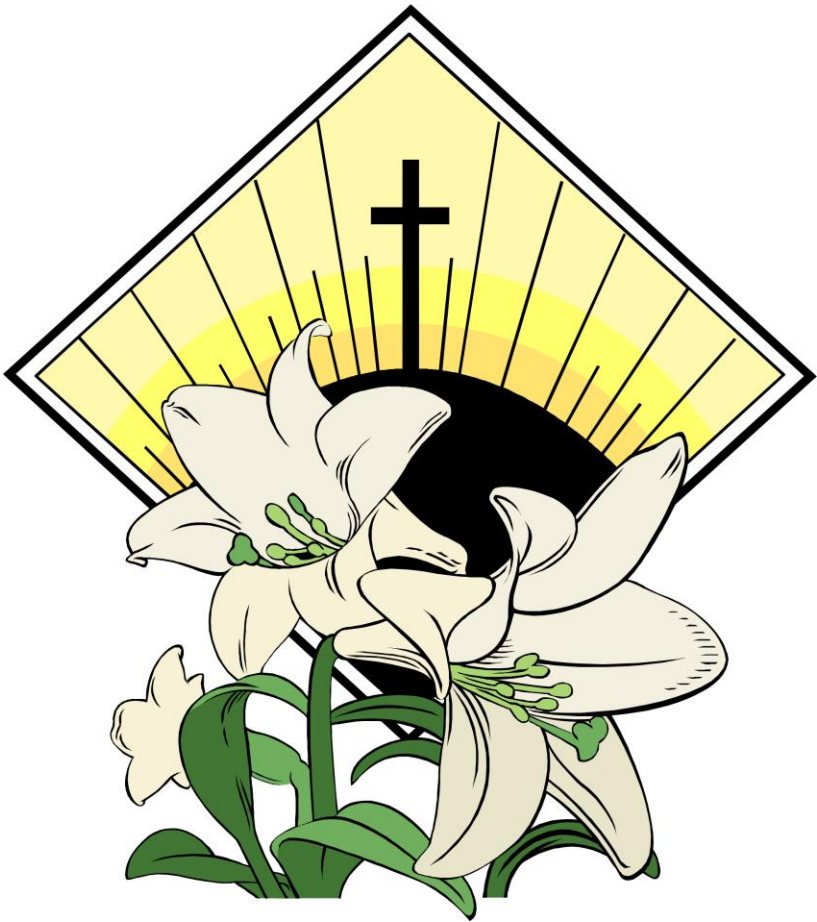


Tidings of Hope

April 2023



Hope Lutheran Church
Ladysmith, Wisconsin

Tidings of Hope

Information & Inspiration

April 2023

Death & Resurrection

By Pastor Christopher Martin

We are getting close to Easter! The annual celebration of the biggest festival of the liturgical calendar: the Resurrection of Our Lord. The moment that death is defeated once and for all, and the gates to eternal life are opened for us by our Lord Jesus Christ. It is the most anticipated Sunday of the entire year for Christians, and it is the Sunday we typically see our highest attendance. Easter is a big deal, and it should be!

But what we often overlook is this reality: in order for death to be defeated, and in order for Jesus to rise from the dead, a death had to take place. Jesus had to die in order for Easter to happen. When we read the Gospel accounts, we see and hear Jesus on multiple occasions tell His disciples what being the Christ, what being our Savior was about: that He had to go to Jerusalem, be betrayed into the hands of His enemies, suffer many things at the hands of the religious leaders, be put to death, and on the third day, be raised from the dead. Jesus was very clear with His disciples that He had to suffer and die, in order to go about the work of resurrection. But what was often the reaction of His disciples? Peter said he wasn't going to allow that to happen to Jesus. The disciples argued among themselves over which one was the greatest. James and John asked Jesus to sit at His right and left once Jesus set up His worldly kingdom of power and might. They completely tuned out Jesus because they were extremely uncomfortable at the thought of Jesus having to suffer or die! And yet, throughout, Jesus was very clear this **MUST** happen to Him, because it was through death, that His followers would have the assurance of forgiveness of sins and life everlasting when Jesus rose from the dead.

(continued)

(Pastor's column, cont.)

