

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Have you ever noticed the drama associated with worship? On Easter morning many congregations assemble for worship before dawn to join the women going to the tomb. On Christmas Eve we stay up late to welcome the Christ Child as did the shepherds. On the first Sunday of April we will again remember the resurrection story. Our weekly routines are disrupted during holy week as we gather for worship to remember the drama of the Last Supper. During Lent we gathered on Wednesdays to remember the parts of worship associated with our faith. During Sunday worship we hear for the first time or again the stories of faith in Holy Scriptures. Our choir offers prayers, praises and stories of the God we worship. Baptisms and funerals are drama stories that tell of our faith.

Again on Maundy Thursday we will gather to celebrate the Holy Eucharist both as a remembering of the Passover meal and the story of the exodus of God's people as they prepared to leave Egypt. But the meal is more than remembering. As our first communion students learn, the Holy Supper is one of the sacraments of the church, Eucharist means thanksgiving, and the gathering is also a meal and foretaste of the feast to come. Many congregations even prepare a Seder meal to reflect the Passover meal celebrated by Jesus and his disciples.

As with any drama, there is much behind the scenes planning and preparations. The worship and music committee carefully makes sure that the hymns sung each Sunday are known and appropriate for the texts. (Notice that we don't sing Christmas carols during Lent!) The committee also arranges for appropriate decorations, for the communion table to be set up before worship. We celebrate our fellowship with simple but delicious soup lunches almost monthly. Our youth often prepare dramas for worship. My thanks to all who help with the behind the scenes preparations as well as participation in the worship drama as our ushers, acolytes, communion assistants, lay readers and congregation.

The most important dramas we celebrate are the sacraments of Holy Communion and the Holy Eucharist. As children of God we continue to remember who we are: holy children of God. We remember these special dramas weekly throughout our worship services. So the dramas continue as we gather to worship and sing praises and depart after worship to continue to serve the Lord. Throughout the season of Lent we prepared for the Passion and Resurrection of our God. Now we are ready to celebrate the first day of the week when we are assured that God has conquered death and Jesus died to forgive us our sins. We look forward to your continued presence at worship as we remember the life, death and resurrection of our God.

May God who has brought us from death to life fill each of you with great joy.

Shalom,  
Pastor Bev+





**Only new prayer requests will be in the weekly bulletins.**

**CONTINUED PRAYER REQUESTS:** Tom Baker, Brad Bartley, Ann Boben, Landon Brewer, Carol Bulger, Nancy Bulger, Samantha Bulger, Nellie Chmara, Kim Christy, Jake Dietrich, Rick Dickerson, Don, David English, Mark Fox, Bernie Fedorka, Barbara Frantz, Mikey Graham, Brett Greenhill, Andrienne Haegg, William Loveridge, Anita Lynch, Bobbie Marchlenski, June Marshall, Nolan Nachriener, Don Nielsen, Terry Oakes, Verna Patscko, Lois Peebles, Mark Pollack, Jax Ramirez, Erin Roman, Rose Schuring, Dawn Swidorsky, Louise Spithaler, Dr. Mark Tarter, Becky Tomei, Bud Weber, John Wherry, Lilly Wolfe, Ruth Wolfe and Ron Zinkham.

***Please keep the church updated on your prayer request. All updates and request may be emailed to [spicofzelie@gmail.com](mailto:spicofzelie@gmail.com) Also if you would like to be notified of any needed prayers, please email the church office, with your email address.***

**Truth**

If Easter means anything to modern man, it means that eternal truth is eternal. You may nail it to the tree, wrap it up in grave clothes and seal it in a tomb. But truth crushed to earth shall rise again. Truth does not perish. It cannot be destroyed. It may be distorted. It has been silenced temporarily. It has been compelled to carry its cross to Calvary's brow... but with an inevitable certainty, after every Black Friday dawns truth's Easter morn.



