

# The News of Grace

Volume 38, no. 4

April 2015

## The First Day of the Week

**When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint (Jesus). And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going before you into Galilee. There you will see Him, just as he told you.” (Mark 16:2-7)**

The answer to the question “Why do we worship on Sunday?” is that it is the day that our Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead, thereby giving us the hope of eternal life. Every Sunday is therefore a little Easter, a celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, an opportunity to thank God for His grace and the free gift of salvation! Throughout the Season of Lent the Gradual that has been chanted at every Divine Service has encouraged us: “O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Founder and Perfecter of our faith.” Indeed this is my hope for you throughout all the seasons of the Church Year. Come and see Jesus as the Word of God and the Sacrament present Him to us.

On the night when Jesus was betrayed, after He served the disciples by washing their feet, after He celebrated His final Passover meal with them and then instituted the Sacrament of Holy Communion, after He continued to share with them teachings about the Kingdom, He led them to the Garden of Gethsemane. There He took His inner circle of disciples, Peter, James and John a little further so that He could be in

prayer with the Father in light of His upcoming Passion. After He offered a petition He went back to the three and found them sleeping. He awakened them and said to Peter, "Simon, are you sleeping? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Mark 14:37-38) He would find them sleeping two more times and then He would be betrayed into the hands of sinners. His question to Peter, "could you not watch one hour?" is a question for all of us as we consider the scheduling of our time and apportion that time to include personal devotion and "coming to see Jesus" either on the first day of the week or on Wednesday evening as another opportunity to be in the Lord's house.

Coming to see Jesus gives us an opportunity to be nourished in our faith through Word and Sacrament. It is a great way for us to begin a new week and meet the various challenges that each week holds forth for us. It is an opportunity for us to leave our sins in Jesus' tomb as together we repent that we sin in our thoughts, words and actions (sins of commission). We must also add to those sins the fact that we sin by failing to use proper words and display actions that are necessary to show love for God and for our neighbor (sins of omission). One of those sins of omission is failing to observe a day of worship on the first day of the week or other special times. That might be because Sunday is also the last day of the weekend and many may still have much to do from Saturday or you may have the great need to recover from what you did on Saturday. That creates some tension as we seek to honor this day and gather together with other Christians in celebration of God's mercy and grace. We should and must be deliberate about what we will do on Sunday, not because it merits us any special mercy but because of the boundless mercy we receive without any merit or worthiness in us.

For most, Friday marks the end of the workweek and an opportunity to relax and unwind for a couple of days or an opportunity to get out of town for the weekend. Sports and recreational activities compete for our time. Most of us cannot wait until the weekend gets here. Some may spend the entire week planning what they will do with their time. That is not at all a bad thing to do as long as we understand that time is a gift from God, and just as we are to return a portion of the blessings that He has given us back to Him through our offerings, so too we are to give Him some of our time in service to Him and our neighbor.

But it is especially important to give Him our worship and praise, even as we find in that time rest for our own spiritual well being. After all, the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. That means that the Lord saw the importance for us to rest in Him and His free grace.

The Third Commandment is “Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy.” *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it. (Luther’s *Small Catechism*)

Actually the Sabbath Day, according to Jewish custom, begins when the sun goes down on Friday and lasts until the sun goes down on Saturday. Our Lord Jesus entered the tomb on Friday before sundown and thereby rested in the tomb on the Sabbath Day before rising the next day, the first day of the week, Sunday. He sanctified the Sabbath for us even as He kept the Law perfectly for us so that He could be the perfect once and for all sacrifice for our sins. He is the spotless Lamb of God who took our sins upon Himself so that we might receive His righteousness.

It is a blessing to come together on the first day of the week as we put aside time to give glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit even as that time is redeemed because of the strength it gives our faith. The writer to the Hebrews encourages us with these words: “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. (The Lord’s faithfulness does not depend upon our faithfulness.) And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:23-25) That coming “Day” is the Day of Salvation, the day when Christ Jesus will return for judgment. On that great Day we will all go out to meet Him without fear, for our judgment was placed on Him on the Friday we call Good. Therefore we have been declared “not guilty” as we have been given forgiveness and eternal life. This was God’s plan from eternity.

