

The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

Psalm 23:2

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"I have seen the Lord."

- John 20:18

With those words, Mary told the disciples of her encounter with the risen Lord, Jesus Christ. They are simple words. They are surprising words. The disciples did not expect such news. But Mary brought it. She had seen the Lord.

What words do you and I use to tell people about our encounter with the risen Lord? I know that the words we choose depend on who it is we are telling. But do we really believe that our words can be as simple as Mary's? Or do we think telling the news is something to be done by people who are better with words than we are? I fear that most members of Lutheran congregations think the telling of the gospel...the telling of the good news...should be done by a few. But I believe that every single one of us has a story to tell that no one else can tell. The place and time and way I will encounter the risen Lord during the coming weeks may be different from the way you encounter the risen Lord. My story, while meaningful to a few, may not connect at all with some of the people who need to hear the good news. Your story may be just what they need to hear. Your story may prepare them to see the risen Lord themselves.

Did you notice who Mary went to with the good news? She went to the disciples. She went to others who had been following Jesus and learning his way of living. So, who should you go to with the news of your encounter with the risen Lord? Start with those in your congregation. Share your story with a ministry team or class in which you participate. (If you're not a part of such a group seek out another member of Our Lord's or come and share your story with me.) Tell us of the time or times when Jesus has made his presence known to you. You will enrich our lives and prepare us for more encounters with our risen Lord.

--Pastor Darla Ann

Mayor's Prayer Dinner -- May 2, 2024

Hosted by First Baptist Church, Maryville

In order to have the correct amount of food, tickets are required. You may pick up a ticket at the church office or from Pastor Kratzer.



OUR LORD'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Called to share Christ's Love with all."

THE SPIRIT OF OUR LORD'S NEWS

April, 2024 | Volume 58, No. 4

A PUBLICATION OF OUR LORD'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.ourlords.org

April 6 & 7

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35

John 20:19-31

"Known by His Scars"

April 13 & 14

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19

Luke 24:36b-48

"No Ghost"

April 20 & 21

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

"A Shepherd's Love"

April 27 & 28

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40

1 John 4:7-8

John 15:1-8

"Interconnected"

Listen to services using your phone or tablet!

Scan the QR code or download AudioFetch on Google Play or iTunes.



Please contact Ed Foppe with your questions and feedback on the system.

Thanks to Ed for installing the device & enhancing the worship experience for members & visitors.



Saturdays at 5 pm & Sundays at 9 am
2nd Sunday at 10:45 am

5:00 pm and 9:00 am services will be livestreamed except on 2nd Sunday.

2nd Sunday Service livestreamed at 10:45 am

Good Shepherd Sunday -- April 21

Good Shepherd Sunday is a day when congregations lift up Lutheran Social Services of Illinois programs and celebrate our shared ministry. Last year, LSSI served over 50,000 people across the state by providing whole-person care through:

- mental health counseling
- foster care
- substance use services
- affordable senior housing
- services for at-risk families
- residential support for adults with developmental disabilities
- home care
- programs for current and formerly incarcerated individuals

A portion of Our Lord's Local Benevolence Giving will be sent to LSSI. If you would like to make an additional contribution, please indicate "LSSI" or "Good Shepherd Sunday" in the memo line of your check.

PENTECOST SUNDAY - MAY 19

CATCH THE SPIRIT ON PENTECOST SUNDAY AT WILLOUGHBY FARM!!!



Our Lord's is having a picnic at Willoughby Farm in Collinsville on Pentecost Sunday!

May 19th from 10:30 am - 1:00 pm

The Willoughby Farm and Conservation Reserve encompasses over 30-acres of wildlife preserve. The property is inspired by 1940's farm life, complete with tractors, barns, a 1930's Craftsman style farmhouse, and even live animals such as donkeys, a heifer, chickens, and goats!

We will be serving a picnic lunch under the pavilion at 11:00 am with hotdogs, hamburgers & turkey burgers (drinks & tableware provided). You are welcome to bring a side or dessert to share. The park opens at 9:00 am. Explore the hiking trails before lunch! Many areas on the farm are accessible to people with disabilities including parking and restroom facilities.

631 Willoughby Lane, Collinsville, IL 62234
(or Google "Willoughby Farm")

Go to WilloughbyFarm.org to see what's happening at the farm!

SERVING HOTDOGS, HAMBURGERS & TURKEY BURGERS!



**SUNDAY, MAY 19TH
10:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

THREE Opportunities to Give & Participate in 'Spring Cleaning' during April!

OLLC, Collinsville Faith in Action, & Camp Wartburg

#1 OLLC Spring Fling, Spring Clean!

It is time for the annual cleaning of Our Lords!

To share in the work involved, we are asking congregation members to contribute a few hours of their time to assist with cleaning tasks. In order to share the workload, please 'adopt' a room or space and complete the "spring cleaning" of the space. Clean your chosen space alone, partner with a church friend, sign up as a family, or identify a group/committee working together. If you cannot take on an entire space but feel you can assist with one or two tasks, let us know and we will include your help within one of the spaces.

If you cannot assist with the physical cleaning of the facilities but would like to contribute cleaning supplies are needed. A list of items to donate include:

Sign up for your space and pick up a cleaning checklist on the clipboard located in the narthex. As you complete the cleaning, list any repairs that need attention and return the repair information to the church office. Once you have completed your cleaning, notify Cyndee so the space can be removed from the to-do list. You can work anytime that is convenient for you. However, we are asking that the spring cleaning of OLLC is completed by May 11.

