



*Christus
COR*

Church Of the Reformation - Lutheran

*The Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod
With Christ at the Heart*

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"Let's Not Forget the Easter Message."

As we begin this month with Holy Week and end with the joyous resurrection of our Savior on Easter morning, let us not lose the joy that we had on Easter morning

where we are singing our Alleluia's that our Savior is risen! He has risen indeed! So many times we have that high that comes with the Easter service with all the choir anthems, trumpets, Easter lilies and shouting's of Alleluia that when we leave the service to go to our family get-togethers and our daily life that we tend to forget about the high that came along with the service and the meaning of what Easter is all about; that He is risen! He is risen indeed! I pray that you will make an effort the rest of the Easter Season (7 weeks) to meditate on the following verses and remind us all of the Easter message of what our Savior, Jesus Christ, did for us on the cross and the message of the empty tomb.

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Romans 4:23-25

But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

1 Corinthians 15:20-22

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the

resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Romans 6:5-11

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

1 John 2:1b-2

...But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Romans 5:8-9

...but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

Acts 4:12

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Luke 24:1-7

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them,

"Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise."

Blessed Easter to you!
He is Risen! He has Risen indeed!

Vicar Brett

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

 **Maundy Thursday, April 5th**
11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 6th 
11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 7th
8:00 p.m.

 **Easter Sunday, April 8th**
Divine Services 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.

Easter Breakfast
Served from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.
Compliments of COR's Bell Choir



APRIL

NEWS & NOTES



THE SUNDAYS OF EASTER AND CONFIRMATION



The Sundays of Easter, April 8th and following, will ring out with the Good News of our Lord's victory for us over sin, death, and the devil as the season of Easter unfolds. You are encouraged to bring or borrow (from the narthex supply) a bell to ring with every "alleluia" this season. Chanting and the Gospel Procession will heighten our sense of rejoicing in this most festive of seasons.

You will also note the Baptismal Font will be moved to the front and center of the chancel rail and filled with water each week. This is to encourage you to revisit your baptism (when you were joined to Jesus' death and resurrection) by dipping your fingers into the water and making the sign of Christ's cross from your forehead to

your heart in token that you are one of Christ's redeemed.

Communion will proceed with the left and right tables dismissed separately to allow extra room for the font. After Pentecost the font will return to its place in the chancel and the gates of the communion rail will return.

After We Celebrate Christ's Resurrection on April 8th, we will then celebrate the **Profession of Faith (April 22nd at 9:30a.m.) and Confirmation** of possibly three of our young people on **April 29th during the 10:45 a.m. service.** We rejoice in their joining us in the sacrament of the altar and their continued growth through Word and Sacrament with us in the body of Christ.

Pastor Pelsue



MEN'S CLUB DART BALL COMPETITION

Peace Men's Club has once again challenged COR's Men's Club to a dartball competition on **Tuesday, April 24th at 6:30 p.m.** at Peace Lutheran Church, 737 Barracksvie Road. All men of the congregation are invited to join them. A sign-up sheet has been posted on the church bulletin board.



RETIREES MEETING

The Retirees will gather on **Tuesday, April 24th at 12:00 noon.** Look for more information in upcoming bulletin announcements. All are welcome join in.



LADIES CLUB RUMMAGE SALE!

The Ladies Club is hosting a Rummage Sale on **Wednesday, April 25th.** Please start gathering and saving your items. Rummage may be brought to church beginning Monday, April 9th. Hot selling items to watch out for are sporting goods, infant-toddler items, books, CD's and custom jewelry, plus any clothing. No electronics (TV's; VCR's; etc.) appliances or furniture please. All items must be clean and in good working condition.

Help is needed for set-up on Tuesday, April 24th; for selling the day of the sale, and then taking down and packing up. You can contact Mary Lou Tucker at 843-7783 or Brenda Hargett at 353-3437 or let us know when you see us at church. The money will go toward replacing much needed windows.



