



Grace Lutheran Church

4218 - 56 Avenue
Wetaskiwin, Alberta T9A 2W3

April, 2024

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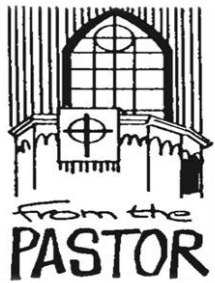
Website: www.glcw.ca

Pastor: Fred Schneider

"Reflecting and Sharing Jesus Christ"

Missionary: Lutheran Church of Columbia

PARISH PUMP



Resurrection Church

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you will be witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8

The Resurrection changes everything. If the story would have ended on the cross, then we would have had a romantic tragedy. We know that Jesus loved us but he is just another sad statistic of those evil has conquered. Another poor martyr. He said wonderful things. He performed wonderful miracles. He sounded like he was going to be someone. But he died like us.

The Resurrection puts an exclamation mark on the crucifixion and death of Jesus. This was God's plan. God was going to sacrifice his only begotten Son for us. God could have stopped this injustice from happening but God did not. God wanted to say something to us through the cross. God loves. God forgives. God knows. The Resurrection also shows us that love never dies. Love lives on. Love is the most powerful action in this world.

After Easter, on the first Sunday in April, we hear Jesus telling the disciples before he ascends, that God is going to use them as witnesses. They are going to be witnesses in the center of Israel, Jerusalem, in their neighborhood, Judea, among the outcasts,

Samaria and to the ends of the world. God is going to give them the power.

On the Second Sunday, Peter, Jesus disciple, meets a lame man; someone others ignored. Peter can do more than give alms, he can heal. It causes quite a stir. On the third and fourth Sunday, we hear the story of Paul's missionary journey to Thessalonica and Corinth and then hear from his letter to the churches there. We see the Holy Spirit working in power to minister to the world.

We are the church of the Resurrection. We are witnesses of what God has done in our lives through Jesus' death and the Holy Spirit's working. We greet the people God has placed among us. We share that love. We proclaim the gospel. And God is with us. God's love never dies. And so, we go with God.

Pastor Fred

GROWING IN GRACE PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

Spring is here!!! – Grace Mountain is disappearing. We will continue with our Nutrition theme and celebrate everything about spring.



Yours in Christ, Betty Grayson

"Reflecting and Sharing Jesus Christ"



Financial Snapshot of Budgeted Funds

Carry over from 2023	\$0.00
2024 Receipts	\$35,808.74
2024 Expenses (2 month)	(\$48,672.38)
YTD difference	(\$12,863.64)
YTD to February 2024 Balance:	(\$12,863.64)



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Reflecting and Sharing
Jesus Christ

Roof Repair

\$45,000	\$45,000
\$40,000	
\$35,000	
\$30,000	
\$25,000	
\$45,000	
\$20,000	
\$10,000	
\$5,000	

THANK
YOU!

Also, for legal reasons, be aware of the following waiver, should the Fund be overfunded.

"The donor hereby authorizes the church to use the designated funds for other church programs if the program or project for which the enclosed gift is designated has been fully funded or if the church council, in its sole discretion, decides that the program or project for which the funds are designated will not be carried out."

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter

Services

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday

Service will be a joint service



between Anglicans, Lutherans and United. It will take place at Grace Lutheran Church. It starts with a meal at 5:30 pm of soup and bread in the Fellowship Hall. Around 6 pm, people will have the opportunity to have their feet washed. On that night, Jesus washed the feet of the disciples. Around 6:30 pm, we will be celebrating Holy Communion. On that night, Jesus had a Passover meal with the disciples in which he took the bread and said this is my body. He took the cup of wine and said this is the blood. Jesus commands us to remember and to do. Finally, around 7pm, we will move to the sanctuary. It will be decorated like a garden. On that night, Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. It was there Judas betrayed Jesus into the hands of the religious people. At that time, we will strip the altar. Then we will all leave in silence. Those who want to meditate can stay for a while. The time line is an approximation.

