

April Calendar of Events

**April 13, 20, 27 at 11:15 am Adult Confirmation class
more information on page 6**

April 13 & 27, at 5:00 pm 6th, 7th, 8th grade Confirmation class

**April 25th, 8:30—5:00 & 26th, 8:30—1:00
Whitnall Park Friendship Circle
Rummage and Bake Sale**

*Please remember your non-perishables for the South Side
Pantry—the Feinsein foundation will match the amount*

May 3 Spring Clean Up at 8:00 am

**May 4 Bless the Years Sunday and Luther Manor Auxiliary
Drive**

May 8 Mother—Daughter Banquet



- Please bring non-perishable food for Hope House on Sundays.
- Please bring your aluminum cans and Campbell labels on the second Sunday, **April 13th , ONLY.**
- Dorcas Circle meets Tuesdays at 9:00 am.
- Knitting and Crocheting class meets Tuesdays at 1:00 pm in the library.
- Sunday School at 10:00 am—meets in church Sunday, April 13th.
- God's Young Voices—meets Wednesday evenings at 6:30 .
- Senior Choir meets every Wednesday at 7:30 pm.
- Health and Wellness meeting, Thursday, April 3rd, 7:00 pm
- Worship & Music meets Tuesday, April 1st, at 7:00 pm
- Ladies Aid meets Tuesday, April 9th at 11:30 am.
- OWLS meet on Thursday, April 10th , at 8:30 am at Forum Restaurant
- Property committee meeting Tuesday, April 8th, at 6:30 pm.
- Christian Education meeting Tuesday, April 8th, at 7:00 pm
- Women's Bible Study meets Thursday, April 17th, 7:00 pm.
- Friends meet Tuesday, April 29th at 9:30 am.
- Parish Nurse, Barb Estrada is here on Wednesday mornings but not April 16th she will be here on the Friday, April 18th of that week



Talking With Kids About Alcohol and Drugs

April is National Alcohol Awareness Month. This might be a good time to have a conversation with our kids (even grandkids, nieces and nephews) about alcohol and drug use if we have not done so already. The issue of drugs can be very confusing to young children. If drugs are so dangerous, then why is the family medicine cabinet full of them? And why do TV, movies, music and advertising often make drug and alcohol use look so cool? We need to help our children distinguish fact from fiction. And it's not too soon to begin. National studies show that the average age when a child first tries alcohol is 11; for marijuana, it's 12. Being curious or having questions about alcohol and drugs can start at even younger ages. Wow, that's scary!

To help prevent alcohol and drug abuse in children, it's a good idea to begin discussing the subject with kids at an early age and to continue openly communicating about it as they grow up. Children who have a very clear understanding of their parents' position on "no alcohol or other substance use" are more likely to refrain from experimenting with it. Therefore we need to have ongoing discussions and provide an atmosphere for dialogue early on.

According to an article in "Children Now" here are some ways to help children cope with peer pressure and making good choices regarding alcohol and drug use (including tobacco).

Role play how to say "no" – this helps your child come up with a few good responses when asked to join in with drinking.

Provide age-appropriate information – make sure the information that you offer fits the child's age and stage. Ask questions of your child to see what information they may already know, and clear up misconceptions about alcohol and drug use being "ok".

Establish a clear family position on alcohol and drugs – It's okay to say, "We don't allow any drug use and children in this family are not allowed to drink alcohol. The only time you can take any drugs is when the doctor or Mom or Dad gives you medicine when you're sick."

Be a good example – Your behavior needs to reflect your beliefs.

Discuss what makes a good friend – since peer pressure is so important when it comes to kid's involvement with drugs and alcohol, it makes good sense to talk with your children about what makes a good friend.

Repeat the message – information and lessons about drugs are important enough to repeat frequently. Be sure to answer your children's questions as often as they ask them and initiate conversation whenever the opportunity arises.

