

*Have a blessed  
Easter!*

**"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die."**

**--John 11:25-26**

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"Almighty and everlasting God, the Comforter of the sad, the Strength of sufferers, let the prayers of those that cry out of any tribulation come unto Thee, that all may rejoice to find that Thy mercy is present with them in their afflictions."

# COVID-19 has changed a lot of things.

## What we're **not** doing...

Due to the directive from the State of New Jersey, our church building will be closed for all meetings, Bible Studies, gatherings, and Worship Services until further notice. The church office will also be closed.

We will reevaluate each week, following the recommendations from State and local government and the CDC. We will do everything we can to continue to serve our congregation and community and to keep everyone up to date.

If you have any questions please e-mail us @ [officeLmc818@gmail.com](mailto:officeLmc818@gmail.com), and we will get back to you as soon as possible.



## What we **ARE** doing...

We are streaming our **Worship Service** live on Sunday morning @9am. Find us on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#). Recordings are available anytime.

Pastor is also sharing a **Daily Devotional** week days @4pm. This is also offered through both Facebook and YouTube.

A new **Bible Study** will be conducted online using Zoom on Tuesday mornings @ 10:30am. You can choose to participate with a webcam or just watch the video live. Click this [link](#) and enter the meeting ID 423 507 7189. You will be prompted to download and run the Zoom software. It is recommended that this step be completed in advance of the Bible study.

Adult Bible Study @ 10:00am we will share in an Easter season Bible Study entitled "Passion of Jesus". The study will begin this Sunday April 5th and will focus on Palm Sunday and The Foot Washing. A PDF of the study and a Zoom invitation will be sent by Ed Blair.

**"Pray without ceasing"**\* Let's all stop each day at noon and say a prayer. Bring your thoughts and petitions to our Heavenly Father knowing that we are all gathered together in prayer.

Keep reading for the other things we are able to do together while being apart.

To all the Saints,

To say that this year has not been without its difficulties is an understatement at best. We are only in March and life as we know it has been turned upside down and then run over by a truck. Our country by itself has been caught up in a whirlwind of turmoil from crazy weather issues to politics and now we are facing a virus pandemic. I wonder what else could be possibly thrown on top of the heap to just push us to our breaking point. That is not say that each of us has his or her own problems at home, work, school, etc. that we are dealing with on top of everything else. I have heard so many stories of what people are going through, and it just breaks my heart to hear the struggle so many people are facing.

Even the Christian Church just in our country is having to face a challenge that it never thought it would have to; that is in order to continue to deliver the Gospel of Jesus, the Church must go online. With my bad sense of humor, what I find funny is that YouTube and Facebook was not ready to handle the Christian Church going online all at once and since it has they have had to scramble to accommodate the extra bandwidth that it takes to broadcast the Gospel in the United States. Not only do I find that funny, I think its awesome in the truest sense of the word. Just because we cannot meet in person to fellowship and worship our God, Jesus Christ, does not mean that God will allow the gates of hell to overcome His Church. Our Father will always provide a way to Him through His Word and that is something that we as His children should not only celebrate but pray and give Him thanks for keeping His promise yet again.

Now that March is almost over which means that Lent is almost over and that Easter is on the horizon, I thought that I would share a verse with you that I hope will help put what we are going through into perspective and as always give us the reassurance that our hope will not put us to shame.

*“A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.”*

John 16:16

These are the words of Jesus to His disciples before He was going to be delivered over to the religious leaders to be crucified. I know that when you read this verse it does not seem like it applies now to our current situation, but rest assured, I believe it does.

In the first part of the verse Jesus was telling the disciples that His departure from earth, that is His death on the Cross, was about to take place and that when that happens that they will not only be scared but that they will scatter and return back to the old life as if the past three years did not happen. Then in the second part of the verse Jesus tells them that He will return, that is rise from death and visit them before His ascension. You see Jesus knew how hard it would be for the disciples to continue on once they witnessed His brutal death by the cross, hear the cheers from the blind religious leaders and see the lack of complete faith from everyone else in understanding that Jesus is who He claimed to be. He knew their sorrow would be almost unbearable for them and that their fear of wondering if they're next would paralyze them into inaction. That is why He said the second part. The enemy of death would not be strong

enough to hold Him because He is in fact the Savior, the Son of God, eternal since before time even existed in creation. He would rise victorious over not only death but also sin, hell and Satan himself. He would rise victorious claiming our redemption and giving out freely to all who call on His name for salvation.

