

April, 2021

Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ,

Browsing through the store at Cracker Barrel this past week, I happened to come across a child's dress that reminded me of one that I had one Easter as a child. It seems that growing up in the 60's that it was the practice to be able to purchase a new dress for Easter, complete with new white patent leather shoes, a bonnet and one year even a small white patent leather purse. The purchase of such items indicated that Easter was special, and we needed to look our best. It seemed to bring about a sense of excitement and newness! I felt special on Easter morning as we went to church (Of course, my parents were C & E'ers - so going to church any time WAS special).

I highly doubt that on the very first Easter, that the women who went to the tomb were concerned about how they were dressed as they went in the early dawn hours to dress Jesus' dead body. What began as a day of preparation for a proper burial for Jesus, turned out to be anything but that.

Their lives changed forever that day as they tried to figure out through a roller coaster of emotions what had happened. What did it mean to find an empty tomb? Where was Jesus? Conversations replayed in their minds as they attempted to make sense of the events, especially from the past week. We do that too when loved ones die, especially unexpectedly.

In our liturgy, we recall what happened on that first Easter morning when we proclaim, "Christ has died. Christ is risen! Christ will come again!" The women and the rest of the disciples realized that Jesus' proclamation of his death and resurrection came true.

Christ has died...but his death was not the end. Jesus overcame death to rise from the grave so you will have eternal life. And then, Jesus ascended to the right hand of God. Just like the women who went to Jesus' tomb on that first Easter, we too wait for his coming again.

Until Jesus returns, you and I are called to new life, dressed not in the clothing that we purchase for Easter, but dressed in the new life given to us! New life that brings hope to our life and our world! New life that says as a child of God you ARE special!

Wherever you may be this Easter, I hope that you will join us for worship (Livestream) and recall the death and resurrection of our Lord and it's meaning of new life for you!

Christ has died! Christ is Risen! Christ will come again! Alleluia!

A Blessed Easter to you and your loved ones!

Pastor Dody

(Please check the calendar on pg. 2 for times of worship services. I look forward to seeing you in church!)

Please note: Pr. Dody is on vacation April 11th - 18th. In the event of a pastoral emergency please call the church office for contact info.

CHURCH COUNCIL

2021 Members

Doug Clark, *President*
Julie Williams, *Vice Pres.*
Ingrid Martz, *Secretary*
Karen Boardman
Andrew Grim
Ken Gross
Dan Heckman
Erin Klotz (youth rep)
Donna Stark
Jeff Steiner
John Weremedic

Jordan Lutheran Church

Office Hrs. M-F, 9:00-4:00

CONTACT INFO

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STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Dody S. Siegfried
Administrator: Monica Unangst
Christian Ed.: Jamie Edelman
Organist: Susan Hartney
Asst Organist: Janice Kistler
Inc/Exp Coord: Barbara Carinci
Bell Choirs: Susan Hartney
Canon Choir: Janice Kistler
Cherub Choir: Marlene Peters
Sexton: Ann Kline

DEADLINES

Newsletter – 15th of the month
prior to publication
Bulletin – 10 a.m. Thursdays

HOSPITAL CODE

256

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm/Passion Sunday (3/28) (livestream)
9:15 am – Live-streamed Worship Service w/Communion
Reading of the Passion according to St. Mark
10:15 – 11:00 – Drive-thru Communion

Maundy Thursday Service, 4/1, 6:00 p.m. (livestream)
7-7:30 Drive-thru Communion

Good Friday (Tenebrae) Service, 4/2, 7:00 p.m. (livestream)

The Resurrection of Our Lord (4/4) (livestream)
9:15 am – Live-streamed Worship Service w/Communion
10:15 – 11:00 – Drive-thru Communion

Second Sunday of Easter (4/11)*
9:15 am – Worship in the Family Center

Third Sunday of Easter (4/18)*
9:15 am – Worship in the Family Center

Fourth Sunday of Easter (4/25)*
9:15 am – Worship in the Family Center

**Live-Streaming of Worship Services and Drive-thru
Communion will continue when we are back in person*

Reminder for Holy Week: Out of deference to Holy Week, its sacredness and importance to the life of Jordan Lutheran Church as a community of faith, we humbly request your participation in honoring this most holy time and your support for the additional programming of religious activity in our congregation by not holding meetings during that week or finding alternative meeting arrangements.