Spaces to be cleaned in the Worship Center include: Fellowship Hall, Kitchen, Men's Restroom & Women's Restroom, Nursery, Conference Room, Fair Trade, Commons, Narthex & Hallway, Sacristy, and Sanctuary. Life Center spaces include: Entry, Main Office Area, Box Room, Sunday School Room 1, Sunday School Room 2, Upstairs Restrooms (2 spaces), Conference Room, Upstairs Kitchen & hallway.

Questions about Spring Fling, Spring Clean! should be directed to Karen Cummings-Larson at 314-306-5987.

*Cleaning Supplies needed for
Our Lord's:*

- Paper towels
- Windex window cleaner
- Pledge spray furniture polish
- Cleaning cloths
- Dawn dish detergent
- Liquid Drain Cleaner
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Disinfecting cleaner/wipes
- Swiffer WetJet XL mop starter kit
- Swiffer WetJet XL Pad refills
- Bathroom Air Freshener

Please have OLLC cleaning supplies to church by April 10.

**#2 Collinsville Faith in Action
Spring Yard Cleanup Event**

April 20, 1:30-4 p.m.
with dinner to follow

This free service assists the older community with yard and garden maintenance. A team of volunteers clean up leaves and debris, bag it, and move to the curb for pickup.

One-time volunteers are welcomed! Additional information on page 7.

*Donations requested for
CFiA Cleanup Event*

- Yard waste bags
- Rakes
- Mulch
- Simple toolbox with basic tools

Please have CFiA donations to the church by April 14.

#3 Camp Wartburg

Camp Wartburg will host an event on April 27 to get the camp ready for its Ice Cream Social being held the following day. OLLC members are welcome to attend and assist at that clean up and party preparation event.

Additionally, a variety of donations would be helpful to Camp Wartburg as it prepares for another successful summer! The camp also collects arts and crafts supplies for summer projects. The summer 2024 theme is *Planted*. In keeping with the theme, small pots or decomposable pots for seed planting, as well as seeds and dirt are welcomed. Flower bulbs and other plants for transplanting would be helpful, too.

*Donations for
Camp Wartburg*

- Glass cleaner
- Floor cleaner
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Stainless steel cleaner
- Oven cleaner
- Armour All for vehicles
- Car wash soap
- Laundry detergent
- dryer fabric sheets
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Arts & Craft supplies for summer projects

Camp Wartburg donations accepted through April 28.

This important hands-on work at **OLLC** and support of similar initiatives at **Collinsville Faith in Action** and **Camp Wartburg** are the focus of April's Giving Emphasis.

On January 25 a group of 13 OLLC members met to discuss the potential of the church utilizing solar energy. Cost factors, practicality, and feasibility were discussed and several questions were posed. The project proposal for installation of solar energy for the Worship Center and the Life Center, along with information regarding tax credits, insurance implications, and funding plans were shared with the congregation via email. Two informational meetings will be held to address questions members have regarding the possibility and feasibility of moving forward with the

solar energy project. After the congregation has time to consider the solar energy, a vote to determine if OLLC should move forward with the project will occur.



Informational Meetings:
April 6 & 7 following worship services
Congregational Vote
April 20 & 21 following worship services

OLLC MISSION, VISION, & VALUES

Mission: "Called To Share Christ's Love With All"

Vision Statement: To be a Christ-centered place of belonging.

Value Statements:

Based on our belief that Jesus is Lord and Savior, we value:

- *Worship that celebrates our hope through Jesus' resurrection*
- *Relationships that manifest God's grace*
- *Compassion for all*
- *Christian education that encourages faithful questioning and exploration*
- *Inclusive decision making*

Priority Areas & Action Items:

- *Nurture young children, youth, emerging adults, and young families*
 - *Develop an innovative, re-imagined youth ministry program*
 - *Increase interaction between young families and older members*
 - *Promote and encourage youth involvement in congregation*
- *Serve one another, our communities, the wider world, and God's creation*
 - *Exhibit compassion through the everyday roles and relationships of our members*
 - *Equip our members to live out our mission in their daily lives*
 - *Partner with existing community service organizations to expand serving opportunities to Edwardsville, Glen Carbon and Troy areas*
- *Engage in diverse worship rhythms that engage participants and inspire spiritual growth*
 - *Clearly define and communicate the style of each of our weekend worship services*
 - *Open arms to all through diverse worship opportunities*
 - *Continually improve on our musical, technological and worship skills to offer accessible and revitalizing worship services*
 - *Celebrate togetherness as a full congregation through worship and expressive music events*
 - *Emphasize practices in worship that equip participants for faithful living in daily life*
- *Develop Caring and Connected Relationships*
 - *Gather our members and other people for dialogue*
 - *Find and take opportunities to help people share their stories, joys and concerns*
 - *Create a variety of "connect groups" for different stages of life and interest areas*
 - *Build and sustain deep relationships within the congregation*



The Mission, Vision, & Values (adopted 2021) explains the beliefs, values, and purpose of Our Lord's and are used as a guide when making decisions for future actions and experiences within the church. During the fall of 2023, the Ministry Support Team reported the following after a review of the action items within each priority area. The review highlighted that the ministry team model utilized by OLLC encourages a bottom-up flow of action rather than a top down approach. Therefore, while the Ministry Support Team noted progress made in one or more core action areas, they were reluctant to list objectives or tactics to pursue for the future in effort to minimize a top down approach to action. With that being noted they did provide a review based on prior actions and accomplishments.

