



Grace Newsletter

April 2019

LENT AND EASTER 101

Where does the phrase “He is risen. He is risen, indeed. Alleluia!” come from?

The angels proclaimed the Easter greeting to the women who arrived at Jesus’ tomb (Matt. 28:6). The women were sent by the angels to speak the words to the disciples (Luke 24:9). The disciples also began to speak these words to one another (Luke 24:34). The followers of Jesus continue to this day to speak the Easter greeting, which is more than a report. It’s a proclamation of the Gospel. It proclaims the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation to all who are condemned by sin and death. In this way, we participate in that first announcement of Easter. We proclaim one to another that death has been swallowed up by the death of Jesus, and we shall live forever because Jesus is risen.

What do the stripping of the altar on Good Friday and the replacing of the paraments for Easter symbolize?

Jesus underwent great humiliation during His trial when His clothing was stripped from Him (Matt. 27:28). When Jesus died, His followers came and wrapped His body with linen cloths. When the women came to the tomb three days later, they expected to find His body there but only found His grave clothes. Jesus left the clothes of death behind Him. The stripping of the altar and the replacing of the paraments make us part of the wonderful events surrounding Jesus’ death and crucifixion. We are not observers but participants. The altar is fully clothed again on Easter, proclaiming to us the things the women saw when they went to the tomb of Jesus.

What is the purpose of the Paschal candle at the Easter Vigil?

The paschal candle is the largest candle in the church. This candle represents the pillar of cloud and fire that led the children of Israel through the wilderness and into the Promised Land. One of the most important moments of the Easter Vigil is the lighting of this candle. The people’s mini-paschal candles are lit from the new flame. Jesus was crucified, buried and sealed in the tomb but rose again in glory. The light that dispels all darkness is renewed for us as Christ leads us into life eternal by His mighty resurrection. The darkness of Good Friday gives way to the light of the early Easter morning. We are led from darkness into new life in heaven through Jesus’ resurrection from the dead.

Why are many churches designed in the shape of a cross?

The aisles at the front and center of our churches intersect to form the shape of the cross. In larger churches, side apses make this cross shape even more apparent. Those who have been marked with the sign of the holy cross both upon their foreheads and upon their hearts in Holy Baptism live their lives under and in the cross of Christ. Cross-marked lives are shaped as they come to the cross-shaped house as Jesus puts the mark of His cross on them again. Meaning, life and forgiveness are found in the place where the message of the cross is preached and the fruits of the cross are given out.

What’s the difference between a crucifix and an empty cross?

Baby Jesus appears in our manger at Christmas even though He is now risen from the dead. We know that Jesus is no longer in the manger, but His bodily presence there comforts us with what He did when He came to earth and was born for us. The body of Jesus on the cross proclaims the Christ who died but is now risen from the dead. Jesus is no longer on the cross, but the cross with Jesus’ body on it proclaims what Jesus has completed for our salvation. The cross, full or empty, proclaims the atonement of Christ for sin. In both cases, we are reminded of the one person who was crucified whose cross was not the end of the story.

SERVING THIS MONTH:

The Elders: 8:00 a.m. Dave Wold
 10:30 a.m. Jim Harroun
 Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. Jim Harroun
 Good Friday 7:00 p.m. Scott Steffens

Ushers: 8:00 a.m. Casey & Jen Walker and Family
 Jason & Angie Hill and Family

Organist: Diana Baetke

The Acolytes A/V Technicians

	The Acolytes	A/V Technicians
Wednesday, April 3, 2019		
7:00 PM	Michael Schneider	Need Volunteer
Sunday, April 7, 2019		
8:00 AM	Emily Stearns	Steve Butler
10:30 AM	Hannah Sunday	Steve Butler
Wednesday, April 10, 2019		
7:00 PM	Margie Alger	Need Volunteer
Sunday, April 14, 2019		
8:00 AM	Isaac DeHaven	Need Volunteer
10:30 AM	Karley Erps	Need Volunteer
Thursday, April 18, 2019		
7:00 PM	Anthony Meyer	Need Volunteer
Friday, April 19, 2019		
7:00 PM	Carleigh Tobey	Need Volunteer
Sunday, April 21, 2019		
8:00 AM	Kamryn Albrecht	Rich Matzen
10:30 AM	Owen Tucker	Rich Matzen
Sunday, April 28, 2019		
8:00 AM	Adalyn Appleby	Need Volunteer
10:30 AM	Hannah Grantz	Need Volunteer

Please Note:

Communion during the month of May will be celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sundays not the 1st and 3rd Sundays as we normally do.

