



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

44 CHAPEL ROAD – KENMORE, NY 14217

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*A Congregation in Mission, Community and Service*

# *PILGRIM'S PROGRESS*

**APRIL 2018**

PASTOR: Rev. Ben Eder

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM

EDITOR: Mary Werth

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: 9:30 AM

ASSOC. EDITOR:

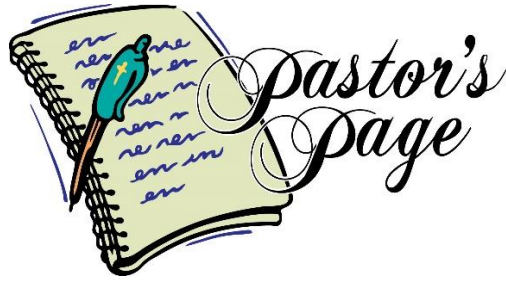
WORSHIP: 10:00 AM

*Alleluia!*

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HE IS ALIVE!

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Whenever I watch “Judge Judy” the announcer says, “Real people, real cases.”

Whenever we read the Holy Scriptures be assured that they deal with “Real people, real cases.”

A good “case” in point is the reaction of the followers of Jesus on the morning of His Resurrection from the dead.

Who were at the empty tomb? First the women, then some of the Apostles.

What we see in the Gospels is the natural reaction of people who did not expect Jesus to rise from the dead.

The women who went out to the tomb were planning to finish the preparation of Jesus' body (which was interrupted at the onset of the Sabbath); they weren't expecting an empty tomb.

The women, and later the Apostles, were amazed and disbelieving at the fact that Jesus' body was missing from the tomb; it took an angel to announce that “He is risen” to convince them otherwise.

In the ancient world, women were not considered authoritative figures, and yet it is the women who hear the Good News first and then tell the Apostles, making them the “Evangelists to the Apostles.”

The fact that the Lord first used women to speak of this miraculous event demonstrates that “God's ways are not our ways.”

Also, those who deny the Resurrection have to ask themselves: why would the early followers of Jesus willingly go to their deaths for something which they knew to be a fiction or lie? They truly believed what they witnessed, that Jesus had indeed risen from the dead!

Every generation since, many believers have suffered and been put to death for a Risen Savior they have never seen but continue to believe in because of the work of the Holy Spirit in their hearts. The work of faith in people who have never seen Jesus demonstrates the power of God at work in people from every time and place.

The truth is, in the Bible people react to amazing, miraculous events much as you and I would if we were there – with disbelief, doubt, shock, and finally acceptance.

Yes, even in Holy Scripture we find “real people, real cases.”

God wouldn't have it any other way.

Your Servant in Christ,

+ Pastor Ben Eder



## SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE

### APRIL 2018

DATE →	Apr. 1	Apr. 8	Apr. 15	Apr. 22	Apr. 29
READER	Scot LaFalce	Dooley O'Rourke	Mary Werth	Gary Smith	Tyrone Bryant
USHERS	Mike Weurch * Dianne Weurch	Jim O'Brien * George Alessi	Gary Smith * Eric Fellner	Tegwanda Alford * Peggy Clark	Scot LaFalce * Tracy LaFalce
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	George Alessi	Gary Smith	Jim O'Brien	Frank Alessi	Eric Fellner
NURSERY	Peggy Clark	Linda Eder	Carol Obot	Carolyn Alessi	Amber Trimmer
ACOLYTE	Lily Hinterberger	Gaby O'Brien	Philip Hinterberger	Seth Keef	An usher



### Misery be gone!

On the Sunday after Easter, some churches celebrate “holy humor.” Laughter is a gift from God, who wants us to be joyful. A happy disposition is also an effective — and infectious — way to share our faith.