- "Caring and Connected Relationships" - Opportunities for people to connect have grown rapidly since Holy Week of 2023. The Mediterranean Dinner and Easter Brunch started the ball rolling. The resumption of Sunday Hospitality time started immediately after and has grown. The "buzz" in the Commons Area is indicative of the energetic way in which people are engaging one another in conversations. The item we would most like to be the catalysts for in this area comes from the list of possibilities that could be tried is to develop a "Bible and Brew" group that meets at a local Brew Pub.
- "Nurture young children, youth, emerging adults, and young families" - Focus groups with parents indicated that 'reinventing the wheel' is not desired regarding the area of nurturing young children. They very much appreciate what we are doing now and ask that we continue to work to do these consistently and well.
- "Worship that celebrates" - We aim to focus on "Worship that Celebrates." The times when this is done, it is announced and explained.
- "Serving One Another" - The September Giving Emphasis identifying individual commitments to serve others, the OLLC ministries supported in our community and around the world, as well as the stories of OLLC impact collectively illustrate the joy of serving beyond the walls of Our Lord's.

When the Mission, Vision, and Values document was compiled, it was intended to be a 'living document' to be reviewed and revised periodically. After three years it is time to revisit and re-imagine OLLC. Although the essence of who we are as a congregation has not changed, the congregation has evolved. Life in the church is different than it was three short years ago. Revisiting and re-imagining the Mission, Vision and Values of OLLC will begin in June.

SERVING OUR LORD'S



For the next few months, we are trying something different regarding SOS. Assistance with preparation and serving the meal is needed. However, in effort to minimize cost, we will purchase food through a local wholesaler, therefore, **rather than donating specific items, we are asking anyone interested in supporting this ministry to provide cash contributions.** Donations can be given via check, cash, or through Vanco online giving, please note S.O.S. in the memo line. We will be serving March 12th at First Presbyterian in Collinsville. **Assistance with preparation and serving the meal is still needed.** The sign-up list is available in the Narthex. Please contact Gail Jorgensen or the church office with questions.

APRIL 9TH!

Worker Bees: Saturday, April 6 breakfast at 7:00 am, church 8:00 am.

If you plan on attending, please confirm by email or text to Chuck Pugh. Your assistance with mowing and trimming is needed! Contact Chuck or the church office to be included on the mowing/trimming schedule.

OLLC PRAISE BAND

To join, contact Olivia Cross or the church office.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY HOSPITALITY HOSTS NEEDED

Contact Kay Chaffee (618-210-9876) or Cindy Pugh (618-334-1046) with any questions

SUNDAY SINGERS AND RINGERS NEEDED!

Contact Cady Thomas Potts at 417-268-8777 or cady.thomas@ourlords.org for more information.

OLLC EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

PRE-SCHOOL - Grade 5 SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays in the Life Center at 10:15 am!

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Sundays at 10:15 am

Meets weekly. 2nd Sunday of the month in Sanctuary. All other weeks in the Life Center Conference Room.

HIGH SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Sundays at 10:15 am

Meets weekly in the Worship Center Youth Room.

OUR LORD'S YOUTH GROUP

OLY, the Confirmation Class, and friends will be volunteering at LeClaire Christian Church in the Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) Mobile Pack Event on **Friday, April 12** from 4 pm - 6 pm. FMSC is an amazing ministry. Learn more about it at <https://www.fmsc.org/>
The May OLY meeting will be on Sunday, May 7 at 11:30 am in the Youth Room.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sundays at 10:15 am

Luther: Gospel, Law, and Reformation

QUESTIONS BIBLE STUDY

Mondays at 10:00 am

Luther: Gospel, Law, & Reformation

MORNING GLORIES BIBLE STUDY

2nd & 4th Thursday @ 10:00 am

Winter/Spring Session

"Scripture and Nature:"

Teachers of Faith" by Rev. Sara Olson-Smith

Morning Glories meets the of each month in the Commons (WC)

FEEDING THE SOUL

Resumes April 3 with a new book: Godbreathed: What It Really Means for the Bible to Be Divinely Inspired by Zack Hunt
Wednesdays at 3:00 pm Chapel of the Pines if weather permits, otherwise LC Conference Room

OLLC FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

OUR LORD'S CRAFTERS

Crafters will meet April 24 in Fellowship Hall from 12 pm - 3 pm. Please contact Kathy Nehrt with any questions!

CRAFTS & LAUGHS

Next meeting will be April 9 at 6:30 pm

Look forward to a spring craft in April. Contact Cindy Pugh (618-334-1046) with questions. *Cost for each session is \$10.*

TUESDAY TEA

Resumes April 9

Time: 3:00 PM Central Time - every week on Tuesday. All are welcome to join us!
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86839398550?pwd=cTZUVi8ycjNlS296ZnZ4U3ErTGtwQT09>
Meeting ID: 868 3939 8550 Passcode: 511171



SERENDIPITY BOOK CLUB

Book Club will meet April 15th at 11:30 am

We will discuss "The Art of Mending" by Elizabeth Berg
Bringing your lunch is optional. Zoom will be available on request. New members ALWAYS welcome
The May book is "The Art of Deception" by Leonard Goldberg!