Communion Sundays in May will be on: May 12th and the 26th

Pastor Dodgers, our vacancy Pastor, can be reached at 563-677-2759 if you need a visit or are in need of spiritual care. Pastor Dodgers will have office hours at Grace every Thursday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

The 2019 Chancel/Altar Flower sign-up sheet is available at the Welcome Center. We are asking members to donate bouquets in honor of or in memory of persons or events. Each bouquet is \$25 and there will be two bouquets each week. Please sign up for your preferred dates on the flower calendar, put your payment in the envelope provided and slide the envelope through the mail slot in the secretary's door. You may purchase one or both bouquets.

Special Gifts Given Include:

In loving memory Baird Smith \$20 has been given to Grace Camp

Greeters are needed on Sunday mornings. If you are available to help with this service, please sign up at the Welcome Center.

Voter's Meeting
 April 1, 2019
 7:00 p.m.

IMPORTANT

Deadline for submitting articles for the May Newsletter is April 15th at 9 a.m.




Lenten
S C H E D U L E

Lenten Midweek Services
7:00 p.m.

Lenten Meals
6:00 p.m.

Lenten Services
April 3rd & 10th

Lenten Supper Schedule Meals Begin at 6:00 p.m.



April 3rd - Spaghetti
April 10th - Sloppy Joes

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
There will be NO Sunday School classes on Sunday, April 21st.

Palm Sunday

April 14th
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Procession of the Palms



**The Annual
Youth Pancake Breakfast**
April 14th
8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday
April 18th
7:00 p.m. Worship/Communion

Good Friday
April 19th
7:00 p.m. Worship

Easter Sunday Worship
April 21st
8:00 a.m. Worship/Communion
10:30 a.m. Worship/Communion

Continued from 1st page article

Where does the name *Easter* come from?

German and English speakers call the day of Christ's resurrection "Easter." Christians in other countries refer to Easter by some form of the name for Passover. While the origin of the name of Easter is disputed, some believe that it comes from the German word for "resurrection" or the German word "east." The women went to the tomb when the sun had risen. As we gather in our churches during the early morning light, the sun, rising in the east, proclaims Easter, the light of Christ who has risen from the dead.

*The Rev. Christopher Seifferlein is pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Adell, Wis.—**This article was first published in the print *The Lutheran Witness*.*

It is time to renew our subscription for the Lutheran Witness. **THE LUTHERAN WITNESS** is an inspirational monthly magazine featuring synodical news. Lutheran reports from around the world, eye-opening theology and more!

The subscription rate is \$15.96 per year. If you would like to subscribe to the Lutheran Witness, or if you already subscribe and wish to renew your subscription, please contact the church office by April 28th. Payment may also be left in the secretary's



Barefoot Sunday

April 7, 2019

On Sunday, April 7, 2019, we are asking the Grace Lutheran Congregation to donate new or gently used shoes of any type. (Please no rips, holes, broken, or dirty shoes.) to help the Intermediate School Collect shoes to support micro-enterprise vendors in third world Countries.

Micro-enterprises are small businesses in developing nations. They are operated by citizens, usually a family or a group of neighbors. Our donations help individuals who live in extremely poor countries start a small business, by providing a supply of product that helps their business long term. Income from their business gives the owners the ability to purchase necessities like food, shelter and education for their families.

Please place your donation in the laundry basket located by the office door in the foyer. Let us help the CDIS meet their goal of 2,500 pairs of shoes!

Grace Lutheran Preschool

Enrollment forms are available on the Preschool page of the website (www.gracedewitt.org). Enrollment forms and registration fee (3's only) may be dropped off at the church office or mailed to PO Box 156, DeWitt, IA 52742.

2019-2020 Class Schedule and Fees

3s : M & W 8:15 — 10:45 \$100/mo Limited to 6
T & TH 8:15 — 10:45 \$100/mo Limited to 6

- \$35 registration fee due at time of enrollment.
- 3s Classes will begin after Labor Day.
- Children must be 3 on or before Sept. 15, 2019.

4s: AM 8:15—11:15 (limited to 10 students)
PM 12:00—3:00

- Must be 4 on or before September 15, 2019 to qualify for free preschool.
- 5-year-old tuition is \$175/month and a \$35 registration fee.

For more information, please contact the preschool office at 659-9193 (8:00-3:00 p.m. M-F) or email preschool@gracedewitt.org.

Thank You!
THANK YOU!

Dear members of Grace Lutheran,

Thank you for your generous donation to POBLO International! Your financial partnership allows us to continue meeting the physical, social and spiritual needs of those we come in contact with in the United States and beyond.

The cash door offering combined with generous donor checks, and the guest honorarium which went to POBLO as well came to \$1,381.00. Thank you so much. May our Lord Jesus bless you with His best as we follow His great commission. I look forward to leading worship on April 21st, Easter Sunday.

