

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Website: www.luther95.net/ILC-WIA/

1226 East Washington Washington, IA 319-653-3950

April, 2009

**Sunday Worship
9:00 AM**

**Our mission:
Gather All Generations
Around the Word of Christ**

Holy Week:

**Palm Sunday—
Confirmation**

April 5—9:00AM

Maundy Thursday

April 9

Worship 6:30PM

Good Friday

April 10

Worship 6:30PM

Easter Sunday

6:30AM&9:00 AM

**Luther League
Breakfast between**

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Easter and the Resurrection

by Peter Weller

What an incredible story is Jesus' death and resurrection. As Mark tells it, three women, Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome, went to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body. They discovered that the entrance stone was rolled back, and inside, a man dressed in a white robe said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here. But, tell his disciples and Peter that they will see him in Galilee, as he has said." The women fled the tomb, trembling and astonished, and they said nothing to anyone because they were afraid. (Mark 16:1-8)

John's version is somewhat different and adds more detail, but it still conveys the same sense of incredulity and wonder. Mary Magdalene discovered the empty tomb and ran to get Peter and John. Peter went into the tomb and saw the physical evidence, the linen cloths lying there and the napkin that covered Jesus' head rolled up separately. When John looked at that same scene, he immediately knew what had happened, and he believed. The two disciples then returned to their homes. Mary encountered Jesus outside the tomb, and did not recognize him until he spoke her name. She then found the disciples and told them, "I have seen the Lord." (John 20:1-18)

John also tells us about Thomas, who was absent when Jesus first appeared to the disciples. He said that he would not believe unless he could see and touch in Jesus' hands the print of the nails and put his hand into the wound in Jesus' side.

When Jesus appeared among them a second time, he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands; and put out your hand and place it in my side; do not be faithless but believing." Thomas responded, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are all those who have not seen and yet believe." (John 20:19-29)

There is a lesson here. Yes, seeing is believing. For Thomas, Jesus made it very real. Thomas was fortunate and privileged to have such a personal and intense confirmation of Jesus' resurrection. And, I believe, John included Thomas' encounter with Jesus for this very reason. Yet, Jesus knows that we do not come to faith by physical evidence, and that really does not matter. Faith and Salvation are God's gifts to us. God's Holy Spirit enabled the disciples and their followers to testify with conviction and with power that Jesus, who was crucified, did indeed rise from the tomb, dwell with them for a short while, and then ascend to the Father. And, God's Holy Spirit also sustains us and strengthens us and enables us to believe and to testify to His salvation for us through His son, Jesus.

John ends this chapter saying that these things "are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing, you may have life in his name." (John 20:30-31) This is the essence of our Christian faith and beliefs. This is the gift this is that God has given us. How blessed we are to receive it.

Monthly Updates

March Attendance

Mar 1	9:00 am	160
Mar 8	9:00 am	145
Mar 15	9:00 am	170
Mar 22	9:00 am	122
Mar 29	9:00 am	89

General Fund Gifts - February

1/12th of annual budget = \$ 13,814.75

Feb 1	2,991.30
Feb 8	1,435.00
Feb 15	2,555.25
Feb 22	1,636.93
Simply Giving	<u>2,378.00</u>
Feb \$	10,996.48

Jan \$ 11,082.72

\$1,000.00 has been paid to the Synod for Mission Support in 2009 beyond the congregation for synodical and church wide ministries of Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

“Building Fund Gifts ” - February

Monthly mortgage payment - \$3,422.55
of annual budget = \$ 13,814.75

Feb 1	\$ 605.00
Feb 8	710.00
Feb 15	560.00
Feb 22	480.00
Simply Giving	<u>835.00</u>
Feb \$	3,190.00

Jan \$2,435.00

At this time we have payments made through April. Next payment due 05/23/09.

Thrivent Leaders 2009

Chapter - Yvonne Buster, Mark Kendall, Ray Poe
Judy Venzke

Care in Congregations—Dale Venzke, Mike Jewell

Continuing Funds that can be contributed to:

Luther League

Parking Lot Fund

Endowment Fund

Membership Assistance

New Carpet Fund

Piano Fund

Bobbie Schmidt Fund

[Make notation on check]

Easter Flowers

New for Easter this year. If you would like to bring flowers to decorate the altar(Lilies or fresh cut or another type of plant)we are asking each family bring their own. Please try to have to them at church by Sat April 11 at 2:00PM. There will be a memorial list printed in the bulletin. If would like your name included please sign up on the sheet under the mailboxes or let the office know 653-3950.

Coffee Collection Money Can

Thanks to you who regularly put a money donation for your church coffee into the LWR collection can. A \$126 order for 3 months of coffee was just sent in so you can understand why we appreciate all your donations. Our increased after church fellowship makes a lot of coffee disappear. This is really a mission project since we are helping farmers in impoverished areas improve their lives. This money is also used for lemonade, sugar and creamers. We would like to encourage everyone that drinks coffee or lemonade to consider donating to this cause. We want to keep this project self-sustaining.

