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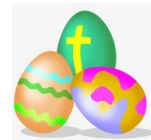
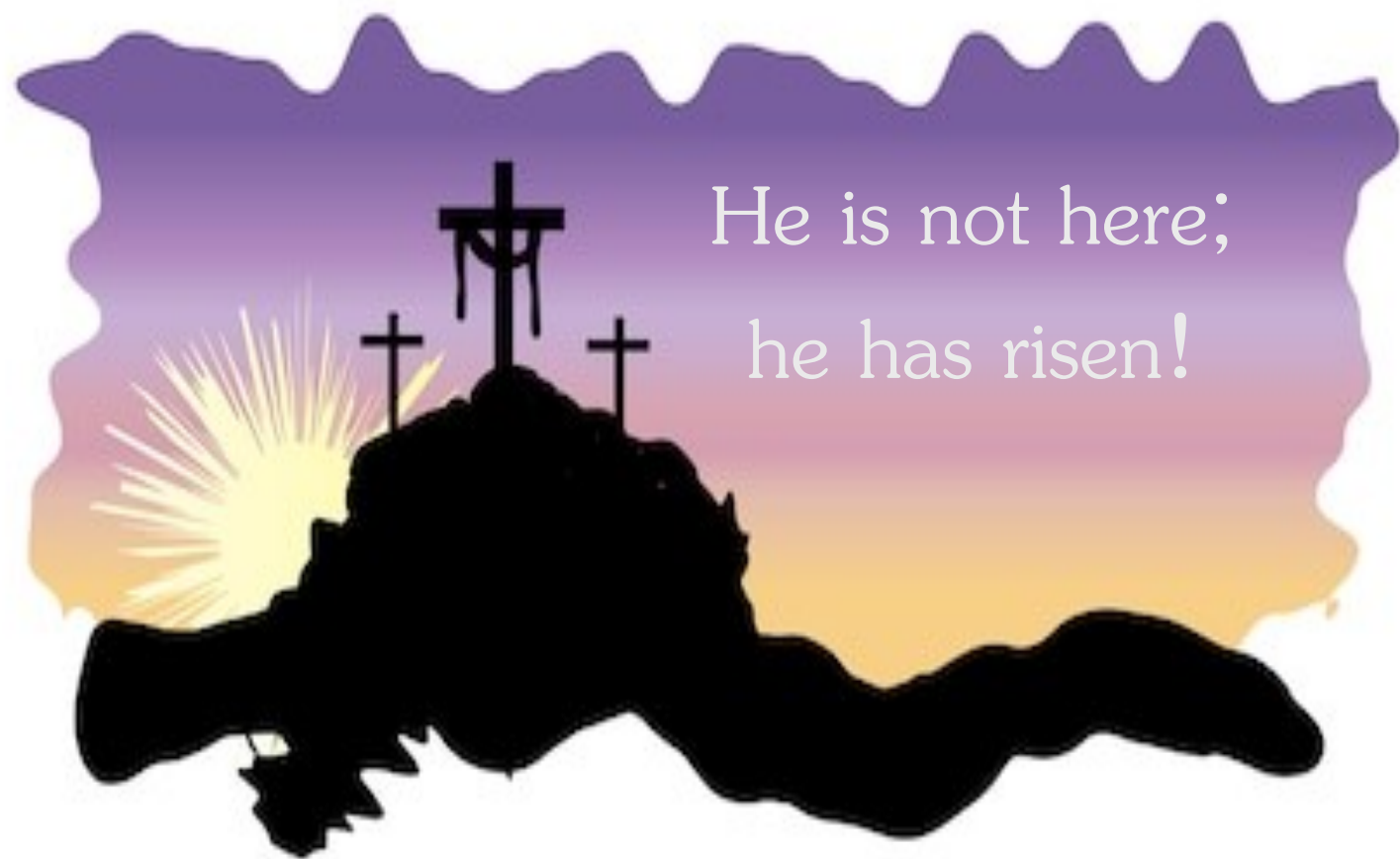
Messenger of Peace is a publication of: Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Wautoma, WI.

