friess
Stewardship Chairman

Stephen Ministry

Our most recent Stephen Minister, Tim Frees, was commissioned on March 21, 2010 after completing 50 hours of classroom study. Tim has worked in the construction industry for 36 years which is what brought him to Florida in 2004. Tim retired from the construction industry one year ago. It will be 36 years this June 8th. that Tim and his wife Mary Ann will have been married. They have 3 children, Sara who resides in Flint, Michigan, Rich who hales from Seattle, Washington and Nick living in Nashville, Tennessee. Tim and Mary Ann are new residents of Rotonda West and have been attending Redeemer since October 2009.



Tim enjoys going to the beach, sailing, spending time with family and tinkering with antique cars, one of which he owns. Him and Mary Ann love traveling and have been on 4 cruises. Also, with their children spread out across the United States they enjoy many different trips to different states.

Tim was a member of his Michigan church since 1965 and has been involved in many different positions. He has been an elder for many years. He did feel a calling to Stephen Ministry because, as an elder, visiting congregational members who many times were going through trials, he did much listening. He felt he wanted to learn the many skills of a Stephen Minister and work with people in crisis.

Tim truly has shown the compassion, faith, skill and trustworthiness that makes a Stephen Minister. We are very happy to have Tim as part of our ministry and his care receivers will be richly rewarded with the Holy Spirit working through him.

" If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ " *1 Peter 4:11b*

Submitted by Carol Carlos

Faith Night

Friday, April 23rd. is "FAITH NIGHT" at the Charlotte Sports Park. Charlotte Stone Crabs vs. Palm Beach Stone Crabs. Tickets are \$9.00 and you will receive a free baseball hat. Part of the proceeds will go to Englewood Helping Hand if purchased from a Helping Hand member.

You are encouraged to bring a canned good donation (family size only) to leave at the gate. Jane Hoivik has tickets for sale in the Narthex.

Submitted by Jane Hoivik (475-9839)

Christian Support Group

The Support Group met on the last Wednesday of February at 10:00 am, in the Quiet Room of the church Narthex. The meeting was opened with prayer and the scripture lessons - the prophecy and the triumphant entry of Jesus on Palm Sunday. Zechariah 9:9, Matthew 21: 1-5, Mark 11: 1-10, Luke 19:28-44.

The topic of the lesson referred to the role of "The Donkey". The ass, or donkey, is mentioned more than 150 times in the Bible. This fact indicates how common it was in biblical times and in biblical lands. No other animal is referred to as often.

The implications usually drawn in our day concerning this animal appear to be faulty when we know more about its real place in life in biblical times. The ass was not looked upon as a downgraded beast, and to ride on one did not indicate condescension or humiliation. On the contrary, to ride a "white ass" was a definite sign of respect and dignity. Those who possessed donkeys had high social standing in the community.

It is significant that Abraham, who is described in Scripture as being "very rich in cattle, in silver and in gold" (Gen. 13:2) "rose up early in morning and saddled his ass" when he was commanded by God to sacrifice Isaac on Mount Moriah.

The number of donkeys a man possessed was often the measure of his wealth. Job, for example, is described as a great and affluent man, having "seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household". (Job 1:8)

As saddle animals, asses apparently were preferred by officials and prominent men for normal, peaceful travel. Horses were regarded as steeds of war and were not often used in domestic and social life. The ass is naturally better for riding and carrying loads because it is more surefooted on rugged trails.

One particular incident in connection with the ass comes to the Bible reader's mind. It is Jesus' triumphal entry into the city of Jerusalem (Matt. 21(1-11)).

That this royal journey would be made on a donkey was prophesied years earlier by Zechariah. "Behold, the King cometh ...riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass" (Zech. 9:9 It is generally thought that Jesus' riding a young ass on that occasion signified great humiliation and lowliness. But if this imagery had been in the minds of the people, would they have hailed Him King and shouted, "Hosanna to the son of David... Hosanna, in the highest". (Matt. 21:9)

The word "lowly" in the prophecy of Zechariah simply indicated meekness. It signified that the Messiah; as mission was to be one of peace rather than one of vengeance and judgment. In quoting the prophecy of Zechariah, Matthew interpreted the word "lowly" as "meek", a word which means "mild, submissive, gentle, or moderate." The prophet also mentioned that the coming King would be just and that He would bring salvation.