Good Friday

Good Friday service is at 10:30 am. It is the traditional Tenebrae service. We will read a piece of scripture. We will sing a hymn. We will extinguish a candle. We continue this process until Jesus is dead and placed in the tomb and all the candles are extinguished. We will pray. We will process the cross into the sanctuary. We will sing the Old Rugged Cross. We leave in silence. Those who want to meditate can stay for a while.

Easter Sunday

We begin Easter Celebration with a breakfast put on by the women of the church. It begins at 9:30. The Service will begin at 10:30 am. It will be a joyous celebration. The piano and the organ will be leading us in song. We will have many opportunities to say Christ is Risen indeed. After the service, any leftovers from the Easter Breakfast can be enjoyed.



Council looking at possible other companies picking up commercial garbage – current one has increased monthly billing considerably.

Kathy visited NOW – they are looking at producing videos that may be used to present o those who donate to them. Perhaps a Sunday presentation.

March event currently going to Camrose Women's Shelter. Poster to remind people is posted by the thermometer in the Narthex.

For April it was decided to donate to the Wetaskiwin Spray Park, to be located beside the Manluk Centre (swimming pool).

April 14 will be a service of healing.

North, East and West Gathering to be at Peace, Leduc on April 27. Everyone is invited to attend. Registration needs to be done soon.

Parish worker – information ads sent to Directions for Wellness, Norquest College, CHIPS On the Indeed website, in the Parish Pump, bulletin, email and Facebook. No inquiries as of yet.

Looking at the possibility of a Membership Sunday.

Service in the Son likely early June – will firm up details at the next couple of council meetings. Registration to Synod Convention needs to be in by April 3rd, to be held at Kinds College June 22-24 in Edmonton. Information is on the Synod Website. Gail is our representative, with Janet as alternate. As the convention is being held over a weekend, we will have a Lay Service that Sunday, with Bishop Larry providing the sermon. That's about all.

Janet



Men's Night

The men meet every first and third Monday of the month @ 7:00p.m. You are welcome to join this growing group!

Was Held on February 18, 2024 to install the Church Council Members:



Council Chair - Vivian Holtby
Vice Chair - Bert Horvey
Secretary - Janet Forth
Members at large- Lori Cochrane
- Rob Sperber
- **vacant position(s)**

Ministry Teams:

- ◇ Education/Youth/Preschool; Women of Grace - Lori Cochrane
- ◇ St. John's Property/Gravesite Care; Worship Planning - Janet Forth
- ◇ Finance: Rob Sperber
- ◇ Property; Policies and Procedures - Vivian Holtby
- ◇ Fellowship/Missional Formation/Social Justice: Bert

Pastor - Fred Schneider
Financial Secretary - Jane Wedman
Treasurer - Deb Hill
ATB Online Business Administrator - David Ruff
Office Administrator - Dorothy Schmidt

Auditors 2024- Chrissy Williams, Lorrilyn Forth and Peter Trommelen **remains Lead**
NOW Rep- Kathy Coroluick
MLCC- left as Rhonda Brown and Justin Wieclaw

Vacation Bible School

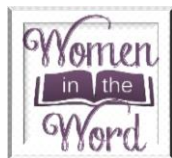


Once again we are interested in having Vacation Bible School this summer. We had a nice gathering of young people and volunteers last summer that was led by Susan

Woitt (which was greatly appreciated). **We really do need a Vacation Bible School Director; Susan is unable to this year but may be available to assist a bit.** We run it Tuesday to Friday, 9-12 p.m. for one week in July. It involves age groups moving around to different stations such as Bible, Games, Science, Snacks, and Crafts. Each session only being 20 minutes long. As Pastor, I would look after the opening and closing assembly every day. We need leaders in each of the stations. We need young leaders to take the groups from station to station. It does not get boring. It is fast. And it is fun. If this sounds like a calling for you, please let us know as soon as possible.