THE JEHOIADA CHEST OFFERING

Each year, traditionally on the Sunday nearest the April 29, 1954 organizational date of our congregation, the Church of the Reformation gathers a special offering named after the priest who was summoned by King Jehoshaphat of Judah to take a chest and raise money to repair the Lord's House. The temple of Jerusalem had been allowed to fall into disrepair. **This year the collection will be on Sunday, April 29th.** Read 2 Kings 12:7-12 for the story.

Please note that a special Jehoiada Offering envelope will be enclosed in the Sunday bulletin on April 22nd. There will also be envelopes available in church on May 1st, the morning we gather the offering. That morning the special Jehoiada Chest will be placed at the front of the church, and during the offering or during communion distribution, a representative of your family may come forward with your gift.

This gift is our way of giving glory to God through maintaining the beauty and use of this place of worship. It is also an expression of our gratitude to God for His maintaining His Word in its purity and the right use of His Sacrament among us. We give this offering to assure future generations these blessings of His.

MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please be sure you have all items/articles for the May newsletter into the church office by no later than **Monday, April 16th**.

Articles may be e-mailed to secretary@reformationstl.org, faxed (314-352-7652), or placed in the church secretary's mailbox.



LWML NEWS

To the women of the Church,

The Large Mite Box for Missions will be out the last Sunday of April for anyone still having a box. Several women of COR have joined as individual members of the LWML, so getting the boxes to the local treasurer is easy. Thanks for your participation in this mission.

Please continue to bring stamps! We all receive mail with stamps and it is amazing how much money comes in from that source for missions! I will continue to keep those collected and delivered until I transfer following my move to Collinsville, IL to help with my brother.

*Thanks once again for your donations!
Pat Stelzer, LWML Rep*



CONCORDIA SEMINARY CALL NIGHT

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, cordially invites the public to share in the joy of Call Day on **Wednesday, May 1st**. Students who will serve as vicars (a one-year internship) next year will receive their assignments during a 3:00 p.m. worship service.

During a 7:00 p.m. worship service, candidates for the pastoral ministry will receive their first calls to serve as pastors, missionaries, and chaplains in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). Both services will be held in the Seminary's Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS



Now for something different ...

Those who utilize food pantries are cooking on a budget. We all know herbs, spices and condiments are useful to have but they can be luxury items too!

For the month of March, we are collecting those not always thought of but useful items:

- cooking oils, herbs, spices, salt, pepper, minced onion or garlic, seasoning packets (i.e. taco, chili, gravy, spaghetti) and condiments

Please bring the suggested items and place in the grocery cart in the parish hall or the hamper in the narthex. The food will be taken to the Affton Food Pantry. Thanks for your help!
Reformation Ladies Club

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Reformation members generously support the efforts of the Affton Food Pantry by donating all food collection items to the Pantry. **But a different kind of support is needed too!** They need volunteers on Tuesday, Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings to help sort, shelve and package food for the needy. If you would like to volunteer your time and effort, please contact Deaconess Kristina Paul at Salem Lutheran Church, 314-352-4454.

A NOTE TO STEWARDS

Before you know it April 15th will be soon be here. That always reminds me of that famous quote from Benjamin

Franklin... "But in this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes". The reference to death doesn't really concern me. I know that Jesus overcame death for us. Thanks to his pain and suffering we are saved from death and we look forward to joining Him in God's Kingdom. However, even the scriptures tell us that we must pay our taxes.

According to the IRS in 2009, 111.7 million Americans received a tax refund with the average individual refund amount being \$2,902. This year I will be blessed again to be among those who will receive a refund on my income tax. This gives my family budget a much needed boost, especially in this current economy. Last year was an economic challenge for many of us and I pray that all of you who must file a return for last year get a break.

Last year also came with financial challenges for our church. I admit I was not able to give as much as I had in the previous year. Just as my refund gives my personal budget a boost, I like to take some of that and pass it on to Reformation. 10% was the Old Testament tithe. Even if I only give 1% of my refund to church that leaves me with 99% of my refund to allocate to my budget for the rest of the year. I challenge all of you who will be blessed with a refund this year to think about sharing some of it with your church. Any amount will help give Reformation a much needed boost this year too.

