

## NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

### After Easter, then what?

What comes next after Easter? After we've celebrated Jesus' resurrection, what do we do? Well, not so fast. We're not finished with Easter yet.

Easter lasts for 50 days, in fact. After He was raised from the dead on the first Easter Sunday, Jesus hung around with His disciples for another 40 days before He ascended into heaven. The accounts of these 40 days include episodes from the Gospels like Jesus' restoration of Peter and His command to Peter to "Feed my sheep." Other stories from these 40 days include receiving the Holy Spirit and the authority to absolve sins (the Office of the Keys), Thomas' confession of faith, the surprise of the Emmaus disciples, and the Great Commission.

After these 40 days, Jesus ascended into heaven. Ten days after that, on the day of Pentecost, the Christian Church began as the disciples were moved by the Holy Spirit to preach the Gospel to all, beginning in Jerusalem. Then, through the Spirit's power, the disciples began to organize the Church as the new community of faith in Christ.

Resurrection leads to Christian community. In the early Church, there were no Lone Ranger Christians. People didn't believe in Jesus and then just go off by themselves. They became part of the community of the Church.

This was God's plan all along. During the 40 days of Easter, Jesus prepared His disciples for the formation of the Church. Jesus commissioned the disciples to preach and baptize (Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:15). Jesus revealed Himself in the Scriptures and in the "breaking of the bread" (Luke 24:30-32). Jesus gave the Holy Spirit and established the Sacrament of Confession and Absolution (John 20:22). Jesus comforted and empowered His disciples with His presence and conferred upon them His authority that would authorize their preaching and administration of the Sacraments. The authority to preach and hand out the Sacraments through the Spirit's power lead directly to the formation of the Church.

continued...

If you love me,  
feed my sheep.  
John 21:17



In the coming months at Jehovah Lutheran, we will begin to reach out into our community with the healing Gospel of Christ through witness and mercy. As we do this, we will hear how the Word of the Lord grew the earliest Christian Church from the day of Pentecost onwards. Before that, however, during the 50 days of Easter, we will hear how Jesus prepared His disciples for their mission and for the formation of the Church. We will hear how Jesus gave His authority and the gifts of Word and Sacrament to His disciples and how He continues to give them to us today. For, it by Jesus' authority and His gifts alone that the Church engages in her mission and grows in every age.

During the 50 days of Easter, I invite all of you, members and friends of Jehovah Lutheran, to hear God's Word preached from the episodes between the resurrection and Pentecost. I invite all of you to come to Bible study, as we read and reflect on these episodes. I invite you to come and receive Jesus preached and given to you, as we open the Scriptures and break the bread of life together.

Your Pastor,  
Joshua Miller

### JOIN US AS JESUS PREPARES US FOR HIS MISSION OF GROWING THE CHURCH!



#### Divine Service – 9:30AM each Sunday

Live service in the sanctuary

Pre-recorded service also continues online for those unable to attend in person

Sermon series, “Jesus Takes it All” continues

### PREPARING FOR WORSHIP THIS WEEK

Acts 4:32-35

The early believers were one in heart and mind,  
the apostles testifying to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus and all sharing everything they had.

1 John 1:1--2:2

The Word of life has appeared giving us fellowship (koinonia) with the Father and the Son so that cleansed from sin, we might walk in the light and have fellowship with one another.

John 20:19-31

The risen Lord Jesus blesses his disciples with a three-fold "Peace be with you" and then sends them forth with the proclamation of forgiveness.



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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 the future of singing again together in the future!

### Dr. David L. Mennicke

### EASTER FLOWERS



<i>Name</i>	<i>In Memory of</i>
Lois Affeldt	Loved ones
Charlie & Marge Avoles	Loved ones
Dalager Reed Family	Loved ones
The Fishbacks	Loved ones
Suzanne & Marc Hequet	Velora, Viola, & Walter
Judy, Eva Jane, & Terry	Rose Hamann
David & Katherine Mennicke	Loved ones
Pastor & Katie Miller	Wanda & Rev Charles Miller
Mark & Rhoda Schuler	Victor & Darlene Schuler, George & Annetta Grever, & Otherine Wilson
Nancy Sontag & Lloyd Bratland	Parents
Lydia Volz	Loved ones
Jeanne Watson	Loved ones



## 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)  
Mark Miesen (open-heart surgery)  
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.  
Psalm 141:2a*

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 the 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.

continued . . .

*Pray  
without  
ceasing*



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## Special Weekly Prayers:

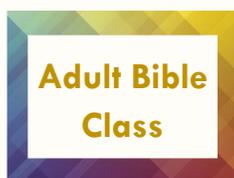
As we pray for each member and family in our congregation by name, this week we pray for Ann Burkholder and Bill Davies.

As we pray for each congregation on our Circuit and their pastors by name, this week we pray for St. Peter Lutheran and for their pastor, Rev. Chris Weber.

\*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.

*Be joyful always; pray continually;  
give thanks in all circumstances;  
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



Join us on Zoom  
at 11:00AM each Sunday.

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

Meeting ID: 957 3694 0038

Passcode: 255875

We'll be studying the post-resurrection stories of Jesus  
Contact Pastor Miller with questions.

## 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.



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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](http://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

### 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](mailto:pastornkooi@gmail.com)



## JEHOVAH'S WEEKLY FRIENDLY FRIDAY CALL-IN CHAT

Join us 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 will have a short devotion, a topic for discussion, and prayer.

**Join us on Fridays at 11:10am.**



*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up,  
as indeed you are doing.  
1 Thessalonians 5:11*

## THANKS FOR REZEK DONATIONS!

# Rezek House

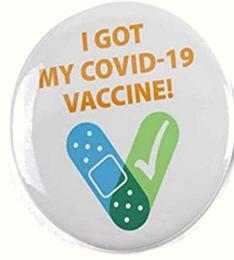
Thanks to all who donated items for our neighbor Rezek House, a Lutheran Social Services ministry that provides homeless youth including young mothers a place to live and support in finding a job and education. Pastor Josh Miller, Marc Hequet and Don Ullman, a member at King of Kings Lutheran in Roseville, delivered two carloads of nonperishable food, housekeeping and personal hygiene items. Also in the delivery were five baby books for the one-year-old sweetheart waving out a window at us — not to mention 42 boxes of Girl Scout cookies donated by Shirley and Maynard Dorow's great-granddaughter Lorelai, a St. Paul first grader!

*thank  
you*



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## LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR BY GETTING VACCINATED!



Now is the time to get yourself vaccinated against COVID -19.

The President has confirmed that a majority of U.S. adults will be eligible for the vaccine by April 19. In a recent 24 hour period, more than 4 million doses were administered. By getting vaccinated, you reduce your risk level as well as those with whom you socialize. You have the opportunity to help reduce the number of those who die from COVID-19, as well as bringing the pandemic to an earlier finish. Follow this link to the state's vaccine connector:

<https://mn.gov/covid19/vaccine/connector/connector.jsp>

Do not let this opportunity for healing pass you by.

- Lydia Volz



### 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 or drop off your donation at Jehovah Lutheran Church and indicate with your donation, "Eagle Scout Project". Thank you for your support.



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