



**SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRINDSTONE HILL**

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April 2024

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Solomon's Says

A Newsletter from the Faith Community of Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church

"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

Pastoral Letter – Pastor Michael Allwein

Dear Members and Friends of Solomon's Lutheran Faith Community!

"We had hoped" [Luke 24:21]

The one thing those two people wanted as they walked on that dusty road to Emmaus on that first Easter afternoon—was **hope!** They had been through an awful lot. It must have seemed almost too much even to hope that Jesus was alive.

We all have been through such times. Certainly not quite like those early friends and disciples of Jesus, but the similarities for each one of us is to continue to live in the hope that Jesus is alive; in the hope that God is present and active both in the dark night of the soul as well as in the dawn of new light; in the hope that God understands us in our weakness; and in the hope that Easter is always about beginning again to trust in God at all times!

The grief and discouragement, the anger and resentment—all the heaviness in the atmosphere at the beginning of the Emmaus story might be an indication of what many of us carry with us every day. ***"We had hoped that He was the one..."*** is what they tell the stranger walking the road. We, too, hold onto hope in many areas of our lives where it could be easier simply to give up.

Interestingly, the words of the angel at the tomb are not enough to break through the despair and disbelief. As these two men walked the road away from Jerusalem, they must have wondered what they would do now. The ‘stranger’ shows up on the road and begins to re-tell stories of God’s faithfulness, reminding them that their faith is in *God*, that *God* can save people even when all seems lost. The words of this ‘stranger’ touch something deep in these two people and hope comes alive!

On Easter morning, here at Solomon’s Lutheran Church, as we break bread together in a spirit of new life, my hope is that we may realize that as our hearts are burning for whatever is unsettled in our lives, in this congregation, in our world today, we believe there is new life to be found in unexpected places. May we know the hope that no matter what happens going forward, we are always wanted and loved by God!

Let’s make Easter our story of hope! May it be Good News for us! May we invite the ‘stranger’ (who really is no stranger) to open our hearts to a new, unanticipated, exciting life!

He is Risen! He is Risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Blessings & love,

~*pastor mike*

Glimpses of Vibrancy

At the beginning of this year, at each Congregation Council meeting we began a conversation concerning the future of this congregation. These conversations have been instructive, reflective, honest, and at the same time, a bit difficult. At the March meeting I asked everyone to come prepared to share three “gifts” they felt this congregation possesses, gifts to be shared out into the community as well as with other congregations. I was truly amazed with the number of gifts the council members were able to verbalize. My purpose was to be able to become very specific in our knowing who we are. I like to name these many gifts, “***Glimpses of Vibrancy.***” Several years ago, we used to pray a *Prayer for Solomons Lutheran Church* every Sunday. Recently a copy of this prayer has surfaced. I would now like to begin praying a revised *Prayer for Solomons* as part of our weekly worship. Also, every Sunday I will begin to name a ***Glimpse of Vibrancy*** in the bulletin and ask that you might lift up this ***Glimpse of Vibrancy*** in your prayer life for that week. At some point soon, I hope these Council conversations can be brought to the entire congregation as we discern our future. We need to keep praying together! We are a vibrant congregation! Let’s keep seeing Jesus in the glimpses of our vibrancy! ~*pastor mike*



Gospel Readings for APRIL:

Sunday, April 7 - John 20:19-31

Sunday, April 14 - Luke 24:36b-48

Sunday, April 21 - John 10:11-18

Sunday, April 28 - John 15:1-8

Evangelism

Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church



What's in a name? We say that we are evangelical. In our mission statement, we claim to follow the example of Jesus Christ, and to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace, preach the good news, support, and serve others in faith, and to work in harmony with all creation. Are we true to that statement? I myself feel I fall short. Why? Do I follow Christ's commission to go and make disciples? I think of all the opportunities and times that I failed to carry out what Christ commanded me to do. Our mission statement states we are to preach boldly and truthfully. The truthful part may not

be too hard, but the bold part is not as easy. So, what is it that stops us? Is it rejection, something we can't answer, persecution, or being afraid it may mean the loss of friends? How do we overcome the fear of evangelizing? Paul writes in Ephesians 6:10-19 to put on the whole armor of God, to pray, and to ask others to pray for you. It also says to read and study God's word. The Holy Spirit intercedes in prayer when we do not know what to pray for. (Romans 8:26). The Holy Spirit, I feel, will be with us in those times. In Acts 1:8 Jesus tells the apostles "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth." We may not be apostles, but we are disciples, and we are called to go and make disciples of all nations and baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that he has commanded. (Matthew 28:19-20). The definition of evangelism varies in the eyes of the world. True evangelism is proclaiming the Gospel in word and deed. There is no higher calling than to live out and share the message and truth of God's love.