Yours in Christ, Linda LaFlamme

"And Jesus answering said unto them, 'Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.' And they marveled at him."

Mark 12:17

THANK YOU

A special thank you to everyone who participated by either volunteering their time and effort or by attending and donating to the Vitae Foundation Benefit Dinner! COR had 14 members from our family who helped serve and clean plus an additional 20 individuals (members and their friends) who attended the dinner. The evening would not have been the success it was without you. The Vitae Foundation received over \$20,000 in donations at the dinner. God Bless you all!

Pastor and Jill Pelsue



SEND ME ST. LOUIS SATURDAY

Imagine hundreds of area Lutherans and other Christians coming together on one day to bring



glory to our Father in heaven through service to our community. Send Me St. Louis is organizing a hands-on serving opportunity on **Saturday, May 19th from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**, designed to:

- connect congregations and Christian volunteers to service opportunities,
- encourage the incorporation of volunteerism in the life of the congregation and its members, and
- support the connection between serving and spiritual growth in the lives of those participating.

How it Works

Lutheran organizations and congregations will host a short-term (4 hour) project that can be completed by a group of 5-20 volunteers. Send Me St. Louis will promote the projects with area congregations, with an emphasis on Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod churches. Individuals and groups can sign up to serve at one of these projects. Those serving will be invited to participate in a short morning devotion and an afternoon reflection and celebration at their project site to rejoice in all that God accomplished that day and what He still has planned for our lives and our community.

Schedule

8:30 - 9:00 a.m. Brief devotional at the project site.

9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Projects.

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Lunch, reflection, and celebration service at project site.

For more information, go to www.sendmestlouis.org and click on "participate."



UPCOMING CONCERTS

Easter Choral Service

The *Seminary Kantorei* from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN, will be on the campus of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis to present an Easter Choral Service as part of its 2012 Eastertide Midwest tour on Friday, April 13th at 7:00 p.m. This choral service will be sung in the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus and it is open to all. They will sing music by J.S. Bach, Hildebrand, Mozart, Proulx, Vaughn Williams, and Vulpius. A free will offering will be received to support the ongoing work of the *Seminary Kantorei*.

Spring Music Tour

The Lutheran High School of Kansas City will be giving a concert at St. John's Lutheran Church, Arnold, MO on Friday, April 20th at 7:15 p.m. as part of their Spring Music Tour 2012. Their Choir, Band and Handbell students will be participating in the concert. All are invited!

UN-APPROVED MINUTES for CHURCH OF THE REFORMATION-LUTHERAN
Church Council Meeting March 8, 2012

PRESENT: Mark Bliese, Julia Graudin, Brenda Hargett, Derek Hotzel, Dan Kamp, Linda LaFlamme, Dan Reimler, Dale Thielker, Lee Thielker, Hal Uthoff, Pastor Pelsue, Vicar Hartwig. Pat Stelzer and Jack Jeffcott were absent but excused.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. A quorum was present. Dan Reimler had the devotion on the previous Sunday's Gospel lesson, Luke 9:23, entitled, "A Lost Life". It was from the The Lutheran Hour Ministries devotional booklet, "Changeless Christ, Changing World".