So Easter Sunday is the great festival day of our Church Year. It is always a great opportunity to gather for worship with our families as the family of believers. The festival Service is always an inspiration as we gather to hear the Word of the Lord and respond with those great hymns of Easter. There are many things in today’s world that cause

alarm. Fear is something that can truly test our faith. Easter brings us the “Good News” that we all need to hear, the news that we should all truly want to hear. “Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!” Let us encourage one another to do just that because the Day is approaching, and by gathering on the first day of the week we are empowered to stand firm until that Day appears and we are comforted by knowing that when that Day comes our Lord will invite us to dwell with Him for eternity.

*Blessed Easter – Pastor Walter*

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

April 2<sup>nd</sup> - Maundy Thursday Service  
with Holy Communion  
7:00 p.m.

Dinner will be served before the service at 5:30 p.m.  
in Parker Hall by ACTS

April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Good Friday Tenebrae Service  
with Holy Communion  
7:00 p.m.

## April 5<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday

6:30 a.m. - Easter Sunrise Matin Service

7:30 a.m. – Breakfast in Parker Hall

8:15 a.m. – Easter Divine Service w/ Holy Communion

9:15 a.m. – Breakfast in Parker Hall

10:45 a.m. – Easter Divine Service w/ Holy Communion

10:00 a.m. - Easter Egg Hunt

*There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday.*

*The children up to 8 years old are invited to the Easter Egg Hunt  
beginning promptly at 10:00 a.m.*

*in the grass area outside of Parker Hall.*

*Our thanks to Bette Bogart for hosting the Easter Egg Hunt!!*

# Director of Parish Music

Greetings in the name of our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ!

It is once again time to celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ during Holy Week and Easter. As part of that celebration, the Central Arkansas Kantorei, a TTBB choir made up of members from local Lutheran congregations, will present An Easter Service of Evening Prayer on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm. Come and be part of the congregation as we observe Good Shepherd Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Easter. This service will also feature Alisa Coffey on harp.

This month I'd like to briefly mention "This Joyful Eastertide" (LSB 482). The Refrain for this hymn comes from 1 Corinthians, chapter 15:

*Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.*

*But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.(1 Corinthians 15:12-28 ESV)*

As the text says, if Christ has not been raised from the dead, our faith is in vain. But our faith is not in vain, because Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, thereby assuring us that all those who have fallen asleep in Christ will also rise from the dead at the Last Day. Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

## This Joyful Eastertide

LSB 482

1 This joyful Eastertide  
Away with sin and sorrow!  
My love, the Crucified,  
Has sprung to life this morrow: Refrain.

ref Had Christ, who once was slain,  
Not burst His three-day prison,  
Our faith had been in vain:  
But now has Christ arisen,  
arisen, arisen;  
But now has Christ arisen!

2 Death's flood has lost its chill  
Since Jesus crossed the river;  
Lover of souls, from ill  
My passing soul deliver: Refrain.

3 My flesh in hope shall rest  
And for a season slumber  
Till trump from east to west  
Shall wake the dead in number: Refrain

Public domain

*Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light. Grant that we who have been raised with Him may abide in His presence and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

*Peace in Christ,  
Nathan Beethe  
Director of Parish Music*

An Easter Service  
of  
Evening Prayer

Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 p.m.

at

Grace Lutheran Church  
5124 Hillcrest  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Featuring the Central Arkansas Kantorei  
with Alisa Coffey playing the harp

Participants are members of  
Lutheran Churches in Central Arkansas  
Nathan Beethe, Director

For more information, contact Nathan Beethe at  
501-663-3631 or [nathan@gracelutheranlr.org](mailto:nathan@gracelutheranlr.org)

A Reception will be held following the Service in Parker Hall

## From the Stewardship Board

Greetings to all members of Grace Lutheran! This is a slow period of the year for the Stewardship board so I would like to share a few thoughts which will be informational to some and simply a reminder to others.

As a Board, our mission is twofold. We are tasked with encouraging our membership to be generous in their giving, and to practice good stewardship with the many gifts the Lord has given to our charge.

As I have not shared any communication with you in 2015, it is wonderful to be able to thank you for your generous offerings Grace Lutheran received in the last couple of months of 2014. We generated a surplus of offerings-to-expense for 2014. This surplus with any previous year surplus funds which we have remaining will be available for use to help us meet our on-going expenses throughout 2015. Our financial plan of operation is to budget for our anticipated expenses and then meet those needs with our offerings gathered during that year.