Purpose: *Messenger of Peace* serves the Peace Lutheran Church family with information about people and events that are part of the Peace ministry and with articles that encourage Christian living.

Articles: Please forward information and articles to Christine in the office by the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Email it to:

peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com.



Messenger of Peace

April 2020

Palm Sunday (John 12:12-15)



The next day, the large crowd that had come for the Festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. Taking palm branches, they went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!"

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written:

Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look! Your King is coming, seated on a donkey's colt.

Maundy Thursday (Matthew 26:26-30; 36-39; 47-49)



While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples.

He said, "Take, eat, this is my body." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you, for this is my blood of the new testament, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you that I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." After they sang a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane. He told his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and he began to be sorrowful and distressed.

Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to the point of death. Stay here, and keep watch with me." He went a little farther, fell on his face, and prayed. He said, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

While Jesus was still speaking, suddenly Judas (one of the Twelve) arrived. With him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, who came from the chief priests and elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign: "The one I kiss is the man. Arrest him."

Immediately he went to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him.

Good Friday (Matthew 27:27-31)

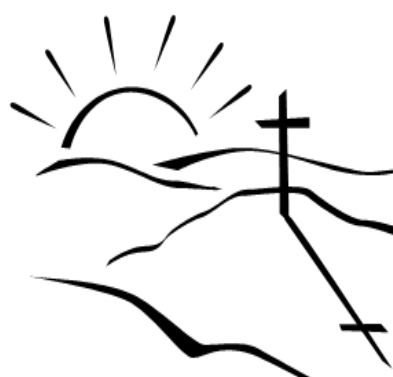


Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole cohort of soldiers around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. They twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand, knelt in front of him, and mocked him by saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spit on him, took the staff, and hit him repeatedly on his head.

After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

Easter Morning (Matthew 28:1-10)

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. Suddenly, there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, and going to the tomb, he rolled away the stone and was sitting on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. The guards were so terrified of him that they shook and became like dead men.



The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid! I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here. He has risen, just as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. Go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has risen from the dead! And look, he is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him.' See, I have told you!"

They hurried away from the tomb, with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" They approached, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him.

Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go, tell my brothers that they should go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ—My Peace Family,

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." I have never felt such sorrow and such eagerness overwhelm my heart at the same time when I meditate upon these words of God. Many of you have expressed to me how heartbroken you are at not being able to gather together for worship here at church, especially to receive the Lord's Supper. This is not in a million years how I expected my first Lent, Holy Week, Easter and Confirmation Day at Peace to happen. And perhaps never in our lifetime have so many things been so apparent.

COVID-19 is being used by God to keep one of his promises I hold dear to my heart. **"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."** Life is fleeting and fragile. **"The wages of sin** (and the consequence of living in a sin-cursed world) **is death."** But **"even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and your staff, they comfort me."** Perhaps never have any of us dealt with such radical changes to the way we live our lives in so short a time frame. But leave it to God to single-handedly—no only as his hands can do—strip away everything our world holds so dear—travel, sports, busyness, school, work, and much, much more. And in so doing, God is leading us as his children to realize some very important truths.

Even with all of the uncertainty and change in the world around us, **"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."** That means the spiritual salvation facts of Holy Week and Easter remain unchanged. Jesus' death on the cross has finished the saving work necessary to forgive our sins and get us into heaven. The blessings of that cross are still given to each of us personally in, with and under the bread and wine in the Lord's Supper. Our sins are fully and freely forgiven by Christ. We can be certain of that because Christ is risen, he is risen indeed. Rest assured, dear friends, when, according to his will, the Lord allows us to gather for worship again, we WILL have the Lord's Supper. We WILL have both children and adults confirmed in their Christian faith. And most certainly, we WILL celebrate together with triumphant songs of joy the resurrection of our Lord. For Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

God be with you till we meet again,

Pastor Tews



Bearing Fruit in a Time of Need

Dr. Rodney Stark estimates that Christianity grew an average of 40% per decade for the first few centuries of its existence. To put that in perspective, if WELS grew at that rate, in two generations we would have over two million members. How did that happen? Christianity was started by misfits of the Roman Empire. Early believers worshiped in homes. Becoming a Christian made it likely you would experience ridicule or even persecution. How does Christianity explode in *those* circumstances?