If you suspect a problem, seek help – pediatricians and school counselors are great resources.

Despite your efforts, your child may still use – and abuse – alcohol. Here are some common warning signs:

- The odor of alcohol
- Sudden change in mood or

attitude

- Change in attendance or performance at school
- Loss of interest in school, sports, or other activities
- Discipline problems at school
- Withdrawal from family and friends
- Secrecy
- Association with a new group of friends and reluctance to introduce them to you
- Alcohol disappearing from your home
- Depression and developmental difficulties

MEDICINE COLLECTION DAY

MMSD is again sponsoring a medicine collection day to collect old and unused medications for Milwaukee County residents to safely dispose of unneeded drugs. **Never flush or pour** unused medicine down the drain or toilet. The latest collection day will be held:

APRIL 19th, 2008

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at
Miller Park, Milwaukee, WI.
Miller lot by the
"sausage haus"

Please bring: Prescription medications and over the counter drugs, ointments, sprays, inhalers, creams, vials, and pet medications. Do not bring: Illegal drugs, biohazardous materials, needles/sharps, personal care items, or household hazardous waste. Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove all medicines from wastewater. Drugs are ending up in our lakes and rivers. Materials collected at the collection day are destroyed at a federally licensed incinerator. Ultimately this is the best way to destroy medications.

—Barb Estrada, PN,RN

Condensed Council minutes from , 2008

The first hour of our meeting was spent on a book study, reviewing Chapters 1-6 of "Healthy Congregations". Chapters 7-9 will be discussed next month.

Presentation by James Company

We were joined by Ron Labott and two representatives from the James Company, Fred Stoltz and Bob Conolly. The purpose of their visit was to talk about a new fund appeal for debt reduction. Brochures were distributed outlining the process that would be followed for a new fund appeal as well as the benefits of using the James Company to help with that process.

Emergency Church Closing

In light of the Ash Wednesday services being cancelled recently due to a severe snowstorm, there was some discussion of the proper procedure to follow in the event the church would need to close again due to an emergency. It was agreed that in the future, the Pastor will consult with the Council President and the Chairman of the Property Committee to determine if services/activities need to be cancelled. In the event of an emergency, the congregation will be directed to refer to the church website or WTMJ (Channel 4 or AM radio 6.20) for all information regarding cancellation of worship services or other church-related activities.

Mission Support for the Fredricksons

A member of the congregation has requested that the council consider supporting a "prayerful sponsorship" of the Fredrickson's missionary work in Japan. This would require a \$1,000 minimum donation and WPLC would need to sign a covenant agreement in order to get a personal visit and missionary update from the Fredricksons when they make their annual trip to the Milwaukee area. After much heartfelt discussion, the council deferred this decision to each household to support the Fredricksons as they see fit personally. Individual support at each family's discretion is the

best course of action and in the best interests of the health of WPLC.

New Membership Directory

Sandy Kestner has prepared a new "Member Directory" which provides useful information about the many different ministries that are a part of our congregation. Please review the material for any corrections/additions that need to be made. It is unclear at this time if a full list of congregational addresses and phone numbers will be included in this booklet.

Pastor's Report

Statistical report for February 2008: Two members added by baptism: Hannah Cotey and Madison Bainbridge.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 1st at 6:30 p.m. /begin with book study

NOTE #1: Council usually meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month – Date changed to avoid meeting during Holy Week or the week after Easter – many people out of town/school vacations.

NOTE 2: Invite confirmation students to join council at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29th.

NOTE #3: May Council meeting will remain at 7:00 p.m. on May 27th even though it is right after Memorial Day weekend. All council members confirmed this will not be a problem.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Rice, Church Council Secretary

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?" "Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life." The child thought about this for a moment, then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"

Mother Daughter Banquet
Thursday, May 8th—6:00 PM

Inviting All Women
Moms and Daughters
to a
Special Evening of
Food, Fun & Reflections

All ladies are welcome since you are
 all daughters...right?!

