



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

BROADWAY AT FLOREY KILGORE, TEXAS

Mission Statement: Pilgrim Lutheran Church is to glorify God in proclaiming the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ with Word and deed in our midst, in our community, and throughout the world.

APRIL NEWSLETTER 2012

We are baptized into Christ's resurrection

Dear Members and Friends of Pilgrim Lutheran Church,

Though we spend the beginning of April in Holy Week wrapping up our 40-day Lenten fast, we spend the majority of the month beginning and continuing our 50-day celebration of our Lord's Resurrection! Since His resurrection means so much to us, and since we are connected to it by way of baptism, I thought we would do well to here consider both our Lord's Resurrection's impact on us and Holy Baptism as our link to that resurrection.

We certainly believe, teach, and confess with the Second Article of the Apostolic Creed that on the third day Jesus Christ rose again from the dead. (The "again" there is not because He had risen from the dead *before* but because the specific Greek and Latin words used for the resurrection convey the "again" sense; perhaps we might think of Jesus's "standing" again after being dead.) While The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther in his *Small Catechism* explanation to the Second Article does not specifically mention the resurrection, those of us who were catechized according to the Synod's "An Explanation of the Small Catechism" likely learned reasons why Christ's resurrection is so important and so comforting.

The "Explanation" teaches that Christ's resurrection proves four things, and it offers various Bible passages as support. First, Christ's resurrection proves that He is the Son of God (Romans 1:4). Second, His resurrection proves that His doctrine is the truth (John 2:19; 8:28). Third, the resurrection proves that God the Father accepted Christ's sacrifice for the reconciliation of the world (Romans 4:25; Romans 5:10; 1 Corinthians 15:17). And, fourth, the resurrection proves that all believers in Christ will rise to eternal life (John 11:25-26 John 14:19; 1 Corinthians 15:20). There is a logical connection between and progression from one thing proven to the next, so only because the first three are true is the fourth, which speaks of our future resurrection and so gives us the most comfort, even possible.

The Third Article of the Apostolic Creed confesses belief in that future "resurrection of the body". In explaining that Third Article, Luther's *Small Catechism* teaches us to confess, "On the Last Day [the Holy Spirit] will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ." Mindful of the divinely inspired St. Paul's teaching about the future resurrection of our bodies in 1 Corinthians 15, we neither deny that our bodies will be resurrected nor do we get too bogged down in details about what our resurrected bodies will be like.

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While the resurrection of the body is just one of the many issues St. Paul addresses in that “first” letter to the Corinthians, when he later writes to the Romans, the resurrection and our connection to it in Baptism are more critical to his main point. By one analysis, after discussing the need for righteousness (Romans 1:18-3:20) and the gift of righteousness (Romans 3:21-5:21), St. Paul then moves on to how righteousness is lived out (Romans 6:1-8:39). The key transition is that being baptized into Christ Jesus is to be baptized into His death and also to be united with Him in a resurrection like His (Romans 6:1-11). Baptized and so living under grace, we at least try not to let sin reign in us, though we, like St. Paul, struggle in that regard (the topic of Romans 7).

Romans 6:4 is quoted in Luther’s *Small Catechism*’s discussion of Baptism. There we confess that baptism signifies that our sinful natures should drown and die and that a new nature should come forth and *arise*—we might say *be resurrected*! Baptism is truly central to our daily lives as Christians, and, since our observance of The Baptism of Our Lord this past January, our Baptismal Font at Pilgrim has been front and center in the Sanctuary, in order to help us remember how important Baptism is, especially as we come by the Font to the Altar to receive bread that is His body and wine that is His blood, giving us who believe the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

Beloved in the Lord, let all of us who believe and are baptized, with daily contrition and repentance, this month and always, remember our baptisms and rejoice in the future resurrection of the body that is ours in Christ already even now! Alleluia!

*His and your servant,
Pastor Galler*



Pilgrim’s April Events



PALM SUNDAY with a procession with palms begins outside the church at 10:45 a.m. on April 1 (no fooling!).

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE with Communion starts at 7:00 p.m. April 5.

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE VESPERS SERVICE begins at 7:00 p.m. April 6.

EASTER “SUNRISE” MATINS SERVICE begins at 8:00 a.m. April 8.

EASTER BREAKFAST will be ready by 9:00 a.m. April 8.