LOOKING AHEAD

MAY

- May 12 - Mother's Day
- May 19 - Pentecost Sunday
- May 27 - Memorial Day, Church Office Closed

Giving Emphasis:
Madagascar Companion Synod

JUNE

- June 1 - First Day Of LGBTQ+ Pride Month
- June 10-13 - Vacation Bible School @ OLLC
- June 16 - Father's Day
- June 19 - Juneteenth

Giving Emphasis:
Vacation Bible School

JULY

- July 4 - Independence Day - Office Closed

Giving Emphasis:
"Back to School"
School Supplies & St Andrew's Campus Ministry

HHH Volunteers Needed!

St. John Church, in partnership with The Collinsville Food Pantry, Collinsville Township, and the S.O.S. Soup Kitchen will again be hosting a free summer lunch program for children 4 years to 18 years of age. This will be the 11th year of the summer program.

Our theme this year is Building Up STEAM! STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics. We averaged 62 children and 24 adults per day last summer. The program is on Monday-Thursday from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. and will begin on Monday, June 3 and run through Thursday, July 25.

Along with a free hot lunch, the children receive a variety of activities including cooking & nutrition, arts & crafts, P.E., music, science, reading, and math. The Collinsville Food Pantry provides Tote Me Home bags to all the children who qualify because of food insecurity at home. Many children do not look forward to summer vacation from school because they do not receive the free breakfast and lunch provided when school is in session.

This year we need help with VOLUNTEERS to:

- Assist the cook in the kitchen one or more days a week from 10:30-1:00.
- Assist the cook with clean-up (dishes & sanitizing tables) one or more days a week from 11:30-1:00.
- Lunch Room Monitor 11:30 a.m. – 12:15 M-TH to facilitate activities as children arrive until lunch (we have the activities already planned!)
- Adults to work with youth camp counselors to guide and mentor students of all ages.
- Encourage and listen to students read (Reading Buddies) on Wednesdays from 12:30-2:00 p.m.
- Lesson plan and teach a Life Skills Class.
- **TEACH THE KIDS A HOBBY THAT YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT!** Could include Arts & Crafts, Music, Drama, sign language, knitting, chess, juggling, CPR, fishing, woodworking, etc. We will work to accommodate your schedule.

It takes about 100 volunteers to staff this huge outreach ministry! As the saying goes, it takes a village to raise a child and you are a part of the village.

homework help & hoops



Become an HHH Sponsor!

Summer is coming! Sadly, for some kids, no school means no lunch. Because the need is so high in the Collinsville Unit #10 School District all of the students receive a free breakfast and lunch. For these kids, food insecurity is a reality and they do not look forward to summer break like most kids do.

Through the St. John HHH Summer Camp program, we have been able to provide a free lunch for children 4 to 18 years old. It is operated solely on donations! In addition to the free lunches, children participate in activities to help them keep their skills sharp over the summer. The same Tote Me Home program from the school year continues to provide a free kid-friendly bag of food for over the weekend.

Our biggest concern again this summer is inflation. We expect that more parents may take advantage of HHH Summer Camp to help with the increasing prices of food.

Here is how you can help! Become an HHH Sponsor! You will be recognized for your support on our HHH Facebook page and your name will be printed on our HHH T-Shirts.

- **Bronze - Donate up to \$99**
- **Silver - Donate \$100-\$249**
- **Gold - Donate \$250 or more**

Checks should be made out to St. John Church – HHH. You may drop off or mail your check to St. John Church, Attention Dana, 307 West Clay St., Collinsville, IL 62234.

If you have ideas, would like to volunteer to help, are interested in becoming a sponsor, or would like more information, please contact Dana at 618-344-2526.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

Lutheran School of Theology is pleased to invite you to participate in our spring class on

The Psalms for Justice-Seekers and Peacemakers

Dr. Clint McCann, Facilitator

Thursdays, April 18 & 25, May 2 & 9, 2024, 6:30-8:00 p. m. via Zoom

The Book Of Psalms Has For Centuries Been A Source Of Comfort, Consolation, And Encouragement For Jews And Christians. It Is Clearly A Spiritual Classic! The Spirituality Resourced By The Psalms Has Almost Always Been Individually-Focused And Often Meditative, And This Is Of Great Value. But The Psalms Can Do More, And These Sessions Will Explore How The Psalms Can Also Be A Resource For A More Activist, Outward-Looking Spirituality Oriented To Justice-Seeking And Peacemaking.

Register today for \$55 at <https://lststl.org/the-psalms-for-justice-seekers-and-peacemakers/> Recordings will be available for missed classes.



Announcing Synod-Wide Survey

Help us "PIE" the Bishop and raise \$2,000 for ELCA World Hunger!

YOU are invited to participate in the next phase of our synod-wide listening and vision process through an online survey that will be live **April 3-17**. To access the survey, please click on the following link or scan the QR code beginning April 3:



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSIS-Survey>

Help us meet our goal of at least 500 completed surveys! If we meet our goal, we will celebrate at our Synod-Wide BBQ and Hymn Fest on Friday, June 7 during Synod Assembly.