Our offerings are categorized as general or “designated fund” offerings. The designated funds offerings given by our members are specifically noted to be used for a particular project or area. For example, we receive funds designated to the building fund, member assistance, and seminary support. While not a complete list, offering dollars designated for specific areas are held and only used as designated.

Offerings that are used for the church’s operation and on-going expense are referred to as “general offerings”. Our budget for the year is our expectation of what we anticipate as necessary from “general” offerings to run the church. We communicate the offerings we have received (general and designated) and our current expense posture in the weekly bulletin and our monthly newsletter. The previous week’s attendance by service and the offerings received are reported in the bulletin.

As a member of the Stewardship board, I know that our average anticipated budget needs are \$10,328 weekly. As an average need for the weekly offering and remembering that attendance, time of the month, and time of the year all impact the weekly offering, we might be tempted to simply regard our current shortfall as it is just “that time of year”. But it does serve to remind us that our continued attendance and support are vitally important to our achieving our financial goals. Our Newsletter

communication is more bottom-line in that it reminds us of much of the above plus giving us a current Y-T-D of our general expenses compared to offerings received. A YTD expense larger than our YTD offerings is an indication that we were required to use some of our surplus funds to meet our expense needs.

As you review our numbers this month and in the bulletin, I would ask for your prayers and support. The numbers appear to reflect the impact of the wintry weather on our attendance and the seasonal “first of the year” challenges. While it is usually a challenge this time of year, any improvements now will decrease the needs of tomorrow.

So, what am I asking of you? As stated earlier, our mission, as your Stewardship board, is to monitor, report, and encourage your personal stewardship efforts for those blessings the Lord has given each of us. Communication appears to be a vital part of that effort and as your board, we would like to hear what, if anything, we could do to add, enrich , or assist you in your personal effort. Additionally, we look to each of you for suggestions of how we can communicate stewardship information to you more effectively and ways we can be better at our role of assisting you.

Please contact me or any of the stewardship board members if you would like to discuss this or have ideas you would like to pass along. One of the Lord’s blessings certainly includes Grace Lutheran Church and His personal ambassadors represented within. God’s blessing for all of your support!

Blessings,

Ron Krueger – Director, Stewardship Board

Stewardship Board Members

Beverly Sanders  
Charlotte Johnson  
John Ohnemus

Brian Gipson  
Emma Jane Ohnemus  
Janet Pulliam

# THOSE WHO SERVE IN APRIL

## ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

**8:15 a.m.** Services – Mason Andrews

**10:45 a.m.** Services – Jack Manchester

**Maundy Thursday – April 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Acolyte – Mason Andrews  
Crucifer – Ethan Andrews

**Good Friday – April 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Acolyte – Lauren Faulkner  
Acolyte – Anna Kate Manchester  
Crucifer – Jack Manchester

**Easter Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 a.m.** – Acolyte – James Junkans  
Crucifer – Lily Woodyard

**8:15 a.m.** – Acolyte – Mason Andrews  
Crucifer –

**10:45 a.m.** – Acolyte – Jack Manchester  
Crucifer –

## USHERS' SCHEDULE

**8:15 a.m.** Worship Services – Roy Bullard's team  
Roy Andrews, John Ketcher, Gary Proud

**10:45 a.m.** Worship Services – Gervais LeBlanc's team  
Jeff Ralston, Paul Krueger

**Maundy Thursday – April 2<sup>nd</sup>** – 7:00 p.m. – Gervais LeBlanc's team  
Jeff Ralston, Paul Krueger

**Good Friday – April 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 7:00 p.m. – Tim Loyd's team  
Bill Allaben, Bobby Bemberg, Ed Mahnken

