

# He Is Risen

## Celebrate the Resurrection

APRIL 2024 Newsletter

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH-HAMBURG

*‘Tell Me Whom You Love’ . . . ‘And I Will Tell You Who You Are.’*

John Blanchard stood up from the bench, straightened his Army uniform, and studied the crowd of people making their way through Grand Central Station. He looked for the girl whose heart he knew, but whose face he didn't, the girl with the rose. His interest in her had begun thirteen months before in a Florida library. Taking a book off the shelf he found himself intrigued, not with the words of the book, but with the notes penciled in the margin. The soft handwriting reflected a thoughtful soul and insightful mind. In the front of the book, he discovered the previous owner's name, Miss Hollis Maynell. With time and effort he located her address. She lived in New York City. He wrote her a letter introducing himself and inviting her to correspond. The next day he was shipped overseas for service in World War II. During the next year and one month the two grew to know each other through the mail. Each letter was a seed falling on a fertile heart. A romance was budding. Blanchard requested a photograph, but she refused. She felt that if he really cared, it wouldn't matter what she looked like.

When the day finally came for him to return from Europe, they scheduled their first meeting - 7:00 p.m. at Grand Central Station in New York. "You'll recognize me," she wrote, "by the red rose I'll be wearing on my lapel." I'll let Mr. Blanchard tell you what happened: A young woman was coming toward me, her figure long and slim. Her blonde hair lay back in curls from her delicate ears; her eyes were blue as flowers. Her lips and chin had a gentle firmness, and in her pale green suit she was like springtime come alive. I started toward her, entirely forgetting to notice that she was not wearing a rose. As I moved, a small, provocative smile curved her lips. "Going my way, sailor?" she murmured. Almost uncontrollably I made one step closer to her, and then I saw Hollis Maynell.

She was standing almost directly behind the girl. A woman well past 40, she had graying hair tucked under a worn hat. She was more than plump, her thick-ankled feet thrust into low-heeled shoes. The girl in the green suit was walking quickly away. I felt as though I was split in two, so keen was my desire to follow her, and yet so deep was my longing for the woman whose spirit had truly companioned me and upheld my own. And there she stood. Her pale, plump face was gentle and sensible, her gray eyes had a warm and kindly twinkle. I did not hesitate. My finger gripped the small worn blue leather copy of the book that was to identify me to her. This would not be love, but it would be something precious, something perhaps even better than love, a friendship for which I had been and must ever be grateful.

I squared my shoulders and saluted and held out the book to the woman, even though while I spoke I felt choked by the bitterness of my disappointment. "I'm Lieutenant John Blanchard, and you must be Miss Maynell. I am so glad you could meet me; may I take you to dinner?"

The woman's face broadened into a tolerant smile. "I don't know what this is all about, son," she answered, "but the young lady in the green suit who just went by, she begged me to wear this rose on my coat. And she said if you were to ask me out to dinner, I should go

IF WE LOVE  
ONE ANOTHER,  
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IS MADE  
COMPLETE IN US.

1 JOHN 4:12, NIV



and tell you that she is waiting for you in a big restaurant across the street. She said it was some kind of a test!"

It's not difficult to understand and admire Miss Maynell's wisdom. The true nature of a heart is seen in its response to the unattractive. "Tell me whom you love," Houssaye wrote, "And I will tell you who you are."

**Deuteronomy 10:14-22** "Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. Yet the LORD set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day. Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn. For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt."

*and*

**1John 4:7-12,19** Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us... We love because He first loved us.

Praise God for loving forgiveness in Jesus Christ,

*Pastor Love*



*From the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Stewardship Ministry*

## *Whose Is It Anyway?*

If you have ever bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a "title search." Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it

from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you'll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, "That's mine: I had it first."

You can't understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

*You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.*

Your neighbor's possessions are *his*: you don't have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership *to you*? Paul says, "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price" (1 Corinthians 6:19–20).

If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God's leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since *you* belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.

# Faith Lutheran Church

15425 South County Road K Merrill, WI 54452  
 Church e-mail: [faithmerrillwi@gmail.com](mailto:faithmerrillwi@gmail.com)

**Pastor Donald Love**  
 Office Phone 715-536-5443  
 Home Phone 715-722-0540  
 Cell Phone 1-815-922-0397

**Pastor's Office Hours**  
 Mon. and Tues: Home  
 Wednesday: Faith  
 Thursday: St. John's

**Church Office Hours**  
 Tues. and Thurs. 9 a.m.-12 noon  
 Mon., Wed., and Fri. varies  
**Emergency Contacts**  
 Terry Seidler 715-203-5733