Driver to Cedar Rapids for LWR

We are looking for a volunteer to drive and or the use of their van to haul the quilts and kits to Cedar Rapids on Saturday, April 18. We will have a van full. Contact Doris Moore 694-4225 or office 653-3950

Jenna Waters Benefit

On April 4th 2009 is a Benefit for our niece Jenna Waters. It will be in Richmond, Tickets will be 5,- a Person and there will be an Auction and Jake McVey! For more information go to:

www.JennaWatersBenefir.info

If you are interested in Tickets (you can also get them at the door) call Angi Ellis @319-653-4092 or e-mail me: angi_ellis@yahoo.com

Council Members for 2008: Sarah Hernandez (Ed/Youth) 653-3038 - Kathy Dea [Sec.] (Ed/Youth) 653-6097 Kate Glinsmann (Ed/Youth) 653-7314 - Marty Westen [V.P.] (W/E)653-6021 - Ed Burdock (W/E) 653-2495 - Mary Chmelar (W/E) 653-2043- Tom Lyons (B/G/F) 653-6721 - David Sells (B/G/F) 461-5873 Nancy Baker (B/G/F) 653-7309 - Ken Erickson (Stew/Fin) 653-5258 - Ruth Jones [Pres.] (Stew/Fin) 461-4010 -Mark Kendall((Stew/Fin) -653-6561

Worship Leaders

April 2009	Greeters	Ushers	Reader	Communion Assistant	Communion Setup/Cleanup	Acolyte
Palm Sun. Sun 9:00 am April 5	Pastor Al & Jane Kruse	Ted Kruse Phyllis & Duane Hagensick	Gary Fischer	Larry Bartlett	T&V Kruse Hagensick/ J&D Moore	Marty Baker
Mauudy Thurs 6:30 pm		T Kruse Hagensick		Deb Shepherd	Hagensick T&V Kruse	Kyle Fischer
Good Friday 6:30 pm		Ken Erickson Steve Vetter				Kyle Fischer
Sun 6:30am April 12	>>>>>>>>	Please Sign up on Sheet	>>>>>>>>	Please Sign up on Sheet		Please Sign up on Sheet
Sun 9:00 am April 12	>>>>>>>>	Please Sign up on Sheet	>>>>>>>>	Please Sign up on Sheet		Please Sign up on Sheet
Sun 9:00am April 19	Aaron Six Family	Tom Tanner Jim Gallagher Richard Schmidt	Sherry Ives	Kristin Jones	Alita Stark	Kyle Fischer
Sun 9:00 am April 26	Tom&Charlane Tanner	Rich Baker Family	Maggie Baker			Megan Hill

If you cannot serve the time you are assigned, please find someone to trade with or call Kathy Vetter 653-5515 before noon on Friday.

Clothing & Bake Sale May 2

There will a Clothing and Bake sale held at the church on Sat. May 2. A box will be put in the hallway so you can start your spring cleaning now! The bake sale was also very popular so we will be looking for more items to be donated to that. At the time of printing it was not decided where the proceeds will be used for sure. Check the bulletin for further details.

Congratulation to
 Ann and James Bennett on the
 birth of their
 Daughter
 Grace Helen Bennett
 March 19, 2009 3:45PM
 8# 5.6 oz. - 20 .5" long
 Grace joins her year old brother,
 Karl at home
 Grandparents are Jan Newhouse and the
 late Charles Newhouse
 Charlsey and James Bennett

Thrivent Projects

The Henry/Washington Chapter has almost \$7000 for community projects to help people in our chapter. So far this year, we have raised money for Bran Sievers to help finance his travels to Tanzania to install water purifiers, we have helped in a fund raiser for a benefit breakfast for a 2 year old girl with leukemia, and we have helped with the Washington County Habitat for Humanity supper and auction which raises money for new projects. We hope to have a Thrivent workday for Habitat for Humanity later this year.

Our chapter also has a care in congregations team of Oscar Hernandez, Mike Jewell, and Dale Venzke. They have around \$1250 to spend on our church projects. So far they have given money to Hope/LWR projects to supplement money raised at a Fortnightly luncheon. They will be supplementing the 3 groups who prepared the Lenten soup suppers with \$50 for each evening they prepared food. -Luther League, choir for the piano fund, and buildings and grounds committee.

Luther League News

Well, another month has come and gone. Time flies when you are having fun. I wanted to take the time to bring you all up to speed with what has been going on with your Luther League kids.

As you may know, we are planning our big trip to New Orleans this summer for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. We have been raising money by cleaning Kinnick Stadium, delivering phone books, having bake sales, and during Lent, we hosted soup suppers. All of the money raised will go towards our trip to New Orleans and to help keep our little group going.

