

THE JOTTINGS

The Newsletter of Jehovah Lutheran Church

1566 Thomas Ave, Saint Paul MN 55104 • 651-644-1421 • www.jehovahlutheran.org

A Community of Joy . . . Celebrating, Learning & Sharing the Love of God in Christ Jesus



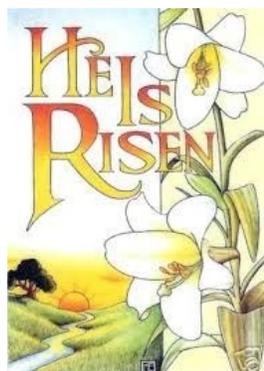
Month of:
April 2021

Rooted In **the Living Word**

SUNDAYS

WORSHIP IN PERSON OR ONLINE 9:30 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM 11:15 a.m.



**Join us for worship
in person or online at**

jehovahlutheran.org

and on YouTube at

[www.youtube.com/channel/](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdLy0HeNI3NlwQh-mN7Qjsg)

[UCdLy0HeNI3NlwQh-mN7Qjsg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdLy0HeNI3NlwQh-mN7Qjsg)

Stay Informed

on our Church Website:

www.jehovahlutheran.org



Your gifts support our mission.

**DURING SOCIAL DISTANCING,
PASTOR MILLER AND TRISH CLIFFORD
CONTINUE TO WORK FROM HOME,
BUT ARE IN THE OFFICE AT THESE TIMES:**

PASTOR'S HOURS

**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY,
THURSDAY, AND FRIDAY
1:00PM - 5:00PM**

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
9:00AM - NOON**

**Email submissions for
THE JOTTINGS BY APRIL 26TH to
jelcoffice@gmail.com**

SCRIPTURES FOR WORSHIP

April 4: Acts 10:34-43, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Mark 16:1-8

April 11: Acts 4:32-35, 1 John 1:1--2:2, John 20:19-31

April 18: Acts 3:12-19, 1 John 3:1-7, Luke 24:36b-48

April 25: Acts 4:5-12, 1 John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Prayer, Meditation, and Trials: Trials

In his *Preface to the German Writings*, Martin Luther says that the Christian's life of discipleship is formed by prayer, meditation on Scripture, and trials. Last week, we looked at how meditation on God's promises in Scripture form us as the people of God. This week, we look at trials.

No matter who we are, in this life, we experience suffering. Whether it is our own or the suffering of another, we are all touched by illnesses, tragic events, and all of the bad news in the world. Furthermore, we all suffer temptations to despair from the devil, guilt and shame from things in the past, and temptations in the present from our old sinful nature. Sometimes the assaults from the world, the devil, and the sinful nature seem fierce and unrelenting.

Suffering from all of these things brings a trial to our faith. It causes us to wonder about the truth of God's promises to be faithful to us, His children, never to leave us or forsake us, and to work all things for our good. In the midst of the trials of suffering, we might begin to wonder about our faith. We might wonder, "If this is happening to me, is my faith strong enough? Is there something wrong in my Christian life?"

Actually, the fact we are undergoing trials validates our faith! Luther said that these trials we experience are indeed the touchstone of being a child of God. If we have trials, we should see them as the proof of our faith! They wouldn't be such a trial for us if we did not have faith in God's promises. Even though the trials do cause us to question God's promises, we should not fear or despair about this. The fact that we question means that we **do** trust God's promises.

continued . . .

In the world you will have trouble.

But take heart! I have overcome the world.

John 16:33b

We can rest sure in our faith in the midst of trials, because God has promised to see us through them. Faith is a gift from God, and so we do not rely on ourselves to endure through the trials we face. Christ has promised to carry us through them Himself.

As Christ carries us, the trials form us in our Christian life, because through them we are brought near to our Lord. It isn't that God sends us trials to whip us into spiritual shape or "teach us something." It's just that through the trials, we are more aware than ever of our dependence upon Christ and His promises. Through the trials of life, we become more aware that we're not going to make it on our own, but He is going to make it **for us**.

We belong to Christ, and no trial can change that! Where He is, there we will be too! That's the truth of Easter. This month, as we celebrate our Lord's resurrection, we face the everyday trials of life with confidence, because we are led through them by the one who has conquered our death for us! If our death is defeated, there's nothing we cannot face with Christ!

*Oh, where is thy sting, Death? We fear thee no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden's door,
For all our transgressions His blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.*

C.F.W. Walther, "He's Risen! He's Risen!" *LSB*, 480

Your Pastor,
Joshua Miller

¹ Martin Luther, *Preface to the German Writings* (1539), *LW* 34:285.