CHILDREN’S EASTER EGG HUNT will start about 9:45 a.m. April 8.

EASTER SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS will take place as time allows after the Egg Hunt and before the Divine Service.

EASTER DIVINE SERVICE with Communion begins at 10:45 a.m.

LADIES AID will meet Monday, April 9, at 6:00 p.m.

ELDERS will meet Tuesday, April 10, at 7:00 p.m.

POTLUCK DINNER AND VOTERS MEETING will follow the worship service April 15.

LWML SPRING WORKSHOP, April 28, in Athens

Mid-Week Bible Study resumes Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. after Easter

The best mathematical equation: 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given

WELCOME! During the worship service March 25, Alex and Cindy Harantcavage were brought into membership with Pilgrim through transfer from Trinity, Tyler. Alex hauls heavy equipment for Capco Contractors in Henderson. He has three daughters and ten grandchildren. We welcome back Cindy who was practically raised at Pilgrim when her father, The Reverend Harold Wageman, was pastor here and her mother played the organ. Cindy and Alex are avid recyclers. If there is something you would like to recycle, let them know. One of their favorites is collecting colored glass for a ministry in Henderson which crushes the glass and makes lovely crosses from it. Alex really doesn't have the time for hobbies; however, Cindy loves working in her yard (which is right next door to her parents). She also finishes up quilt tops by quilting them. Then she donates the quilts to a Lutheran charity. Cindy is no longer a salaried employee, so she volunteers as needed. They live at 2400 CR 4156N, Overton 75689. You can call them at 903-895-4597 and leave a message if they aren't in.

HELPING HANDS needs **cornbread mix and macaroni and cheese**. Canned fruits and vegetables are always welcome as are items from your garden. Helping Hands can also use clean plastic bags and clean bread wrappers for distributing the items collected. A container for your items is located by the entrance to the church. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ with those less fortunate.

THANK YOU to the volunteers who provided meals prior to the Lenten Vesper services. Delicious!

THANK YOU, Barbara and Edgar Wuthrich for making time in your busy schedule to clean the buildings in March and to prepare the altar. **Paul and Arlene Kuehn** are privileged to care for the altar and clean the church buildings for the month of April.

LWML NEWS: LWML Spring Workshop is in Athens on the 28th. Theme is "People are Pots." Registration starts at 8:45. Cost is \$6.00. We are carpooling and leaving the church at 7:00 a.m. on the 28th. The workshop should be finished by 3:30 p.m. More information will be forthcoming. Watch the bulletin for further details.



Julia Heil Chiasson	April 1
Tiffani Erickson	April 4
Harold Engebretson	April 7
Carolyn Holcombe	April 10
Miles Jeffrey Gill	April 22
George A. Heil	April 26