Likewise, for us as Christians, as disciples of our Lord Jesus, sometimes we get so wrapped up in what we hold as important in this life, that we lose track of the reality that we are promised by our Lord Jesus to be resurrected from death to everlasting life with Him! But the life that we will be raised up to live isn't quite like the life we have in this world. For those of us who repent of our sins and believe that Jesus is our Savior, and trust in Him as the source of our forgiveness and life, our death is not the end, just as it was not the end of for Jesus. It is, as a dear friend of mine would say, is reduced to being the vehicle God uses to deliver us from this life that is afflicted by sin, suffering, sorrow, tears, pain, and death, to life everlasting, where we will never know sickness, sorrow, pain, betrayal, injustice, or any of the other things that often weigh us down.

To put it another way, Easter reminds us of what is to come for us, but for that to come, we have to die to the things of this world, and focus our faith, and our entire life, in our Savior, Jesus. He desires so much more for us than what this world will offer. Because this world cannot offer anything that lasts forever. Jesus provides what does last forever: forgiveness and life everlasting! So what's getting in the way of your rejoicing in what Easter truly provides for the Christian? What are you clinging to in this world as your sense of security, or that occupies your attention that draws it away from the cross and the empty tomb? As you prepare for Easter, I encourage you to set aside your faith and trust in anything or anyone in this world, and place it on your Savior, Jesus, and His life, death, and resurrection, which offer you true life and peace.

I look forward to celebrating Holy Week and Easter with you this year. I also encourage each and every member of this congregation to join us for all of the services of Holy Week, as we follow our Savior from His entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, to the upper room of Maundy Thursday, to the foot of the cross on Good Friday, and finally, the empty tomb of Easter. Let's not forget that through Jesus, true life comes from death, and let's not ever grow weary of proclaiming that reality to our community, and the world.

Mission Statement

Hope Lutheran Church is commissioned to make disciples, commanded to love God and others, and committed to serve.



Holy Week & Easter Worship

Palm Sunday, April 2

Worship with Holy Communion at 9:00am

Christ in the Passover: A Presentation

Tuesday, April 4 at 6:30pm.

This powerful presentation, shared by Liz Goldstein from Jews for Jesus, will demonstrate the link between the Jewish feast of Passover and the last supper Jesus shared with His disciples.

Maundy Thursday, April 6

Worship with Holy Communion at 6:30pm

Good Friday, April 7

Worship at 6:30pm

Easter Sunday, April 9

Worship with Holy Communion
7:00am and 10:00am

An Easter Breakfast will be served in the fellowship hall from 8:00-9:30am on Easter Sunday. A free-will offering will be received with proceeds benefiting youth ministries.

New Member Recognition Sunday

We will be having a much-delayed New Member Recognition on Sunday, April 30, welcoming those who have joined Hope Lutheran Church since the start of the pandemic. New members are Michael & Jordan Anderson and their children, Bjorn & Solveig, Sherry Hemm, Joel & Cassandra Solsrud and their daughter, Brinley, and Jim Spielman. A reception will be held in their honor during the fellowship time following worship.

A potluck lunch will also take place that day at 11:00am. Please bring a dish to share. Following lunch there will be a time of indoor games. Everyone is welcome and are invited to stay for all or just a part of the day's events.



Donuts & Devotions: Youth in grades 6-12 are invited for Donuts & Devotions on Sunday, April 16 at 10:15am in the upstairs youth room. Friends are welcome!

Mission Trip: The Youth Ministry Committee is narrowing down the dates for the summer 2023 youth mission trip. This will be a one-day trip to the Twin Cities to volunteer at Feed My Starving Children followed by some time at Valleyfair. Potential dates are June 24 or August 5. Youth who are interested in participating should contact Julie Kammerud by April 15 (612-481-9484 or juliekammerud@gmail.com). If you have already registered your interest with Julie, there is no need to respond again unless your plans have changed.

Sunday School News

Children PK through 6th grade are invited to participate in our Palm Sunday procession during the 9:00am worship service on April 2. Children should meet at 8:00am in the large Sunday School room in the education wing for palms and costumes (optional). Parents are welcome to join the processional. Children are also invited to sing "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me" prior to the children's sermon that day. We will rehearse at 8:30am in the large Sunday School room.