2021 SPONSORSHIPS

All sponsorships have been temporarily suspended until we are back to live worship. Thanks for understanding!

HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIPS: Contact Donna Hahn at 610-395-0613 or dhahn16@gmail.com with your choice of dates(s) and sponsorships(s). **Please indicate when reserving your date whether you wish to pick up the flowers after the 9:15 service or want them taken to shut-ins.** If no preference is given, flowers will be taken to shut-ins.

Altar flowers are \$40. Bulletins are \$20. Checks may be made payable to JELC and either mailed or dropped in the offering plate.

SPONSORSHIP POLICY: Flowers and other sponsorships may be reserved no earlier than one year from the chosen date. If you wish to reserve the same weekend for the following year, you may do so the day after the current year's sponsorship. No dates will be held; the first request for a date (within the one year limit) will be taken regardless of the previous year's sponsor.



I'm not sure there are any words to express what the love, encouragement and support of my Jordan friends have meant to me over the last few weeks. So many things happened at once, so many emotions and things to be dealt with, it was overwhelming. Reading your cards was truly the bright spot in each day! Just knowing you took the time to write a few encouraging, comforting words meant so much. And your words themselves were so full of faith and hope and encouragement! The flowers that were sent to me were absolutely beautiful and just seeing them was a moment of beauty at a difficult time.

I am so happy to be back to work, and I'm getting better and better every day. As much as I credit the wonderful doctors, nurses and everyone at LVHN for my recovery, I must also credit my friends and family and all of you for the prayers that made all the difference. I felt God's presence constantly. And I am comforted knowing my mom is now living her joyous new life in Christ, the life that she wholeheartedly believed awaited her.

With my sincere thanks and affection,
Monica

Carol Kuhns sends her appreciation for the cards and calls she received during a recent health issue. The care of the congregation always makes a heavy burden lighter!

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

After careful consideration, together with the recommendation of the Relaunch Committee, Church Council has decided to **return to in-person worship on Sunday, April 11th, at 9:15 a.m. in the Family Center. Sunday School will also be in person at 10:15 a.m.**

All covid precautions will continue (masks required, distancing, taking attendance, etc.) until further notice. For those who choose to remain at home, we will continue to livestream worship.

We look forward to worshipping together again!



“Could it be true?? **Indeed, it is!** We **will** be holding our 4 F Celebration at Lone Lane Park, at 9:15 AM, on June 13th! The Outdoor Service followed by a prepared luncheon will promote **Faith, Family, Fellowship and Fun** while supporting the current safety recommendations. Stayed tuned for exciting details and be sure to mark your calendar. See all then!!”

Council Highlights - March 11, 2021

Approved February 11, 2021 minutes and March 11, 2021 meeting agenda.

Correspondence - Text Message from Monica in appreciation and gratitude for the condolence flowers sent on behalf of the congregation upon her mom's death.

Staff reports:

Pastor's Report - (written)

- Words of appreciation to exec comm for their support during Monica's absence.
- First Communion Class - two students to receive on Palm Sunday.

CE & Youth - no report submitted.

The following committees provided reports:

Technology - Continue to look for assistance to help Livestream worship services.

- Looking into info to update phone service that will no longer be supported by current provider.

Property - received quotes to paint social Hall and brickote steeple. Needed clarification before accepting.

Outreach - Review of past years Outreach ministries done despite covid.

Family Center - 2 teams requesting usage. Put on hold until F. C. no longer needed for worship.

Christian Education - Sunday will return in person April 11th.