Using the donkey as a symbol, Jesus was telling the people that He had not come to stir up insurrection and rebellion against Rome, though this was what most of them hoped and desired. Instead, He had come on a mission of peace to souls of men.

Whereas the horse usually symbolized warfare, the donkey represented tranquility and peace. This was especially true from the time of the reign of Solomon onward.

Anyone who has made much use of a donkey will concede that it is not a particularly stubborn or stupid animal, but on the whole it is quite a docile, wise and reliable creature.

God created creatures to serve man. God created human beings to honor and glorify Him by living holy lives, and also to enjoy fellowship with Him now and forever.

Is it not sad that all creatures do God's will except the noblest creature - man. The burros were fulfilling God's will for Him, yet man, God's highest creature, rebelled and refused to submit to God.

The group closed at 11:00 am with the "Lord's Prayer" and group hug.

Members of Redeemer and their friends are welcome to attend.

Submitted by Margie Cypher

LCMS World Relief and Human Care

Redeemer Lutheran Church
 6970 Mineola Road
 Englewood, FL 34224

March 2, 2010

Thank you for your gift for disaster relief! The images are hard to forget: paths of destruction left by tornadoes and earthquakes; swollen rivers flooding whole communities, roads and bridges, fires destroying everything in its path, and, thousands evacuated from their homes, jobs, schools and families.

Where do you go when there is no place to go? In times of despair, trouble and devastation, sometimes our only place is in the arms of our Heavenly Father. Thank you for caring. Your gift will allow disaster victims to go back to their homes, schools and neighborhoods and to return to a more normal life once more.

Cordially in our Lord,

Rev. Matthew Harrison, Executive Director
 LCMS World Relief and Human Care

Finance

2010 Church Actual vs. Budget Through February 28, 2010

	OFFERINGS BUDGET		OFFERINGS RECEIVED		EXPENSES	
	Month	YTD	Month	YTD	Month	YTD
Jan	\$19,954.60	\$19,954.60	\$21,281.00	\$21,281.00	\$16,652.24	\$16,652.24
Feb	\$19,954.60	\$39,909.20	\$21,878.50	\$43,159.50	\$15,213.60	\$31,865.84



GREETERS SCHEDULE

Apr. 4 LADIES GUILD
 Apr. 11 Sandy Sita & Judy Scarangella
 Apr. 18 Melissa Brew & Angie Ziegler
 Apr. 25 Carol Carlos & Carol Haupt

Submitted by Pam DeGourse

8:00
 Apr. 4 Randy & Martha Winters
 Apr. 11 Helen Perry & Helen Plank
 Apr. 18 Ed & Carol Sheahan
 Apr. 25 Bud & Jane Harty

10:30
 Apr. 4 Tim Byrne
 Apr. 11 Shirley Peterson & Virginia Glotzhofer
 Apr. 18 Eleanor Jollay & Ray Janssen
 Apr. 25 Clara Jo Toth & John Toth

HEALING:

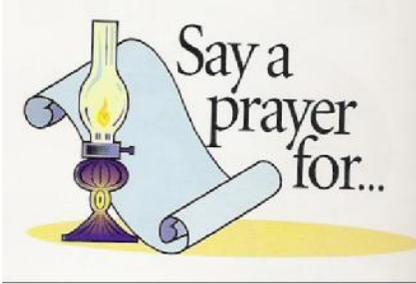
Members

Henrietta Appold
 Anthony Bruno
 Gene Eiler
 Becky Heichelbech
 Wendy Horvath
 Dick Hughes
 Bob Johnson
 Cliff Larsen
 Gary Lute
 Clara Mitchell
 Leona Morrison
 Bob Mortenson
 Herb Petersen
 Don Plesner
 Duwayne Shoeneck
 Ashley Schultz
 Sam Simonson
 Ed Sita
 Anna Smith
 Russ Spooner
 Earl Stuck
 Arlene Twombly
 Lee Vandercook
 Barbara Wolgast
 Ronald Woller

Friends & Relatives

Lorraine Agens
 Grace Blum
 Georgia Bush
 Julie Carroll
 Shirley Chattin
 Lisa Clemens
 Carly DeFeos
 John Denick
 Don Francis
 Bruce Gnatkowski
 Debbie Harrison
 Larry Headun
 Glory Herget
 Bill Hillis
 Robin Hineman
 Tom Holt
 Bob Jamney
 Douglas Johnson
 Heather Johnson
 Howard Kagay
 Rachel Kagay
 Julie Keck