## April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> NO MONDAY WORSHIP	<b>2</b> 6:30 p.m. Women of Faith	<b>3</b> 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 10:15 a.m. <b>Worship with Holy Communion</b> 11:15 a.m. Bible Class 4:30 p.m. ISI at Bruce Pfingsten's home, Tomahawk	<b>8</b> 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. <b>Worship with Holy Communion</b> 7:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 10:00 a.m. AbleLight 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> DAYCARE SUNDAY at St. John's 10:15 a.m. <b>Worship</b> 11:15 a.m. Bible Class	<b>15</b> 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. <b>Worship</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> LWML Spring Rally St. Paul's, Irma
<b>21</b> 10:15 a.m. <b>Worship with Holy Communion</b> 11:15 a.m. Bible Class	<b>22</b> 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. <b>Worship with Holy Communion</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10:00 a.m. AbleLight 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 10:15 a.m. <b>Worship</b> 11:15 a.m. Bible Class 11:15 a.m. VBS Meeting with lunch	<b>29</b> 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. <b>Worship</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>ALTAR GUILD APRIL SCHEDULE</b> April 1 – April 8 Phyllis Buch and Debbie Stogbauer April 9 – April 22 Gene and Karen Pagel April 23 – May 6 Chris Pfaff and Phyllis Beilke			



# APRIL

*Birthdays and Anniversaries*

## ST. JOHN'S ANNIVERSARIES

April 15  
Dave & Barb Czech 41 years

## FAITH ANNIVERSARIES

April 8  
Eugene & Charlotte Mootz 63 years  
April 10  
Steven & Laurie Goetsch 25 years  
April 20  
Kelvin & Tammy Baumann 39 years  
April 21  
Ryan & Jessica Baguhn 17 years  
April 22  
Mark & Pamela Pester 25 years

## ST. JOHN'S BIRTHDAYS

April 1 Jen Seliger  
Isabella Zastrow  
April 2 Nancee Emmerich  
April 6 Kathy Marquardt  
April 18 Ken Marquardt  
April 30 Steve Kleinschmidt

## FAITH BIRTHDAYS

April 4 Dean Schlag  
Joseph Calmes  
April 5 Robert Porath  
April 8 Jody Maulson  
April 9 Bruce Krenz  
Cole Rajek  
Molli Wicke  
April 10 Joe Heisinger  
Lynn Klug  
Mikayla Schade  
LeeAnn Pfaff

April 12 Khloe Olson  
Koi Olson  
April 14 Jessica Schade  
April 15 Kevin Goetsch  
April 16 Emma Anderson  
Karen Olson  
April 17 Vickie Bartelt  
Cassidy Reinhardt  
April 18 Katherine Stoeckmann  
Keith Williams  
April 19 Marjorie Radenz  
Ann Stoeckmann  
Mollie Pester  
April 24 Michael Baumann  
April 25 Brian Grueneberg  
Leon Bartelt  
April 26 Loyd Kleinschmidt  
April 28 Colton Bartelt  
Brian Schade  
April 30 Audrey Steckling



**SPRING RALLY**

**Come Join Us at St. Paul Lutheran in Irma**  
N6537 Old Hwy 51, Irma WI 54442

**Saturday, April 20, 2024, Registration starts 8:15**  
Worship, Zone Business, a Speaker and a light lunch will be served

# St. John's Lutheran Church

134058 County Road L Athens, WI 54411  
715-536-1810

Church e-mail: [stjohns486@gmail.com](mailto:stjohns486@gmail.com)

## Pastor Donald Love

Office Phone 715-536-5443

Home Phone 715-722-0540

Cell Phone 1-815-922-0397

E-mail

[church7663@sbcglobal.net](mailto:church7663@sbcglobal.net)

## Pastor's Office Hours

Mon. & Tues. Home

Wednesday Faith

Thursday St. John's

Friday Off (Family Day)

## Elders

Don Gille 715-573-8197

Mark Czech 715-409-9174

Jeremy Fromm 715-574-2003

## Christian Day Care

Patti Beilke 715-539-8120

## Elder of the Month

Bob Burish 715-573-7078

## Setting the Lord's Table

Joy Free

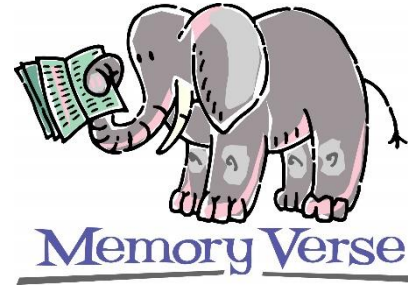
## April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	<b>4</b> 6:30 p.m. Mary Martha Guild	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion <i>Sunday School during Sermon</i> 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 4:30 p.m. ISI at Bruce Pfingsten's home, Tomahawk	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. Elders' Meeting	<b>10</b> 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> DAYCARE SUNDAY 8:30 a.m. Worship <i>Sunday School during Sermon</i> 9:30 a.m. Bible Class	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> LWML Spring Rally St. Paul's, Irma
<b>21</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion <i>Sunday School during Sermon</i> 9:30 a.m. Bible Class	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship <i>Sunday School during Sermon</i> 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 11:15 a.m. VBS Meeting with lunch at Faith	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				





