



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

44 CHAPEL ROAD – KENMORE, NY 14217

(716) 875-5485

A Congregation in Mission, Community and Service

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

APRIL 2019

PASTOR: Rev. Ben Eder

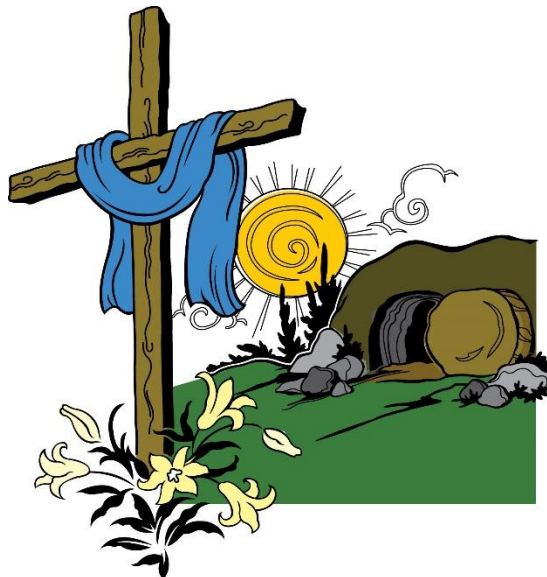
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM

EDITOR: Mary Werth

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: 9:30 AM

ASSOC. EDITOR:

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM



From the Pastor

"If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied." - 1 Corinthians 15:19

The above verse opens the appointed Epistle reading for Easter Sunday, April 21st.

It emphasizes the central truth of Christianity, that Christ Jesus has been raised from the dead.

Alone among all religions, only Christianity proclaims that its leader (Jesus) has been raised from the dead; no such claims are made about Buddha, Mohammed, Confucious, and others.

Without the historical truth of the Resurrection, the Christian faith is reduced to a philosophy, like all the others.

The truth of the Resurrection is that Christ is raised, and because he lives so do those who believe in him.

Our faith proclaims that on the Last Day all the dead shall be raised, the believing ones to be raised with Christ for eternity.

We are not meant to remain bodyless souls, loitering forever in heaven; our final destination is the reunification of our souls with our physical bodies.

Our resurrected bodies will not be as they were on earth, but will be reconstituted "heavenly bodies" which will live eternally with Christ and all believers.

Therefore, as followers of Jesus we know that earth is not our home, but a place we're "passing through" on our way to the Heavenly City.

If Christ has not been raised, then our faith is in vain: for that would mean that Jesus is dead, not alive and that his body is resting somewhere on the earth.

But Scripture teaches that Jesus rose again from the dead on the Third Day, his body breaking forth from the stone-enclosed tomb.

Because Jesus lives, we shall live with him! For the angels said to those searching for Jesus in the tomb, *"Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen."* - Luke 24:5-6a

This and every Easter, we proclaim the living Savior who rose to give life to a dying world!

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Ben Eder



SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE

APRIL 2019

DATE ➡	Apr. 7	Apr. 14	Apr. 21	Apr. 28	
READER	Ruth Whitmer	Karen Smith	Dooley O'Rourke	Eric Fellner	
USHERS	Eric Fellner *	Tegwanda Alford *	Tyrone Bryant *	Dianne Wuerch *	
	Gary Smith	Peggy Clark	Jim Miller	Mike Wuerch	
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	George Alessi	Frank Alessi	Jim O'Brien	Gary Smith	
NURSERY	Carolyn Alessi	Carol Obot	Peggy Clark	Amber Trimmer	



The final word

When wildfires ravaged Paradise, California, in 2018, dozens were killed and thousands lost homes, irreplaceable mementos and personal connections. School, work and church routines were upended.

If life has both “cross-like times” and “resurrection-like times,” as a pastor once said, this certainly was a cross-like time. But God never lets death, sorrow or suffering have the final say. To bring light to dark times, God works through countless good-hearted helpers.

One was 90-year-old Bob Wilson, a Los Angeles man who quickly decided to give people he’d never met “something ... [to] lift their spirits.” That “something” was a \$1,000 handwritten check for each of the 1,085 students and staff members at Paradise High School. The checks, which came with no restrictions, were presented at a gathering that felt healing to many.

Cross and resurrection times are interwoven in this life, but the cross doesn’t win. One day, God promises, resurrection will have the final word.



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



Let laughter ‘spring’ forth!

“Spring is when you feel like whistling, even with a shoe full of slush.” (Doug Larson)

“Easter is the only time when it’s perfectly safe to put all of your eggs in one basket.” (Evan Esar)

“Spring is the time of year when it is summer in the sun and winter in the shade.” (Charles Dickens)

“The world is mud-luscious and puddle wonderful.” (e.e. cummings)

“In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt.” (Margaret Atwood)

From a church newsletter:

AN INVITATION FROM OUR YOUTH

Join us for the Easter breakfast.

Sunday, April 21 at 9:30 a.m.

They must be expecting hearty appetites on *Easter!*



From a church newsletter in Bellingham, Washington:

Please place your car in the offering plate today ... as a symbol of your commitment to the Lord's work.

They got plenty of cards, but not a single automobile. Go figure.

~~oops!~~

From a church bulletin in Alleman, Iowa:

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:31-46

HYMN: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Was that a subtle time-to-retire hint?



The first Voters Meeting of 2019 was held on March 17th after the service. The online giving platform has been established on our website: www.pilgrimkenmorelcms.org. You can click on Donate Now or Recurring Donations. Thanks to Dianne & Mike Wuerch and Carolyn Alessi for making this possible.