- At least 300 completed surveys = a pie in the face of Deacon Jason Fisher, Director for Evangelical Mission
- At least 400 completed surveys = a pie in the face of both Deacon Jason Fisher AND Pastor Amy Zietlow, Assistant to the Bishop for Transformational Leadership
- At least 500 completed surveys = a pie in the face of Deacon Jason Fisher, Pastor Amy Zietlow, AND Bishop Greg Busboom

In addition, thanks to a generous CHALLENGE GIFT from disciples of Jesus in our synod, if we reach our goal of 500 surveys, \$2,000 will be given to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

YOUR VOICE and the voices of ALL in our synod are needed! Thank you in advance as we listen together for how the Spirit is calling us to move forward together!

Leading in HOPE †,
Bishop Greg Busboom

Nominate Young Musicians for Lutheran Summer Music



Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival (LSM) is a residential academy for high school musicians. Students study with nationally recognized faculty and are immersed in musical experiences through large ensembles (choir, band and symphony orchestra), chamber music, private lessons, elective classes, ongoing recitals and concerts. Students also experience a welcoming and joyful community that worships together daily, offering musical gifts through Lutheran liturgy and hymnody.

LSM 2024 takes place at Valparaiso University in Indiana from June 30-July 28 and is open to students who have completed grades 8-12. Spots for LSM 2024 are filling fast! Nominate a student today at LSMacademy.org/nominate.

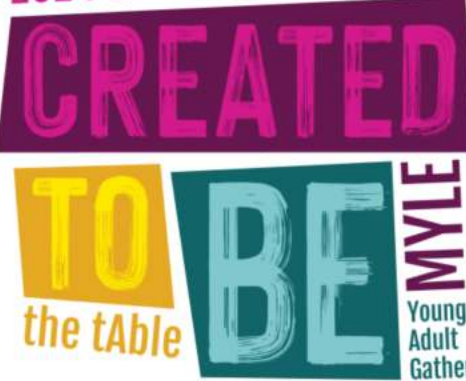
**Solar Eclipse Event at Trinity, Olney, IL
April 6-8**

You are invited to Trinity Lutheran Church's Eclipse Weekend Event, April 6-8. Join for the weekend or just a day. Free camping is offered at the church; you are invited to sleep inside the church or outside. A limited number of RVs/campers can be accommodated (no electricity/water/sewer available).

There will be an astronomy program about viewing and photographing the eclipse with telescope viewing and stargazing at night, and activities will be provided for kids. Bishop Busboom will preach at the worship service on Sunday, April 7.

For more information, contact the church office at trinityolney@gmail.com or 618-392-4181.

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering



**ELCA Youth Gathering
July 16-20**

COLLINSVILLE FAITH IN ACTION

Faith in Actions across the country, Guam, and Puerto Rico are celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the very first Faith in Action founding. In this 40th year, FIAs and other volunteer caregiving groups across the nation are challenging our community members to join us as volunteer caregivers by committing to 40 hours of volunteerism over a 40-week period. Ready for the 40 in 40 Challenge? 40 in 40 is open to current and new volunteers starting April 1st. Call Karen at 618-344-8080, extension 106 for details.

Saturday, April 20 is CFIA's Spring Yard Cleanup. This free service helps older community members remain in their own home by assisting them with yard and garden maintenance. A team of volunteers will arrive in the afternoon to clean up leaves and debris, bag it up, and move to the curb for pickup. Our townships and cities generously offered to pick up the yard waste bags in the week following the event. Call CFIA at 618-344-8080 to sign up for the free service. We welcome one-time volunteers for this event, so please connect with us if you would like to join in the fun workday. We also welcome school, youth, and scout groups. Call Karen at CFIA to volunteer for the event.

Give STL Day is "an online day of giving powered by the St. Louis Community Foundation," and Collinsville Faith in Action will be participating again in 2024. Please consider logging on to www.givestlday.org on Thursday, May 9 to make a donation.

In faith and gratitude,
Lisa C. Brennan, Executive Director



FOR YOUR SAFETY

If you find yourself alone in the Worship Center or Life Center, please keep all exterior doors locked. Due to our location, unknown individuals have come to the church looking for assistance. **ALL** members have key access to the buildings. If someone does approach you seeking assistance, direct him/her to the Maryville Police Station.

MISSING KITCHEN LINENS

Please check your kitchen for OLLC Kitchen Linens. The kitchen was well stocked with dish towels and cloths several months ago but it seems that many towels are now missing. If you took linens home, please return as soon as possible. The kitchen is used often and the linens are needed.

PRAYER CONCERNS

CONGREGATION MEMBERS

Don Klingsick	John Nehrt	Joyce Tatjenhorst
Dan Homes	Chuck Jorgenson	Luke Huster
Kim Payne	Sonja Cheatham	Kendyll Pugh
Linda Spencer	Rod Orr	Sarah White
Brian Kassing	Dean Lackey	Greg Fremder
Don Simonson Sr.	Tony DiBartollo	Dave Chaffee
Nicole Williams		Chad Baczewski

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Mary & David Findley	Donna Fisher	Rose K
Carol Gendron	David Dow	Julie
Diane Daubs	Burk Bruninga	Kathy
Rosy Park	Shelley Bruntjen	KC
Fran Baker Black	Wyatt Owens	Grace
Yvonne Tritt	Richard Henderson	Teresa
Aryan & Trinity Spurgeon	Ken Hedger	Anne
Greg Beaver	Pearl & Sean	Elisha
Tammy Green	Stuart Stickel	Dianne
Barb Carver	Jim Kilgore	Marg L.
Janet Borowitz	Barbara & Joyce	Jamie
Sheryl McBride	Beverly Boewen	Dean
Dale & Carole	Dave Galyon	Jim R.
Larry Estal	Jamie Moravec	Mary Jean
Richard Henderson	Gunnel Magneson	Justine F.
Dave Robicheau	Jason Carle	Margaret
Megan	Ollie	