Louis Kirkland
 Rev. Howie Krienke
 Elsie Malecki
 Karen Martel
 Dan Mason
 Joe Manson
 Patrick McCord
 Linda Merisko
 Pete Mogg
 Kaye Ann Nagel
 Judy Nagel
 Charles Pentecost, Jr.
 Sherrie Rhoades
 Donna Santora-Vovcsko
 Audrey Slusher
 Nancy Sly
 Michael Stio
 Marion Talley
 Phyllis Tucker
 Helen Weishaar
 Andrew Wolgast



Gloria Carlson
 Evelyn Etheridge
 Ruth Jansch
 Laura Simis
 Ruth Sutley

PRAYERS OF COMFORT for family and friends of Harriet Payne who was called to her eternal rest on March 17th.

Military Personnel

Daniel Anderson
 Col. Dennis Beatty
 Adam Buchner
 Eric Byrne
 Kevin Copeman
 Christopher Dutch
 Michael Garza
 Stephen Geib
 Christopher Hankins
 Brian Hollis
 Jonathan Hudson
 Nathan Hudson

Brian Jackson
 Keith Janssen
 Josh Johnson
 Joshua Jones
 Michael Monson
 Christian Mosser
 Luis Equendo
 Jeremy Schaitz
 Jeremy Twombly
 Katherine Utroska
 Matthew Walenta
 Charles Weishaar

Youth



Happy spring everyone! It feels good to have the weather getting warmer. The youth group hopes to have warmer weather. We have not been to the pool or beach yet this year. We enjoy those outings a great deal.

The youth group along with myself and Jim Wright would like to extend a great big thank you to all those who attended our Spaghetti dinner on March 5th. Everything seemed to run a lot smoother this year. We even had a 50/50 and some raffles. Margie Cypher won the 50/50 and donated it back to the youth group. Thank you very much Margie! Your generosity is greatly appreciated. We would also like to thank Leta Stender for donating her homemade sauce, Gudrun Janke, Rick Vassallo, Jim Wright & Ray Stender for their help in the kitchen, Barbara Duff, Sheila Murphy & Gladys Class and K.C. Wright for their help serving. Also, a big thank you to Ricaldee's and Beyond the Sea for their donations and The Ladies Guild for their delicious deserts. We look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Saturday March 27th we will be having our Car Wash @ Cape Haze Consignment from 9-2 pm. I hope everyone will bring us their dirty cars to wash. April 3rd, we will be at Winn-Dixie on Sunnybrook selling pillows and collecting donations. April 4th, we will be helping set up the Easter egg hunt between services. Also the youth will be having their second annual Golf Outing event at The Hills Golf Course April 24th. Registration is \$45 a player. Tee-off is at 10 am and registration starts at 9 am. Any questions please call Lisa Vassallo or Barbara Duff at 941-698-0093 or 941-661-1432. Continental breakfast, lunch, cash prizes and more.

We thank all of you who continue to support the youth and we hope you will continue to do so in the future. May God Bless you all.

Thank you & God Bless, Lisa Vassallo

Ladies Guild

It's hard to believe the end of another season is coming up so fast. It's been a busy year--we're in good shape financially. We've added new members. Our newest member is Donna Antonelli. Welcome Donna.

The Sarasota Zone Spring Rally is Sat. April 17th at Faith Lutheran Church in Punta Gorda, starting at 9 AM. Tickets are \$6.00. Sign up by April 7th. See Avis Stuck.

Gifts From Heart In Gathering. Underwear for children sizes 2T to 6T, socks and shoe sizes up to 9 are needed. Bring your donations and put them in the box in the Narthex.

The Guilds last meeting for this season is Wed. April 7th at 12 noon with a salad luncheon. All ladies are asked to bring a salad to share. The Executive Board will host and will be providing desserts, rolls and drinks. Following lunch we will be entertained by the Village Strummers. There are ten dulcimer players--there are Redeemer members--Lanette Schmidt, Sam Jollay and Ed Doenges. Join us--their music will mesmerize you.

Business Meeting begins at 1 PM. Election of officers will be held.