The gospel. The gospel was entirely unique. There were plenty of religions that talked about powerful gods who demanded sacrifices. The gospel told of an all-powerful God who became weak and sacrificed himself for you. Other religions offered some version of life after death, but it was always conditional: do good work, get a good eternity. The gospel offered physical resurrection and eternity in paradise entirely on the basis of Christ's work, not your own. His death and his resurrection meant you had assurance *now*. You faced death confidently, knowing you were going to a better place.

St. Paul wrote to the Colossians, **"The gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world"** (1:6). The power and beauty of the gospel—that is what caused the early church to explode.

However, that doesn't tell the whole story. It wasn't simply that the early Christians proclaimed the gospel. By the way they lived their lives, they gained an audience for the gospel.

In the early 4th century, the historian Eusebius wrote about a plague. Healthy people would flee the cities for the safety of the countryside. But one group largely stayed behind—Christians. *"All day long, [Christians] tended to the dying and to their burial, countless numbers with no one to care for them."* Eusebius states that as people witnessed this compassion, *"[the Christians'] deeds were on everyone's lips, and they glorified the God of the Christians."* Christians took care of the sick. It didn't matter if the sick person was a Christian or pagan.

Christians cared for the poor too. The Roman Emperor Julian wanted to wipe out Christianity and reinstitute emperor worship. After a few years of trying, Julian wrote a letter to a pagan priest in which he explained why he now believed Christianity would take over the empire. *"[Christians] support not only their poor, but ours as well. All men see that our people lack aid from us."* When people would ask Christians, *"Why do you do what you do?"* they could share the gospel.

COVID-19 is awful. Many are going to die. The economies of the world are a mess. However, it's also an amazing opportunity to serve Christ by serving our fellow man in whatever way they need, such as:

- Contact all the at-risk residents on your block and offer to make all their grocery store runs for them.
- Offer to watch the child of a health care worker when they need to work.
- Pick up your dinner from a local restaurant that could go out of business in the lockdown.
- Is there a single person you know, perhaps a widow or widower? Set aside some time to talk to them on the phone. Have your kids do the same.
- If the federal government ends up giving funds and you don't really need it to survive, give yours away to others who are hit harder by the economic downturn or to your favorite charity.

As we seize those God-given opportunities to serve our neighbor, perhaps Christ will give us another opportunity—to share why we do what we do . . . to share the hope we have.

Let us be the ones who step up first to meet the needs of those around us. Let us be the ones to explain why we need not fear anything. Let us do all this, not because we want to grow by 40 percent. Let us do this simply because we are the body of Christ. We do what he would do. And we want him glorified. "They glorified the God of the Christians."

In these challenging days ahead, may the Spirit strengthen your faith with his unbreakable promises. May Christ give you health and compassion.

by Rev. Jon Hein, director of WELS Commission on Congregational Counseling



News You Can Use

News from Synod and national & local news that affects lives of Christians.

Cancelled

Lutheran Boy Pioneers Movie Camp

2020 WELS Youth Rally

Postponed

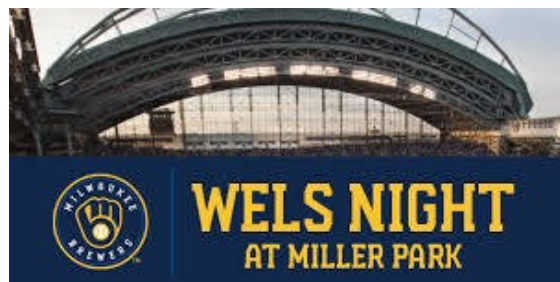
Lutheran Boy & Girl Pioneers Pine Car Derby *Rescheduled dates TBA*



Lutheran Pioneers Boundary Waters Voyageur Trip June 13 - 19, 2020

Cost: \$200.00

For more information, contact: Jeff Kneser;
(email) kneser@msn.com, or 715-409-0388 or visit
www.lutheranpioneers.org/voyageur-canoe-trip/



Friday, July 24, 2020

Mark your calendars for the seventh annual WELS Night 2020! Go to

<https://wels.net/event/brewers2020/>

to purchase your tickets!



