



# HERALD

April 21, 2019  
The Resurrection of Our Lord

On behalf of the family of Bethany Lutheran Church & School, we welcome our members and our guests in the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior. If you are a visitor, we ask you to fill out the guest registration card in the pew. We also invite you to stop by our welcome center in the Narthex for a gift and more information about our church.

## His tomb is empty.....or nothing matters

by Pastor Clemmer

*"If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain...And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins" [1 Cor. 15:14;17].*

According to Paul, if Jesus did not rise from the dead on Easter, then our faith is futile—pointless and useless. If Jesus didn't rise, He was just a man with some impressive magic tricks and some inspirational speeches, but He was ultimately an insane person who made farfetched claims that He was God. If Jesus didn't rise, His death was just another death, and all His talk about Life and Heaven was a cleverly devised myth—impressive, to be sure, but ultimately a fictional tale.

But Christ has risen! Not because you and I really believe it, not because it makes us feel good, and not because it's an essential part of the Jesus story. We believe that Christ has risen from the dead because it actually happened in this world's history. We hold it as a fact—not some fictional myth that makes us feel fuzzy—but it actually happened. And that fact changes everything.

So, St. Paul is basically calling out those who deny the resurrection: *"Show me the body. Come on! Show me the body! If you can, Christianity is destroyed. But you can't do it because Jesus rose from the dead and His body is not decaying in some tomb."* Easter is not some clever myth or tall tale, but a factual claim that Jesus died in human history, He rose from the dead, and peo-

ple actually saw Him after the resurrection. His body wasn't stolen, He didn't fake his death, and Christianity is not a religion created by the disciples to control people. It's a fact of history that changes everything for us.

The Easter proclamation “He is Risen! Alleluia!” is the declaration, first spoken by the angels, that the tomb was found empty on Easter morning. It’s the assertion that Jesus, fully God and fully man, rose from the dead and was seen by hundreds during his 40 days of being on earth before His ascension.

This means that our preaching and our faith are NOT in vain. This means that we are NOT still in our sins. It's precisely the opposite. Our preaching is filled up with meaning—in fact, the preaching of Christ crucified and risen actually does something: **it gives the gift of faith.** Our faith is not in vain! That faith is in the reality of Christ crucified. He died for undeserving sinners like us. He destroyed the power of death by His death. He defeated the devil, crushing his head with His heel. He purchased us with His own blood, so we belong to Him.

Your sins have been died for. The devil can't have you. Death couldn't hold him, and it won't hold you. That's the object of our faith—the central preaching of the Church—Christ is Risen! Alleluia! The tomb is empty, so we belong to Him eternally. Blessed Easter to you and your family!

***Christ is risen, He is risen indeed.  
Alleluia!***

## Calendar

**Sunday, April 21**

**Easter Sunday**

6:30 am—Easter Matins (Sunrise)

7:15 am—Youth Easter Breakfast

8:30 am—Easter Divine Service

10:00 am—Easter Egg Hunt

**No Classes**

11:00 am—Easter Divine Service

**No Youth**

**Monday, April 22**

**Easter Monday**

No School—School/Church Offices Closed

**Tuesday, April 23**

7:00 pm—Board of Finance

**Wednesday, April 24**

8:50 am—BLS Chapel

9:00 am—Ladies LifeLight

3:30 pm—Schola Cantorum

**No Praises Ring**

**No Proclaim**

**Thursday, April 25**

7:00 pm—Evening LifeLife—offsite

**Friday, April 26**

6:00 pm—BLS Kindergarten Dads' Night

**Saturday, April 27**

7:30 am—Saturday AM Men's Basketball

5:00 pm—worship w/communion

**Sunday, April 28**

**Second Sunday after Easter**

8:30 am—worship w/communion

10:00 am—Bible Class/Sunday School

11:00 am—worship w/communion

**No Youth**

6:00 pm—Confirmation Dinner/Questioning

### Easter Chancel Flowers



Thank you to the following families who purchased flowers for our sanctuary this Easter. Flowers may be taken home after the last service on Easter. Any left will be planted around our property. **Thank you to Dave Bodenstab, Bramstedt family, Cade family, Christensen family, Dahan family, Franken family, Gavin family, Groth family, Guebert family, Hahn family, Jablonsky family, Koenig family, Kolzow family, Steve and Pam Lindenmeyer, McKissick family, Splitt family, Walsh family**

## Prayers

***In Our Prayers.....***

**All of Our Members, especially:** Diane Benecke, early onset Alzheimer's Disease; Neal Kaspar, ill health; Deb Shelton, health complications; George Smentek, back issues. (*please renew after four weeks*).

