

TO BRING GOD'S GRACE AND LOVE TO EACH OTHER
AND TO THE WORLD

THE LIGHT



Pastor's Notes

April 2022

Lebanon Evangelical Lutheran Church

*A Congregation of the North/West Lower
Michigan Synod, of the ELCA
Craig Satterlee, Bishop
Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop*

1101 S. Mears Avenue
Whitehall, MI 49461
(231) 893-5745

Rev. Douglas M. Ogden

Sunday Morning Worship
10:15 am in person
YouTube Worship on the Web

Office Hours
Please contact the church office for
current hours

Newsletter Editor &
Bulletin Announcements
Margaret Everling

Church Council

Meg Eaton	Cheri Crouch
Brian Jaekel	Scott Keller
Alan Hinks	Laura Hollister
Sarah Schmalz	Wietse Schaafsma

**"We are baptized members of God's
Church, forgiven and set free by grace
through faith.**

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com

Facebook: Lebanon Lutheran Church
(ELCA)
Instagram—Twitter : #llesignsofgrace

The Sadducees of the Bible did not believe in Resurrection from the dead — it was not mentioned in the Torah and they were strict originalists. The Pharisees did believe in Resurrection from the dead, hoped it would happen some day, but couldn't believe it was happening for just one person who died outside the realms of acceptability.

We believe in the power of Resurrection, the gift of beginning a new life here and now; we believe that God loves those who have come to believe they are unlovable, unacceptable, who have been told until they believe it that they don't belong.

We believe in new life to come because it is always coming to us, sometimes ready or not. It is never too late to begin again, never past time to heal, never impossible despite how things look. This new life is exactly where we think we are going because God heals, reconciles, welcomes, accepts and breathes new life into the spiritually exhausted

Celebrate Easter this year, the festival of resurrection, April 17 at 10:15 am. It is the power that saves lives.

Pastor, Doug Ogden

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1. Download the free Vanco Mobile app from the App store or Google Play.
2. Find our Church by searching for our Church name:
Lebanon Lutheran Church
3. Donate: to the General Fund

Thank you for your generosity

This is the new version of the GivePlus app, and must be downloaded again from your App Store.



Websites of Interest

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com

www.mittensynod.org

www.elca.org

www.whitelakescouting.com

www.whitelakechorale.com

www.hopescarves.org

LivingLutheran.org

www.samaritas.org

Suicide Hotline 1-800-273TALK.org
www.co.muskegon.mi.us/cmh/suicide_prevention

Every Woman's Place 231-722-3333 or
www.everywomansplace.org

The Trevor Project 1-866-488-7386

The Trevor Project is the world's largest suicide prevention and crisis intervention organization for LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning) young people.

Did you know?

April gets its name from the Latin word *aperio*, meaning "to open [bud]," because plants really begin to grow now.

- April 1 - April Fools' Day
- April 1 - Sweet Potato Day
- April 2 - Ramadan begins
- April 6 - International Pillow Fight Day
- April 7 - National NO Housework Day
- April 10 - Palm Sunday
- April 15 - Good Friday
- April 15 - Passover begins
- April 17 - Easter Sunday
- April 18 - Tax Day
- April 21 - Go Fly a Kite Day
- April 22 - Earth Day
- April 26 - National Richter Scale Day
- April 27 - National Sense of Smell Day
- April 29 - National Arbor Day

Prayer Concerns

It is an important part of our ministry to be praying constantly for one another.
We add names to the prayer list with consent in order to maintain privacy and confidentiality. This month in your prayers, please remember:



Helen Bartlett, at home
Mary Bernhardt, at Robinswood Assisted Living #115 (Kay Snell)
Marlene Holmstrom, at home
Elaine Liska, at White Lake Assisted Living - Whitehall
Ruth Nurmi, with health concerns
Nancy Peterson, at Heartland , Room #405 B
Bernie Weidner, at Sanctuary of the Oaks. (Danielle Jacobs)
Marty Windbacher, at home

Special Prayer Concerns:

Steve Albert, with health concerns
Tracey Allen, (Roger Silk's cousin) diagnosed with terminal brain cancer
Jennifer Snowden Bossi, 34, (Ardy Bulthouse's granddaughter) diagnosed with a rare form of cancer.
Lucas Carlson, (Terry and Mary Beekmans grandson) for new treatment.
Diane, (friend of Cheri Crouch) diagnosed with cancer.
Cora Hendrick, (Curt Crouch's mother) diagnosed with cancer
Terri Hissong, (Margaret Everling's sister) health concerns
Lauren Kerkstra, (Darrel and Jeanette Otto's granddaughter), recovering slowly, able to walk and take commands. Remains non-verbal .
Clare Kierston, (Darlene Willbrandt's friend), recuperating from surgery.
Donna Knoth, with heart issues.
Jeff Knoth, recently diagnosed with cancer
Amy Jean Knorr, (Brian Holmblades aunt in Tucson) turned 105 years old on November 28.
Mary, (Meg Eatons mother) with health concerns.
Dwight Mead (Paula Moreau's brother-in-law), non-hodgkin lymphoma mantel type (stage four).
Shirley, (friend of Barb Aardema) facing stem cell transplant in April.
Tammy, (daughter of Wietse and Melanie Schaafsma) with brain cancer & diabetic. At home.
Jen, (Tammy's sister) suffered aneurysm, at home.
Jon Stark (Erin Lewallen's brother-in-law), non-Hodgkins Lymphoma.
Jan Troeger, (Cindy Albert's sister), suffered a stroke.

For our partners in faith, our companion synods in Salud para la Vida in San Pedro Sula, Honduras for their mission and ministry in their place as we fulfill our mission in our place; for all the churches of the Lutheran World Federation, for people of the gospel throughout the world

**North/West Lower
Michigan Synod**

**2900 N. Waverly Rd.
Lansing, MI 48906**

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mittensynod.org**

In this Issue:

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Moving Beyond COVID

Upcoming Events

Congregations in Transition

Bread for the Journey

I believe most church leaders felt like Elijah the prophet sometime in these past two years. Elijah did as God commanded and defeated the prophets of Baal. But rather than repentance, King Ahab and Queen Jezebel sent a message to Elijah threatening to kill him by this time tomorrow. And Elijah found himself fleeing for his life. And similarly, many church leaders resisted the prophets of division, politicization, and immediate gratification to keep God's people safe from COVID-19 and have found themselves fleeing for their spiritual, professional, and relational, if not their physical, lives.

"[Elijah] himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, 'Get up and eat!' He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, 'Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.' He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God" (1 Kings 19:4-8).

My hope as I begin to plan our Synod Assembly is that we can find ways to be angels for one another during those times when we are in a wilderness place, sitting under a solitary broom tree, asking to die rather than to face one more day of a conflicted church and ministry.

The patristic scholar and sacramental theologian in me sees baptism and Eucharist in the bread and water the angel serves Elijah. Sitting under my solitary broom tree, I long for something more. In John's Gospel, Jesus calls himself the bread of life and says that he will give living water (6:25-59; 7:37-39). So let the bread and water that the angel served Elijah be nothing other than Jesus himself for us. My prayer is that we will be able to go from the Assembly "in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God."

So 1 Kings 19:8 is the theme of our no longer than six-hour virtual assembly. We will elect members to the Consultation Committee and Synod Council. We will consider resolutions. We will vote on compensation guidelines and a budget. And I expect angels to serve up Jesus so that, in his strength, we might continue our journey to the mountain of God. I have some hunches on how this might happen. If you have hunches, please send them my way. I cannot guarantee we will implement them but we will prayerfully consider them.

Fleeing for our lives to the mountain of God in the strength of Christ sounds to me like the journey of faith. We cannot change the journey. But we can strive to make sure there are angels nearby when people seek escape under a broom tree. Second only to praying that the internet does not go down, this is my prayer for our assembly.