- Confirmation will be held May 23rd with two students being confirmed.
- VBS being planned. More info to come.

Finance - Balance for February 2021 was a deficit of \$9,839 and YTD deficit of \$13,925.

- Looking internally for members to serve on audit committee, otherwise will need to go to an outside firm was done in 2019.
- Treasurer needed. Must be congregational member.

Re-Launch - Recommendation to return to in person worship April 11th in Family Center. MSP

- HB Engineers to meet with T. D. and K. M. to discuss mechanical ventilation for sanctuary.

Stewardship - Prayer Partners under way with 20 people participating.

- Encourage committees to share at meetings God Sighting in their life.

For the Good of the Body/Comments/Concerns:

- Received funds from Evelyn Grammes estate.
- Status of Dir of CE position discussed.

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next regular council meeting will be **Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom**. All council meetings are an open meeting and members are invited to attend.



On Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021, **Braydon Epting** and **Landon Epting** received first holy communion. We congratulate them and hope and pray that the goodness of the Lord be upon them each day. May the Lord bless each of you always.

EASTER Blessings

April 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1  Maundy Thursday SERVICE 6:00 pm Livestream 7-7:30 Drive-thru Communion	2  Good Friday 7:00 pm Livestream	3
4  CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY! 9:15 WORSHIP Livestream <i>10:15-11:00 Drive thru communion</i> 6:30-New Beginnings	5 6:30-Jordaniers 7:00-Boy Scouts	6 7:00-ReLaunch Mtg.	7 9:30am-Staff Mtg. 5:30-Jr. Gyros 6:15-Friendship Ringers	8 7:00-Church Council (virtual)	9	10
11 9:15 WORSHIP (in the Family Center) 10:15 Sunday School 2:00-ROAD RALLY 6:30-New Beginnings	12 6:30-Jordaniers 7:00-Boy Scouts <i>Pantry 9-10 am</i>	13 7:00-4F Meeting	14 5:30-Jr. Gyros 6:15-Friendship Ringers	15	16	17
18 9:15 WORSHIP (in the Family Center) 10:15 Sunday School 10:30 Mini Conf. Ret. 11:30 – Prayer Partner Reveal! 6:30-New Beginnings	19 6:30-Jordaniers 7:00-Boy Scouts	20 7:00-Endowment Inv. (virtual)	21 5:30-Jr. Gyros 6:15-Friendship Ringers	22	23	24
25 9:15 WORSHIP (in the Family Center) 10:15 Sunday School 6:30-New Beginnings	26 6:30-Jordaniers 7:00-Boy Scouts	27 4:00-Chris. Ed. mtg.	28 5:30-Jr. Gyros 6:15-Friendship Ringers	29	30	

Beginning April 11th, Worship Services will take place in person at 9:15 a.m. in the Family Center. We will continue to livestream and drive-thru communion will be available on communion Sundays.



Welcome to our newest members of Church Council!

Thank you to all our Church Council members for helping to see that Jordan fulfills its mission, vision, and values. You have spent time in meetings, evaluating our resources and ensuring that we are being responsible stewards of the gifts we've been given, taking the needed steps to address and resolve issues in a way that keeps Christ at the center of it all. We appreciate all you do!

Erin Klotz is an 11th-grade student at Lehigh Career and Technical Institute in the Exercise Science and Rehabilitation lab. She will be representing the youth of our congregation. Erin plans to attend LCCC to obtain her Associate's Degree in Nursing. She was baptized and has been a member of Jordan since 2003. Erin has been involved in many activities at Jordan, including Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Youth Group and has attended the Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas, and Bear Creek camp. She is the daughter of Tammy Klotz and Reed Klotz. As youth representative, Erin hopes to learn more about how Jordan is run and hopes to have a positive impact on the church council. She looks forward to being a part of the council and getting to know of the people within our church.