Ladies' Morning Out

Ladies' Morning Out meets Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Adult Ed Room. New members are always welcome. You are welcome to join this growing group!



Managing Mental Health During Easter: How to Find Joy and Inner Peace

Dr Duncan Borg Ellul

Senior Public Officer |

Corporate Trainer & Researcher | Head of Business School and Lecturer at MLI

Published Apr 8, 2023

Introduction

Easter is often seen as a joyful time for Christians around the world. However, it can present a challenge to those who are struggling with their mental health. For many people, dealing with grief, anxiety, or stress can be an ongoing battle, and Easter may amplify these feelings of despair. We must acknowledge and support those going through a difficult time during the holidays. We must remember that Easter is not just about the resurrection of Jesus Christ but also about celebrating new beginnings and spreading kindness throughout our communities.

The Importance of Self-Care During Easter

In today's fast-paced world, it is easy to become overwhelmed and stressed, leading to burnout and a decline in overall health. However, prioritising your mental wellness through self-care and seeking support when needed can profoundly impact your productivity, creativity, and overall life satisfaction. Amidst the basket-making, egg-dying, and chocolate-consuming, taking some time for self-care is essential to enjoy the holiday truly. Whether spending a

quiet moment outside in the sunshine, indulging in a soothing bath or treating yourself to a nutritious meal, taking care of our physical and emotional health will leave us feeling refreshed and ready to embrace the joys of Easter with our loved ones fully. So this year, let's give ourselves the gift of self-care alongside all the chocolate bunnies and pastel decorations.

Coping with Stress and Anxiety During Easter

Easter is a time of celebration, but it can also come with its own set of challenges. It's important to acknowledge that the holiday season can bring financial pressures, social anxiety, and a sense of overwhelming expectations. Fortunately, there are ways to cope with these stresses and strains. Mindfulness is a powerful tool that can help us stay present at the moment and find joy in the simple things around us. By being mindful, we can let go of negative thoughts and focus on the positive aspects of life. Whether taking a walk in nature or spending time with loved ones, it's important to find activities that help us de-stress and enjoy the holiday season. So, this Easter, take a moment to slow down, breathe deeply, and focus on the present. Let mindfulness be your guide to a more joyful and stress-free holiday.

Dealing with Grief and Loss During Easter

The Easter holiday can be challenging for those grieving or dealing with loss, and it is important to recognise and validate these emotions. Coping with grief during this time is not easy, but some helpful strategies may be useful in managing these difficult feelings. Speaking with a trusted friend or therapist is a great first step to help alleviate some of the pain. Creating a memorial or ritual to honour the person who has passed can be a cathartic experience. However,

taking time for self-care is essential as remembering to be kind to oneself. This approach can help people manage their pain and grief during Easter and every day. It is important to take things one day at a time and seek out support when needed.

The Benefits of Faith and Spirituality for Mental Health During Easter

Stress and anxiety have become common in today's fast-paced society, and many seek ways to alleviate these feelings. Those who practice religion often turn to their faith, finding comfort in attending church services and participating in prayer or meditation, which can help them connect with their community and reduce stress. However, non-religious individuals can also benefit from mindfulness practices or finding activities that bring peace and connection. Taking time each day to reflect and nourish our spirits can positively impact our mental health and overall well-being, regardless of our beliefs. So whether you find solace in religion or other practices, it's important to prioritise self-care and make time for activities that bring you inner peace.

Conclusion

As we celebrate Easter, it's important to remember that this time of year can be challenging for those grappling with mental health issues. However, there are steps you can take to boost your well-being and enjoy this special season. By focusing on self-care and stress management, acknowledging grief, and drawing on your faith or spirituality, you can improve your mental health and feel more at ease. Remember: making time for yourself and your well-being is always a priority. Do not hesitate to contact loved ones or a professional for support if you are struggling. With the right

tools and resources, you can make the most of Easter and simultaneously take care of your mental health.