The Rev. Craig Alan Satterlee, Ph.D., Bishop



Worship Notes

Sunday, April 3, 2022 - Lent 5
Worship - 10:15am

Musician:

Readings

Color: Purple

Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8

Today we pray for:
Minnie Estlund

Prayer of the Day

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sunday, April 10—Palm Sunday
Worship - 10:15am

Color Purple

Musician: Monica Ogden

Readings

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 22:14-23:56

Today we pray for:
Savahnni Chittisane

Prayer of the Day

O God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Sunday, April 17—Easter Sunday
Worship - 10:15am

Color: Gold

Readings

Musician: Monica Ogden

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2,14-24
1 Corinthians 15:19-26
Luke 24:1-12

Today we pray for:
Curt and Cheri Crouch

Prayer of the Day

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sunday, April 24 - Easter 2
Worship - 10:15 am

Color: White

Readings

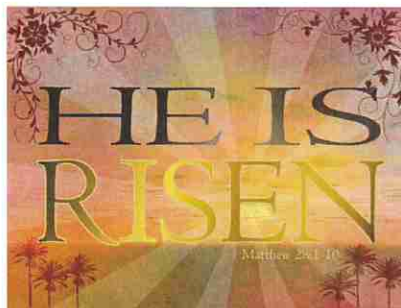
Musician: Monica Ogden

Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

Today we pray for:
Nancy Dahl

Prayer of the Day

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



April



4/4 Brenda Koster	4/19 Jon Honoré
4/5 Doug Aardema	4/21 Flo King
4/5 Hannah Bowen	4/23 Blake Brackmann
4/5 Ted Gribas	4/24 Terry Kesteloot
4/7 Colby Eklund	4/24 Scott Lamiman
4/12 Jeff Otterman	4/26 Nova Woodring
4/13 Irene Parks	4/27 Jim Kurtz
4/14 Erica Wyatt	4/27 Sarah Stacy Schmalz
4/15 Rob Wahr	4/27 Tobias Lothschutz
4/16 Jay Otto	4/28 Kim Farnsworth
4/17 Carla Nessa	
4/19 Tony DeNicolo	



4/4/87
4/23/11
4/30/77

Mike & Lisa Clark
Paul and Melissa Kroll
Curt & Cheri Crouch



Lucy Ahrenholz, age 2,
coloring her Alleluia

Baptism Anniversaries



4/1 Marty DeNicolò	4/7 Sheila Fretty	4/24 Sandy Robbins
4/1 Elara DeMumbrum	4/10 Ted Gribas	4/27 Heather Moss
4/1 Holly Hughes	4/15 Louis Hosticka	
4/2 Richard Carlson	4/17 Melissa Herring Kroll	
4/3 John Parks	4/18 Mary Carlson	
4/4 Richard Bernhardt	4/21 Holly Tenbrink Davis	
4/5 Darrel Otto	4/22 Nancy Dahl	
4/6 Helen Bartlett	4/23 Terry Beekman	
4/6 Nancy Peterson	4/23 Tyler Grover, Jr.	

Celebrate your baptism anniversary with a candle a meal or this prayer:

“Stir up within me the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and joy, on this day when I give thanks for my baptism in to Christ.”



This is planning time for summer

We are planning to hire at least five leaders for July’s Day camp, and are accepting applications now. Just email your interest to the office

We will need five story leaders, a few station leaders and some daily volunteers to make it all work.

The Backpack event is usually around Thursday, August 18. Kay has led it since it began, but is stepping aside to make room for a new leadership team of two or three. She’s available for expertise. We need a leadership team if it’s going to happen in 2022.

On June 5, 2022 we celebrate our 150th Anniversary on the exact date of our founding in 1872. Bishop Craig Satterlee will lead worship. We want everybody to come.

A memorial for Lois Fuller will be April 30 at Clocks, Muskegon; May 14 at 11 am at Lebanon for Paul Honoré. We will provide desserts afterward.

On Easter, April 17, we will finally have an opportunity to install our new church council and its new officers elected back in January and February.



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 - Click on the "View activity history" link, scroll down and click on the name of the desired organization.
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Lebanon Lutheran Church

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Living in God's Amazing Grace

The Light is published monthly by Lebanon Lutheran Church, 1101 S. Mears Avenue, Whitehall, MI 49461. Submissions are accepted through the 15th of each month. Submissions **MUST** include your name and a way to contact you in case of questions.

2 ways to submit your information:

- yellow folder in Margaret's office
(*better*)
- office@lebanonlutheranchurch.com
(*best*)



2022

Easter Sunday Worship
April 17, 2022
10:15 am