“I cannot think that when God sent us into the world, he had irreversibly decreed that we should be perpetually miserable in it,” said John Wesley. “If ... taking up the cross [implies] bidding adieu to all joy and satisfaction, how is it reconcilable with what Solomon expressly affirms of religion, that ‘her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace’?” (Proverbs 3:17, KJV)



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES  
[www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org)

## **LHM MOURNS THE PASSING OF DR. BILLY GRAHAM**



- **Feb. 21, 2018**

**World-renowned evangelist Dr. Billy Graham passed away Feb. 21 at the age of 99. The internationally renowned evangelist preached the Gospel to nearly 215 million people in more than 185 countries and territories, according to Graham's ministry, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association - through various evangelistic crusades and meetings, including Mission World and Global Mission. Hundreds of millions more have been reached through television, video, film, and webcasts.**

**"In a society that is moving steadily away from Christianity, Dr. Graham saw the importance of being present with a clear Gospel proclamation to reach nonbelievers with the love of Christ," says LHM President and CEO Kurt Buchholz. "The world has lost a great man, but those in heaven are surely rejoicing in the homecoming of this good and faithful servant."**

**Graham's career was intertwined in many ways with the work of the International Lutheran Laymen's League/Lutheran Hour Ministries. Many years ago, Graham was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the National Religious Broadcasters (NRB), as was his long-time friend Dr. Oswald Hoffmann, Speaker of The Lutheran Hour from 1955 through 1988. Graham was very supportive not only of Hoffmann but also Dr. Walter A. Maier, The Lutheran Hour's founding Speaker. Graham was keenly aware of The Lutheran Hour through his association with NRB, which was founded by Dr. Eugene "Rudy" Bertermann, a former head of staff for the Int'l LLL and its Lutheran Hour Ministries and an individual deeply involved with Maier and the early years of The Lutheran Hour.**

**Graham even visited the LLL headquarters during the 1970s to speak to employees and encourage them to continue mightily with broadcasts of The Lutheran Hour (Dr. Graham is shown above meeting with Dr. Hoffmann during his visit).**

**More recently, when The Lutheran Hour began airing on the more than 100 stations of the Bott Radio Network in 2015, the weekly broadcast inherited the prime slots formerly used by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association on the network's broadcast coverage into 15 states. The Bott Radio Network saw The Lutheran Hour as a shining example of its goal to provide quality Bible teaching with Christian news and information delivered by some of the greatest Bible teachers of today.**

**"It's been a great privilege for us to be given the Sunday morning time slot that was home to Billy Graham's 'Hour of Decision' for more than 50 years," says Buchholz. "In many ways, the legacy of The Lutheran Hour came full circle. When Walter Maier died, Billy Graham rose to prominence on radio and television and a great respect was developed between him and Dr. Oswald Hoffmann. For the Bott Radio Network to think of us as a respected replacement for Dr. Graham's Sunday program has been a tremendous honor for our flagship broadcast."**



## **ESTHER CIRCLE**

Our next meeting will be on Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. at the church. Lee Anne Soto from the Northtown Pregnancy Center in Kenmore will be our guest speaker. She will tell us about what the center offers. All women are welcome to join us.

Karen Smith: "This is my third year as president of the Esther Circle. It has been a pleasure to serve in this capacity, but I have decided that this will be my last year. So, we will be looking for someone to take over the reins starting in September. Ladies, please prayerfully consider taking this position. If you are interested, contact any member of the Esther Circle. If the Esther Circle is to continue, we will need a leader. Will it be you?"



Our next Community Dinner is Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, from 5 to 7 p.m. The menu is chili with mac-n-cheese along with assorted desserts and beverages. These dinners are sponsored by the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.



## **VOTER'S MEETING**

A meeting was held on Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. The editor did not attend so no write-up is available. However, we have since learned that there is now a telephone in the lift/elevator for emergencies.

**\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE: There will be no meeting of the P.A.L.s in April. \*\*\***



Eric Alessi	Apr. 15
Melody Keef	Apr. 20
Jeanette Donnelly	Apr. 21
Adam Keef	Apr. 22
Kevin Rodgers	Apr. 25

\*\*\* IF YOUR BIRTHDAY AND/OR ANNIVERSARY IS NOT LISTED, PLEASE LET ME KNOW SO I CAN ADD YOU TO MY LIST. THANK YOU – MARY WERTH \*\*\*

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### Did I Say That?!