***Maundy Thursday – March 29 – Service with Holy Communion and stripping of the Altar 7:00 PM.***

***Good Friday Service – March 30 – 7:00 PM***

***Easter Sunday – April 1 - No Sunday School – Worship with Holy Communion at 10:15 AM.***



***[Easter Day] After death, I expect ... nothing. But in the dim light of dawn, Jesus, you speak my name, as you did to Mary. You are alive! – which means I am too! Alleluia!***

**Dear members of St. Paul's,**

Our first news of the month is that the Call Committee has been busy preparing our Church Profile. A great deal of work has gone into this during the month and they are almost ready to have it approved by council and then submitted to the synod for approval. We are well on our way to letting prospective individuals know that we are looking for a Ministerial leader for our congregation. We will also be meeting with several churches in the area as well as synod leaders to see if anyone is interested in joining with us to form a joint venture of one or more churches. Our Call Committee needs a big thank you for a job well done as many hours of hard work have been spent on completing this profile.

Our weekly Lenten time together has been very informative as well as enjoyable for everyone involved. I think many of us, especially if we have been a Lutheran all our life, have been surprised by many of the various customs and information that we are learning about regarding other denominations, certainly many of which I was unaware of. Many times I think we could have continued talking well beyond our time limit that we allowed for the evening. We need to thank Pastor Bev, Pastor Kusserow, John Bulger, Christian Muthler as well as Jen McMurray for helping to lead these discussions each week.

Luke Wilson has approached council about a project he is interested in doing to work towards his Eagle Scout in Boy Scouts. He is hoping to build a storage unit at the end of Strobel Hall in the back of the dumpsters in the parking lot to keep our various lawn equipment and tools. Luke is looking at the plans as well as pricing the cost to build the structure as well as obtaining approval from his local scout troop to proceed with the project. He hopes to start this project late spring or early summer. We will be informing the church as soon as we have additional details as to the cost and what exactly Luke will need to complete the project (i.e. contributions of labor, money, etc.). This is certainly a large undertaking and worthwhile goal for Luke and the council is sure the congregation will want to help in supporting him meet the goal and earn his Eagle Scout Award.



I'm looking forward to warmer weather in the next few weeks as well as starting to see the trees blossom and flowers start to pop through the ground letting us know that spring has finally arrived. March came in like a Lion and so we can hope it goes out like a Lamb. Hope everyone has a blessed Easter.

*Linda*

*Council President*

### **WILLING WORKERS**

Mark your calendars for the smothered chicken dinner on May 3. We will be circulating a volunteer sheet in church starting April 8. We will need help with food donations [heads of lettuce, whole cranberry sauce, 10 lb. bags of potatoes, jellied cranberry sauce, large cool whips, #10 cans of green beans and yellow cakes without icing. Volunteers to help on the day of the dinner at 9:00 AM and in the evening both in the kitchen and dining room.

On April 8 after the 10:15 worship service, we will have a meeting to discuss window treatments for Strobel Hall. Please plan on coming to this meeting and helping us with any ideas you may have on what would look best on the windows.

Marty Goetz

### **REFLECTIVE PASTORAL TRAINING AND CARE CLASSES BEGINNING APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>**

Each Tuesday, April 3 – May 15, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Prayer Room in the Abundant Life Center Lutheran SeniorLife/Passavant Community from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Caregivers, pastors, church leaders, visitors patients or at home church members, and other Christians will improve upon and gain new helping and relating skills by participating in this 7 week course. The \$25 registration fee includes the cost of all course materials. Register today! For more information or to register, contact Rev. Valerie G. Schubert at 724-431-3352 or [Valerie.schubert@lutherseniorlife.org](mailto:Valerie.schubert@lutherseniorlife.org)

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – 9:00 AM  
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**

Come and see what you will learn next in the Bible with stories and crafts! Sunday school is for all ages!

The Adult Sunday school class will be starting a new series called *I Am – Discovering Who Jesus Is* by Douglas Connelly.



Please note that we will not have Sunday School on Easter Sunday – Sunday school will resume on April 8 at 9:00 AM.

**REGISTER FOR SUMMER CAMP 2018!**

Visit [www.lutherlyn.com](http://www.lutherlyn.com) or contact the camp office  
724-865-2161 for summer brochures.

