



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

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April 2020

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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 Bill Nienstedt

"Now thank we now our God with hearts and minds and voices, who wonderous things has done, in whom this world rejoices." ELW 839, 849

Many of us are familiar with the beautiful Martin Rinkart hymn, *Now Thank We All Our God*. Martin Rinkart was a Lutheran pastor who served in Germany in the 17th century. It was his misfortune to minister in the worst of times. Inside his walled town waves of refugees poured in during the Thirty Years' War. The war was one of the most destructive conflicts in human history; over eight million people died, not only from military engagements, but from violence, famine and plague.

The plague overwhelmed Pastor Rinkart's town. The other two ministers in town died, leaving Pastor Rinkart to spiritually care for the multitudes alone. It was reported that he conducted 4,000 funerals in one year alone, including for his own wife.

Yet during his own suffering and trials, Pastor Martin Rinkart composed one the greatest hymns of—thanksgiving to God!

Perhaps the writing of this hymn provided therapy and strength for his own spirit. In verse two, there is a prayer; *"And keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us all from harm, in this world and the next."*

At the end of Matthews's Gospel, Jesus said to the disciples, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

As people of faith, we can take great comfort in knowing that Jesus is with us always—in our deepest suffering and our greatest challenges. During the coronavirus pandemic, let us remember to pray, giving thanks to God for our salvation in Jesus Christ. We so often focus on the short term in life that we fail to take the long view, confident that we are always surrounded in God's care.

Paul writes, “For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.” Romans 8:38-39

I give thanks for each one of you and remember you in my prayers. I look forward to when we can be together again in worship!

Peace and joy in Christ,

Pastor Bill

Special Worship Opportunities

Given the current situation with the COVID-19 pandemic and the statewide shutdown, it is difficult to say when we will be returning to our “regular” worship service schedule. The local school district, CASD, is closed through at least April 13th as of this writing. That means that early April worship will most likely be cancelled. We will send out emails/REMIND texts as well as call members without computer access closer to Holy Week and Easter Sunday with an update on whether it will be advisable to hold worship.



Passion (Palm) Sunday is April 5th
Worship at 10:15 a.m. with a Procession with Palms and a reading of the Passion according to St. Matthew

Maundy Thursday is April 9th
Worship at 7 p.m. with Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday is April 10th
Worship at 12 p.m.



Easter Sunday, April 12

Sunrise Service at the New Franklin Ruritan, 6:30 a.m.

Festival Holy Communion Service at Solomon's, 10:15 a.m

Easter Cantata, May 3rd
During the 10:15 a.m. Worship Service
The Way of the Cross

Opportunities for Fun & Fellowship

We do not know at this time if it will be possible to hold the Easter Egg Hunt. We will let you know closer to the date when it is scheduled to take place.



Crusaders for Christ's Annual Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 11th
Solomon's Picnic Woods
11:00 a.m.

Updates from the Relay for Life Team

The Hammer & Stain Fundraiser has been rescheduled. The new date is **Sunday, September 27th at 1:30 p.m.** Your materials will be saved for you to use that day. If you would rather work on your project independently, then please contact Hammer & Stain (717-251-2858) to arrange pick-up. No refunds will be given as the items have already been pre-cut.

The Main Relay for Life Event on May 2nd at CASHS has been CANCELLED. Becky Mull, our team leader, will provide a new date once those arrangements have been made.

The Relay for Life Fundraiser at the Big Oak Café scheduled for April 6th-11th is still on at this time. They are only permitted to do take-out orders. You must show the flyer (included with this newsletter) to get the 15% for our Relay team.

The Daffodil Days Fundraiser was cancelled. If you have not already communicated with Becky Mull, please do so ASAP. Your payment will either be refunded or you may designate it as a donation to the American Cancer Society.

News from the Social Ministry Committee

Birthday Party at Luther Ridge—The April birthday party has been postponed until further notice. Luther Ridge is prohibiting groups from coming in to protect their residents.

Paper Products Drive--Thank you for the paper products that were donated on March 8. We will continue the paper drive once church resumes.

Power Packs--The Solomon's community, along with the other New Franklin groups participating, have all been so generous that the program currently has enough food to make up their "power packs" for the next several months! Therefore, please wait to donate any more items until we get the word that they are needed! Thank you!!

Meals for the Bikes--Thank you to all those that volunteered to take a meal to Ferd and Connie Bikle. Given the fragility of both of them, the family has decided it is best to suspend receiving outside meals at this time given the threat of the coronavirus. Ferd has been placed under Hospice care so please continue to keep him in your prayers. Connie really needs your prayers and support as well. Please consider reaching out to her with a short note or a card.

News from the Christian Education Committee

Vacation Bible School--This year's VBS theme is *Rocky Railway!* and will be held **June 22-26** in the evenings. As always, we are seeking volunteers to help throughout the week. If you are interested and want more information, please contact Jared Mummert or Emma English and/or contact a member of the Christian Education Committee.

