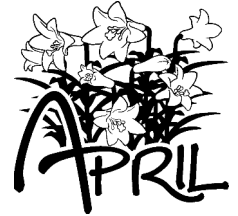




St. John's Lutheran Church of Ambridge
A Lutheran Congregation in Mission for Christ
and
North American Lutheran Church



News & Notes

2023

HE IS GOOD

God not only does good; He is the originator of goodness (Ge. 1:31). We have no innate goodness in ourselves; there is no source of goodness outside God (Ps. 16:2, 119:68). To say God is good is to say that He is absolutely pure. There is not a hint of evil or even neutrality. The moment we call Him less than good, we see Him as less than God. Jesus defines "goodness" in one word-GOD (Mt. 19: 16-17).

Goodness is not one of God's part-time activities (Ps. 136:1). He abounds in it. It is the drive behind His blessings and the reason for his compassion, kindness, and generosity (Ps. 84:11). God does not give out of obligation, for He is never in anyone's debt. He gives out of His goodness. God's goodness is for this life as well as eternity. It gives hope, leads to repentance and produces thankfulness. God has started a good work in each believer and has committed himself to completing His work (Php. 1:6).



THE BEAR FACTS

Hope you all are doing well. I'm getting ready for Easter. Hope mom gets me a bunny (I'd really like a real one like I chase in the yard. I guess I can hope) but I know I will get treats. Not much going on with me. I've been feeling good. My hearing is going a little. (Mom says I have selective hearing). I see the doctor in May for my wellness check up. I like going there cause I help the girls behind the desk. On their Facebook page it says 'I'm their top fan' so when I go in the office they all say "here comes our #1 fan." Getting ready for warmer weather so I can be outside more. Until we back again next month, I hope you all have a blessed Easter.

Hugs & Puppy Kisses,

Bear

Holy Week Schedule

Our schedule for Holy Week is as follows:

April 2 Palm Sunday with Communion @ 10:30am

April 6 Maundy Thursday with Communion @ 7pm

April 7 Good Friday Tenebrae Service (@ St. John's) NOON and 7:30pm @ Lighthouse

April 9 Easter Breakfast @ 8:30am, Service @ 10:30am with Communion

Congregational Meeting Notice

Mark April 22 on your calendar:

As part of our preparation to call a new pastor we will be conducting a Congregational Workshop led by Pr. Nila Cogan (NALC). During this workshop we will discern what we are Looking for in a Pastor and what our mission is in our community. This workshop will be held April 22 starting at 10:00am and lasting until around 1:00pm. This is a very important part of calling our next Pastor and every effort should be made to attend. The end result will be a Congregational Profile (who St. John's is) and what we are looking for in a Pastor.

Bible Study & Prayer Time

Please join us every Tuesday @ 10am for Bible Study. We are studying "The Chosen"

Prayer time with Paul is every 3rd Wednesday in the Chapel. If you have something

Weighing heavy on your heart or just want someone to pray with Paul is here.

Stitches in Time for sewing meet every Tuesday evening from 6pm-8:30pm

Preaching Schedule for April

March 29 Pastor Strunk (6th Wed in Lent) @ St. John's
April 2 Palm Sunday- Pastor Strunk
April 6 Maundy Thursday- Dale Stanley
April 7 Good Friday- Pastor Strunk & Dale Stanley
April 9 Easter- Dale Stanley

April Grass Cutting Schedule

April 8- Fred & Carmella Kolenda
April 15- Fred Ross
April 22- Bob Ferry
April 29- Mark Blaho

Greeters for April

April 2- Rosalind & Evie Stanley
April 6- Rosalind & Evie Stanley
April 9- Jennifer Lindgren
April 16- Rick Mercadante & Myles Stanley
April 23- Jennifer Lindgren
April 30- Rick Mercadante & Myles Stanley

Lectors for April

April 2- Fred Kolenda
April 6- Myles & Evie Stanley
April 9-
April 16- Tom Lindgren
April 23- Paul Kamzelski
April 30- Fred Kellinger

Communion Assistants for April

April 2- Dale Stanley & Mark Blaho
April 6- Rick Mercadante & Fred Kolenda
April 9- Fred Kolenda & Rick Mercadante

Save the date

August 6- Congregational Picnic @ Old Economy Park Barn

Keep in Prayer

Call Committee- as they continue to work hard in finding
Us a new Pastor. Guide them in the decision making of all
The hoops they have to go through.