Dear Sisters and Brothers at Jehovah Lutheran Church,

The Board of Lay Ministry and I are beginning to plan post-COVID outreach in our community. We are working together through this process with the LCMS Office of National Mission through a program called Re:Vitality.

You are invited to participate in the beginning stages of this process by responding to an assessment of aspects of our life together as a congregation. This assessment is called "CADDs."

Completion of the assessment will take around 15 minutes. The dates for completing it are April 11 - May 2. We would like as many people to respond as possible. I look forward to your help in completing CADDs, as we all give honest and compassionate responses to the questions posed to us.

Stay tuned to *Faith Bites* and our website, www.jehovahlutheran.org, for updates on how to complete this assessment.

Thank you for your help.

God's blessings to each of you!
Pastor Joshua Miller



Maundy Thursday: April 1 (in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm and online)

- Spoken Divine Service commemorating our Lord's institution of the Sacrament of the Altar
- Celebration of Holy Communion (in-person)
- Stripping of the altar
- No benediction—it continues with the Good Friday service

Good Friday: April 2 (online only)

- Service of readings from the Passion Narrative in John's Gospel, hymns, choral selections, and prayers
- Praying the "bidding prayer" of the Church

Vigil of Easter: Saturday, April 3 (Hybrid of online and in the Sanctuary at 8:00 pm)

- Service of Light and Service of Readings online
- Service of Baptismal Renewal and Holy Communion in the sanctuary at 8:00PM
- Receiving new members
- Dressing of the chancel for Easter and the reading of the Easter Gospel

Resurrection of Our Lord: Sunday, April 4 (in the Sanctuary at 9:30 am and online)

- Festive Divine Service with fabulous organ music
- Celebration of Holy Communion (in-person)
- Online service of Word, preaching, and prayer with robust singing of Easter hymns and fabulous organ music

“. . .but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners,
Christ died for us.”

Romans 5:8b



PREPARING FOR WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 4

Acts 10:34-43

Peter proclaims this great summary of the gospel -- that God has sent Jesus Christ as Lord of all, sent his word of peace through Christ to the people of Israel, and now his witnesses are to testify that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Christ died for our sins and was raised in victory. That is the Gospel through which we are saved.

Mark 16:1-8

Mark's Gospel ends abruptly. Several women go early to the tomb. There they see a "young man" dressed in white who tells them to go and tell Jesus' disciples and Peter that he would see them in Galilee as he had told them. The women were frightened and said nothing to anyone.



As we are thankfully emerging from this pandemic year, we can begin to gradually re-open our worship service practice with the introduction of cantor singing. We are fortunate that our cantors, Bruce and Libby Wegner, are fully inoculated with the COVID -19 vaccine, essentially removing the possibility of them passing on the virus to others. Further, they will be masked and singing from the balcony. The science of aerosols informs us that this will eliminate any aerosol spread from their singing to the sanctuary during the service.

Let us rejoice in this early step that points us to singing again together in the future!

Dr. David L. Mennicke



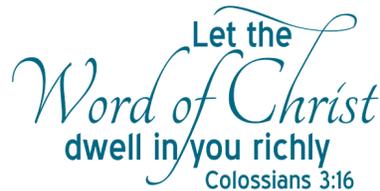
LWML SPRING RALLY



For freedom Christ has set you free! (Gal. 5:1) Join us on Saturday, April 10, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. for a Bible study and mission talk with Rev. Dr. Joshua Miller, Pastor at Jehovah Lutheran Church in St. Paul, MN. Pastor Miller will lead us in a study of Galatians 5:1-6, 13-15 and talk with us about an opportunity for mission and mercy in the St. Paul Midway neighborhood. This event will be virtual, and can be accessed through Emmaus Lutheran Church's website, Facebook page, and this link

[Emmaus Lutheran Church | Facebook](#)

Please note that you do not need Facebook to watch the event. Just click on the link, and it will take you right to the event. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Nick Kooi at 651-424-6294 or pastornkooi@gmail.com



ADULT BIBLE CLASS



Join us on Zoom
at 11:15AM each Sunday.

<https://augsburg.zoom.us/j/95736940038?pwd=c1J3M3NHajZZNnlMenFHREJrU3lpdz09>

Meeting ID: 957 3694 0038

Passcode: 255875

Contact Pastor Miller with questions at 612-600-3514

NO BIBLE STUDY ON EASTER SUNDAY

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Donna Ostenson Kiefert

Bernice Demulling

Rita Galston

Paul Finegan

George Mendoza

Sandy Quenzer

Tom Kelly

Tim Robinson

Patrick Carey

Wesley Pagel

Shirley Starner, and her son-in-law Greg Beaudoin

Barbara Hunn-Miesen (thanksgiving and continued healing)

Jim Kinsel

Lynn Baerthel and her family

John "Jack" Hedenstrom (brother of Sue and brother-in-law of Al Puder)

Linda Wood

Jeannie Edwards (Cousin of Pastor Miller)

Ramone and his family



*Let my prayer
rise before you as incense.*

Psalms 141:2a

Thanksgiving for the healthy birth of Brooks, great-grandson of the Kinsels.

