

FAITH NEWSLETTER

April / May 2019



Dear Friends in Christ,

Our lives are often filled with bad news. It's hard to escape some time. Whether it's online, on TV, or on the radio, the bad news can be overwhelming. We hear of plane crashes and mass shootings, of environmental and natural disasters. We hear of continuing arguments and divisions between political parties and ideologies. We hear of continued rejection of God's Word and the embrace of sin in all its forms. Even if you turn off the news, you probably continue to hear bad news in your own life, from your friends and family, from your doctor, and in the mail.

Are you ready for good news? The best of all possible news? Be sure to join us for our Holy Week services again this year as we hear and experience all the Good News that Jesus has for us...

Palm Sunday- Good News! Jesus comes to you in humility and mercy, not to destroy you, but to save you!

Holy Tuesday and Wednesday- Good News! Jesus forgives all your sin and guilt as you confess your sins and receive Absolution.

Maundy Thursday- Good News! Jesus gives you His body and blood to unite you with Himself and one another.

Good Friday- Good News! Jesus finished His work of salvation on the cross, and there's nothing that you need to do to earn God's Love.

Easter Vigil- Good News! The story of love that began at creation comes to completion in Jesus' resurrection, which you share in your baptism.

Easter Sunday- Good News! Jesus rose from the dead, and now all who believe in Him will rise, too.

At each and every turn Jesus has good news for you. As disappointing and depressing as this life can be sometimes, we find our hope and joy in Jesus' death and resurrection. Be sure to join us hearing again this Good News and thanking Jesus for all that He's done for us.

Do you know people in your life who are overwhelmed with bad news? Who need to hear the Good News of Jesus' death and resurrection for them? Invite them to join us for one of more of our Holy Week services this year.

God's Blessings

Pastor Birkholz

In and Around Faith Church

Ladies Aid

Please note the changes:

Our next meeting is April 13th at 10:30 AM in the Parish Hall. The May 2nd meeting will be in the church basement at 6:30 PM. We will be getting things ready for the Rummage Sale. Mark your calendars for the Rummage Sale on May 4th from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM, with the bag sale at 1:00 PM.

We will need lots of help setting up and running this event. Watch for more information in the church bulletin. Start gathering your slightly used items. Remember this event helps with needed things for the church.

VBS

VBS will be June 10 – 14 from 9:30 AM until noon. There is no cost. Children ages 3-12 are welcome. We will have a volunteer meeting on June 2nd at 11:15AM after Bible Study. Prayerfully consider helping.

Easter Breakfast

April 21st at 8:00 AM breakfast will be served in the church basement. There is no cost, but we need to know if you are planning on joining us. There will be a free will donation. For more information contact Gene Osmanski or the church office.

Private Confession

April 16, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM, April 17, 7:30PM - 9:00 PM

Come during these times to hear God's word of forgiveness for Jesus' sake spoken directly to you.

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday: April 14, 9:00AM

We join with the crowds in welcoming Jesus who comes as our humble king. The Sunday School choir will sing. We will also read together the passion account from St. Luke's Gospel.

Maundy Thursday: April 18, 7:00PM

We give thanks for Jesus' gift of Himself in the Lord's Supper and the example He set as He washed His disciples' feet. The service concludes with the stripping of the altar as Psalm 22 is sung.

Good Friday: April 19, 3:00PM and 7:00PM

In the afternoon we have the chief service, including the reading of St. John's passion. The Tenebrae vespers in the evening is filled with psalms and prayers as the church is gradually darkened.

Easter Vigil: April 20, 7:00PM

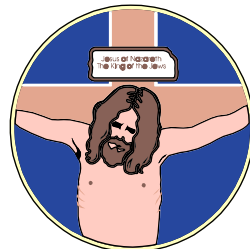
We reach the pinnacle of Holy Week as we hear once more the great stories of deliverance from the Old Testament and the proclamation of Jesus' resurrection.

Easter Sunday: April 21, 9:00AM

Our celebration of the resurrection continues as we rejoice in Jesus' victory over death and the grave.

Thought of the Day

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends.

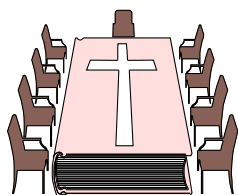


Schedule of April / May 2019 Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>April Event</u>
3	7:00 PM	Lenten Service
6	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
7	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
10	7:00 PM	Lenten Service
14	9:00 AM	PALM SUNDAY Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
18	7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Worship / Communion
19	3:00 PM	Good Friday Worship
	7:00 PM	Good Friday Worship
20	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
20	7:00 PM	Easter Vigil
21	8:00 AM	Easter Breakfast
21	9:00 AM	EASTER Worship / Communion
24	7:00 PM	Prayer Service
28	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class

Weekly Meetings

Bible Study	Fri. - 10:00 AM
AA Groups	Mon. & Fri. - 6:00 PM
	Wed. & Thur. - 7:00 PM
	Sat. - 8:00 AM
Alanon	Tue. - 7:00 PM



<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>May Event</u>
1	7:00 PM	Prayer Service
4	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
5	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
8	7:00 PM	Prayer Service
12	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
15	7:00 PM	Prayer Service
18	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
19	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
22	7:00 PM	Prayer Service
26	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
30	7:00 PM	ASCENSION DAY Worship / Communion

Hymns of the Month - Easter

“If Christ Had Not Been Raised from Death” (# 486)

Drawing from Paul’s great “Resurrection Chapter” of 1 Corinthians 15, this hymn reminds us that the resurrection of Christ is the center of our faith. Because He rose from the dead, we have the assurance of forgiveness and the hope of resurrection when He returns in glory. The words were written by Christopher Idle, a British author who has written several newer hymns in LSB, including “In Silent Pain the Eternal Son.” The tune was composed by Phillip Magness, who served at Lutheran churches in Naperville and Tinley Park and is now at a congregation in the St. Louis area.

April / May 2019 Elders, Ushers & Lay Readers

April Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

Apr. 7	Ed Neaves Mike Kampenga Mary Slepski Cheyenne Breitbarth
Apr. 14	Gene Osmanski Richard Clark Kenilynn Breitbarth Marilyn Diehl
Apr. 21	Ed Neaves Mark Trojanowski Katie Kampenga Ray Bennett
Apr. 28	Mike Kampenga Richard Clark Sarah Kampenga Rachel Kampenga

Lenten Worship 7:00 PM

April 3	Ed Neaves Mike Kamapenga
April 10	Richard Clark Gene Osmanski
April 18	Maundy Thursday Ed Neaves Richard Clark Ray Bennett Marilyn Diehl
April 19 3:00 PM	Good Friday Ed Neaves Richard Clark
7:00 PM	Mike Kampenga Gene Osmanski
April 20	Easter Vigil Richard Clark Gene Osmanski Ray Bennett Marilyn Diehl

May Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

May 5	Gene Osmanski Richard Clark Cheyenne Breitbarth Mark Trojanowski
May 12	Ed Neaves Mike Kampenga Ray Bennett Mary Slepski
May 19	Gene Osmanski Richard Clark Ray Bennett Dora Haynes
May 26	Gene Osmanski Mike Kampenga Marilyn Diehl Katie Kampenga

Lay Readers 9:00 AM Sunday

Apr. 7	Ed Neaves
Apr. 14	Mike Kampenga
Apr. 21	Katie Kampenga
Apr. 28	Ray Bennett
May 5	Mark Trojanowski
May 12	Angela Schillaci
May 19	Dora Haynes
May 26	Debbie Hochgesang