Tim Bickel

The daughters of Ruth Schroeder would like to thank everyone who took their time to send birthday greetings to our mother. We all enjoyed reading them.

Thank You,
Allison LaFevers

Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation will be held during the 10:30 a.m. service on April 28th. Twelve of our young people will be participating in the Rite of Confirmation. Those who are currently in the 8th Grade Confirmation class and scheduled to be confirmed are:



Colin Albrecht
22022 277th Ave
LeClaire, IA 52753—9462

Elyce Burzlaff
2331 185th St
Delmar, IA 52037-9121

Matthew Dierecks
2191 190th St
Grand Mound, IA 52751-9616

Carter Drury
1830 300th Ave
DeWitt, IA 52742-9273

Tobey Griem
2144 140th St
Delmar, IA 52037-9152

EmmaGrace Hartman
113 9th Ave
DeWitt, IA 52742-1937

Abigail Jensen
1119 9th Court
DeWitt, IA 52742

Brooke Paasch
213 5th Ave N
Clinton, IA 52732-4005

Brody Proctor
2667 600th Ave
DeWitt, IA 52742-9423

Michael Schneider
2730 285th Ave
DeWitt, IA 52742-9433

Emily Stearns
205 11th Ave
DeWitt, IA 52742

Hannah Sunday
4120 10th Ave
DeWitt, IA 52742-1960



Looking for cards? A supply of Confirmation, Graduation and Easter cards have arrived. Please take a moment to see the wide assortment of cards and napkins we have available for purchase downstairs next to Grace Hall.



Watch for the beautiful wooden box for you to place your cards in for the Confirmands! The box will be available beginning April 21st until the morning of Confirmation.

ARE YOU A STUDENT GRADUATING?

What an important step in your life! We would like to honor you by printing your name in our May newsletter. If you are receiving a high school, college, or post-graduate degree, give us a call at 659-9153, before April 14th. We would also like a picture of all graduates to place on the bulletin board in the foyer.

The Sewing/Quilting Ladies will meet Wednesday, April 3rd, to work on quilts for Lutheran World Relief. We will meet in Grace Hall at about 9am, have a potluck lunch at noon and quilt some in the afternoon. Ladies of Grace please come and join us if even for an hour or so. These quilts are needed both here in the United States and throughout the

April is Referral Center month. We will be collecting non-perishable food items and paper products. They are in need of peanut butter, hamburger helper, peas, mixed vegetables, spaghetti's, ravioli, soups of any variety, baked goods, pasta, pudding, jell-o, and boxed potatoes. Your donations can be left on the display in the foyer April 1 through April 28th.

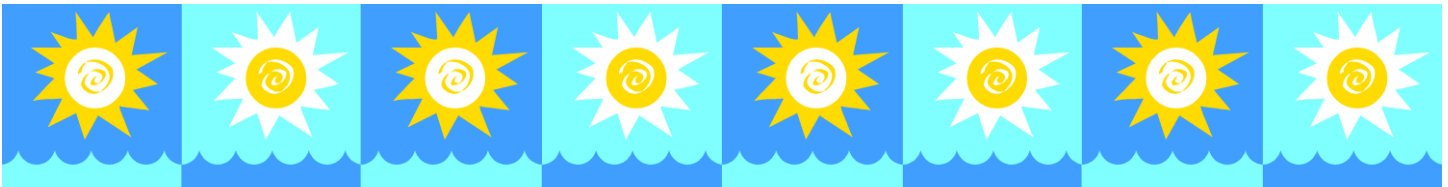


MARK YOUR CALENDERS FOR VBS!

This year's Vacation Bible School will be June 24, 25 & 26 (evenings) at Grace Lutheran Church. Our VBS theme is "Inside Out & Upside Down on Main Street-Where Jesus Makes a Difference Every Day!" Each evening at Main Street, kids will learn that Jesus' life and love makes a difference every day! Kids will explore and experience stories Jesus told about everyday people in everyday situations. But his stories were anything but ordinary! Your kids won't want to miss this exciting, inside-out, upside-down program! Registration details will be released soon!

VBS is open to all children who are at least age three (by the first day of VBS) through those who will be entering 5th grade in the fall.

We will be seeking volunteers. Please keep an eye out for a sign-up sheet on the message board in the narthex.



SUMMER 2019 DAY CAMPS

The Day Camps for Summer 2019 will include the following:

- June 11th Fishing Camp [1st - 6th Grades]
- June 13th Arts & Crafts
- June 18th Little Kids Camp [4 & 5-year olds]
- June 20th Cooking Camp [1st-3rd Grades]
- June 25th Rock Creek Marina Trip [4th – 6th Grades]
- June 27th Cooking Camp [4th – 6th Grades]

If available, we could definitely use help at the day camps on
June 11th & 13th

Day Camp Registrations will be taken online, beginning early April. To register simply log onto www.gracedewitt.org select 2019 Day Camp Registration and follow the directions. If you have any questions call the church office, 659-9153.