Who's Older?

Who's Celebrating Anniversaries?

Do you need an excuse to tell a friend that you are thinking of them? If so, let these birthday and anniversary people know that they are on your minds and in your prayers. Thank God for another year of grace!

Did we leave you out? If so, let us know.
We aim to please!!



April Celebrations!

Denice Monaghan
Loni Wieclaw
Danny Gusdal
Adrian Maplethorpe
Lori Purschke
Gerhardt Forth
Evelyn Woitt
Tammy Kennedy
Louise Mosier
Carrie Schmidt
Brett Zurbrigg
Travis Battaglia
Richard Turgeon
Brenda Shaver
Joel Schmidt

Betty Thiel
Chrissy Williams
Judy Gusdal
Melissa Berg
Addyson Schatschneider
Jennifer Irwin
Rose Neiman
Farrah Taylor
Larry Coroluick
Mitchell Zurbrigg
Tim Strick
Denise Bleakney
Wilbert Lentz
Grace Feldberg

Jon & Sharon Gullekson
Bert & Irene Lerohl
Bob & Joanne Maynard
Murray & Laurie Edlund
Jack & Connie Jensen
Don & Inez Bolstad



WORSHIP SERVERS FOR APRIL

	April 7th
Accompanist	Colleen McGinnis
Lector	Deb Hill
Usher	Bert Horvey
Sound Booth	Jack Jensen
Projector	Brent Metzker
Counters	Monica Minchau/Janet Forth
Coffee Clean-Up	Annie Woitt
Communion Set-Up	Betty Grayson Denice Monaghan
Communion Servers	Dan Gusdal/Judy Gusdal/ Marlene Thompson
	April 14th
Accompanist	Tammy Kennedy
Lector	Colleen McGinnis
Usher	Vivian Holtby
Sound Booth	Larry Coroluick
Projector	Susan Woitt
Counters	Connie Jensen Bonnie Bukkems
Coffee Clean-Up	Vivian Holtby
	April 21st
Accompanist	Colleen McGinnis
Lector	Judy Gusdal
Usher	Ron & Denice Monaghan
Sound Booth	Melanie Stirck
Projector	Marilyn Zielke
Counters	Rob Sperber Chrissy Williams
Coffee Clean-Up	Lorrilyn Forth
Communion Set-Up	Betty Grayson Denice Monaghan
Communion Servers	Dale Woitt/Larry Coroluick/Kathy Coroluick
	April 28th
Accompanist	Marlene Thompson
Musicians	Chrissy Williams/ Bert Horvey Larry Coroluick
Lector	Vivian Holtby
Usher	Rob Sperber
Sound Booth	Jack Jensen
Projector	Connie Maygard
Counters	Monica Minchau Donna Zurbrigg
Coffee Clean-Up	Connie Maygard

Thank you to all those who volunteer to serve at our worship services!

Easter Sunrise Surprise

He is not here; he has risen! Luke 24:6a (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 24:1-12 (NIV).



Y L X Y P K W G P R X I F L W
D B A R H V N E S P I C E S K
P W V S L I P U E F Z S Z U T
A R W A N U S V T K Q A E F N
G D O R C K T Z O W T J O N A
Y R O L T Q O K M B O D Y L Z
G M O W L D N E B S S T B Q J
Y D B U G E E V N R T H K E Z
W L Z O N Q D U L T W H J M T
F O I Q W D J U F O E R X S C
R R M V R E M E M B E R R S I
J D I E I U D P R E C I E P K
G F E G N N N B D D F C G D O
O D D A H S G C Q A A I X I V
L A T F D T M P J F Y Z T F L

living	tomb	rolled	risen	dead
women	first	spices	away	bowed
faces	stone	entered	ground	remember
morning	week	body	fright	day