Ingrid Martz Hello friends,

I don't know about you, but it feels a little curious to me to write a bio to introduce myself to the congregation of Jordan. But it's a curious world isn't it? So here we go.... Not quite half a century ago, in the middle of a crisp and refreshing August, I came storming into the world in the sweet southern state of Missouri...which may actually explain my deep and abiding love for air-conditioning and snow! Let's fast forward into present day life - here I am in Orefield surrounded everyday by my most favorite people - my family. I consider myself and our family very lucky to live in a multi-generational household that is made up of my husband Matt and I, Gracie, Sawyer, and my mom Ulla. Besides the humans that live here, we have our cats, fish, and chickens along with fairly regular foster animals we care for through The Sanctuary at Haafsville. And by the time you are reading this, we may have our new baby chicks chirping away in the brooder.

So...what can I share about me?

Here at Jordan, I get to see the smiles of our congregations kiddos each week with Sunday School, help with Christian Education Committee, ring with the handbell choir and occasionally thwart the video crew in the balcony by being strategically placed behind a column, am the co-coordinator for Family Promise, serve on Altar Guild, have helped with the SAT, try to not let my voice shake when I lector, and pre-covid I helped with organizing volunteers for funeral luncheons as well as helped with organizing the Soup & Salad dinners in the Lenten season. I'll tell you, those Soup & Salad dinners are something to experience and are something we as a family really miss...no one will be hungry on those nights - or for days to come with the leftovers...and the cooking & baking that happens...wow! Jordan has got it going on!

Outside of Jordan, you'll often find me in our kitchen, garden, or on the deck. I love cooking and trying new foods and recipes. Before I got married, I took a sabbatical from work and road tripped by myself down and up the east coast as well as taking an international cooking course through the Culinary Institute of America...those were some amazing weeks learning from chefs across Austria and Italy. If I go to a market that is of an ethnicity I'm not too familiar with, my family can vouch for the fact that I am 100% coming home with a whole bunch of foods/produce that we've never heard of or had before. And I'll tell you something, we have made some of the most wonderful discoveries this way. Matt will be the first one to tell you that most recipes I use are used as a starting point...and we'll see what happens along the way. When I'm driving and I have the time, I will on occasion take that road(s) that I am not familiar with and see where I end up...I usually end up pleasantly surprised. I do a lot of preserving and canning and am proud of what I have learned from my parents and what I am able to put up on the shelves. When time and energy come together perfectly, I can get fully absorbed in what I call sarcastic embroidery...but that is a story for another day. And although I am that person who has loved every single snowflake that has fallen this winter, I'm also greatly looking forward to putting up our hammock and getting lost in a book while being surrounded by the quiet of the outdoors...as well as hanging out at night around a campfire.

Jeff Steiner began his term on church council in 2021. He is a senior accountant at Weldship Corporation in Bethlehem, where he administers payroll and manages the company 401k plan, among other duties. He is a baptized and confirmed, lifelong Lutheran from Coplay. He graduated from Whitehall High School and Muhlenberg College and has been a Jordan member since 2000. He is currently a member and treasurer of the Endowment Disbursement Committee. He is looking forward to serving and appreciates the trust the congregation has shown in him. He's hoping to meet more members, especially those who attend the 8:00 service, since he traditionally has attended 10:30.

John Weremedic is one of the long-term serving members of the Council. He has been a member of Jordan Lutheran since 1980. He was a Sunday School teacher for many years and has served on many church committees, including Finance and Outreach. John is a retired drafting mechanical designer. He is a graduate of Penn State in business management and liberal arts. He is an active member of the Slatedale-Emerald Area Lions Club. Also, John has the privilege to be the caretaker for his mother. With a positive attitude for today's uncertain situations, he's looking forward to working with his fellow council members to make a difference in the coming years.

From Our Organist...

Spring is here! Our daylight hours are longer and temperatures become warmer with each passing day. The stark beauty of snow framed by grey skies and bare branches have given way to the brilliance of greening grass, the silvery baby leaves on trees, and the vibrant colors of crocus, hyacinths, tulips, and daffodils. From the dead of winter we experience a time of rebirth and growth, one that is similar to progressing through the penitential season of Lent to the joy of Easter.

