



April 2022

"Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes." Isaiah 5:1-2

Every year Grandma and Grandpa Barlau would start the ritual all over again. The garden would be tilled. The pristine black dirt readied so that it could be carved into gridlines and rows for planting potatoes, onions, beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, and melons. I loved planting and tending the garden. Grandpa and grandma sure appreciated the young back and knees I had for planting. I thought garden looked perfect on the day of planting. Why? There were no weeds to be found inside a freshly tilled garden.

Today, I am not so young as a once was. However, I have a garden freshly tilled ready for planting. I also have "home grown" young knees and backs waiting to plant and tend the perfect garden.

Sadly, like every year the perfect garden is ruined after time passes—Weeds—those pesky weeds! I remember, every now and then, Grandpa would exclaim out loud in the direction of Grandma—"O Eve, if you hadn't bit that apple!" Weeds are a sad reality, because they are a tangible reminder that both Adam and Eve fell head long into sin and with sin there are bound to be curses because of it. Grandpa would have to be on top of those weeds, before they overtook the garden and its fruits.

The prophet Isaiah shares God's vision of a vineyard—a garden—he provided everything that is necessary for a bountiful crop, but after time passed God did not find a bountiful crop but a "wild" crop. This was God calling Israel to repentance. He had brought them into the promised land and gave them prosperity and peace. The people responded with great outbursts of sin.

Any garden is not cared for will become so infested with weeds that it will be hard to distinguish what is a desirable plant with what is a weed. Likewise, when the garden of our hearts is not tended by God our hearts become infested with the "weeds" of sin. They're the roots of bitterness, envy, malice. Eventually if these weeds are not removed, they will choke and kill faith.

"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart." Hebrews 4:12

Thanks be to God that Jesus sends the Holy Spirit. He calls, gathers, enlightens, and keeps us in the one true faith. As he works in our lives, through God's Word and Sacrament, he produces in us a "new" heart of faith that produces the fruits of the Spirit.

"The works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." Galatians 5:19-23

I leave you with this beautiful prayer, written by Shelly Schwalm, in the current "Lutheran Life" magazine. It is going to be hanging on my wall soon:

"God of Creation, All creation sings Your praise and tells of Your glory. As I sit in this garden and tug up these weeds, I know my heart needs weeding like this overgrown plot. I confess my sins to You. As I uproot what invades the ground, uproot selfishness in my heart. Pull up the weeds of pride and judgment. Pull up the weeds of needing to be liked. Pull up the weeds of snark and complaining. Pull up the weeds of comparison and envy. Pull up the weeds of being harsh and hurried. Pull up the weeds of insecurity and isolation. Pull up the weeds where my love has lacked. Pull up the weeds in me, Lord, as my hands tug at these unruly roots. Let only the fruit of the Spirit bloom in this place. That the seeds of life from You, O Christ, would take root and grow as a tested tree, beautiful, steady, and pointing to the goodness of its Maker. Amen"

**FAITH LUTHERAN'S
LENTEN MIDWEEK & HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

4/6 MIDWEEK OF LENT 5, 6:30P.M.

"WORLDLY EYES"

4/14 HOLY THURSDAY, 6:30P.M.

"MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE"

4/15 GOOD FRIDAY, 6:30P.M.

"GOD'S EYES"

4/16 EASTER VIGIL, 6:30P.M.

"RESTING EYES"

4/17 EASTER SUNDAY

"ANGEL EYES"

7AM EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

8:15AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL & EASTER EGG HUNT

9:15AM THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION SERVICE


"FIXING OUR EYES"



The LWML ladies will meet for Bible Study and a short meeting Sunday April 3 at 3 o'clock at the church. Everyone is welcome. During the month of April we will be collecting new children and adult socks plus children's underwear for foster children. We continue to collect Happy Kits for Children's Mercy Hospital. Thank you to all for contributing!


Easter Lily Sign-ups—We have a sign-up sheet on the back cabinet for Easter Lilies. Easter Lily donation of \$10 can be given "to the glory of God" or "in memory of a loved one" and names will be listed in the Easter Sunday worship bulletin. Checks can be made to Faith Lutheran. Please put "Easter Lily" in the memo line. All are encouraged to participate!

Easter Candy Donation Sign-ups—If you would like to donate money for candy for the Easter Egg hunt, please place your donations in the basket on the back cabinet.

 ****Men of Faith - Saturday, April 2nd, 8am**, Men of Faith will meet in the church basement for breakfast/fellowship.

Palm Sunday Breakfast—April 10th 7:30 - 8:30—Men of Faith will be serving pancakes, sausage, juice, and coffee before worship service on Palm Sunday April 10th. Please join us as we prepare for Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

Dedication of the Life of Christ Artwork—On Palm Sunday, April 10th we give thanks to God for the beauty of art, the proclamation of the Gospel, and those who have God before us that made such a gift possible. To God be the glory!