**Easter Sunrise – April 5<sup>th</sup>** – 6:30 a.m. – To be announced

## ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE

**8:15 a.m. Service** – Lori Bloom and Angie Proud

**10:45 a.m. Service** – Ginny Ralston

**Wednesday Mid-Week Services** - Suzanne Raddle and Wilma Richter

## CANTORS' SCHEDULE

**8:15 a.m.** Services – Randy Middaugh

**10:45 a.m.** Services – Jeff Ralston

## COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

**Maundy Thursday – April 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7:00 p.m.** – Robert Nichols

**Good Friday – April 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7:00 p.m.** – Shaun Baker

**Easter Sunday – April 5<sup>th</sup> – 8:15 a.m.** – Carter Stein

**April 5<sup>th</sup> – 10:45 a.m.** – Greg Warren

**April 12<sup>th</sup> – 8:15 a.m. Service** – Craig Schluterman

**April 19<sup>th</sup> – 10:45 a.m. Service** – Jeff Ralston

**April 26<sup>th</sup> – 8:15 a.m. Service** – Robert Nichols

## GREETERS' SCHEDULE

**8:15 a.m. Services** – Roy, Ame, Perryn, Mason and Ethan Andrews

**10:45 a.m. Services** – Ann Stoker, Cynthia McCrory, Owen McCrory

**Maundy Thursday Service** – Robert and Sheila Wilimzig

**Good Friday Service** – Charlie, Abby and Annalia Buchanan

*If you are unable to serve please ask someone to fill in for you and then call the church office.*

## Women's Bible Study

(also known as the Women's Lenten Bible Study)

### The Parables Of Lent

During the Season of Lent, Pastor Walter started a Women's Bible Study on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. This Bible Study was in conjunction with the Midweek Lenten theme, **The Parables Of Lent**. The study is an in-depth look at the Parables used in each of the Lenten Services. Pastor will finish the study of The Parables Of Lent after Easter before beginning another study. The group meets in the classroom in the downstairs of the original church building.

If you have any questions about this Bible Study offering, please contact Pastor Walter.

## STEWARDSHIP BUDGET RE-CAP

2015 budget totals \$537,041

which is an average weekly

General Fund contribution requirement of \$10,328

Budget needs through March 31	\$134,264
Actual expenses through March 31	\$133,386
Contributions to General Fund from all sources	\$127,530*
Average weekly contribution through March 31	\$9810

**In summary, General Fund giving for the year is \$5857 less than actual expenses.**

Non-budget giving to designated funds through March 31	\$6484
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\*These contributions include a monthly payment from ECDC to help offset expenses. They also include some memorials and honorariums which are not designated to specific funds.

## GRACE FAMILY NEWS AND NOTES

### CONGRATULATIONS...

Congratulations to Lauren Keppel on the birth of her son Carter Dylan. Carter is the grandson of Greg Keppel and great-grandson of Jim and Judy Keppel.

Congratulations to Amber and David Solomon on the birth of their son Cason Thomas Solomon. Cason is the grandson of Stephana and Tim Loyd and the nephew of Daniel Loyd.

Congratulations to Stephanie and Steve McCratic on the birth of their daughter Piper Claire. Piper is the granddaughter of Jack and Pat Funk.

Congratulations to these families as they celebrate and give thanks for God's blessings.

# Walk for the Waiting

Saturday – May 2<sup>nd</sup>  
9:00 a.m.

## War Memorial Stadium

Did you know there are over 4,000 kids in Arkansas' foster care system on any given day? Did you know there are over 500 kids in Arkansas waiting to be adopted? Because of the shortage of families, nearly 250 kids will “age out” of the system this year and enter into adulthood without having found a family.

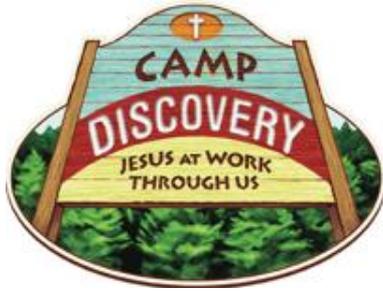
**Did you know you can help? How? You can walk!**

**Come and walk with us on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 a.m. at War Memorial Stadium.**

We cannot all foster or adopt, but we can all walk or just gather in fellowship to benefit kids waiting to be placed in families. **The Call, Project Zero and Immerse Arkansas** are joining forces to support waiting children and the families that care for them. Show your support for these kids and families by joining us to walk.

After Easter, Shaun and Justine Baker will have more information displayed on the bridge explaining how to become a Sponsored Walker as part of the Grace Lutheran team.