May the Lord guide and bless you till we meet again in October. Have a safe and happy summer.

Submitted by Linda Rogers, Vice President

Hannah Carlos' Mission to Greece

Greetings from Kandern, Germany!

I just wanted to update all of you a little about preparations for the mission trip to Athens, Greece that I will be going on, along with about 10 other students from my school, Black Forest Academy. Our travel arrangements are all set (we are leaving March 25) and we have been meeting regularly as a group to make preparations for the trip and pray together.

A few students have decided not to go on the trip, so our group is a little smaller and we have shifted some responsibilities around. We are planning the music, dramas, and messages that we will be sharing with the adults and children staying at "The Oasis", the refugee camp where we will be working. I am excited about the opportunity to help provide the music for the worship time along with several other duties.

Thanks so much to those of you who have contributed to the trip – you are a blessing! I would not be able to make the trip without your support. I am not quite fully funded for the trip yet. If you are still interested in making a contribution, any amount is helpful. You can learn more by reading Page 15 of this newsletter.

After the trip I will share my experiences with all of you.

God's blessings!

Hannah Carlos

Assimilation

The Assimilation Committee is pleased to announce that over 90% of the congregation has participated in having their pictures taken for the new, upcoming Redeemer Pictorial Directory. The target date for receiving the directory is still Easter. Many hours of work have gone into producing this directory "in-house". The directory will be in color and will also include name, address, and phone numbers of members. The front cover will be a clear plastic for durability, should last for many years and should be saved. Pages can also be added to the folder as new members are received. The directories will be available in the Narthex area.

Many thanks to the associate members who willingly serve for coffee hour during the winter season at Redeemer.

Submitted by Barbara Bishop, Assimilation Secretary

April Newsletter

Enrollment is 80 Children

Redeemer Lutheran

Child Care & After-School

Bible Lessons

Chapel is on Mondays at
3:45

Daniel and the Lions

Daniel 6

God made Animals and
People

Genesis 1:20-31

Jonah and the Whale

Jonah 1-4

Noah and the Flood

Genesis 6-9



Christ died for our sins.

1 Corinthians 15:3

If you would like to volunteer to come in and read the Bible story please call Wendy.

Birthdays

Amanda 4/1

Rafael 4/18

Bryce 4/18

Olivia H. 4/24

Coltin 4/25



Easter Egg Hunt

The Child Care will be having its Annual Easter Egg hunt on April 1st.

Needed Supplies

Snacks, Batteries, Paper Towels, Bleach, Baby Wipes & craft supplies. We will be celebrating Earth day in April and will need flowers and soil.

What We Are Learning

April 5-9 Zoo Animals

April 12-16 Farm Animals

April 19-23 Ocean Life

April 26-30 Big Things

Important Dates

April 2nd CLOSED for Good Friday

April 4th is Easter

April 22nd is Earth Day



Submitted by: Wendy Horvath



SCRIP

APRIL orders for Scrip will be taken at the **Ladies Guild meeting** on **Wednesday, April 7th**, and **Sunday, April 11th**, in the church narthex after the 8:00 a.m. service and before and after the 10:30 a.m. service. Orders will be returned **Sunday, April 18th**. Thank you to everyone who placed orders in March.

MAY orders for Scrip will be taken **Sunday, May 9th**, in the church narthex after the 8:00 a.m. service and before and after the 10:30 a.m. service. Orders will be returned **Sunday, May 16th**.

Scrip is a substitute for money. They are gift cards for every thing from fast food restaurants, food stores, department stores, gasoline, office product stores and even hotels, cruises and many more. Every month we have an updated **list on the desk in the Narthex**. Everyone who is interested should pick up a copy and at least see what is available.

The percentage the Ladies Guild makes is based on the scrip orders for the month. This percentage is then applied to our **mission projects**. Your support is appreciated. Thank you, Scrip Chairperson, Sybil Grahl.

What Is Scrip?

Scrip is a term that means “substitute money”. When you purchase scrip, you’re purchasing negotiable gift certificates and prepaid cards that are used just like cash. You can use scrip to purchase everyday expenses like food, clothing, and other essentials, and with every purchase, you earn revenue for our organization.