Albert Stauch- pray for God's mercy as Albert may soon be
Going into hospice care.

The World- pray for the continued conflict with Ukraine and Russia.
That God will guide them to a peaceful agreement.

Joyce Ceasar- continued prayers as Joyce is having home health coming
To help her ambulate better.

Fred Kellinger- pray for continued healing and strength.

Grant us, O Lord, to fast from the things of this world and to feast on Your blessings through Christ Jesus, our
Lord.

Fast from judging others; Feast on Christ dwelling in them.

Fast from fear of illness; Feast on the healing power of God.

Fast from words that pollute; Feast on speech that purifies.

Fast from discontent; Feast on gratitude.

Fast from anger; Feast on patience.

Fast from pessimism; Feast on hope.

Fast from negatives; Feast on encouragement.

Fast from bitterness; Feast on forgiveness.

Fast from self-concern; Feast on compassion.

Fast from suspicion: Feast on truth.

Fast from gossip; Feast on purposeful silence.

Fast from problems that overwhelm; Feast on prayer that sustains.

Fast from anxiety; Feast on faith. In Christ, we pray. Amen

Just for Kids!



Flags

Use batik, a unique fabric-dyeing method, to create flags celebrating the good news of Christ's resurrection.

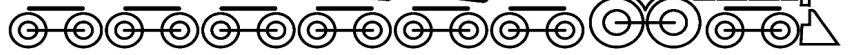


What you need:

- Colored chalk
- White linen fabric
- Washable gel glue
- Acrylic craft paint
- Textile medium
- Paintbrushes

What you do:

1. Cut fabric to the desired size and shape. Set it on a flat, protected surface. With chalk, lightly sketch an Easter design or message.
2. Completely cover the chalk lines with gel glue. Let dry.
3. Mix equal parts paint and textile medium. Paint the flag with that mixture, which makes paint permanent. Let dry.
4. Soak the dried fabric in warm water a few minutes. Then gently peel away the glue to reveal the unpainted areas. Lay flat to dry.
5. Hang the flags and celebrate!

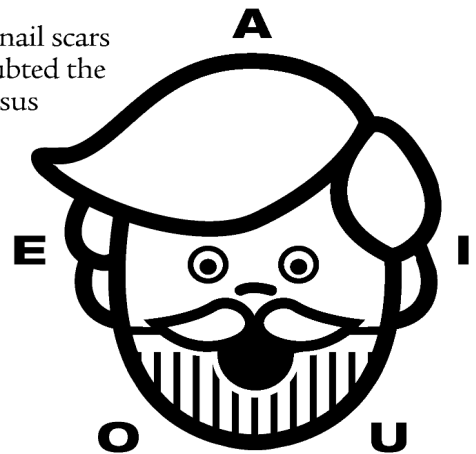


SEEING AND BELIEVING

Until Thomas saw Jesus' nail scars with his own eyes, he doubted the resurrection. What did Jesus tell Thomas?

Directions:

Use the code to fill in the vowels and complete John 20:29, NIV.



"B _ c _ _ s _ y _ _ h _ v _ s _ _ n m _ ,
oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo

y _ _ h _ v _ b _ l _ _ v _ d ;
oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo

bl _ ss _ d _ r _ th _ s _ wh _ h _ v _ n _ t
oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo

s _ _ n _ nd y _ t h _ v _ b _ l _ _ v _ d ."
oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo

JOHN 20:29, NIV

Answer: "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." John 20:29, NIV