Those suffering or recovering from COVID-19 and for speedy and equitable distributions of the vaccines.

For President Biden and Vice President Harris as they serve our nation.

For Governor Walz and all in leadership in our state.

For our Synodical President Matthew Harrison and our District President Lucas Woodford as they lead us.

For our congregation, its pastor, and its lay leaders as we consider how to be the Church of Jesus Christ in this time and place.

Special Weekly Prayers:

As we pray for each member and family in our congregation by name, this week we pray for Rev. Dr. Frederick and Ruth Bartling and Rev. John Buegel.

As we pray for each congregation on our Circuit and their pastors by name, this week we pray for Eastern Heights Lutheran, St. Paul and Pastors Steve Benson and Chuck Fenton.

*Note: we are currently praying for two members or families from Jehovah Lutheran each week. The order for these prayers is alphabetical. In addition to our public prayers, our pastor and board of Lay Ministry are praying individually for these members and families each week. Special prayer requests are encouraged any time and may be given to pastor via phone or email.



APRIL

- 7** Dawn Johnson
- 11** Zachary Friedman
Sue Puder
Bruce Wegner
- 13** Erica Dalager-Reed
- 19** Tyler Baerthel
Mark Pelzl
- 20** Ann Burkholder
- 21** Noah Miesen
- 26** Matthew Westpfahl
- 27** Heather Baerthel
- 28** Vicki Westpfahl
- 30** Dick Newman

★ **HAPPY** ★
BIRTHDAY!

*The Lord bless you
and keep you;
the Lord make his face
shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face
toward you
and give you peace.*

Numbers 6: 24-26



Celebrating our Seniors!

Our Senior Celebration will take place
the weekend of May 1st.

If you are 80+ years young
look for an invitation in the mail
in the coming weeks.

Due to COVID
we will be delivering a box lunch to your home.
Stay tuned for further details.



JOIN US FOR OUR FRIENDLY FRIDAY CALL - IN CHAT

We chat at **11:10am each Friday**. All you need is your phone.
Dial: 978-990-5000. If you are using a land line please dial
1 and then the number. When prompted enter the JELC code:

796345#

After the beep just say hello and your name. We can visit
about how our days are going, silver linings, concerns, etc. We
also will have a short devotion and prayer.

Join us on Fridays at 11:10am.

Eagle Scout Project

Hi, my name is Logan Jarvi I am a junior at Mounds View High School and a Boy Scout in troop 200. I have been in the scouting program since I was 7 years old and I am now working on my Eagle Scout project at Jehovah Lutheran Church. I was connected with Sandy Kolar, who was previously a leader in Scouts, and is also a member of Jehovah and she assisted in finding a project for me. The project will be to construct a new fence on the edge of the Church parking lot and I'm excited to work with the Jehovah community to get it done. If you are willing to donate to defray the cost for this, please send/drop off your donation at Jehovah Lutheran Church and indicate with your donation, "Eagle Scout Project". Thank you for your support.



EARTH CARE

“THE EARTH IS THE LORD’S ...” PSALM 24:1

This column intends to highlight ways to care for God’s creation.
Maynard and Shirley Dorow have pursued earth care issues and welcome your feedback.



“Have you had your rice today?” was the traditional, polite morning greeting in Korea when we went there in 1958. With one of the highest population densities in the world and a highly mountainous country leaving only low plains for growing rice, food was always important.

Matching available food to growing populations has been on the minds of world leaders for a long time. In 1800 BC the people of Mesopotamia worried about the increasing population along the Tigris-Euphrates River. World population then: one hundred million people.

In 330 BC Aristotle advised women not to marry too early and therefore have too many children and use up the existing supply of “necessities of life.” World population then: about 250 million. In 1798 Thomas Robert Malthus published his famous paper concerned with too many mouths for the planet to feed. World population then: about one billion. John Stuart Mill expanded Malthus’s food-security argument in 1848. World population: 1.5. billion.

Today the world population is seven billion. World grain production has soared and with the advent of women’s changing role and the trend to urban living, fewer children are born. One expert, Henry George, has concluded that most of the hunger we see today originates not from Earth’s inability to provide, but rather, from man’s inability to share. “It is because so many of us consume far beyond our needs that a great many more of us are left with almost nothing,” says Hope Jahren in her 2020 book, *The Story of More*. In the chapter entitled “Throwing It All Away” author Jahren writes that while mega-tons of food fester and rot and get thrown away by a billion people, a different billion people go hungry. The tragedy is the horrible waste of seeds, soil, water, ag worker’s toil, shopping, cooking – all for what? To throw 40 percent of everything into the garbage?