 **District Eat & Play**—On May 15th LYF will be traveling to Salina to go to District Eat & Play. The cost will be \$10 per person for youth 10 & up. Sign-ups will be on the back cabinet. Bring a friend!

 **Fellowship Breakfast** - Joe Snuffy's, **Thursday, April 14th, 8:30 am**. sign-up on the parament cabinet.

Proclaiming the Resurrection—Next Sunday Morning's Bible Study

Men of Faith—will provide chapel service and help serve dinner at the Salina Rescue Mission on Tuesday, April 19th at 6:00 pm. Talk to Chris Bielefeld if interested.



Women's Book Club - Book club will meet at the church on Sunday, April 24th at 3:00pm. Discussion will be on Sarah Baughman's, "A Flame in the Dark: A Novel about Luther's Reformation."



Faith Lutheran has a 'prayer chain.' If you would like to be added as a caller to the prayer chain, please speak with Kathy. To begin a prayer request call Kathy Minneman (785-819-2167) or Pastor Barlau (785-263-1842).



1st & 2nd Samuel Bible Study—the class will meet on Tuesdays @ 2 p.m. at the Abilene Senior Center.

April Anniversaries

Dennis & Kathy Minnerman 4-5-1986 Timothy & Tiffany Rahe 4-30-2005
 Alan & Kaye Ostermann 4-10-1971

- 1 - Scott Minneman
- 4 - Gary Stuart
- 5 - Megan Bielefeld
- 6 - George Taplin
- 7 - Josh Chewing
Sarah Sulanka
- 10 - Anna Barlau
- 12 - Monnica Westendorf
- 13 - Katie Jenne
Abraham Foster



- 15 - Jamie Hayes
- 19 - Norman Schmidt
Frank Taplin
- 20 - Randy Soliday
- 21 - Heather Savery
- 26 - Donna Ascher
Joe Rippert
Heide Rippert
- 30 - Jeanie Cameron



FAITHful SERVANTS for the month of April 2022



Elder: G. Minson

Organist: B. Schwab

Altar Guild: S. Bowers & Tiffany Rahe

Church Service	Acolytes	Lectors	Ushers
Sunday, April 3 - 9:00 am	Maddi	K. Horsfall	K. Bowers & C. Bielefeld
Sunday, April 10 - 9:00 am	Jackson & Rebekah	J. Kuntz	M. Aufdemberge & K. Horsfall
Sunday, April 17 - 7:15 am	Rebekah, & Gabriel	Tom Rahe	R. Sanders & C. Bielefeld
Sunday, April 17 - 9:15 am	Jackson & Maddi		
Sunday, April 24 - 9:00 am	Jackson & Gabriel	Tim Rahe	R. Hayes & K. Bowers

NOTE: A master assignment list reflecting any changes will be posted in the upstairs office/cry room.

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 8 am Men of Faith Breakfast
3 5th Sunday in Lent 9 am Worship w/Lord's Supper 10:15am Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 3:00pm LWML at church	4 6:00pm Elder's Meeting	5 1 st & 2 nd Samuel Bible Study 2 pm at Abilene Senior Center	6 5:30pm Midweek 4 th -5 th grade & 6 th -7 th grade 6:30pm Lent Worship	7 6:30/7 pm Council/Boards	8	9
10 Palm Sunday 7:30-8:30am Palm Sunday Breakfast by Men of Faith 9am Worship w/Lord's Supper 10:15am Sunday School/Adult Bible Study	11	12 1 st & 2 nd Samuel Bible Study 2 pm at Abilene Senior Center	13 5:30pm Midweek 4 th -5 th grade & 6 th -7 th grade	14 <i>Holy Maundy Thursday</i> 8:30am Fellowship Breakfast 6:30 Worship	15 <i>Good Friday</i> 6:30 Worship	16 <i>Holy Saturday</i> 6:30 Worship
17 Easter Sunday/Resurrection of our Lord 7 am Easter Sunrise Service 8:15am Adult Sunday School & Easter Egg Hunt 9:15 am The Feast of the Resurrection Service	18	19 6pm Men of Faith Chapel Service @ Salina Rescue Mission	20 5:30pm Midweek 4 th -5 th grade & 6 th -7 th grade 6:30pm Worship w/ Lord's Supper	21	22	23
24 2nd Sunday of Easter 9 am Worship w/Lord's Supper 10:15am Quarterly Voter's Meeting 3 pm Book club at church	25	26 1 st & 2 nd Samuel Bible Study 2 pm at Abilene Senior Center	27 5:30pm Midweek 4 th -5 th grade & 6 th -7 th grade 6:30pm Worship w/ Lord's Supper	28	29	30