57th Annual LWMS Convention

2020 Vision for Missions

June 25-28, 2020

Athens, Georgia

Visit wels.net/event/2020-lutheran-womens-missionary-society-convention/ for more information.

Lutheran Boy Pioneers Family Adventure Days July 15-19, 2020

Pineridge Campground

W5132 County Road N Waldo, WI

Lutheran Pioneers is hosting an awesome fellowship event that you don't want to miss. Activities are planned for the whole family. Cost includes two meals a day!

Visit www.lutheranpioneers.org/family-adventure-days/ for more information or to register.

Lutheran Girl Pioneers 2020 International Camp

July 26– August 1, 2020

at Camp Bird Crivitz, Wisconsin

Who can go? Girls ages third graders and up

How much does it cost? LGP members \$200

For more information, email lgpcamp@gmail.com.

Lutheran Girl Pioneers 2020 International Convention

October 2-3, 2020

at St John's Lutheran Church & School

Watertown, Wisconsin

Registration opens Summer of 2020



Church News

Empty Tomb Rolls

Make these rolls to remember that Jesus is not in the tomb– He is Risen!

- 1 can refrigerated crescent rolls
- 8 large marshmallows
- ¼ cup butter, melted
- ¼ cup sugar
- 1 Tbs cinnamon

Line a baking sheet with a silicone liner, parchment paper, or non-stick foil.

Combine sugar and cinnamon in a small bowl and set aside.

Unroll and separate crescent rolls. Dip a marshmallow in the melted butter, then roll in cinnamon/sugar mixture. Place the covered marshmallow on a raw crescent roll. Pinch the dough around the marshmallow, completely covering marshmallow. Pinch seams to seal well. Be sure to seal the seams completely, or the marshmallow will melt all over the baking sheet.

Place on prepared baking sheet. Brush tops of rolls with some of the leftover butter and sprinkle with additional cinnamon/sugar mixture.

Bake at 375°F for 12-14 minutes. Let cool for 2-3 minutes before removing rolls from baking sheet. Serve warm.

NOTE: Some of the melted marshmallow may leak during baking, but the roll should still form a hollow tomb. Pinch seams tightly to reduce oozing.

Symbolism:

White marshmallow = body of Jesus (perfect)

Melted butter = oils used to anoint Jesus' body

Cinnamon = spices used to anoint Jesus' body

Crescent roll (well sealed) = sealed tomb

Hollow roll (after baking) = empty tomb after Christ's resurrection



Did you know...

...you can call Pastor, Christine, or the church office to use the Peace Pantry?

Just call and we'll have a bag or two of food ready for you to pick up at your convenience!

...you can call Pastor, Christine, or the church office to request prayers?

Let us know your prayer requests and we will pray for you!

...you can ask us to mail you church and WELS publications AND the weekly bulletins?

Let us know where to send it to!

...we have a Facebook page?

We do! And we also send emails with any updates. Let Christine know your email address to get on the list!

Even though we are not together physically, we are one in the body of Christ and that doesn't change because we are not worshipping in church right now!

Contact us:

Pastor Tews pastortews@gmail.com 507-626-4476 920-787-3856

Christine Bohn peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com 920-765-2147

Terry Proctor (church president) 920-420-8190

Jim Schroeder (head elder) 920-787-4331

Pioneers News

The Pioneers had their annual Pine Car Derby on Sunday, February 23. Thank to everyone who came, and to Donna McKay and Bernice Baranyk for being our craft judges. Congratulations to Anna Kraker and Emily Bohn whose winning cars will be going on to the National Pine Car Derby!