**All of our Family Members & Friends, especially:** Anna, (friend of the Kaim family) recovery from surgery; Debbie, (friend of Maria Simpson) cancer treatments; Jane Dockens, (daughter of Joel/Mary Burke) continued recovery from knee surgery; Nathan Ducker, (newborn cousin of Beth Hahn) skull fracture; Hudson Feldman, (2 year old friend of the Anderson family) cancer; Robin Hardin, (sister-in-law of Fred Hardin) cancer; Joyce Heffern, (friend of Steve/Pam Lindenmeyer and former BLS parent) cancer; Laurie Hofman, (friend of Beth Schultz) cancer treatments; Merrick, (young cousin of Tye Fox) suffering from seizures; Neal Oppenheimer, (godfather of Jennifer Gutzwiller) cancer; Mary Walsh, (mother of Mike Walsh) treatments/healing; David Wohlrab, (brother of Jean Quetsch) cancer. (*please renew after two weeks*).

Prayers that the Lord be with Matthew Hinze and Michael Hinze, Adam Horton, Peter Johnson, Savanna Lugay, James Maher, Shalyn Martinek, Pierce and Quinn Parlier, Jennifer and Nicholas Camm Williams as they continue to serve in the Military.

For all those experiencing work related anxieties and safe travels during this Easter season.

### Theology on Tap

For the month of May Theology on Tap has been moved to Tuesday, May 7 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

### Stewardship

**Weekly Contributions - Week of 4/14/19**

Actual	Budget	Surplus/Deficit
\$15,724	\$27,500	(\$11,776)

**Year to Date Contributions 07/1/18 - 4/1/19**

Actual	Budget	Surplus/Deficit
\$821,984	\$821,000	\$984

### Attendance

**Apr 19                    Apr 18**

Avg Weekly Attendance - Apr	430	611*
YTD Attendance July - Apr	17,714	17,474

\*Easter included

## News

### **Join Us for Easter Breakfast**

*Everyone is invited to come and enjoy a hot, delicious buffet breakfast in the gym this morning, served by Bethany's youth from 7:15-8:30 and 9:45-10:45 a.m.*

*Stop in and join us for this great addition to your Easter morning.*

*Menu includes:*

*Eggs, pancakes, sausage, bacon, fruit, baked goods, coffee, tea, milk and juice.*

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Kids ages infant/toddler through 5th grade—join us this Sunday at 10 a.m. for Bethany's Easter Egg Hunt. Meet at pre-school door #4. Kids will be divided into two groups: Kindergarten-younger and grade 1-5. Be sure to join us!

### **Looking Ahead:**

#### **Vacation Bible School at Bethany**

**Save the date! Bethany's VBS will take place on June 17-20, 2019 from 9 a.m. until noon.** We will explore God's miraculous mission and learn about His plan of salvation from creation to the cross! Sign up is available on our website now, so spread the word. VBS is open to incoming preschool 4's (children four years old on or before September 1) through incoming 5th grade. Sixth grade and older students can sign up to be group assistants and we will need adult group leaders and teachers. Three year olds are welcome if accompanied by a parent. We're looking forward to another fun year at VBS!

#### **Fine Arts Festival May 7!**

Come listen to the musical talents of Bethany Lutheran School's students on **Tuesday, May 7 at 7 p.m.** for Bethany Lutheran's Fine Arts Festival. You will hear singing and playing in a wonderful event to celebrate God's amazing gift of music. The Fine Arts Festival will also feature Bethany alumni and church members playing with our students. We hope to see you there!