On January 16 – 18, we took the Junior High kids to Des Moines for a Youth Quake. We went with the Methodist Church and the United Presbyterian Church. All toll, there was around 70 kids from Washington. We saw the Josiah Smith Band, Captive Free, and “Packer” Dave Gunneldson. It was three days of praising, dancing and celebrating God. There is nothing more rewarding than a couple of hundred kids having fun and praising our Lord. During our family time each evening, we had a chance to reflect on the day’s events and wind down with God before curfew.

Notice that I said curfew instead of bed. There was not much sleep going on!

The Josiah Smith Band was our guests for family time. We had a chance to get to know them. They are a very special group of young adults. The kids really connected with them and their story. Assisa Jewell and her boy friend Ryan Morrison were our special guest along with Jordan Jaspering and Amber Eaton. Ryan has an unbelievable story and he really touched our hearts. The kids though that he was cool! It was nice to have all of them come back and share their memories of their Quakes. They really helped out and it is much appreciated by all of us.

We will be going to a Youth Event at Crooked Creek Christian Camp the last weekend in March and we will continue to meet with the kids on Sunday nights. In April we will be planning a skating party in Wellman. Once find the right weekend, we will let everyone know. At our High School Meetings, we have been studying New Orleans and getting ourselves prepared for the National Youth Gathering.

We would like to thank all of those who help support the Youth. Pastor Steve has been very involved as well as Steve and Pam Green, Rich and Deidra Baker, Tom Lyons, Shari Bond, and all the parents that have volunteered their time to help drive, and keep us in line.

Thank you to all in the church who support your youth. They are the future of Gods family and this church. They are all awesome kids and we really enjoy being with them. Thank you for allowing us time to help them grow. They teach us as well. Jesus said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 19:14.

Gods Peace

Jason and Monique Rausch

Summertime Perks for Thrivent Members

There’s a tremendous perk in helping those who need help. This year, Thrivent Regional is offering more perks for Thrivent members. (You are a member if you have policies or investments in Thrivent)

ADVENTURELAND June 27th is Thrivent Day at Adventureland in Altoona for members and their immediate family. Admission is \$10 plus a hotdog/hamburger meal. You’ll also have a ticket for a drawing. This needs a quick decision because once the Thrivent tickets are gone, that’s it. If this sounds like a neat family event to you, please get a check or cash to me as soon as you discuss this. (Judy Venzke)

NEWTON CAR RACES This is for adult race enthusiasts who are Thrivent members. An air conditioned room above the announcer area is reserved for 30 Thrivent members on several race days. You can be a couple joining a group of 28 from another chapter, you can organize 30 Thrivent people to go, you can purchase any number of tickets between 1 and 30. The cost is \$20. Again, get your check or cash to Judy. These are new events and I don’t know how fast tickets will go, so that is why I’m trying to rush you. Call Judy Venzke 653-3820 for more details.

Holy Week Schedule



Palm Sunday/Confirmation, April 5

9:00AM Worship/Communion

Maundy Thursday, April 9 – 6:30PM

Good Friday, April 10 – 6:30PM

Easter Sunday, April 12

6:30 AM Sunrise Service/Communion

Breakfast by Luther League –Free will donation

Following Sunrise service and prior to the 9:00 service

9:00AM Worship/Communion

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on Easter Sunday



Kid's Corner

Congratulations to the kids for raising another \$42.01 in the tube on the altar, and \$66 from a pie auction for a total of \$ 259.93. Everyone enjoys watching the kids take their change up to the front. The goal is to buy a cow for a family in need so they can improve their life style by providing for

Pie Bakeoff

In conjunction with Pastor Steve's installation there will be a pie bakeoff on Sunday, April 26. Please bring your pies to be judged after Sunday School at 11:15AM. Prizes to be determined! Pastor just wants pie to eat!!! Watch bulletin for further details. We have a chili champ (Steve Vetter) now he wants a pie baking champ!

Sunday School Update

A big thank you to Lynette Sievers for the yummy pancakes on Pajama, Pancake, Praise and Puppet Sunday and to Julie Hill for fun music and Rich Baker, Debbie and Mike Jewell for the terrific puppets. Thanks to all the servers and kitchen help you are not named but loved. Thanks for making Sunday School fun!

Palm Sunday, April 5th older Sunday School students will hide Easter eggs for the younger students and we'll have a special lesson. We will all meet in the sanctuary after church to prepare for a hands-on Easter Story Sunday. Confirmation students will be confirmed on that day and students will lead the palm walk during church time. There will be NO Sunday School on Easter Sunday. Please enjoy the Luther League breakfast.

The Sunday School classes for this year will end on Sunday, May 17th with a "Route 66 Diner" breakfast and special presentations during church time. There will be no official lesson on that Sunday. May 17th we will also be concluding our Bible challenge so keep reading!