How scrip generates revenue for you

The Great Lakes Scrip Center acts on behalf of churches, schools and other non-profit organizations to purchase large amounts of scrip from grocery stores, department stores, and other retailers. Because the scrip is purchased with cash up front, the participating retailers offer a substantial discount. Our organization buys the scrip from Great Lakes Scrip Center at a discount, and re-sells the certificates to families like yours for full face value. The discount - from two to fifteen percent or more – is our organization’s revenue.

Scrip is "shopping cart fundraising"

Scrip is a popular fundraiser because families don't have to sell anything. Organization members produce revenue by making regular household purchases they would make anyway. Groceries, clothing, toys, gifts, even gasoline can be purchased with scrip.

Find Out More

Ask your scrip coordinator listed below for the latest participating retailer list. Then put your shopping dollars to work for our organization! **Contact: Sybil Grahl 941-475-0263.**

Submitted by Sybil Grahl

“Holy Week, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter”

(continued from page 1)

Easter, the celebration of Christ’s resurrection, is the queen of the Christian holy days. The word “Easter” and the German “Ostern” come from a common source, referring to the direction from which the sun rises. In other words, the word referred to the celebration of the spring sun, when all things returned to life. This symbolism was transferred to the resurrection of Christ who brings us new life.

As mentioned above, the earliest word for the annual celebration of Christ’s resurrection was probably *Pascha*. As to the dating of Easter, this has been fixed ever since the Council of Nicea in 325. At Nicea it was decided that Easter would occur on the Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox, which occurs between March 22 and April 25.

Easter celebrates Christ’s victory over sin, death, and the devil, as well as the promise of our justification and everlasting life. The season of Easter lasts 50 days until the day of Pentecost.

Holy Week is a marvelous opportunity for Christian growth. It offers incredible potential for satisfying spiritual hunger. It does this by exposing those who attend its services to God’s Word and Sacrament. In other words, we grow in Holy Week not by imitating Christ’s last days, rather, we grow as the Holy Spirit works through the Gospel and Sacrament that we hear and receive during these days. This Holy Week, may each of you come and taste and see that the Lord is good!

In His Service, Pastor Kress

Sunday School

He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Christ is arisen and the Sunday School spring quarter lessons take us through the Lenten and Easter season beginning with Jesus’ miracles, then to the Passover meal that we now know as the Lord’s Supper and to His death and Resurrection and completes the quarter with Pentecost in May. The Sunday School is very excited about the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday.

Following the Easter Egg Hunt, we will have a light breakfast and the reading of the Easter story. This will take place during the Sunday School hour at 9:15 a.m. on Easter Sunday, April 4th. All children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc., are invited to join us in celebration of Christ’s Resurrection.

Upcoming: Please look forward to the Sunday School children singing at the 10:30 a.m. service on April 18th.

The Sunday School would like to give special thanks to Tommy & Karen Kirkland and Jim & Mary Turner for filling all of the Easter eggs!

The Sunday School continues to grow in numbers and would very much appreciate donations of snacks. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

In His Service, Lisa Kress



January 9, 2010

Greetings!

As you know, my parents Jack and Cathy Carlos are attending French language school in Albertville, France in preparation for their deployment to Guinea, West Africa next fall with LCMS World Mission. Due to their relocation, I am spending my senior year of high school at Black Forest Academy, a boarding school for missionary children located in Kandern, Germany. Although the move was a big adjustment for me, my year here has been a priceless learning experience. I thank you all for your prayers for me as I made this transition!



Every Spring my school offers students the opportunity to apply to go on a week-long mission somewhere in the world - from a nearby European country to somewhere in Africa. I applied and have been blessed with the opportunity to go with 12 other students on a mission to Athens, Greece (March 22 - April 2). We will be working at "The Oasis," a refugee center for Muslim people from Iran, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Our work there will range from preparing meals and hygiene bags for the refugees, doing chores around the center, to preparing and leading Easter worship services on several different nights.

As I embark on this endeavor, I am asking for your prayer and financial support. Please pray for safe travel to and from Greece, that relationships would be formed between the students and the refugees there, and that the people we encounter might hear the good news of Jesus Christ and be blessed by our ministry. The cost of the trip \$900. If you would like to support me financially, you can send your contribution before March 1 to my Grandmother:

Audrey Hakkila (make checks payable to her please)
5361 S. Balsam Dr.
Poplar, WI 54864

Thank you and God bless you!

Hannah Carlos

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring the good news!'" Romans 10:15