### **Upcoming Events at Bethany**

#### **Touch A Truck**

Saturday, May 18  
10:30 a.m.—noon

#### **Vacation Bible School**

June 17—20  
9 a.m.—noon

#### **Church Family Sunday**

August 18

#### **Crafters Paradise Saturday, November 9**

We are accepting crafter applications.  
See Bethany's website or call Barb McKissick at  
630-961-2030.

### **Issues, Etc. "Making the Case" Conference at Concordia University Chicago**

On Friday, June 7/Saturday, June 8 Issues, Etc. is presenting their "Making the Case" Conference at Concordia University Chicago (74 Augusta St. River Forest, IL). This is a good opportunity for you to meet and hear Ross Douthat of the *New York Times*, LCMS President Matt Harrison, Wesley Smith of *National Review*, Rev. Hans Fiene of *Lutheran Satire*, Aaron Wolf of *Chronicles* magazine and LCMS Worship Director Rev. Will Weedon. Attendance is limited to 500. To learn more pick up a flyer on the carousel in the narthex and to register go to [conference@issuesetc.org](mailto:conference@issuesetc.org).

### **Do You Have Some Time to Lend a Hand?**

We are looking for a volunteer to help in the church office. It would be about an hour every week or every two weeks. This volunteer position requires entering worship attendance into our computer system. Please call Jean Martinek in the church office if you are interested.

### **Paper for Grace Christian Academy in Chicago**

Please help the LWML collect paper products for Grace Christian Academy in Chicago. Needed are: PAPER TOWELS, TOILET PAPER, AND WHITE COPY PAPER. A box for depositing these will be in the narthex this coming week, Monday through Friday.

We will be taking these gifts to the LWML Zone Rally on April 27, at Trinity in Lisle. Any interested women are more than welcome to come and see what it's all about! Free breakfast at 8:30 a.m., followed by Bible Study, Presentation by Principal Giannotta from Grace, and LWML business. The rally ends at noon.

### **Many Music Opportunities at Bethany**

Do you want to get involved in a choir or brass or just have a love of music and not sure where you fit in? Be sure to take a brochure from the tract carousel in the narthex explaining all of Bethany's music opportunities or speak to Cantor Giuliani ([mgiuliana@bethanylcs.org](mailto:mgiuliana@bethanylcs.org)). We hope you will consider becoming part of our music family.

### **Applicants Wanted**

Bethany Lutheran School is seeking applicants for Substitute Teachers. A teaching degree is preferred, but all applicants will be considered. Please send your resume to [pcomp-ton@bethanylcs.org](mailto:pcomp-ton@bethanylcs.org).

## Bethany Staff

### Program Staff

Rev. Seth Clemmer .....Senior Pastor (Witness, Youth)  
 Rev. Stephen Schumacher.....Pastor (Mercy)  
 Neal Kaspar.....School Principal  
 Michael Giuliani.....Cantor  
 Linda Fox.....Admissions Director  
 Erin Dunwell.....Interim Principal/Fifth Grade Teacher  
 Donna Linnemeyer.....Program Administrator

### Faculty

Debby Buckman.....Preschool Teacher  
 Angela Hess.....Preschool Teacher  
 Jamie Rogoz.....Preschool Teacher  
 Diana Guebert.....Preschool Teacher  
 Justine Kaczmarek.....Preschool Teacher  
 Beth Schultz.....Preschool Teacher  
 Ashley Zorena.....Preschool Teacher  
 Kim Rodriguez, Traci Downs.....Instructional Aides  
 Heather Lee, Cindy Hoekema.....Instructional Aides  
 Kristin Gemkow.....Kindergarten  
 Diane Green, Claudia Contreras.....Instructional Aides  
 Cyndi Niccolai .....First Grade  
 Kari Janetzke.....Second Grade  
 Carole Staunch.....Art/First Grade Aide  
 Chad Baganz.....Third Grade  
 Michelle Stehle .....Fourth Grade  
 Nancy Yendrejczyk.....Library  
 Grant Baganz.....K-5th Phys. Ed.  
 Josh Schultz .....Sixth Grade  
 Rob Johnson.....Seventh Grade  
 David Bremer.....Eighth Grade  
 Jill Dirliten.....Teacher/Speech  
 Holly Fletcher .....Special Education  
 Kevin Zorena.....Assistant Cantor  
 Chad Baganz/David Bremer.....Athletic Directors