PRAY FOR THOSE THAT HAVE DIED & FAMILIES THAT ARE GRIEVING

Norman Hoelscher (father of Steve Hoelscher)
 Lally Lacy (friend of Mike Williams)
 Debbie Schubert (friend of Mike Williams)
 Deborah Lloyd (sister of Mike Williams)
 Autumn Owens
 (Autumn's family and request submitted by Caryl Kassing)

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

Zach Huff	Lance Cpl. Clayton Campbell
John Meyer	Major James Carmichael
Zachary Neubauer	Airborne Ranger Keegan Crosby
Amador Ochoa	Staff Sgt. Tyson Crosby
Capt. Blake Crosby	Erica Webb, US Private E-3
Josh Pace	SrA Paul Kampwerth
Scott Prengel	Staff Sgt. Skipper Smith
Jake Randall	Sgt. Matthew Spencer (Ret.)
SPC Bill Homes	Staff Sgt. Stephan Spencer

APRIL CELEBRATIONS

APRIL Birthdays

Harper Lilly	Steve Perry	Ann Schwartzkopf
Rachel Schoenecker	Olivia Comrie	JoAnn Hartke
Alison Kirk	Randy Steele	Jake Scheiter
Elaine Collier	Leonard Stensland	Julie Scheiter
Barbara Werne	Sean Crosby	Lisa Bush
John Nehrt	Blake Trucano	Glenda Klingsick
Brian Gunderson	Norma Klingsick	Josie Steinmann
Deb Ackerman	Katelyn Foppe	Joann Sullivan

APRIL Anniversaries

Robin & Lance Wellener
Jeeff & Terry Menz
Robber & Carol Hanock
Zachary & Madeline LaMar
John & Kathy Nehrt
Neil & Lisa Micnheimer
Bill & Cindy Diggs
Tim & Connie Nyland

REMINDERS

PRAYER LIST

Please let the office know if you would like to add a new person, remove a current person, or change the status of anyone on our prayer list. OLLC practice include removing individuals from the prayer lists **after 8 weeks** unless an update is received

PRAYER VENTURES

Two pages of monthly prayer support for ELCA ministries are available at: <https://www.elca.org/Resources/Prayer-Ventures>

WHEN YOU HAVE CHANGES

Please let the church office know of changes to e-mail address, mail/resident addresses, telephone numbers, job, college, graduations etc.

OTHER INFORMATION

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America -- <https://www.elca.org/>
 Central Southern Illinois Synod -- <https://www.csis-elca.org/>



OLLC now offers multiple ways to give. Simply visit the church's donation page <ourlords.org> and donate using your credit or debit card. Another easy way is to simply scan this QR code with your smart phone. The QR code takes you directly to the OLLC giving page. On the giving page you have the opportunity to identify if your contribution is for Benevolence (church expenditures) or for one of the designated funds associated with an Our Lord's ministry. Of course, cash or check are always welcomed. No matter how you choose to give, donations received will help us sustain our ministries throughout the year.

Thank you for all you do to support the mission of Our Lord's Lutheran Church!

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

OLLC STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Darla Ann Kratzer,
Pastor

Cynthia Haggitt,
Administrative Assistant

Cady Thomas Potts,
Director of Worship Music for
Sundays & Special Services

Olivia Cross,
Leader of Non-Traditional
Worship Music

Dr. Rhonda Comrie,
Organist

Matt Gross,
Streaming Tech

Benjamin Maynard,
Worship Tech

CHURCH COUNCIL

Dr. Karen Cummings-Larson,
President

Dr. Emily Truckenbrod,
Vice President

Jeanette Goetter,
Secretary

Dr. Laura Schoenecker,
Treasurer

Linda Hester,
Member At-Large

The Rev. Dr. Darla Ann R. Kratzer,
Pastor

MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM

Kathy Nehrt: Education

Cindy Pugh: Fellowship

Ed Foppe: IT

Carol Orr: Service

Dr. Rhonda Comrie: Worship

Sunday School:
Lisa White

Fair Trade Store:
Mike Williams
vablu2@aol.com

Newsletter Editor:
K. Cummings-Larson

COUNCIL BRIEFS

Making decisions do not come easy to me, I am fearful of making the wrong decision. Are there good choices and bad choices? Yes, of course. Frequently, I find myself stuck between a good choice and another good choice, trying to figure out which one is perfect. **There is no such thing as a perfect decision. Perfection is an illusion.** No decision I make will be completely awful. Nor will any decision be completely awesome. Every decision is a package deal of both. There are always decisions to make and I must keep in mind God's promises are not dependent on my ability to always choose well, but rather on His ability to use well (*from a devotion by Lysa TerKeurst*).

March was another month of discussion for the council. The meeting encompassed many topics with a few action items.