\$100 off for FIRST TIME campers!

Enter coupon code: ELCA18

Does not apply to Family Camp, Confirmation Camp,  
Day Camp or Small Fry Days.

Brochures and registration forms also available on the table by the office door and upstairs in the narthex.

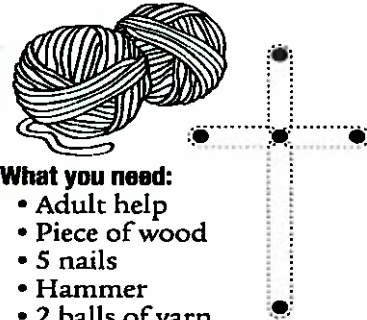
If you have a child interested in attending a camp and is in need of financial help, please see Pastor Bev about the campership program.

**GLADE RUN LUTHERAN SERVICES  
SPRING GARDENING SYMPOSIUM  
SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018**

Engaging presentations, gourmet lunch, silent auction/raffle and unique vendor tables. Reserve your seats today by calling Cheryl Martin at 724-452-4453 x1277.

# CROSS CRAFT

Make this special cross as a reminder of Jesus' death and resurrection.



**What you need:**

- Adult help
- Piece of wood
- 5 nails
- Hammer
- 2 balls of yarn (blue and yellow)

**What you do:**

1. Hammer the nails into the wood to form a cross shape (see example).
2. Tie the blue yarn to the bottom nail. Wrap it up and around the top nail and back down to the bottom nail. Then wrap it around the middle nail and around the side nails. Repeat until the yarn is wrapped about halfway up the exposed nails.
3. Repeat step two with the yellow yarn. Wrap it around the nails until only the heads are visible.

**"Dear Christians,  
One and All Rejoice"  
a Martin Luther Hymn Festival**

**Sunday, April 29, 2018**

**7 p.m.**

**Heinz Chapel,  
University of Pittsburgh**

All are invited to celebrate  
the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
Reformation through Luther's  
hymns and music.



# Women's Retreat

## "Letters of Christ"

You show that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us,  
written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God,  
not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

2 Corinthians 3:3

**Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> 2018**  
**at English Lutheran Church in Bassler Hall**

**9:15 am to 2:00 pm**

**Retreat Leader: Pastor Liddy Barlow**

Director of Christian Associates in Pittsburgh

"Through the bible, God uses human writers  
to tell God's story. In this retreat, we will explore  
how our own words can write the good news."

Please join us for a day  
of fellowship, good food and spiritual renewal.

Please RSVP by April 15, 2018 to [office@elczelienople.org](mailto:office@elczelienople.org) or call 724-452-8110



2018

CALENDAR YEAR / MONTH

APRIL



ASSISTING MINISTER: Marcy Miller  
 LECTOR: Marcy Miller  
 USHERS: David Williamson and Linda Flora  
 GREETERS: Marly Goetz  
 BELL RINGER: Jeff Miller  
 Office hours: Mon., Wed., Fri 9:00-12:00 splcofefe@gmail.com www.splcofefe.com 724-452-8832

SUNDAY  
 FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01  NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion	02 6:30 Call Committee Meeting	03	04	05	06	07
08 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 Willing Workers meeting in Strobel Hall 5:00 Confirmation at St. Paul	09 12:30 Willing Workers 7:00 Council Meeting	10 7:00 Meeting with Synod and area churches at Passavant Retirement Center Seaman Memorial Chapel	11	12	13	14
15 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 Third Sunday Fellowship	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion 11:30 Third Sunday Fellowship 5:00 Confirmation @ English	23 10:00 May newsletter info due	24	25	26	27	28
29 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship with Holy Communion	30	01	02	03	04	05

**HOLY WEEK**  
 March 29 - Maundy Thursday service with Holy Communion & Stripping of the Altar.  
 March 30 - Good Friday Service of Light and Darkness



*As spring blossoms all around us, may our hearts also bloom with love and peace.*