### Administrative/Support Staff

Pam Kolzow.....Finance Administrator  
 Patty Compton .....School Administrator  
 Melanie Colt.....School Secretary  
 Matt Carlson...Confirmation/Sunday School Coordinator/Youth Support  
 Vacant.....Worship Secretary  
 Jean Martinek.....Evangelism/Membership Secretary/Printer  
 Jake Mathley.....Facilities Manager  
 Pam Splitt.....Herald Editor

To e-mail any staff member: First initial of first name last name @bethanylcs.org (ex. sschumacher@bethanylcs.org)

## Board of Finance

Richard Fick  
 Tim Gutzwiller  
 Aaron Hackman  
 Bill Hahn  
 Sam Harris  
 Pam Kolzow

Doug Quinn  
 Sue Sreniawski  
 Richard Sutis  
 Mark Wolfgram  
 Tim Gavin, Treasurer

### ABC Devotions

Help yourself to an ABC Devotional to enhance your prayers and Bible study during the week. These devotionals, which include the weekly readings, are available in the tract carousel each week.

**The deadline for the April 28 Herald  
is Tuesday, April 23**

## Bible Studies at Bethany

### Savoring Sunday

### Adult Bible Class in the Gym at 10 a.m.

Have you ever had questions about a Bible reading on Sunday, but never remembered to explore it or ask a pastor? Join us each week in the gym as we continue our Bible study that unfolds the readings of the day, allowing us to dig deeper into the text, explore the Lord's promises unique to those readings and in short, savor Sunday. There is no class this Sunday

### Interested in Joining Bethany?

If you're interested in joining Bethany or learning more about the Lutheran faith, please contact Pastor Schumacher at [sschumacher@bethanylcs.org](mailto:sschumacher@bethanylcs.org) or Pastor Clemmer at [sclemmer@bethanylcs.org](mailto:sclemmer@bethanylcs.org) or call 630-355-2198 with questions.

### Sunday School for Children

All classes meet at 10 a.m. in our school wing and grade levels are marked on the doorways. We have Sunday School classes for preschoolers through grade 8. No Sunday School this Sunday.

### High School Bible Class Meets in the Youth Room

Bible Class for high school students meets in the youth room each Sunday. If you have questions or want more information contact Matt Carlson at [mcarlson@bethanylcs.org](mailto:mcarlson@bethanylcs.org). No class on Sunday

### Women's LifeLight Study Meets Wednesdays

Wednesday Morning Women's LifeLight is studying of the Gospel of John Part II. Please join us in the Harris Wing board room from 9 to 11 a.m. each Wednesday morning. Contact Sheri Walsh with questions at [ssmdw@wideopenwest.com](mailto:ssmdw@wideopenwest.com) or call or text 630-816-4647. Gospel of John Part II study books are available in the church office.

### Evening Lifelight Meets Thursdays: Studying the Book of Hebrews

The Thursday Evening Lifelight Bible Study meets with Pastor at church one week and in a home the next (7 p.m.) We are studying the Book of Hebrews. Join us for Bible study and fellowship. For more information, please call the church office.

### Saturday AM Men's Bible Breakfast Meets at 7:30 a.m.

All men of Bethany are invited to the Men's Bible Breakfast which meets on the first and third Saturday of each month from 7:30 to 9 a.m. We are studying Luther's Large Catechism.

### Bethany Lutheran Church & School

1550 Modaff Road Naperville, IL 60565  
 Church: (630) 355-2198 School: (630) 355-6607  
[www.bethanylcs.org](http://www.bethanylcs.org)

### Service Times

Saturday 5 p.m.

Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
 (Communion at all services)

Sunday worship is followed by Coffee Fellowship time. Sunday School, Adult and Youth Bible Study begin at 10 a.m.

**Nursery** The nursery is available as a cry room during worship services and during Bible Study hour. Our nursery is no longer staffed.