Adults: \$6; Children 5 thru 13: \$3; Under 5: Free

It will be an enjoyable evening with food, entertainment & celebration of all moms and daughters so please mark your calendars. More information coming ... look for updates in the Sunday bulletins and in the May Leaf.

WPLC Rummage & Bake Sale

Friday, April 25th 8:30—5:00

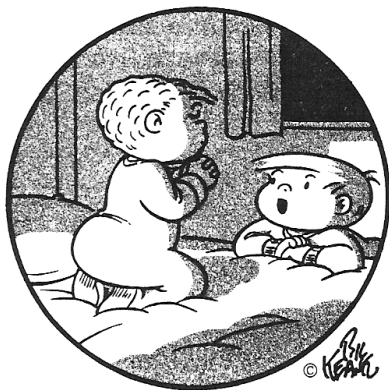
Saturday, April 26th 8:30—1:00

Your wonderful bakery items are needed!!

DROP OFF YOUR RUMMAGE ITEMS NO LATER
THAN TUES, APRIL 22nd

Check with your neighbors & friends—ask if
they would like to contribute!

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"I'm tellin' Mommy. You're goin'
 over her head."

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Easter Thanks...

Many, many thanks this Easter to Pat Suderland for her assistance in helping me with the Easter decorating and for the distribution of the Easter flowers. Heartfelt thanks to Gregg, Kyle, Kraig, & Karl Sorvick for their expertise in creating the cross of flowers once again this year. What a beautiful tradition we have in our cross of flowers which has continued now for sixty-six years. And, a big thank you to those who participate by providing the sanctuary with the beautiful plants. Christ is Risen...He is Risen Indeed...Alleluia! —Sharon Hause

Many Thanks—

Following the very meaningful noon Lenten worship. Soup and lunch was served in Hibbard Hall. The soup chefs were Jerrijo Coman, Dorothy Perkl, Audrey Grafwallner. Thanks to Karen Hedlof, Evelyn Klug, LuVerne Palmersheim, Marilyn Medeiros, Dolores Porath, Flo, for delicious treats. To Jim Shea for Jello in a beautiful glass. Thanks to all in attendance. We had a great group!
 —Audrey Grafwallner

Lenten Soup Suppers Update

Our Soup Suppers were once again warm and wonderful! Our attendance has gradually grown over the years and when we arrived at the 5th Wednesday, we were all disappointed they were over. Our free will offerings totaled \$180 and were donated to an appropriate Lenten need...the **ELCA Hunger Appeal**.

Deep appreciation is extended to Dorothy Nurse, Sharon Hause, Pat Suderland and Laurie Sorvick for making/donating the soup, to Evelyn Schubert for donating the homemade rolls, to others for their salads, side dishes, and desserts. Thank you—Thank you! —Sharon Hause

Mark your
calendars for
May 3rd, 8:00—

noon. It's been a
 long winter but

spring is just around the corner. Hopefully our big snow mound will be melted by this time so we can do some outside work. As always, energy food will be provided. See you there.

Property Committee



OUR CHURCH AT WORK

April Birthdays

- 1 Joyce Goetz
- Joshua Kopp
- Patricia Sparacino
- 2 Andrew Untiet
- 3 Karen Everts
- 5 Sidney Arthur
- Holly Loebel
- 10 Marilyn Medeiros
- 11 Donald Dowell
- Jennifer Just
- Troy King
- Briana Reisz
- 12 Mari Fredrickson
- 13 Elaine Johnson
- 14 Dwayne Harbort
- 15 Stuart Arthur
- Charles Schoenleber
- 16 Johanna Koralewski
- Patti Kowalski
- 17 Eric Wiza
- Kathryn Wiza
- Norman Zimmer
- 18 Marilyn Gustafson
- Melanie Saari
- William Senft
- 19 Pamela Dorenbos
- Van Johnson
- Ervin Kuglitsch
- 20 Mark King
- Marybelle Potter
- 23 Kaci Rouse
- 24 Michele Palmer
- Hunter Schubert
- 25 Shawn Ahles
- Scott Cole
- Ralph Llanas
- James Meier
- 26 Kaitlyn Martin
- Trista Mittelstaedt
- 27 June Steinke
- 30 Elwood Potter