- The annual budget identifies 1% of general benevolence as giving to local organizations. Each quarter the council identifies the allocation of all or part of these funds. During the March meeting, S.O.S. and Homework, Help & Hoops were identified to receive \$370 each from these funds.
- The hearing assist device has been installed and adjustments made. A QR code for connecting to the device through AudioFetch is available (see page 1 of newsletter).
- An update of Solar Energy was given.
- VBS at Our Lord's will be June 10-13.
- In addition, we discussed the review of the OLLC Mission, Vision, & Values. This document is used as the basis when many decisions are made. Adopted in 2021, it is time to revisit and re-imagine the mission, vision, values and priority areas within OLLC. A team will be assembled to discuss the church mission, vision, and values (see page 4 of the newsletter). The process will begin early summer and proposed revisions, if needed, will be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting in January, 2025.

May God continue to bless our congregation as we make decisions and move forward fulfilling our mission. We ask that God grants us the wisdom to make wise decisions and the discernment to choose the right path.

Yours in Christ, Karen Cummings-Larson

If you would like to become involved in the leadership at OLLC, (serving on church council or as part of the ministry support team) please contact Pastor Darla Ann or a council member. If you are interested in attending a meeting, contact the church office for access information.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Cash Assets of the Congregation

(financial figures are taken from the March 2024 Treasurer Report given to the OLLC Council by Treasurer Laura Schoenecker)

February 2024 Giving	\$24,693	Cash - Unrestricted	\$39,375
(Includes "General Benevolence" & "Designated" giving)		Cash - Designated	<u>\$58,586</u>
		Total cash	\$97,961

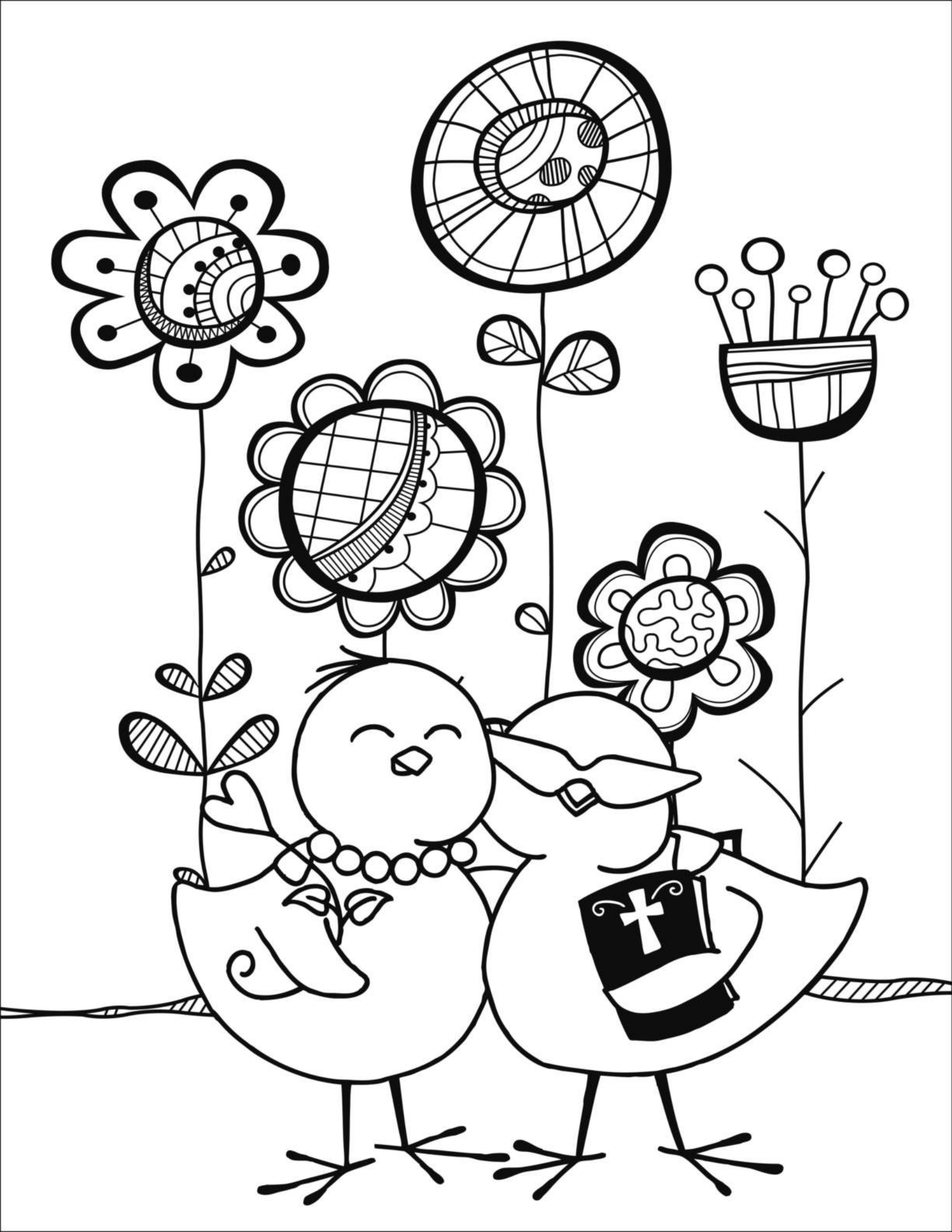
February 2024 Expenditures	\$27,776
(Includes "General Benevolence" & "Designated" expenditures)	

Balances in Selected Designated Funds
as of February 29, 2024

Building and Grounds	\$4,549	Our Lord's Youth.....	\$13,632
Fair Trade.....	\$985	Thiel Estate Bequest.....	\$21,493
Funeral Luncheons.....	\$2,411	Memorial.....	\$6,494
IT.....	\$498	Elmwood Project.....	\$942
Kitchen Team.....	\$341	Mind the Gap.....	\$752
After Church Fellowship.....	\$514	People in A Pickle.....	\$681
		SOS Soup Kitchen.....	\$1,078

Note: payments labeled "Cooling Our Lord's," "Restoring Our Lord's," or "VIF/Boom, Mortgage, etc." will be deposited into "Building and Grounds," as the aforementioned funds are no longer active.