This verse is simple yet most powerful. It is the promise of Jesus made not just to His 12 Disciples but it's a promise for everyone, for you and me. It's His promise that the world cannot stop the Son of God, cannot stop the will of our Father in heaven, that God will prevail at all cost over His enemies to make sure that we have a home with Him now and forever and that we live each day with the holy and certain hope of God's love. You would think that this is enough, but Jesus goes on to tell His disciples and us in the second part of John 16:33:

*“In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”*

Look at how powerful these words of comfort truly are! We live in a fallen world stained by sin, more than that, it is broken by sin and we see it every day. Most of the time we do our best to ignore it and stay in our lane to just try to keep ourselves above the water line. We have tribulation, distress, aka problems that we must deal with every day and they are not pleasant. Right now, we are facing a virus that is not just causing chaos with our health, but it is wreaking havoc on our economy which in turn devastates families across our country, in our very own community. As we deal with this new crisis, we still must deal with all the other problems we had before this even began. Simply put its overwhelming in every arena of our life. Then Jesus drops the HOPE bomb! He has overcome the WORLD! It's not that He has overcome just Satan, but He has overcome the entire fallen broken crazy world! You will see me Jesus said, and He kept that promise to them. He appeared to them many times after His resurrection and even today we see Him when we see His children live on each day in hope. We see Jesus when we call to make sure our families, friends, neighbors are doing okay, we see Jesus when we pray and ask Him to intervene not just in this pandemic but to intervene in our life daily. We see Jesus when we help those who need help. Just the other day I ran into someone I know who was raking leaves for a woman who recently lost her husband. He simply told me that he was doing it because it needed to be done and he wanted to help. Tell me that is not Jesus at work! Tell me that Jesus is not involved in the lives of all children of God!

This verse, John 16:16, is our Lord knowing what we go through having walked in our shoes, knowing how hard the world is and knowing that we have Him now everyday in our life. If it turns out that we find ourselves separated this Easter because of the current tribulation, having to worship at home and not together as the body of Christ, then know that it does not matter because Christ who has conquered the world will be us all through the power of His Spirit celebrating with us all. Not just Easter but He is with us everyday until He comes again when we will see Him face to face.

Until we can gather, be steadfast and unmovable,

Pastor Detrie

## How You Can Help

We have heard Pastor tell us to let our light shine. While we are presented opportunities to do this every day, these opportunities are often clouded by other distractions and desires. In talking to members of the congregation, the Board of Lay Ministry has heard from many that are interested and willing to help and serve others in our church and our community. Here are a few ways we can do what we are called to do:

The first thing we can do is to continue to **reach out to each other** with a phone call just to talk, offer of help or a prayer.

If you have been blessed with sewing skills, two documents are available from the district newsletter that offer ways to **help make surgical masks** for those healthcare institutions in need. We have copies of the instructions if you need them.

A third way to help comes from Karolyn Schoenberger, who has reached out to local organizations. Karolyn provided us with lists of needs from two great organizations we already have a relationship with. They are on the front lines of **helping those in our community in need**.

Below, please find these specific needs and drop off locations, many of which have arrangements to limit direct contact. Karolyn and Donna Colasurdo have graciously offered to receive any donations at their home and will deliver them. I would suggest calling either before dropping anything off.

### Drop off Locations

#### Lunch Break

121 DRS James Parker Blvd

Red Bank 07701

732-747-8577

\*\*\*Drop off hours

M-F 9am-2:30pm

Sat 9am-12pm

Remain in your vehicle, someone will take the donations from you \*\*\*

#### Karolyn Schoenberger

(see Directory for address)

Ocean

732-531-7214

I will also be available

to pick up from your porch or to meet you if that makes it easier

#### Aslan Youth Ministries

255 Harding Rd

Red Bank

732-741-7823

\*\* please mail donations \*\*

#### Donna Colasurdo

(see Directory for address)

Neptune

732-233-5663

**ASLAN donations-** 29 families are in need of Shop Rite gift cards or monetary donations mailed **directly** to Aslan (this reduces contact)