April Anniversaries

- 1 Tony & Patti Kowalski
- 15 John & Jennifer Just
- 16 Lukas & Amanda Stone
- 17 Carl & Marilyn Medeiros
- 18 Henry & Betty Poehler
- 28 Robert & Lori Edmundson
- 30 Joseph & Amy Suchla

Attention new/prospective members of Whitnall Park Lutheran Church and any adults who have yet to be confirmed:

Your church leaders have heard your pleas and we are responding accordingly!!! The Spiritual and Educational leaders of WPLC are teaming up to present a four-week New Member/Adult Confirmation Class based on the booklet *Baptized We Live: Lutheranism as a Way of Life* by Dan Erlander. The classes will take place from **11:15-12:30** on the following Sunday's: **4/13, 4/20, 4/27 and 5/4**. Please sign-up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board so we can have an idea as to how many people to expect. God's Blessings as the journey continues.

High School Seniors' Scholarship Reminder...

If you are graduating from High School this year and if you are a member of Whitnall Park Lutheran Church and plan to attend a college, university, or trade school in Fall, you are eligible for a scholarship through the Whitnall Park Lutheran Endowment Fund. You need to submit an application to the Endowment Fund by April 15th. Applications and information are available from the church office.

PREACH ★ snack ★

No matter our age, we all have opportunities to "preach" by how we live. And everyone can tell about God and his love. Use this activity to raise money for your church's mission efforts.

What you need:

- Large bowl
 - Quart- or snack-size zippered baggies
 - Snacks that spell PREACH
- Suggestions include:
- P** = Pretzels
 - R** = Raisins
 - E** = Extra (add extra of your favorite snack)
 - A** = Almonds
 - C** = Chex cereal
 - H** = Honey Nut Cheerios
 - 8.5" x 5.5" paper (one sheet for each bag made)
 - Crayons or markers
 - Stapler
 - Stickers

What you do:

1. Mix all your "PREACH" ingredients in a bowl.
2. Fill baggies with the snacks.
3. Fold your paper in half. On one side, write the ingredient acrostic and a Bible verse. For example: "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation" (Mark 16:15, NIV).
4. On the other side, write a thank you to the snack's purchaser and mention which activity it's supporting.
5. Staple the paper to the baggie.
6. Decorate baggies with stickers.
7. With adult help, price the baggies and decide when and how to sell them. Afterward, deliver earnings to the appropriate people.

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!" While she was running and praying she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran, she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late. . . but please, don't shove me either!"

Social Ministry Update:



Bring those non-perishables all of April

because. . . . The Feinstein Foundation is offering a

Million Dollar Giveaway to fight hunger. This Million will be divided among hunger fighting agencies nationwide to help them raise funds and food donations during April.

For every pound of non-perishable food donated the Feinstein Foundation will make a \$1.00 matching donation. What can (get it) you do to help? Just make a special commitment to bring canned or packaged non-perishable food items on every Sunday in April. Deposit your contributions in food baskets provided in Hornburg Hall.

Souper Bowl report;

In February, church members gave 209 cans of soup on *Souper Bowl Sunday*. If that was accomplished on just one Sunday, just imagine what could be done on the four Sundays in April!!!