NYG2019 MEETING

Our next Team Building / Bible Study meeting will be held Sunday, April 7th @ 12:00 pm at church. Please note the time change from what was previously announced. All registered participants are expected to be in attendance. Lunch will be provided. Please contact DCE, Mark Sperry if you have any questions.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST SET-UP

Attention all Jr. & Sr. High youth. Please meet at Grace Church on Saturday, April 13th @ 10:00 am to set-up and decorate for the annual Pancake Breakfast. With enough hands to help, we should be able to finish in about an hour. Please contact DCE, Mark Sperry with any questions.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The annual Youth Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast will be April 14th. Serving is from 8:30 am – 10:00 am. Everyone needs to be here by 7:30 am that morning to finish getting ready and to start making pancakes

GRADUATING SENIORS

Please R.S.V.P. for the Graduates Dinner and submit a Senior Picture to the church office by Sunday, April 28th.



**You are invited to
Grace Camp's
Spring Retreat and Salad Luncheon**

At the Andrew Retreat Center – Thursday, May 9th

Danette "Burzlaff" Haag shares her inspirational story of living through and living with a traumatic burn injury as a child. She shares how deep faith and positive mindset have brought her healing to a place of truly walking in peace today.

Afternoon retreat 12-3pm – Evening retreat 6-9pm
Registration fee \$10/each

Please call 563-659-9216 or 563-357-0780 for reservations
by May 1st or send reservations to: Maribeth Penningroth
1410 Westwood Drive
DeWitt, IA 52742



Easter Egg Hunt

April 20th — 11:00 a.m.
@ Grace Camp
(2675 242nd St, DeWitt, IA)

Event will be held
rain, shine or snow.

Bring your own basket or bag.

Have Fun!!!

Sponsored by:
Thrivent Financial
Grace Lutheran Camp

Please Call Irene, 659-9885,
with any questions.

LWML Mission Guild

"Serve the Lord with Gladness" *Psalm 100:2*

Calendar of Events

April 7 - "MITES" Sunday

April 27 - LWML Spring Rally at St John Lutheran Church

April 27 - Prepare May Day Baskets

May 11 - Cookie Baking at the High School

May 11 - Cookie Decorating and Packing

LWML Spring Rally

The Clinton Zone Lutheran Women's Missionary League Spring Rally, "Trust; Grace; Believe; Blessed", will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2019, at St. John Lutheran Church. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the meeting starting at 9a.m. The Rally will end with lunch. Registration will be \$4.00.

Our speaker will be Rev. Russell Helbig, Supervisory Chaplain The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod serving the Federal Bureau of Prisons AUSP Thomson.

There will be an in-gathering to support, My Gear Outreach, a nonprofit organization committed to bringing comfort to children (0-18 years of age) during a tough transition of entering foster homes. The items needed include: shampoo (infant-adult), conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste (kids-adult), night lights, body wash (infants-adult), fun washcloths, 6 quart clear containers with lids, brushes, combs, pajamas (newborn to 2x adults), socks, underwear, pillows, pillow cases, coloring books, journals, crayons, markers, pens/pencils, toys all ages, baby wipes, baby diapers and thermometers.

If you would like to attend the Spring Rally, please sign up at the Welcome Center.

May Day Baskets for Shut-ins:

- ◆ April 27: 9-10 a.m. Meet in Grace Hall to prepare May Day baskets to be distributed to shut-ins during the week.
- ◆ Sign up sheets for baskets fillers will be available soon
- ◆ We are looking for volunteers to deliver the baskets



Mother's Day Cookie Sales to benefit missions:

- ◆ The beautiful 4 inch decorated cookies are back! Plan ahead and purchase yours for your Mother's Day family and friends. They will be available on Sunday, May 12 before, between and after services until gone. First come, first serve. They sell quickly.
- ◆ Saturday, May 11, 7 a.m. Meet in the high school foods room to bake cookies.
- ◆ Saturday, May 11, 9 a.m. Meet in Grace Hall to decorate and package.



Grace Ev. Lutheran Church

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P.O. Box 156
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Fax: 563-659-9154
WEB: www.gracedewitt.org
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Vacancy Pastor

Pastor Anthony Dodgers
563-677-2759

Mark Sperry, DCE

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Kerry Good

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Melissa Riedesel

mriedesel@gracedewitt.org

Grace Lutheran Preschool

P.O. Box 156
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PH: 563-659-9193

Preschool Teacher/Director

Christine Greve
preschool@gracedewitt.org

Grace Lutheran Camp

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Camp Reservations
563-357-0780