What comes to the mind of many of us? The words we heard as children: “Waste not. Want not.” Can we learn to plan, purchase, carefully use and not waste food? Can we help sustain the soil and water needed to raise food? Can we re-vitalize dry areas of the earth causing climate refugees? Can we respect and care for the earth God has given us? We must try so that all people, having eaten some “rice,” may sing God’s praise.

(Hope Jahren was born in Rochester, MN. She is an award-winning scientist currently at the University of Oslo, Norway. She is the recipient of three Fulbright awards and was named one of the 100 most influential people in the world by TIME magazine in 2016. She warmly acknowledges the support she received from the members of The Lutheran Church of Honolulu when she was writing this book She is a brilliant writer.)

NEWS OF OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED . . . AND HOW TO HELP!



Please continue to support the community food shelf with your financial donations. You can use the "designated giving" offering envelope and write "to Keystone" on your check's memo line. Your Jehovah quarterly offering statement will include your donation. The donation you give buys food for the Keystone food shelf on University Avenue. Your donation enables the purchase of food at almost 10 times the amount an individual can buy at a supermarket. Individuals receiving food are screened for qualification of need and are given food for a healthy diet.

There is another fund that Keystone started during the pandemic to meet the food crisis in St. Paul in a safe manner (especially drive thru distribution). This program reaches out to banks and other businesses for funding. It is called the Acceleration Fund. Last year through 20 mobile events, food was made available. More than half of the people receiving food had never used a food shelf in the past. People told Keystone that the food was a "life saver". So far in 2021 more than 6,000 people have received food at 2 events!

There are many programs that Keystone is providing to the community. In future *Jottings* we will highlight more, such as once a month free food deliveries to seniors, meals on wheels, tutoring for children, book clubs, AARP tax help, family in crisis, and much more.

God has blessed us and He has given us this opportunity to help others in need in our community. For this we give thanks!

MAIN STREET LIVING | SUNDAYS 9 – 10 a.m. | WFTC CHANNEL 29/9-2



Main Street Living is an LCMS program that features pastors from the WFTC, channel 29/9-2, viewer area. The first half hour is a reproduction of *This is the Life*. The second half hour is a modified Lutheran worship service, which is produced locally. Program information for April is below. To watch, go to mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities" tab.

- April 4: "No Place to Hide," features a pastor who has to face the death of his wife and cannot find comfort.
- April 11: "Dead End," features a man who, frustrated with his life, turns to drinking and another woman.
- April 18: "The Main Event," features a boxer who is hit by a car, and becomes embittered until he meets a cheerful eight-year-old girl.
- April 25: "The Prisoners," looks at what happens when an elderly woman is attacked by a teenage gang.



ACTIVITY CALENDAR



APRIL 2021

May 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



He is Risen

				1 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m. In person or online jehovahlutheran. org		2 Good Friday Worship online only jehovahlutheran. org Friendly Friday Chat 11:10am		3 Easter Vigil 7:00 p.m. In person &online jehovahlutheran. org	
4 9:30am Easter Worship In-Person or Online Worship jehovahlutheran. org No Bible Study		5 Lay Ministry Meeting 6:30pm		6		7		8 ARB Meeting 6:30 pm	
9 9:30am Easter Worship In-Person or Online Worship jehovahlutheran. org Bible Study on Zoom 11:15am		10 LWML Spring Rally 9:00—10:30am Online at Emmaus Luther- an Church Facebook		11 9:30am In-Person Worship or Online Worship jehovahlutheran. org Bible Study on Zoom 11:15am		12		13	
14 9:30am In-Person Worship or Online Worship jehovahlutheran. org Bible Study on Zoom 11:15am		15		16 Friendly Friday Chat 11:10am		17		18 9:30am In-Person Worship or Online Worship jehovahlutheran. org Bible Study on Zoom 11:15am	
19 9:30am In-Person Worship or Online Worship jehovahlutheran. org Bible Study on Zoom 11:15am		20 Council Meeting 6:30pm		21		22		23	
24 9:30am In-Person Worship or Online Worship jehovahlutheran. org Bible Study on Zoom 11:15am		25		26 Friendly Friday Chat 11:10am Jottings Articles due		27		28	
29 9:30am In-Person Worship or Online Worship jehovahlutheran. org Bible Study on Zoom 11:15am		30 Friendly Friday Chat 11:10am		31		REJOICE! 		30 Friendly Friday Chat 11:10am	