—Marilyn Schoenleber

2008 Walk A Mile In Her Shoes

The second annual **Walk A Mile In Her Shoes is on Sunday, May 4th**, at Marquette University. Registration begins at 9:30 A.M., the kickoff ceremony at 10:45 A.M., and the actual walk at 11:00 A.M. *Put yourself in her shoes.*

You cannot truly understand someone else's plight until you have walked a mile in his or her shoes. On May 4th you can turn words into action by participating in Walk A Mile In Her Shoes, which benefits the domestic violence programs of Jewish Family Services, Sojourner Truth House, and the Task Force on Family Violence. This unique march invites members of the community to walk a mile in women's shoes (optional) to raise awareness and funds for programs that help those affected by domestic violence and sexual assault.

Anyone wanting more information on the walk or wanting



Luther Manor News

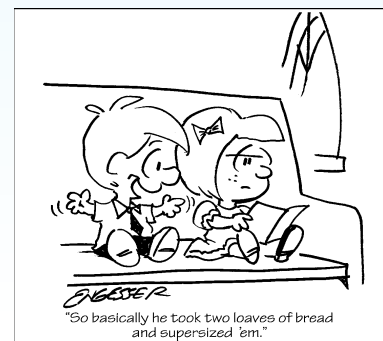
Yes, it's *THAT* time of the year again for the Luther Manor Auxiliary Membership Drive. I am pictured here from last September with granddaughters Joanna and Celia Stollenwerk who always help with anything for Luther Manor (they have baked their share of cookies and have made visits there to deliver them). We thought it best to move our Luther Manor program to coincide with the health & Wellness Committee's ***Bless The Year's Sunday on May 4th***. Linda Lueck will again be present to give us an update on the "*happenings*" at Luther Manor and Ron and I, along with Joanna and Celia will be available to collect your memberships.

We hope you would continue to support this valuable ministry that we have with Luther Manor. Auxiliary dues still remains at only \$2.00 for and annual membership, \$50 for a Sustaining Yearly Membership and \$300 for a Lifetime Membership payable in three payments. Because we have moved up the Auxiliary Membership Drive a few months you are welcome to join at any time until the beginning of October. We want to thank all who gave cookies this past year, 500 dozen, a record breaker and we are well on our way to that and maybe more. *Also, continue your donations of clothing and household items for the Den of Antiquity (resale shop).*

Hope you will continue to participate and support this important ministry.

Kathy Sonntag, Key Person

Ron Sonntag, Co-Worker



April 6

8:30 Assisting Minister **Linda Shea** Acolyte **Tyler Henneberry**
 Ushers **Ron Hause, Carl Hanson**
 Greeter **Ellen Dallmann**
 Altar Guild **Sandy Johnson**

10:00 Assisting Minister **Ron Labott** Acolyte **Alyssa Kaboskey**
 Ushers **Sid Arthur, Steve Mason, Ron Noeske**
 Greeter **Joan Maasz** Nursery **Kathy Ross**
 Altar Guild **Bernice King**

April 13 Communion at 8:30 Healing at both services. Sunday school meets in church

8:30 Assisting Minister **Lou Graef** Acolyte **Amber Martin**
 Ushers **John Hembrook, Dorothy Perkl, Jim Gaffney**
 Greeter **Audrey Grabarczyk**
 Altar Guild **Betty Mattice**

10:00 Assisting Minister **Kris Laposki** Acolyte **Melanie Saari**
 Ushers **Tom Laposki, Brian and Kristine Peyer**
 Greeter **Charlotte MacPherson** Nursery **Susan Schlueter**

April 20

8:30 Assisting Minister Acolyte **Andrew Schlueter**
 Ushers **Jim and Linda Shea**
 Greeter **June Jensen**
 Altar Guild **Evelyn Schubert**

10:00 Assisting Minister **Mike Sparacino** Acolyte **Maddison Underberg**
 Ushers **Larry Pfeil, Brian Martin, Jack King, Ron Noeske**
 Greeter **Kim Mason** Nursery **Jill Underberg**
 Altar Guild **Marilyn Medeiros**