**We're going to walk; will you walk with us?**



## Camp Discovery: Jesus At Work Through Us

We need VOLUNTEERS to 'pitch in' and prepare for another great VBS. Please look for the sign-up sheet on the table in the breezeway. For questions or more information, please contact Catherine Manchester at 821-4140.

### **WEDDING SHOWER**

for

**Jess Kindschi and Paul Walter**

**Sunday - May 3<sup>rd</sup> - 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.**

**Church Parlor**

A Wedding Shower to honor Jess Kindschi and Paul Walter will be held Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Grace Parlor. Jess and Paul will be married on November 7<sup>th</sup>. They are registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond and Target. Hostesses are Lori Bloom, Pat Funk, Riley Middaugh, Margaret Schulz, and Sheila Wilimzig.

## **WOMEN OF GRACE LWML**

Join the Women of Grace on Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. for a Meet and Eat evening at La Casa Real Restaurant just off Rodney Parham behind Franke's Cafeteria. A great time to make new friends and learn more about who we are and how we serve our Grace Family.

Over the last couple of years our Women of Grace have joined together to provide support to the following:

- In 2013 LWML Café at the Fall Craft Show - \$150.00 to support the inner-city school at Evergreen Lutheran Church in Detroit.
- In 2013 the LWML Café - \$150.00 to the University Lutheran Chapel at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis.
- In 2014 the LWML Café - \$300.00 to the inner-city school at Evergreen Lutheran Church in Detroit.
- In 2014 LWML Café - \$100.00 for Lutheran World Relief to ship School Kits
- In 2014 LWML White Elephant Sale - \$160.00 to support the mission work of Pastor Mark Eisold and his family in Peru.
- In 2014 our Palm Sunday Bake Sale and matching funds - \$1,021.00 for the Grace Lutheran Church Scholarship Fund.
- In 2014 Women of Grace - \$416.54 in mites to LWML in support of the Mission Grants in the Mid-South District and the LWML on the national level.

Our thanks to our Grace Family and the community as you have supported each one of our outreach opportunities. Join us as we continue to serve the Lord with gladness here at Grace and to the ends of the earth.

## SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE

### COFFEE HOST SIGN UP

**Volunteers Needed to Serve** - Please take a minute and sign up for the Sunday on which you wish to serve. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board by the Parlor.

The schedule for **April, 2015** is:

April 5<sup>th</sup>                      Easter Sunday Morning Breakfast

April 12<sup>th</sup>                      \_\_\_\_\_

April 19<sup>th</sup>                      Jim and Florence Marvin

April 26<sup>th</sup>                      The Andrews Family

The schedule for **May, 2015** is:

May 3<sup>rd</sup>                          Alisa Coffey and Anna Lane

May 10<sup>th</sup>                        \_\_\_\_\_

May 17<sup>th</sup>                        \_\_\_\_\_

May 24<sup>th</sup>                        \_\_\_\_\_

May 31<sup>st</sup>                        \_\_\_\_\_

Thank You!!! We appreciate your help!!

## FELLOWSHIP CLUB

April 21<sup>st</sup> – 12:00 noon  
Parker Hall

The Fellowship Club will meet on **Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, at 12:00 noon** in Parker Hall for a delicious lunch served by our ACTS friends. Join us for fun, food, and fellowship. Call the church office for more information.

## NOON DEVOTIONS WITH PASTOR

Noon Devotions with Pastor is **Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00 noon in Parker Hall**. Bring a sandwich and join us as Pastor Walter leads us in a Bible study. Drinks, chips, and dessert are provided. **Bring a friend and join us ...this is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship!!**

## SIT AND SEW

Bring your project and join the **Sit and Sew** group on **Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00 noon** in the downstairs classroom in the church. For details call Carole Nichols, Riley Middaugh or Sammye Sue Harrill.

## YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Our *Young Adult Bible Study* group continues to meet every other Monday. Their meetings this month are April 13<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup>. Please call or e-mail Chaplain David Witte for information as to where they will meet each time. Contact Chaplain Witte at [drwitte@gmail.com](mailto:drwitte@gmail.com) or 630-738-3835.

## **BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES AT GRACE**

Our nursery, downstairs in the church, is also available to take care of the infants and toddlers during Sunday School/Bible Class time.