Garge Weaver

Solomon's Serving Schedule - April

	4/7/24	4/14/24	4/21/24	4/28/24
Head Usher	Janice McEntire			
Lector	Bonney Coldsmith	Rich McEntire	Wayne Dale	Martie Veilleux
Acolyte	Wayne Dale	Aaron Shreiner	TBD	Norm Kuykendall
Communion Set-Up	Marjorie Dale	Marjorie Dale	Marjorie Dale	Marjorie Dale
Communion Clean-Up	Ilona & Jerry Laney	Ilona & Jerry Laney	Ilona & Jerry Laney	Ilona & Jerry Laney
Communion Assists	Ron Coldsmith & Martie Veilleux	Marjorie Dale & Martie Veilleux	Marjorie Dale & Martie Veilleux	Marjorie Dale & Martie Veilleux
Communion Bread	Marjorie Dale			
Securing Offering	Larry Socks & Don Wildeson			
Coffee Fellowship	Kathy Bowen & Linda Berberich			

News Around Solomon's



Qigong/Tai Chi Class will be starting **April 3rd, Wednesdays at 7:00pm** at Solomon's Church main Sunday school room. This is an open class. If you can walk independently, you will survive the class. All exercises are mild. For more information contact: Colleen Johnson.

Relay For Life 2024 - the event is scheduled for Friday, May 17, 2024, at Greencastle Antrim High School starting at 4:00 pm. Please be sure to register for the survivor reception by calling 1.800.227.2345 or thru the website @ relayforlife.org.



If you would like to donate a luminary in honor or memory of someone, there is a form attached to the newsletter. Please complete it and bring it along to Relay or give to Becky Mull on or before, Sunday, May 12, 2024. We hope to see you at Relay!

News from Social Ministry

Maranatha Paper Drive: During the month of April, we will be collecting paper products for Maranatha Food Pantry. Paper products cannot be purchased with Food Stamps. Items needed are toilet paper, napkins, paper towels, Kleenex, hand wipes, diapers, etc. Please place the items in the totes under the coat rack, next to the mailboxes.



News from Christian Ed



Bowling & Pizza

Saturday, April 13

Shoe sizing - 2:30pm

Bowling 3:00 - 5:00pm

Pizza at Vinnie's - 5:00pm

All members are welcome to join us at Nellie Fox Bowling Alley for bowling and pizza to follow at Vinnie's along Route 11 in Marion. A sign-up sheet is in the Sunday School room. Bring your friends and family for a fun fellowship day.



The Lutheran Camping Corporation
of Central Pennsylvania
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm

Janice McEntire is the contact person for The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central PA. More information is available on the church bulletin board in the Sunday School room.

Remembering Our Homebound Members

It's not too late to send an Easter Card!

On Easter Sunday, March 31, Christians everywhere will celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Even though our church will be open for worship this Easter, some of our members will still not be able to attend. We can help make them feel connected to our Solomon's community at this special time by remembering them at Easter with a greeting card or friendly note. Presently our homebound members include the following:

Betty Amt
William & Jane Brindle
Ginny Detwiler
Genny Grant
Jean Jackson
Frances Kramer

Joe Mock
Carol Locke
Marjorie McMullin
Linda Russ
Ina Shreiner
Martin Wenger



Friendly Reminders

If you would like to sign up for **altar flowers** the following Sundays in April & May are still available: 4/21, 5/5, 5/12, 5/19.

Have an item for the May newsletter?! Deadline is April **17th**. Email Kimberly at office@solomonslutheran.org



Tuesday, April 23, 2024

6:30pm

Solomon's Fellowship Center

Congregational Dinner

More detail to follow.

Save the date!

Adults - \$12.00

Children (5-11) - \$6.50

Under 5 - Free



Celebrating a Birthday in April....

- | | | | |
|------|----------------|------|------------------|
| 4/1 | Mike Schultz | 4/21 | Bonney Coldsmith |
| 4/8 | Luke Mentzer | 4/23 | Phil Johnson |
| 4/14 | Lois Allwein | 4/26 | Todd Schultz |
| 4/16 | LaRue McKenzie | 4/27 | Janice McEntire |
| 4/18 | Katie Garcia | 4/27 | Hailey Gross |
| 4/21 | Glenn Wildeson | 4/29 | Taylor Garcia |
| | | 4/29 | Ilona Laney |



Celebrating a Wedding Anniversary in April...

- | | |
|------|----------------------|
| 4/26 | Denny & Tammy Helman |
|------|----------------------|

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4856 WAYNE ROAD
CHAMBERSBURG PA 17202-9355

Join us Sunday mornings!

10:15 a.m. Worship Service

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

OR check us out on *YouTube!*

Links are listed on our website.

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Pastor Michael Allwein

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.."

Philippians 4:13 (NRSV)