April 27 Communion at 10:00

8:30 Assisting Minister **Jane Perkl** Acolyte **Jeffrey Johnson**
 Ushers **Ken Perkl, Don Jensen, Duane Hause, Dorothy Perkl**
 Greeter **Sharon Hause**

10:00 Assisting Minister **Ron Labott** Acolyte **Sarah Schlueter**
 Ushers **Tom Laposki, Larry Pfeil, Glenn Staub**
 Greeter **Pat Noeske** Nursery **Jessica Callahan**
 Altar Guild **Julie Anne Sorenson**

May 4 Bless the Years Sunday Luther Manor Auxiliary Drive

8:30 Assisting Minister Acolyte **Stacy Tikkanen**
 Ushers **Ron Hause, Carl Hanson**
 Greeter **Evelyn Klug**
 Altar Guild **Jerrijo Cowman**

10:00 Assisting Minister **Ron Labott** Acolyte **Georgi Llanas**
 Ushers **Sid Arthur, Steve Mason, Ron Noeske**
 Greeter **Nancy Sherman** Nursery **Tricia Henneberry**
 Altar Guild **Sandy Abraham**

A little girl was stand and observing her younger brother plant some seeds. She gave him this advice—*"If you want the seed to grow, you hafta say a prayer to your gardening angel"*.

**From M.E., Kelly Brown
Minister of Education**

Happy Spring!

We are quickly nearing the end of our Sunday school year, with our last day of Sunday school being May 18th.

Our **Sunday school mission project during this Lenten season, was to collect items for Hope House.** We will continue to **collect items through April 6th.** The congregation is welcome to contribute. Here is a list of suggested items:

shampoo and conditioner
soap
deodorant
toothpaste and toothbrushes
diapers
cleaning supplies
new adult blankets
new children's blankets
new children's books

In addition to the items listed, canned goods would also be appreciated.

Congratulations!! to Tyler Henneberry, Alyssa Kaboskey, Amber Martin, Melanie Saari, Andrew Schlueter, Sarah Schlueter, Maddison Underberg of the 5th grade class who received their first communion on Maundy Thursday, March 20th.

Reminders:

April 13th - children begin in church

May 11th - children begin in church, Mother's Day

May 18th - Last day of Sunday school

Sunday school teacher: "Do you remember your bible verse Charlie?"

Charlie: "Sure I do. I even remember the zip code. .
John 3:16



JUST 4 YOUTH!

The Youth Group will have a lock in on Friday, April 11th.

We will be serving for the coffee hour on Sunday, April 13th—Haley Just and Becky Brown are in charge of the treats and Graefs are in charge of juice.

Youth Group meeting is on April 20th at 7:00 pm. See you there!!!