Craft Winners

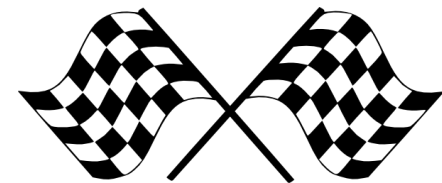
Open Class Crowd Favorite
Dan Kraker

Sunbeams/Buckaroos

1. Jackson Wedell
2. Samuel Tews
3. Rose Tews
4. Myles Kraker
5. Matthew Tews

LP/LGP

1. Anna Kraker
2. Emily Bohn
3. Jonathan Kraker



Speed Winners

Open Class

1. Joey Kraker
2. Rebecca Bohn
3. Christine Bohn
4. Sam Kraker
5. Kevin Bohn
6. Dan Kraker

Sunbeams/Buckaroos

1. Rose Tews
2. Jackson Wedell
3. Matthew Tews
4. Samuel Tews
5. Myles Kraker

LP/LGP

1. Anna Kraker
2. Jonathan Kraker
3. Emily Bohn



Back Row: Christine , Heather, Anna, Jonathan, Dan, Joey, Sam, Emily, Kevin
Front: Rebecca, Sam, Matthew, Jackson, Myles

Easter Word Search

B H M W E E K A J E S U S E S
N T J O X D G N O L M L N A R
I S Z V K M T G O R H C L R I
B D O I T C A E R I S E N T S
X A M O L A L L R S R R T H E
A Y F O E A X P N L D T O Q N
O H N X B G Q X N I U N M U L
S E L O Y Z W S R O D S B A V
H A C N L S X L O D Z V F K A
O V H Z G I Y Q L J U U I E F
O E U E I W N U L D Q B R Y R
K N S V X Z B T E L J Q S O A
T M K J Z F M F D F Z I T N I
Y T I N M F A Q P H J F G Z D
J Z E D A W N P S T O N E N G

Tomb
Shook
First
Rolled
Afraid

Angel
Stone
Dawn
Jesus
Day

Risen
Week
Heaven
Earthquake



News About Our Church Family



Sunday School Corner

Sunday School, along with all other activities at church, has been cancelled until further notice, but that doesn't mean that Sunday School has to stop! We have, and will continue to do so as long as needed, emailed all our Sunday School families each week with a lesson and activities that families can do at home.

Parents, please let us know if you want more lessons, or need help with the lessons that have been sent.

Although it's not the way we usually plan Sunday School, the Sunday School staff is committed to serving our littlest lambs and we will continue to do that, even if it has to be remotely. Sunday School is an extension of the family. We are here to assist families in their job of teaching and preparing young Christians for life. We consider it a privilege to serve the families of our congregation and urge each of you to take an active role in the Christian education of the children in your lives.



Sunday School
MAKES A DIFFERENCE

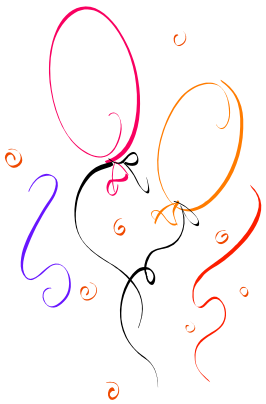
Please speak with me, any Sunday School teacher, or Pastor for more information about Sunday School, to volunteer, or to donate to the Sunday School program.

Karin Hetcher (920-240-6201)
Sunday School Superintendent



Birthdays

- 4/1 Bernice Baranyk
Ryan Peterson
4/2 Teri Jo Fendler
4/4 Cindy Roebke
Steve Jansen
4/6 Emily McLeod
4/10 Hannah Klusmeyer
Jackson Wedell
4/13 Bailey Blader-Lucht
4/14 Rose Tews
4/15 Nancy Klusmeyer
Pat Campbell
4/16 Brooke Blader-Lucht
4/21 Linda Hannemann
4/27 Darlene Jansen
4/28 Rebecka Richards
Ian Proctor



Anniversaries

- 4/4 Everett & Judy Schulz (50)
4/8 Dick & Chris Anderson (48)
4/22 Roger & Dalene Jansen (53)



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, that means the church does not have it. Please drop off dates at the church office, call 787.3856 or email peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com.



Worship Services

All of our worship services are on our website at www.wautomapecelutheran.org. Bulletins are also available for download on our website.

Thank you to Pastor Tews for continuing having worship services, to Kevin Bohn for taping each service, to Pastor Klusmeyer for putting those services on our website, and to Jim Schroeder for sending it out via email.