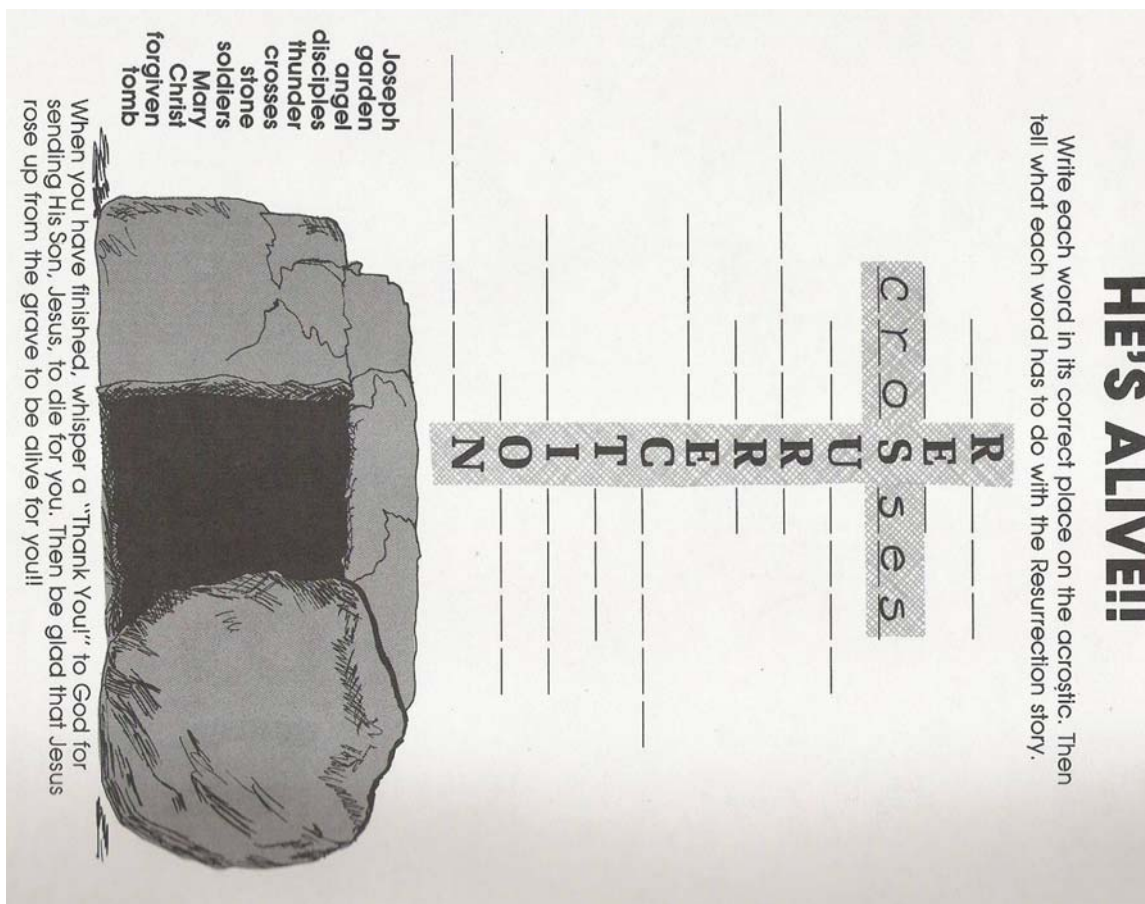
ENJOY SOCIAL OUTINGS WITH YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS: Plans are in the works for once-a-month monthly social gatherings, including concerts, baseball games, nights out to dinner, etc. For example, May 4 Dennis Ross and the Axberg Brothers will perform in Kilgore at the World's Richest Acre Park downtown from 8-10 p.m. The concert is free for the whole family, just bring chairs or a blanket! If you cannot join us this time, future city's "Fridays after Five" concerts are scheduled on June 1, July 6, and August 3. Upcoming dates for the Kilgore Historical Preservation Foundation's "Derrick Stars" spring performances are Shake Rattle and Roll on April 19 at 7 pm. and the Kilgore High School Orchestra on May 10 at 7 p.m.

YOU ARE INVITED to attend the Installation of Rev. Mark Taylor as Associate Pastor of Faith Lutheran Church in Plano. The service will be on Sunday, April 29, at 4:30 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 1701 E. Park Boulevard, in Plano. Pastor Galler is planning on attending, and he should have room in his car for a few people to go along; if you would like to go, let him know.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

--From Church Ladies with Typewriters

Just for Kids



April 2012

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

CLEANING VOLUNTEERS
Paul and Arlene Kuehn

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 PALM SUNDAY (S/P) Sunday of the Passion Julia Chasson (B) 9:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Worship	2	3 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Pastor in his study	4 Tiffani Erickson (B)	5 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service w/Comm (S/W)	6 7:00 PM Good Friday Tenebrae Service (BK)	7 Harold Engebretson (B)
8 RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD (W) 8:00 AM Sunrise Service 9:00 AM Easter Breakfast 9:30 AM SS & Bible Class 9:45 AM Easter Egg Hunt 10:45 AM Worship w/Comm.	9 6:00 PM Ladies Aid Meeting	10 Carolyn Holcombe (B) 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Pastor in his study 7:00 PM Elders Meeting	11 Mid Week Bible Study	12	13	14
15 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (W) 9:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Worship 12:00 PM Potluck Dinner & Voters Meeting	16	17 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Pastor in his study	18 Mid Week Bible Study	19	20	21 Newsletter articles are due tomorrow.
22 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (W) Miles Gill (B) 9:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Worship w/Comm.	23	24 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Pastor in his study	25 St. Mark, Evangelist (R) Mid Week Bible Study	26 George A. Heil (B)	27	28 9:00 AM L.W.M.L. Spring Workshop
29 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (W) 9:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Worship 4:30 PM Installation of Rev. Mark Taylor	30			9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Pastor is in his study.		

March						
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		