One hymn that beautifully describes this journey is "Now the Green Blade Rises," hymn number 379 in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*:

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been; love is come again like wheat arising green.

In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain, thinking that he would never wake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen, love is come again like wheat arising green.



Forth he came at Easter like the risen grain, he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen; love is come again like wheat arising green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been; love is come again like wheat arising green.

The tune of this hymn is "Noël nouvelet," a French carol by an unknown composer, which translates something like "new little nativity". The Christmas text to this tune begins "Sing we now of Christmas." It is interesting that an Easter text is set to a traditional French Christmas carol perhaps a conscious choice to chronicle the life of Jesus from his birth to death to resurrection.

The writer of the text is John MacLeod Campbell Crum (1872 – 1958). He was born in England and was an Anglican theologian and poet who served in British churches, concluding his career as the canon of the Canterbury Cathedral. "Now the Green Blade Rises" is his most famous hymn.

"Love is come again like wheat arising green." I pray that this Easter be a new birth for us all! Have a happy, blessed Easter!



MAKE A CALL ~ PAY A VISIT ~ SEND A CARD ~ SAY A PRAYER

Fellowship Manor: Florence Roth

Manor Care: Mary Ann Rau

Lehigh Commons: Barbara Diehl

Village of Palmerton: Ferne Rock

Home: Margaret Smith, Olive Wood, Warren Gressley, George Hein, Loretta Hein

Remember these folks who are ill: Dorothy Diehl, Shirley Hamm, Clark Snyder, Lois Heisler, Louise Quaintance, Theresa Hedrick, Reed Klotz, Christopher Fish, Karl Miller, Dave Mancke, Darlene Wenhold, Gary Schneck, Rosaria Stroop, Larry Wertman, Clint Trumbauer, Lois Gennaria, Herman Snyder, McKenna



- 3: Elaine Toth
- 4: Amy Wikert
- 6: Sharon Harrier, David Ludwig, David Mancke, Gary Strobl
- 7: Sydney Cole, Kurt Posegay
- 8: Michele Wagaman, Shirley Wertman
- 9: Gilbert Keller, Emily Krueger, Carol Rabenold, Patricia Rotz
- 10: Jessica Friday
- 11: Laura Peters, Dawn Stoudt
- 13: Jeffrey Toth, Melanie Welsh-Bosler
- 14: Ronald Hamm, Kelly Ward
- 15: Neil Snyder
- 16: Ted DuBois
- 17: Alan Rotz, Pr. Dody Siegfried
- 19: Kyle Heston
- 21: Jill Branch, David Rabenold
- 22: Raymond Suhocki
- 23: Debra Barr, Helene Quaintance, Thomas Szczepanski, Grace Tom
- 24: Katelyn Cole
- 25: Thomas Berdahl, Morgan Heller, Carole Herman
- 26: Katie Halloran
- 28: Summer Kozy
- 29: Brayden Christianson, Jim Siegfried



APRIL Anniversaries

- April 15, 1961: Jean & Dave Adam
- April 17, 1971: Phyllis & William German
- April 10, 1976: Patricia & Alan Rotz
- April 11, 1981: Judy & Kevin Murphy
- April 16, 1983: Kathleen & David Kerr
- April 30, 1983: Kitty & Harry Tom
- April 11, 1987: Donna & Dan Stark
- April 21, 1996: Janet & Howard Stettler
- April 30, 1998: Andrea & Matt Russell
- April 6, 2002: Karen & Obie Freitag
- April 30, 2005: Carole & Michael Herman

With Heartfelt
Sympathy

Arlene R. Miller, 96 – d. Feb 5, 2021. Services Feb 11, 2021.

Caroline M. Dorney, 91 - d. March 14, 2021. Services - March 18, 2021.