Thank you for sharing your financial resources with this congregation in support of the mission we share.



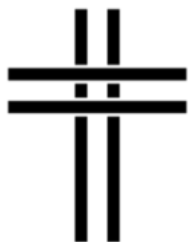
APRIL 2024 CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<p>2024: A New Era of Giving</p>	<p>1 Annunciation of Our Lord (transferred)</p> <p>3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC</p> <p>Easter Monday OLLC Office Closed</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room</p> <p>7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - Chapel in the Pines weather permitting</p> <p>3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts- WC</p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath</p> <p>3:30 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 AM Worker Bees</p> <p>3:30 PM Praise Band Practice</p> <p>5:00 PM Worship: Praise Service</p> <p>Solar Energy Informational Meeting Following Worship Service</p>
	<p>7 Second Sunday of Easter</p> <p>9:00 AM Worship: Traditional Service</p> <p>10:15 AM Pre K - HS Sunday School Classes</p> <p>10:15 AM Confirmation</p> <p>10:15 AM Adult Bible Study</p> <p>Solar Energy Informational Meeting Following Worship Service</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 AM Questions Bible Study</p> <p>3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC</p>	<p>9 OLLC Serves S.O.S.</p> <p>3:00 PM Tuesday Tea- Zoom</p> <p>6:30 PM Crafts & Laughs - WC</p> <p>7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room</p> <p>7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement</p> <p>OLLC Cleaning Supplies due</p>	<p>10</p> <p>3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - Chapel in the Pines weather permitting</p> <p>3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts</p> <p>6:30 PM Ministry Support Team Mtg.</p> <p>OLLC Cleaning Supplies due</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00 AM Morning Glories</p> <p>5:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts- WC</p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath</p> <p>3:30 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC</p> <p>4:00 pm -6:00 pm</p>
<p>14 Third Sunday of Easter</p> <p>9:00 AM Worship: Traditional Service</p> <p>10:15 AM Pre K - HS Sunday School Classes</p> <p>10:15 AM Confirmation</p> <p>10:15 AM Adult Bible Study</p> <p>10:45 AM Worship: In-Building Traditional Service</p> <p>CFIA Workday Supplies due</p>	<p>15 Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>10:00 AM Questions Bible Study</p> <p>11:30 AM Serendipity Book Club</p> <p>3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC</p> <p>6:30 PM Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>3:00 PM Tuesday Tea- Zoom</p> <p>7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room</p> <p>7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement</p>	<p>17</p> <p>3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - Chapel in the Pines weather permitting</p> <p>3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts</p> <p>7:00 PM Lakeview Garden Club Meeting - WC</p>	<p>18</p> <p>5:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts - WC</p> <p>6:00 PM MOC Committee Meeting @ New Rivers</p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath</p> <p>3:30 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:00 AM La Leche League - WC</p> <p>3:30 PM Praise Band Practice</p> <p>5:00 PM Worship: Praise Service</p> <p>Congregational Meeting Vote on Solar Energy Following Worship Service</p>
<p>21 Fourth Sunday of Easter</p> <p>Good Shepherd Sunday</p> <p>9:00 AM Worship: Traditional Service</p> <p>10:15 AM Pre K - HS Sunday School Classes</p> <p>10:15 AM Confirmation</p> <p>10:15 AM Adult Bible Study</p> <p>Congregational Meeting Vote on Solar Energy Following Worship Service</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00 AM Questions Bible Study</p> <p>3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC</p>	<p>23</p> <p>3:00 PM Tuesday Tea- Zoom</p> <p>7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room</p> <p>7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement</p>	<p>24</p> <p>12:00 PM Our Lord's Crafters - WC</p> <p>3:00 PM Feeding the Soul - Chapel in the Pines weather permitting</p> <p>3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00 AM Morning Glories</p> <p>5:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts- WC</p> <p>6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal - WC</p> <p>7:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal - WC</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Pastor's Sabbath</p> <p>3:30 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC</p>	<p>27</p> <p>3:30 PM Praise Band Practice</p> <p>5:00 PM Worship: Praise Service</p>
<p>28 Fifth Sunday of Easter</p> <p>9:00 AM Worship: Traditional Service</p> <p>10:15 AM Pre K - HS Sunday School Classes</p> <p>10:15 AM Confirmation</p> <p>10:15 AM Adult Bible Study</p> <p>Camp Wartburg Supplies due</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:00 AM Questions Bible Study</p> <p>3:00 PM Music Lessons, C. Thomas Potts -WC</p>	<p>30</p> <p>3:00 PM Tuesday Tea- Zoom</p> <p>7:00 PM NAR-ANON - LC Conference Room</p> <p>7:00 PM NA Recovery - LC Basement</p>	<p>April Giving Emphasis: Spring Cleaning!</p> 			

The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
Psalm 23:2

"The Spirit of Our Lord's News"
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April 2024 Newsletter

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