April 2008

Whitnall Park Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<p><i>“Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face.” V. Hugo</i></p>		<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">1</p> <p>9:00 AM Dorcas 11:00 AM Pastor's Study 1:00 PM Knitting & Crocheting class 7:00 PM Council meeting 7:00 PM Worship & Music</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">2</p> <p>9:30 AM Parish Nurse 6:30 PM God's Young Voices 7:00 PM Endowment meeting 7:30 PM Senior Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">3</p> <p>7:00 PM Health & Wellness</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">4</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours Pastor's day off</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">5</p>	
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">6</p> <p>8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday school</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">7</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">8</p> <p>9:00 AM Dorcas 11:00 AM Pastor's Study 1:00 PM Knitting & Crocheting class 6:30 PM Property 7:00 PM Christian Ed</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">9</p> <p>9:30 AM Parish Nurse 11:30 AM Ladies Aid 6:30 PM God's Young Voices 7:30 PM Senior Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">10</p> <p>8:30 AM OWLS meet at the Forum Restaurant</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">11</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours Pastor's day off Youth Group Lock-in</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">12</p> <p>*Sunday school meets in church tomorrow</p>	
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">13</p> <p>8:30 AM Communion 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday school 11:15 AM Adult Confirmation class 5:00 PM 6th, 7th & 8th grade Confirmation Services with Healing</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">14</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">15</p> <p>9:00 AM Dorcas 11:00 AM Pastor's Study 1:00 PM Knitting & Crocheting class LEAF Articles due Scholarships are due</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">16</p> <p>6:30 PM God's Young Voices 7:30 PM Senior Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">17</p> <p>7:00 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">18</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours 9:30 AM Parish Nurse Pastor's day off</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">19</p>	
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">20</p> <p>8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday school 11:15 AM Adult Confirmation class 7:00 PM Youth Group Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">21</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">22</p> <p>9:00 AM Dorcas 11:00 AM Pastor's Study 1:00 PM Knitting & Crocheting class</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">23</p> <p>9:30 AM Parish Nurse 6:30 PM God's Young Voices 7:30 PM Senior Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">24</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">25</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours 4:00 PM Wedding Rehearsal Pastor's day off</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">26</p> <p>4:30 PM Wedding Heins/Moore</p>	
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">27</p> <p>8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Communion 10:00 AM Sunday school 11:15 AM Adult Confirmation class 5:00 PM 6th, 7th & 8th grade Confirmation</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">28</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">29</p> <p>9:00 AM Dorcas 9:30 AM Friends 11:00 AM Pastor's Study 1:00 PM Knitting & Crocheting class 6:30 PM Council meets</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;">30</p> <p>9:30 AM Parish Nurse 6:30 PM God's Young Voices 7:30 PM Senior Choir</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">8:30 AM RUMMAGE SALE</div>			<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em;"><i>God knows how stressful life is; He wants to ease our cares, And He'll respond to all your needs A.S.A.P. <u>A</u>lways <u>S</u>ay <u>A</u> <u>P</u>rayer</i></p>



Dear Brother's and Sister's in Christ,

It never ceases to amaze me just how God works in our lives. There's always something unexpected and surprising to look forward to on our journey with Christ. A few weeks ago, I had come across an article that highlighted how the Christian Church equates the exact date on which Easter will fall every year. The article went on to discuss the rarity of Jesus' resurrection celebration being so early this year and the fact that it can only come one day earlier according to the calendar.

The surprising thing about all this is that I had thought that this information would make for an interesting newsletter article, but when I went to retrieve it, I couldn't find it. So, I just went about my business, but had the hunt for this article in the back of my mind. Then a few days ago, one of our church members stopped by the office, handed me a piece of paper and said, "I saw this and thought you might find it interesting." You guessed it...it was the article I was looking for!

I hope you find this as fascinating as I did:

As the calendar flips over to March, take a minute to contemplate this: This Easter, on the 23rd, will be the earliest Easter in the entire lifetimes of everyone living on the planet today.

In fact, it's the earliest for any year in the 250 years between 1875 and 2124. It is matched only by Easter in 1913 - 95 years ago. So, for a few of our oldest neighbors, this will actually be the second time they've enjoyed an Easter this early.

Under the ecclesiastical rules set centuries ago by the Roman Catholic Church, Easter can fall anywhere between Mar. 22 and April 25, according to calculations of M.J. Montes. But some dates crop up on the list more frequently than others.

For example, in all of those 250 years, Easter never occurs on Mar. 22 - the earliest date possible. It occurs only once on Mar. 24. That was in 1940 - the rarest Easter date of them all in that quarter-millennium. Easter falls on Mar. 23 only twice (in 1913 and 2008) and just twice on April 24 (in 2011 and 2095). All the rest are more common than this year's Easter date.

The most common dates for Easter between 1875 and 2124? Those would be April 10 and April 17 - with 11 Easters each on those dates. So what are the rules for setting the dates for Easter?

The shorthand answer has always been that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Vernal Equinox. This year, the Equinox occurs on Mar. 20, the moon is full on the 21st, and so Easter lands on the 23rd.

May the peace of the Risen Christ be with you all this Easter Season and beyond,
Pastor Michael