Lutheran Summer Camps--If you are interested in sending your child(ren) to Camp Nawakwa or Camp Kirchenwald, please let Janice McEntire know. She is our Camp Representative. Because Janice completed the rep training, you get \$20 off of the fee! The Christian Education Committee will also pay \$100 toward the cost of camp. Visit www.LutheranCamping.org to get more information about specific dates and programs.

Mystery Dinner Fundraiser--The Youth Mystery Dinner was a great success! Thank you for supporting our youth! The kids worked hard and had a great time preparing the meal and serving you. We made a profit of 651.00! This money will help replenish the SELTS Fund so we can provide financial support for the youth attending retreats and faith-based events in the future.

Let's Stay in Touch!

This health emergency has made it difficult to communicate efficiently with everyone in our congregation. If you have an email address, please email it to Kristy Nienstedt (kristynienstedt@gmail.com) so she may add you to our group email list.

In addition, if you have a cell phone, please email her your phone number so she may add you to our REMIND text group. YOU MUST ACCEPT THE INVITATION TO JOIN REMIND OR YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE OUR SOLOMON'S TEXTS. Several of you have asked to participate in the past but did not accept the invitation so you will not get the messages. We currently have a whole congregation group, a church council group, a choir group, and a confirmation class group.

Save the Date!

Outdoor Service & Picnic Potluck
Sunday, May 24th
Solomon's Picnic Woods

Vacation Bible School



JUNE 22-26

Enrollment is open to children age 3 years to those that have just completed the 6th Grade.
Who can you invite? Grandchildren? Neighbor kids? Your child's classmates?

Celebration Sunday is June 28 in the Fellowship Center at 9:30 a.m.

Reminders

Pastor Bill's Mid-Week Bible Study will NOT be held during Lent. It will resume on Wednesday, May 6th.

Easter Flowers--If you ordered Easter Flowers, we do not yet know if the orders will be fulfilled. As florists are considered non-essential businesses, Everlasting Love is presently closed and not accepting phone messages.

Have an item for the May newsletter?! Deadline is **Wednesday, April 22nd**. Email info to Kristy Nienstedt at kristynienstedt@gmail.com.

Happening In Our Larger Community...



All *Wellness Talks* and *Dinner at the Ridge meals* are suspended at this time due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. They will resume once this national health emergency has passed.

News from SpiriTrust Lutheran Auxiliary

Discount Card Fundraiser— The SpiriTrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary is once again selling discount cards. The cards offer discounts at area restaurants and other local businesses. The cost is \$5.00. When church resumes, please see Becky Pecha if interested in purchasing a card.

Passages

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Marvin McKenzie who was called to his eternal home on Saturday, March 14, 2020. He was 92 years old.

The family has made the decision to delay Marvin's Memorial Service at this time. Once arrangements have been made, we will notify our members.

We give thanks to God for our time with Marvin. May God comfort his wife LaRue as well as his daughters, Debbie and Kathy, with the hope of a blessed reunion in heaven.

Congregational Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2020

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Following a prayer offered by Pastor Bill Nienstedt, the meeting was called to order by Council President Bill Wepking at 11:15 AM.
- II. MOTION TO APPROVE AND DISPENSE: Upon a Janice McEntire/Mark Gayman motion and with unanimous approval, the minutes of the November Congregation Meeting were approved and reading of those minutes was dispensed.
- III. SOLOMON'S 2019 ANNUAL REPORT: The 2019 Annual Report was unanimously approved upon a Phil Johnson/Linda Wepking motion.
- IV. OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: Wayne Norman offered comments regarding the current Ministry Safety and Security policies. Following his comments, a Wayne Norman/Mark Gayman motion was made for council to review and update current security policy and get back to the congregation by the end of May 2020. Following an inconclusive oral vote, a show of hands voting yea or nay was taken, with the majority responding yea, in favor of the motion.
- V. VOTE TO ADJOURN: Upon a Tonya Reichard/Mark Gayman motion and with unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonney K. Coldsmith,
Council Secretary

Serving in April

	4/5/20	4/9/20*	4/12/20**	4/19/20	4/26/20
Head Usher	Bill Wepking	Bill Wepking	Bill Wepking	Bill Wepking	Bill Wepking
Lector	Rich McEntire	Leah Wolfinger	Wayne Dale	Patricia Yetter	Carol Locke
Acolyte	Audrey Shenberger	Aaron Shreiner	Aaron Shreiner Rebekah Aldrich	Katy Nienstedt	Sarah Aldrich
Greeters/Ushers	Janice & Rich McEntire	Joe Wolfinger	Linda Berberich Jay Hunter	Phil Johnson Joe Wolfinger	Glenn & Patsy Wildeson
Children's Church	Heidi Shenberger				Heidi Shenberger Becky Pecha
After Service Coffee	Zoe Mummert		Emma English Jared Mummert	The Shenbergers	Margie Dale Tana Vance
Communion Bread	Karen Wolfinger	Karen Wolfinger	Karen Wolfinger	Karen Wolfinger	Karen Wolfinger
Communion Assistants	Heidi Shenberger (Chalice) Karen Wolfinger (Trays)	Heidi Shenberger (Chalice) Karen Wolfinger (Trays)	Jared Mummert (Chalice) Karen Wolfinger (Trays) Kristy Nienstedt (2 nd Bread)	Sam Mull (Chalice) Karen Wolfinger (Trays)	Peggi Norman (Chalice) Karen Wolfinger (Trays)
Communion Set-Up	Karen Wolfinger	Karen Wolfinger	Karen Wolfinger	Karen Wolfinger	Karen Wolfinger
Communion Clean-Up	Karen Wolfinger	Karen Wolfinger	Karen Wolfinger	Karen Wolfinger	Karen Wolfinger
Flower Delivery	Worship & Music Committee				
Securing Offering	Jay Hunter, Bernie Harris				
Paraments & Altar Linens	Karen Wolfinger				