The minutes of the February 9, 2012 Church Council meeting were reviewed. A few corrections were noted. The second paragraph, ending with the sentence, "Dan Reimler has volunteered to have the devotion in February", should read "Dan Reimler has volunteered to have the devotion in March". Additionally, the first sentence in the President's report, should read, "Derek Hotzel amended his comments from last month to include thanks to Pastor, Sheri and all those who helped sign people in for the directory pictures." Lee Thielker moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Dan Kamp seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Derek Hotzel welcomed Hal Uthoff to the Church Council. He noted that starting in April we will have a vacancy for the Board for Evangelism chair. He hoped the Ad-hoc Financial Committee will have a report by the June council meeting.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Hal gave thanks for being on the Church Council, but noted he was a little disappointed that no one else volunteered for the position. He stated he has reviewed the church bylaws on his position.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT: Lee Thielker presented Dan Kamp's report on the monthly income summary for February 2012. Regular envelopes amounted to \$13,354, with a subtotal toward budgeted expenses was \$15,842.07. The total income toward expenses was \$16,162.88. Lee also reviewed the January and February income totals. The full reports can be viewed on the bulletin board near the nursery.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dan Kamp presented Dale Thielker's report that we are current on all obligations. We had expenses of \$17,185 for February. There were \$1,126 in non-budgeted expenses, the majority of which was for vicarage expenses. Only one notable expense of \$65 for Spring Sunday school curriculum was reported.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor reported on the funeral for Lloyd Lee at Park Hills, where Pastor Eggers did the committal. Katharina Bartsch's committal was at Sunset Cemetery. A memorial will be held at a later date at Laclede Groves. Pastor has made numerous visitations. Pastor was able to have 500 outreach brochures produced for \$100. Pastor wanted to thank the Hargetts for the Lenten dinner. He thought the Lenten series is going well. Pastor stated he could not attend the recent circuit meeting. Pastor stated that fourteen volunteers helped with the Vitae Society's dinner. Our congregation was well represented at the meeting. Pastor stated that weather alert announcements will continue to be run in the bulletins. Catechism class will be finishing soon. Three catechumens will be confirmed, three will continue with their studies. Pastor also stated that the stained glass brochure will be coming soon. Pastor has held a Bible study on the Health and Human Services Mandate, as well as keeping the elders up to date on it. After Pastor's comments, Hal gave his compliments to Jill and Karen Liebmann for the Vitae presentation.

VICAR'S REPORT: Vicar had numerous visits with homebound and hospital stay members. He assisted Pastor with the Bartsch committal. He has been doing a lot of work on his evangelism module. He stated Thrivent has given him a \$200 grant for the event. He has also done work on the outreach brochure, of which he passed around a sample. He has preached three times recently, and is holding Sunday morning Bible study and catechism class. February 16th he attended the circuit meeting as Pastor was not able to attend. He helped with the Valentine party, and he led a morning devotion at Salem Lutheran School for Lutheran Schools Week. He gave the council an update on his Mother's health. He will be taking vacation March 16-24.

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP: Linda LaFlamme has received information on an e-scrip program from Schnucks. It was suggested to have this program for Reformation and the money raised go to the tuition program. Brenda moved to participate in the e-scrip program and have the proceeds go to the PRIMP fund. Julie seconded her motion. Motion carried unanimously. Dan Kamp will fill out the paperwork and get the direct deposit set up. Linda suggested we look into stewardship-type outreach and also update and input the talent cards into PowerChurch (our church management system). She was looking into a stewardship Bible study, possibly four sessions in length. She is consulting with Pastor for that Bible study. Linda will be attending a "Kitchen Sink Workshop" at the Missouri District Headquarters.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM: Pat Stelzer was absent, but excused. She submitted no report.

BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP: Julie Graudin stated the Valentine party was well attended. \$86 in donations was collected. She had \$42 in expenses. Vicar, Matt and Kathleen Resner attended. March 18 will be a St. Patrick Day party. There will be a free will offering, with the money to go to the tuition program. Bible races on the Trinity will be held, as well as St. Patrick's Day music. She is planning an Ascension Day ice cream social. She is also planning on holding a farewell party for Vicar in July. August will be the church picnic, and September will be a talent show.

BOARD OF ELDERS: Dan Reimler stated the elders met March 7. He noted the two deaths mentioned in Pastor's report. The elders are planning on holding their Elders Sunday in the fall. The elders are contacting inactive members.

BOARD OF PROPERTIES: Jack Jeffcott noted he and John Hargett have been working on various odd jobs around the church.