## Lunch Break donations

- Bottled water
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Canned - fruits, low sodium vegetables, low sodium soups, stews, chili, tuna fish, chicken
- Canned beans, dry beans, lentils
- Nutritious snacks
- Shelf stable milk
- Brown rice
- Cereal
- Spaghetti sauce, pasta, instant potatoes
- Gift cards to supermarkets, Walmart, Visa and Amex
- Coffee, tea, juices
- Condiments - ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, syrup, salt, pepper, salad dressing
- Spices - garlic powder, onion powder, adobos, lemon pepper, basil, oregano, etc.
- Sugar, flour, cake mix, icing, boxed pudding and jello
- Macaroni and cheese, potato and rice mixes, etc.
- Cooking oil (vegetable)
- Individual portions applesauce, pudding, snacks, juices, etc.
- Gluten free foods
- Foods for diabetics
- Infant formula
- Diapers and pull ups
- Toiletries
- Feminine products
- Dog and cat food



## Local organizations in need:



Lunch Break in Red Bank  
[lunchbreak.org](http://lunchbreak.org)

Aslan Youth Ministries Red Bank  
[aslanyouth.org](http://aslanyouth.org)



Fulfill food bank in Neptune  
[fulfillnj.org](http://fulfillnj.org)

180 Turning Lives Around  
[180nj.org](http://180nj.org)



Interfaith Neighbors  
(Meals on Wheels temporarily  
through Lunch Break)  
[www.interfaithneighbors.org](http://www.interfaithneighbors.org)



The Center of Asbury (still has residents)  
[www.thecenterinap.org](http://www.thecenterinap.org)

We pray that you are well during these times. If you uncover a need that you cannot meet, have a spiritual request or need a pastoral visit, please feel free to pass it along to a member of the Board of Lay Ministry. If you are a member in need, please also feel free to reach out to any of us.

Blessings to all.

Luther Memorial Church Board of Lay Ministry

Greg Shaljian 732-299-8955  
Bob Panarella 732-245-1247  
Ed Blair 908-601-1228

Linda Panarella 732-580-3594



Holy Week Services will be available on Facebook and YouTube

Palm Sunday at 9am

Maunday Thursday at 7pm

Good Friday at 7pm

Easter Vigil at 7pm

Easter Sunday 9am



### ARTS Mission Trip

Debbie Padilla will keep us informed as to when/if the trip will be rescheduled. Please keep this mission in your prayers.

Our monthly game night will be on hiatus until further notice, but we still encourage you to take some time to play- It's a great stress reliever and can keep your brain sharp. Crosswords, word finds, sudoku, card games, board games, I spy... Whether you are sheltering in place alone or with your family there are lots of ways to game.

Have fun!



The Sunday morning Bible Study with Ed Blair will be moving online using Zoom. We will share in an Easter season bible study entitled "**Passion of Jesus**". The study will begin this Sunday April 5th and will focus on Palm Sunday and The Foot Washing. A PDF of the study and a Zoom invitation will be sent by Ed Blair.



Following is the list of Bible readings for Holy Week and the month of April. We thought it would be helpful if you could look them up before the virtual services. May God bless your reading of the Word.

**4/5/2020: 9am:**

**Palm Sunday:**

OLD TESTAMENT: **Isaiah 50:4-9a**  
EPISTLE: **Philippians 2:5-11**  
HOLY GOSPEL: **John 12:20-43**

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**4/9/2020: 7:00pm:**

**Maundy Thursday:**

OLD TESTAMENT: **Exodus 24:3-11**  
EPISTLE: **Hebrews 9:11-22**  
HOLY GOSPEL: **Matthew 26:17-30**

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**4/10/2020: 7:00pm:**

**Good Friday:**

OLD TESTAMENT: **Isaiah 52:13-53:12**  
EPISTLE: **Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9**  
Betrayal & Arrest of Jesus: **John 18:1-11**  
Jesus Before the High Priest  
and the Denial of Peter: **John 18:12-27**  
Jesus Before Pilate: **John 18:28-40**  
Jesus Prepared for Crucifixion: **John 19:1-16a**  
The Crucifixion of Jesus: **John 19:16b-24**  
Jesus' Mother and His Death: **John 19:25-30**  
Jesus' Side is Pierced: **John 19:31-42**