Police in Los Angeles had good luck with a robbery suspect who just couldn't control himself during a lineup. When detectives asked each man in the lineup to repeat the words, "Give me all your money or I'll shoot," the man shouted, "That's not what I said!"

### Not the Sharpest Knife in the Drawer...

In Modesto, California, Steven Richard King was arrested for trying to hold up a Bank of America branch without a weapon. King used a thumb and finger to simulate a gun, but unfortunately, he failed to keep his hand in his pocket.

### S.W.A.T. mosquitoes...

Police in Oakland, California spent two hours attempting to subdue a gunman who had barricaded himself inside his home. After firing ten tear canisters, officers discovered that the man was standing beside them, shouting pleas to come out and give himself up...

From a church newsletter in Harrison, Arkansas:

ANNUAL WOMEN'S TEA

The tea is a drip in event  
from 2 to 4 p.m. on Wednesday,  
April 8.

How appropriate!

~~oops!~~

From a worship bulletin in Des Moines, Iowa:

Our pantry supplies are getting low.

Please help with our canned fool drive.

We especially need peanut butter.

Something about this *food* seems funny.

From a church newsletter:

Special concert:

Join us for an evening of scared music.

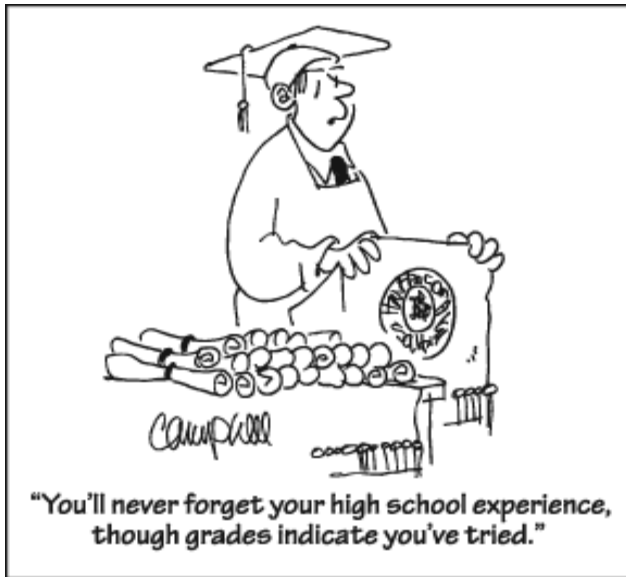
7 p.m. on April 8.

Why frighten people away from a *sacred* event?



"No, Peter Cottontail was not an apostle!"





# CROSS CRAFT

Make this special cross as a reminder of Jesus' death and resurrection.



### What you need:

- Adult help
- Piece of wood
- 5 nails
- Hammer
- 2 balls of yarn (blue and yellow)

### What you do:

1. Hammer the nails into the wood to form a cross shape (see example).
2. Tie the blue yarn to the bottom nail. Wrap it up and around the top nail and back down to the bottom nail. Then wrap it around the middle nail and around the side nails. Repeat until the yarn is wrapped about halfway up the exposed nails.
3. Repeat step two with the yellow yarn. Wrap it around the nails until only the heads are visible.



# RESURRECTION HOPE



Romans 6:5 reveals the hope we have because Jesus rose from the dead on Easter.



*Directions: First solve the math problems. Then put the corresponding words in the blanks; for example, the word next to the answer "1" goes in the first blank, the word next to the answer "2" goes in the second blank, and so on.*

2+2 = ___ united	2x3 = ___ death	7+6 = ___ resurrection
3x3 = ___ certainly	18-16 = ___ have	4-1 = ___ been
0+1 = ___ if	2x4 = ___ we	13-1 = ___ him
2+3 = ___ in	20-6 = ___ like	2+5 = ___ his
2x5 = ___ be	8+3 = ___ with	

“For 1 we 2 3 4  
with him 5 a 6 like 7 ,  
8 will 9 also 10 united  
11 12 in a 13  
14 his.” Romans 6:5, NIV

Answer: For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. Romans 6:5, NIV

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE MAY NEWSLETTER IS APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup>.**