*Maundy Thursday Evening Service at 7 p.m.

**Easter Sunday Festival Worship Service

Gospel Readings for April:

Palm Sunday, April 5th--Matthew 26:14-27:66
 Maundy Thursday, April 9th-- John 13:1-7, 31b-35
 Good Friday, April 10th-- John 18:1--19:42
 Easter Sunday, April 12th--Matthew 28:1-10
 Sunday, April 19th--John 20:19-31
 Sunday, April 26th--Luke 24:13-35



Celebrating a Birthday in April....

4/1	Mike Schultz	4/21	Glenn Wildeson
4/2	Peggi Norman	4/21	Bonney Coldsmith
4/8	Luke Mentzer	4/23	Phil Johnson
4/11	Esther Gift	4/25	Audrey Shenberger
4/13	Curt Shreiner	4/26	Todd Schultz
4/13	Katy Nienstedt	4/27	Janice McEntire
4/15	Alan Johnson	4/27	Hailey Gross
4/16	Heidi Shenberger	4/29	Taylor Garcia
4/16	LaRue McKenzie	4/29	Ilona Laney
4/18	Katie Garcia		

Celebrating a Wedding Anniversary in April...

4/9	Duane & Heidi Shenberger
4/26	Denny & Tammy Helman (40 th)
4/28	Bob & Ina Shreiner

Remembering Our Homebound Members

On Easter Sunday, April 12th, Christians everywhere will celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. We do not yet know if our church will be re-opened for worship. Regardless, 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:

Harold "Bud" Armstrong
Ferd & Connie Bikle
Jere Brehm
Ginny Detwiler
Esther Gift
Genny Grant
Bonnie Hudson
Frances Kramer

Becky McCleary
Marjorie McMullin
Gertie Reichard
Linda Russ
Bob Shreiner
Ina Shreiner
Esther & Gerald Schultz
Clayton Schwartz

Stewardship Bouquets

Thank you to the members of the Worship & Music Committee and the Kitchen Committee for providing the meals for our two March Lenten Soup Suppers.

Thank you to the Christian Education Committee, our youth and their parents, as well as all those who purchased a ticket to support the Youth Mystery Dinner fundraiser.

Thank you to everyone who donated paper products for the Social Ministry Committee's paper drive for the Maranatha Food Pantry.

Thank you to everyone who donated items to the Kitchen Committee's Ronald McDonald House food drive.

Thank you to everyone who donated toiletries and socks to the Veterans Appreciation Ride.

Thank you to everyone who donated meals for the Bikles. The family is most appreciative!

A Word of Advice...

Wayne Norman received this information at his work site. This list was compiled by the U.S. Army's CyberCrime Unit out of Quantico, Virginia. It is good advice in these uncertain times...

Be suspicious of anyone who approaches you or initiates contact regarding corona virus.

Be suspicious of anyone you don't know or with whom you did not initiate a conversation who offers you advice on prevention, protection or recovery –especially if they ask for money.

Cybercriminals could use any and many different approaches. Look out for these kinds of approaches:

*Someone claims to represent the health department who emails you or comes to your door and tells you of the risks of COVID-19 and offers you vaccination or other testing. The health department will not do this. This is a dangerous scam. If this happens, call your local police department immediately.

*Someone claiming to be from your bank or an investment firm who you do not already have a relationship with, who offers investment alternatives to protect you from economic and market uncertainties.

*Someone who threatens you with repercussions (arrest, prosecution, confinement) if you don't pay a fee.

*Someone claiming to be from a hospital where a loved one is being treated for the virus but is in urgent need of money before lifesaving treatments can be rendered.

*Someone claiming to be your friend who is stuck in a foreign country and can't get home unless a "virus prevention" or other outrageous sounding fee is paid.

*Unsolicited emails offering expert advice or information. They could contain malware or the links in the email could take you to a site with malware.

*Someone asking for any personally identifiable information, bank account or financial information, or information about family members.

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Join us Sunday mornings!

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages

10:15 a.m. Worship Service

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*“But the angel (at the tomb) said to them, “ Do not be alarmed;
you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; He is not here.”*

Mark 16:6 (NRSV)