Dates have been set for photography for the church directory: September 17th – 18th. More dates will probably be added. Thanks to Kathy Farkas and Jim Hartz for taking care of this.

A new boiler is coming. The Church Council will name a committee to oversee the dismantling of the old one and installation of the new one this summer. Our sound system needs updating or replacement as well. Estimates for both will be sought from contractors.

The Community Dinner needs people to sign up early enough to do a month. If you need any help, just ask anyone on the committee: Scot & Traci LaFalce, Linda Eder, Judy Miller, Jim Miller, Cheryl Miller, Mike & Dianne Wuerch, Frank & Carolyn Alessi.

Now is the time for organizing VBS! We need a committee to start this. If you are interested, please contact Carol Obot.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 23rd.

We adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.



What Easter does

Jesus' resurrection from the dead is life-changing and life-giving for his followers. But, as Henry Knox Sherrill notes, Easter's "joyful news ... does not change the contemporary world." On earth, we still must deal with sin, pain, death and brokenness. And "still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice," Sherrill adds. What Easter does, though, is provide Christians with "the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline and make the sacrifice."

By defeating the grave, Jesus empowers us to bear our worldly troubles with joy, peace and hope. His resurrection assures us that trials, tears and suffering are only temporary, while eternal victory and life with Jesus are permanent.

Pilgrim Lutheran Church
44 Chapel Road ~ Kenmore, NY 14217
FREE Community Dinner

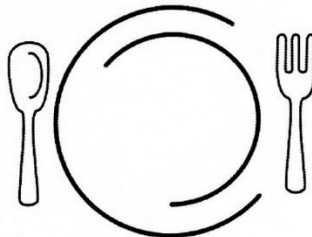


**You are invited to celebrate with us the
Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ
On EASTER SUNDAY, April 21st @ 10 AM**

Please join us for our monthly Community Dinner
Corner of Delaware and Chapel Roads
Friday, April 5th 2019 at 5pm-7pm

Our Menu

Polish Sausage
Sauerkraut
Mashed Potatoes
Applesauce
Salad & Roll w/butter
Assorted desserts and beverages



*The mission of Pilgrim Lutheran Church is to seek out the lost and bring them the Good
News of Jesus Christ, with the anticipation that those who hear will come to faith.
Services Saturday evening @ 5:30pm and Sunday morning @ 10am*



ESTHER CIRCLE

Spring is here! The Esther Circle would like to thank those who supported our first homemade candy fundraiser in February. It was a success and it may be an annual project.

Our next meeting is Monday, April 8th, at 6:00 pm at the church.

REMINDER! At coffee hours and Pot Faiths in 2019, we are collecting donations for the Food Pantry operated by Hananiah Lutheran Church in Buffalo. Used stamps trimmed with a quarter-inch border can be given to Pat Watkins. These stamps are used in a mission project that provides Bibles to prisoners. Karen Smith will accept your "mites" (pennies and other change) for LWML mission grants. Sue Holway will collect your Dash's grocery receipts.

As we celebrate the Easter season, let us be grateful for the ultimate blessing God gave us – Jesus, our Salvation and Hope!

Carol Obot & Sue Holway



Please see the flyer for the **Buffalo Zone Spring Rally on May 4th** at Trinity West Seneca. The program "Caring for the Homeless" will include speaker Deb Tyler from The Buffalo Burrito Project at St Paul's Lutheran Church in North Tonawanda. The Buffalo Burrito Project makes meals at the church and then distributes them to homeless persons living in downtown Buffalo.

Upcoming LWML dates to remember:

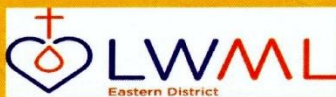
June 20-23, 2019: National LWML Convention, Mobile, Alabama. Please pray for the convention and those attending.

August 11, 2019: Buffalo Zone Picnic at Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center

September 20 - 22, 2019: LWML Eastern District Retreat at Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center.
Speaker: Katie Schuermann Theme: "Listen, Look, Leap" based on Proverbs 3: 5-6
The registration form will be in the Spring LINK

September 28, 2019: Buffalo Zone Fall Event 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Registration \$10 at First Trinity Lutheran Church. Topic: "Equipping Women for Service" Darlene Marcucci-Miller will be our speaker

June 12-14, 2020: Eastern District LWML Convention Syracuse, NY Theme: "Live By Faith" based on 2 Corinthians 5:6-7



Saturday, May 4th, 2019

The Buffalo Zone LWML Welcomes You to Our Spring Rally
"Caring for the Homeless"

Listen to Deb Tyler of *The Buffalo Burrito Project* and
Reach out as we Tie Blankets and Make Cookie Bags for
The Buffalo Burrito Project's Ministry

- Where: Trinity West Seneca Lutheran Church,
(In the school gym)
146 Revere Rd, West Seneca, NY 14224
- When: 9:00 am to Noon
- Our hosts, the ladies of Trinity West Seneca, will provide breakfast goodies
- Registration begins at 9:00 am Fee: \$5.00
- Ingathering: Please bring homemade or store bought cookies
- Agenda: Registration, Devotion, Presentation, Hands On Mission Ingathering
- Society Rep please RSVP to Dee Gryzb 383-3670 for your society by April 26

Bible Word Search:

CROSS, TOMB, & RESURRECTION

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

AROSE
CRUCIFIXION
FORGIVENESS
MAGDALENE
RESURRECTION
SINS

ASCENSION
DISCIPLES
HEAVEN
NICODEMUS
ROMANS
THORNS

CROSS
EASTER
JESUS
REDEMPTION
SALVATION
TOMB

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**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE MAY
NEWSLETTER IS APRIL 21ST.**