BOARD OF FINANCE: Dale Thielker presented Lee Thielker's report, noting we had a deficit of \$1,343 for the month of February. We have \$21,489 cash available for budgeted expenses, and the Vicarage Fund has a balance of \$11,531

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Brenda Hargett reported she met with the board members to discuss which workshops she should attend for the "Kitchen Sink Workshops" at the Missouri District Headquarters. She will probably attend the one on Vacation Bible school or Sunday school. She handed out four Elementary Education Tuition Assistance Program forms, and to date three have been turned in. She will contact the remaining family to see if they are going to participate so we can plan accordingly. We are looking at holding a Vacation Bible school this year on Wednesday nights in July and possibly the first Wednesday in August if necessary. Using the theme, "I Spy Chrismons" we will try and make replacement chrismons for some of our damaged ones. This is for families, young and old alike, working together toward the goal of continuing to beautifying our Christmas tree for the church.

OLD BUSINESS: Hal Uthoff stated he must have missed the removal of restriction for Rev. Gerike in the English District. Mark Bliese found the announcement in the July 24, 2011 Church Council minutes, which was just a single sentence: Dan Reimler stated that the English District has restored the Rev. Henry Gerike to normal status in July 2011.

NEW BUSINESS: A recommendation by a member before the filling of the Vice-President's position stated, "amend the by-laws [sic] to include female candidates for this position. To me this is simply practical." A question was raised as to where it is specifically stated in the bylaws that the vice-president has to be a male member of the congregation. Mark Bliese pointed to Bylaw Article XI, Sect. 1, Part h., "All nominees for the positions of President and Vice-President shall be male Voting members." Hal spoke about the drafting of the bylaws and its submittal to the Missouri District. We were permitted to have women voters but not women Presidents or Vice-Presidents. This was on the basis of Scripture. Pastor pointed out that 1 Timothy 2:12, Genesis 1:26-28, 1 Corinthians 11 and 14 affirm the male spiritual leadership in the Church.

ADJOURNMENT: Dale Thielker moved to adjourn. Lee Thielker seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m., closing with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Mark J. Bliese, Secretary

April Birthdays



4th Betty Jo Jeter
Rev. David Lewis
5th Elizabeth Eigel
Mark Graudin
6th Laverne Downs
10th Bev Heermann

Lucas Kamp
Abigail Alonzo
11th Bryan Jones
13th Yvonne Spitz
19th John Borchelt
Haven Liebmann

25th Faye Pfeil
28th Joseph Rowland II

**God's Blessings to
You!**



April Schedule

8:15 Service

10:45 Service



Altar Guild Schedule:

April 1st (Palm Sunday) Mary Jane Autry
April 5th (Maundy Thursday) - Betty Heermann
April 7th (Easter Vigil) - Betty Heermann
April 8th (Easter Sunday) Mary Jane Autry
April 15th Mary Jane Autry
April 22nd
April 29th Mary Jane Autry

Betty Heermann

Betty Heermann

Betty Heermann
Betty Heermann

Greeter Schedule:

April 1st (Palm Sunday) Mark & Julie Graudin
April 8th (Easter Sunday) Shirley Ciegel
April 15th Anne Greb
April 22nd Sandy Townsend
April 29th Rick & Ann Miller

Joyce & Carol Drechsel
Carol Geiser
Marilyn Jones
Mary Lou Tucker
Hal & Lois Uthoff

Usher Schedule:

Daniel Bliese
Chia Hung
Mike Klemme
Ron Paul

Mark Graudin
Bev Heermann

Acolyte Schedule:

April 1st (Palm Sunday) Katie Meyer
April 5th (Maundy Thursday) - 7:00 p.m. - John Schilling
April 7th (Easter Vigil) - 8:00 p.m. - Mary LaFlamme
April 8th (Easter Sunday) Philip Bliese
April 15th John Larson
April 22nd Micah Hung
April 29th Katie Meyer

Christian Liebmann

John Schilling
Haven Liebmann
Mary LaFlamme
Christian Liebmann