**ADULT BIBLE CLASS** - Pastor Walter's Bible Class meets each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in Parker Hall. Pastor has started a new study from the series **God's Word for Today: *Galatians – The Cost of Freedom.***

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES** for children ages 3 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade are held in the lower level of the Family Life Center. Parents are invited to join us for the opening service at 9:45 each Sunday. Questions? Contact Colleen Moorman for more information.

**JUNIOR YOUTH** class meets at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday in their classroom downstairs in the church. John Calvillo leads the class each Sunday morning.

**SENIOR YOUTH** class meets each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in their classroom downstairs in the church. Dave Roberts leads the class each Sunday morning.

**YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY** group meets every other Monday at 7:00 p.m. Their meetings this month are April 13<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup>. Contact Chaplain David Witte at [drwitte@gmail.com](mailto:drwitte@gmail.com) for additional information.

**WOMEN'S LENTEN BIBLE STUDY** - During the Season of Lent Pastor Walter began a Women's Bible Study on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. He will finish the study of The Parables Of Lent before beginning another study. The group meets in the classroom in the downstairs of the original church building.

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** class meets each Wednesday morning at 6:30 a.m. at St. Vincent Hospital in the 4<sup>th</sup> floor conference room (off the main elevator). Pastor Walter leads this Bible Study. All men of Grace are encouraged to attend.

## **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND GOD'S BLESSINGS to Grace Family Members in the month of April:**

- 2 – Roy Andrews, Marc André LeBlanc
- 4 – Hunter Goodwin, Greg Pils
- 5 – Ashley Worden
- 6 – Edward Allen, Nancy Hickey
- 7 – Edwina Atkinson, Rick Camacho
- 7 – Joel Junkans, Stacy Johnson, Carmen Stewart
- 9 – Brandt Cline
- 9 – Kestin Schulz-Christie
- 10 – Suzanne Hardman
- 11 – Grover ‘Bud’ Evans, Angie Proud, Scarlett Ray
- 13 – David Raddle
- 14 – C. C. Cate, Annaleigha Davis, Connor Stephens
- 15 – Abby Buchanan
- 16 – Daniel Mainard
- 17 – Joshua Bryant
- 18 – Cecillia Gelzine
- 21 – Karen Bullard, Cecelia Hammond, Angie Stephens
- 22 – Jo Hanna Worden, Abby Litwa
- 24 – Jeremy Camacho
- 26 – Leslie Cossey, Billy Ginocchio, Hayden Villarreal
- 27 – Carroll Holzhauer, Robert Rawlings
- 28 – Nicole Nordyke, Karen Klein, Nancy Orpin  
Bob Schmidt, Henry Schluterman
- 29 – Willie Eustice, Mike Morrison, Ginny Ralston

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to these couples in April:**

- 21 – Alison and Michael Metzler
- 24 – Natasha and David Graf

*We apologize if we have missed your birthday or anniversary; please let us know in the church office so we can update our records. Thank you!!*



# ECDC News & Notes . . .

What a busy month March was! We had all sorts of fun with nursery rhymes and fairy tales, celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday and the Senior Class finally got to go on their February field trip to the Clinton Library for the Peanuts exhibit and pizza at Iriana's. We finally got to go outside a little and oh that helped so much! Then Spring sprung – and we are full of energy and ready to explore!

April is the month we learn about creepy, crawly critters—a Spring thing, and hopefully not too much show'n'tell! We'll celebrate Earth Day with special nature activities – hopefully outside! The Juniors and Seniors will even go to Pinnacle State Park to hike, explore, play, and have a great Spring picnic—can't wait! And it's that time — swim lessons begin at the end of the month!

And, of course we began our Easter journey last month and will finish our travel in story and song through Holy Week to our Savior's glorious resurrection—don't be afraid, JESUS IS ALIVE! Our Resurrection Eggs and the story of a little boy named Benjamin take us on our journey of activities celebrating the death, burial, rest in the tomb, and resurrection of our Savior. Our celebration will culminate with our annual Resurrection Biscuits on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. And, I'm sure the Easter bunny will stop by and make an appearance, too!

**Do not be  
afwaid-Jesus**



Until next month—a joyous Easter season to each of you —

*Colleen*