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**4/11/2020: 7:00pm:**

**Easter Vigil Saturday:**

1. THE CREATION:	<b>Genesis 1:1—2:3</b>
2. ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA:	<b>Exodus 14:10—15:1</b>
3. THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE:	<b>Zephaniah 3:12—20</b>
4. THE FIERY FURNACE:	<b>Daniel 3:1—30</b>

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**4/12/2020: 9am:**

**Easter Sunday:**

OLD TESTAMENT: **Isaiah 65:17-25**  
EPISTLE: **1 Corinthians 15:14-26**  
HOLY GOSPEL: **Luke 24:1-12**

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**4/19/2020: 9am:**

**2nd Sunday of Easter:**

FIRST READING: **Acts 5:29-42**  
EPISTLE: **1 Peter 1:3—9**  
HOLY GOSPEL: **John 20:19—31**

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**4/26/2020: 9am:**

**3rd Sunday of Easter:**

FIRST READING: **Acts 2:14a, 36-41**  
EPISTLE: **1 Peter 1:17-25**  
HOLY GOSPEL: **Luke 24:13-35**

**LMC Preschool's** and MJ's Dine to Donate Fund Raiser will be rescheduled for sometime in May or June.



FROM LCMS NJ DISTRICT

All classes are on hold until further notice.

The LMC Office is preparing an updated **Directory for 2020**. We are still gathering family or individual photos and address changes. Please forward updates to the church office as soon as possible. If you are not sure we have your updated information or a picture, simply email the correct data and photos to the office at: [officelm818@gmail.com](mailto:officelm818@gmail.com).



This crisis is having an incredible economic impact on the world. Our congregation is being affected by this. We want to encourage everyone to continue to remain generous, even if we are not going to be physically gathering together on Sunday morning.

Did you know we have been accepting online offerings for over five years? This safe and quick process has been used to make the giving process easier but is becoming an important tool now that we can't meet in person. Links to the available programs can be found on the website or you can mail in your offering to: 818 Tinton Avenue, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

If you are able to give us a one-time donation, or can continue to send in your weekly offering, we would greatly appreciate it.

# April Birthdays

1 <sup>st</sup>	Connie Wild	13 <sup>th</sup>	Jean Berich
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Anne-Lise Maida		Emily Cincotta
4 <sup>th</sup>	Jerry Kastning	15 <sup>th</sup>	Brigid Minue
	Joyce Nash	19 <sup>th</sup>	Kyle Koob
6 <sup>th</sup>	Amy Brockel		Ricky Zabe
9 <sup>th</sup>	Watson Berich	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Tori Vorbeck
		26 <sup>th</sup>	Tina Kvedaras

## Prayer Requests

Louis Russo	Sylvia Burton	Shirley Lang	Marcy Slachman
Joyce Siney	Lynn Gerhman	James D'Andrea	Gary & family
Jen Cho & family	Brian Donovan	Melvin Taylor	Keith Brown
Kayla Joseph	Colton Farrell	Harold Brown	Ulkika Weiss
Renee Connell	Ruta Colomb	Janis Luksis	Linda Moldoch
Jerry Kastning	Kathleen Samaras	Connie Wild	Joe Scelfo
Gina Tobia	Cynthia Mayer	Fran Curtis	Tim Bains
Anne-Lise Maida	Tom & Angela Mirandi	Carol Parkus	Gloria Gagliardi
Jan Bastone	Sandi Carter	Bob Hollenbeck	Gary duBois Sister-in-law
Vivian Skaar	Michelle Walker	Hitue	Liz Keitans-Hines
Beth McLaughlin	Joe Tetley	Sam & Bob Juliano	Deborah
Joanne R.	Ellen Klien	David Bartelt	Elfriede Gordon
The Lembeck Family	Gretchen Gallimore	The Padilla Family	Zak Brown & Family
George	The DeNicola Family	T. Ball & Family	The Family of Joe Irons Jr.

You can e-mail your prayer requests or enter them into the Prayer Book at the back of the Sanctuary. Join the weekly email prayer group by contacting the church office at [officeLmc818@gmail.com](mailto:officeLmc818@gmail.com).

Share the News! The deadline for May's newsletter will be April 22<sup>th</sup>  
If you have stories, questions, or ideas e-mail us @ [ellen.illies@yahoo.com](mailto:ellen.illies@yahoo.com)