Sunday School classes will not meet on Sundays, April 2 & 9 but will resume on April 16. The last Sunday School class for this school year will be Sunday, April 30

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

~ 1 Peter 1:3

Summary of Council Meeting - March 21, 2023

Congregational Care & Outreach: Marriage Enrichment program will begin in April. Second GriefShare session is ongoing. Have been contacting inactive members. New Member Sunday will be held April 30. Planning for Farmers' Market booth again this summer. Next meeting: April 12 at 3:00pm.

Parish Education: Proposal to resume Wednesday School was presented. After considerable discussion, Council recommended to the Committee that they use the months between now and September to completely reevaluate the Wednesday School program and promote it as a program of the entire congregation, recruit volunteers, and evaluate the educational materials to give the program the best chance of success. Next meeting: April 3 at TBD.

Property: Hoping to repair the fascia this year. Outside handrails will need to be sanded and painted when the weather allows. Repairs to the boiler were again needed. Committee will be seeking estimates on possible replacement options, as the current boilers are over 30 years old. Spring cleaning day tentatively planned for May. Next meeting: April 11 at 6:00pm.

Service & Fellowship: There were 22 people present for the March Meal of the Month at Grandpa's Pizza. Committee will be planning future meals on varying days and times to open them up to a wider group. Committee will be sending out Easter greetings and gift cards to our college students. Next meeting: April 12 at 1:00pm.

Social Ministries: The February MANNA Meal served 39. Food Pantry usage was down in February. Missions and benevolence funds were designated for Samaritan's Purse (Turkey earthquake fund), Raising Highly Capable Kids, and the Ladysmith Care & Rehab Resident's Activity Fund. Next meeting: April 11 at 4:00pm.

Stewardship & Finance: Did not meet due to lack of quorum. Next meeting: April 11 at 5:30pm.

Worship & Music: Hope will be hosting a "Christ in the Passover" presentation on Tuesday, April 4 at 6:30pm, led by Liz Goldstein of Jews for Jesus. Blue Hills Chorale will not be having a concert at Hope due to some scheduling conflicts. Next meeting: April 11 at 6:00pm

(continued)

(Council Summary, cont.)

Youth Ministries: Soup suppers have been going well and Easter breakfast being planned. Working on graduate recognition Sunday and a one-day mission trip for the summer. Next meeting: April 3 at 5:35pm.

Next Council Meeting: April 18 at 6:30pm.



APRIL WEDDING
ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|----|----------------------------|
| 5 | Jeff & Diane Meuli | 22 | Pat & Diane Cumming |
| 8 | Craig & Carrie Becker | 27 | Brad & Bonnie Billings |
| 11 | Becky & Douglas Kileteny | | Leonard & Jeanne Hess |
| 19 | Shad & Kory Strom | | Michelle & Dustin LaBlonde |
| 21 | Dan & Danita Everett | | |





Deadlines...

Items for the weekly bulletin are due in the church office no later than noon on Wednesday. Items for the May newsletter are due in the church office by April 18.

The preferred method of submission is via email (hlcladysmith@gmail.com) or electronic file. Items may also be left in the office mailbox or dropped off at the office during office hours.

Change of Address and/or Phone Number?

If you have had a change in address or phone number, please notify the church office of these changes. Also, in an effort to improve communication we are seeking email addresses for members of the congregation. If you would like to have your email address added to the list, please send it to the church office.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Christopher Martin
Church Secretary	Bonnie Billings
Custodian	Rosemary Warwick
Organists	Lisa Borman Karen Tappan Terry Wedwick

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P.O. Box 184
Ladysmith, WI 54848
Church Phone: 715-532-7739
E-Mail Address: hlcladysmith@gmail.com
Website: hlcladysmith.org



The Hope Lutheran Church
Scandinavian Dinner

will take place on
Wednesday, April 19
from
4:30-6:30pm

Cost

\$12.00/adult

\$13.00/carry-outs

\$7.00/students (12 & under)

Preschoolers & younger eat free.

The menu will include baked ham, meatballs & gravy, mashed potatoes, baked beans, glazed carrots, salads, homemade rolls, lefsø, rice pudding, and Scandinavian baked goods.





April Worship Assistants

2 - Palm	Ushers	Dave Borman, Charlie Holtebeck
Sun	Lector	Jana Nyhagen
	Comm. Asst.	Chris Holtebeck
	Acolyte	Sophia Kammerud
6 - Holy	Ushers	Kathy Peterson, Irene Titera
Thurs.	Lector	Rosemary Johnson
	Comm. Asst.	Irene Titera
	Acolyte	Tanner Davis
7 - Good	Ushers	Gordie & Bev Dukerschein
Fri.	Lector	Dukerschein
	Acolyte	Sophia Kammerud
9 - 7am	Ushers	Gordie & Bev Dukerschein
	Lector	Dukerschein
	Comm. Asst.	Dukerschein
	Acolyte	Izzy Solberg
9 - 10am	Ushers	Nick & Nicholas Sovacool, Aileen Tauchen
	Lector	Nick Sovacool
	Comm. Asst.	Linda Campbell
	Acolyte	Briley Burmeister
16	Ushers	Dave Borman, Charlie Holtebeck
	Lector	Irene Titera
	Comm. Asst.	Chris Holtebeck
	Acolyte	Sophia Kammerud
23	Ushers	Don & Judy Soyring
	Lector	Linda Campbell
	Comm. Asst.	Bradon Martin
	Acolyte	Tanner Davis
30	Ushers	Dave Borman, Irene Titera
	Lector	Bonnie Billings
	Comm. Asst.	Linda Campbell
	Acolyte	Izzy Solberg



Birthdays

- 1 Jim Segebrecht
- 2 Evan Effertz
Brad Hon
Brian Johnson
Jennifer Snyder
- 3 Amanda Hills
Josh Lee
- 4 Diane Doke
Jake Peggarr
- 5 Greg Anderson
Lindsay Martin
- 6 Mady Clark
Manuel Moore
Kyle Towberman
- 7 Madeline Bunton
Shelby Moore
Lance Mulholland
Jessica Sands
- 8 Adyara Hanaman
- 9 Doreen Larson
Spencer Mautner
Doug Titera
- 10 Tobey Krisik
Pam Lee
- 11 Mark Berg
Leah Bunton
Cindy Krings
Michelle Stohr
- 12 Cindy Albus
Joe Lawrence
Heather Shineflew
- 13 Megan vanDoorn
- 14 Michael Beckett
- 15 Lindsay Schmidt
Carter Pohlman
- 16 Dan Everett
Dale Lund
- 17 Jackie Buchholz
Nick Sovacool
Payton Wold
- 18 Alli Clark
Eme Clark
Kylie Osterbauer
- 19 Ellen Schueller
Alyssa Read
- 20 Stacey Petrus
Shelly Richardson
- 21 Caitlin McGinnis
Elizabeth Narvaez
Sarah Foss
- 22 Olivia Bunton
Vicki Monnier
Jason Peggarr
- 23 Matthew Hanaman
Patrick Morgan
Linda Wester
- 24 Breena Effertz
Michael Elling
Aileen Tauchen
- 25 Margaret Jennerman
- 26 Katie Anderson
Pat McEathron
Stacy Richardson
- 27 Sarah Billings
Liz Robertson
- 28 Laurie Lemke
Taylor Molstad
Kip Samardzich
Rose Warwick
- 29 Briley Burmeister
Dixsia Dedrickson
Jesse Polak
- 30 Megan Dieckman



PUZZLE

EASTER MORNING *message*

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.

" _ H _
D _ _ O U L _ _ _
F _ _ _ _ _ I V I _ _
A M _ _ _ T H _ D E _ _ ?
H _ _ _ _ O T _ E _ E ;
_ _ _ A _ _ I S _ _ _ !"

LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV



Easter Garden

We will once again be using flowering plants to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. If you would like to donate a plant, please complete the form and return it to the church office no later than Sunday, April 2. Plants should be brought to the church no later than noon on Saturday, April 8. Plants can be taken home after the 10:00am worship service on Easter.

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Number of plants: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____