**Iron Sharpens Iron (ISI)**  
**Sunday, April 7**  
**4:30 p.m.**  
**Bruce Pfingsten's**  
**home**  
W5110 Nibler Road  
Tomahawk, WI



Week of April 7, 2024

**1 Corinthians 15:3-4**

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

Week of April 14, 2024

**John 14:19**

Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.

Week of April 21, 2024

**John 14:27**

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Week of April 28, 2024

**John 16:33**

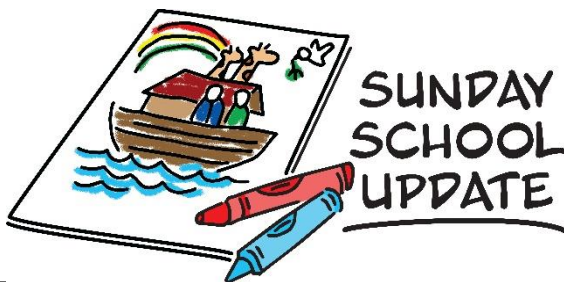
I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."



**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**Sunday, April 14**  
**8:30 a.m.**

The daycare kids will be singing. Also a special children's sermon. After the service, brunch will be served.

Everyone is welcome! There's a sign-up sheet in the back of church for those planning to attend. The Boards of Evangelism and Stewardship are sponsoring the special day at no charge to participants.



Last Day of Sunday School at Faith was **PALM SUNDAY, March 24.**  
Sunday School will resume in September.

*Looking forward to seeing everyone at Vacation Bible School.*



Please join us for the

**April 28th VBS meeting at Faith**

Meeting will start after the church service at 11:15 a.m. and a light lunch will be served. We look forward to seeing you there. VBS is June 10th and 11th from 5:00-8:00 pm and Wednesday from 5:00-7:00 pm. Our theme is *A WALK WITH JESUS.*

# APRIL 2024 ELDER, USHER, GREETER SCHEDULE at FAITH

**Sunday, April 7                      10:15 a.m.**

Elders            Jim Beilke, Jason Westfall  
 Ushers            Bob and Bernice Porath  
 Greeter          Bob Porath  
 Scrip             Bernice Porath

**Monday, April 8                      6:30 p.m.**

Elders            Rodney Dahlke, Lee Pfaff  
 Usher             Ed Stiver  
 Greeter          Ed Stiver  
 Scrip             Debbie Stogbauer

**Sunday, April 14                      10:15 a.m.**

Elders            Randy Braatz, Donald Pagel  
 Ushers            Cindy Braatz, Carol Hein  
 Greeter          Carol Hein  
 Scrip             Cindy Braatz

**Monday, April 15                      6:30 p.m.**

Elders            Joe Heisinger, Mike Beilke  
 Ushers Amanda Heisinger, Keith Wendt  
 Greeter          Amanda Heisinger  
 Scrip             Debbie Stogbauer

**Sunday, April 21                      10:15 a.m.**

Elders            Lee Pfaff, Rodney Dahlke  
 Ushers            Brian and Lynn Klug  
 Greeter          Brian Klug  
 Scrip             Lynn Klug

**Monday, April 22                      6:30 p.m.**

Elders            Jason Westfall, Jim Beilke  
 Ushers            Keith Wendt, Ed Stiver  
 Greeter          Keith Wendt  
 Scrip             Debbie Stogbauer

**Sunday, April 28                      10:15 a.m.**

Elders            Donald Pagel, Jason Westfall  
 Usher             Bonnie Grueneberg  
 Greeter          Duane Grunenwald  
 Scrip             Becky Rajek

**Monday, April 29                      6:30 p.m.**

Elders            Joe Heisinger, Mike Beilke  
 Ushers            Amanda Heisinger, Keith Wendt  
 Greeter          Amanda Heisinger  
 Scrip             Debbie Stogbauer

**Sunday, May 5                      10:15 a.m.**

Elders            Rodney Dahlke, Lee Pfaff  
 Ushers            Bob and Bernice Porath  
 Greeter          Bob Porath  
 Scrip             Bernice Porath

**Monday, May 6                      6:30 p.m.**

Elders            Jim Beilke, Don Pagel  
 Usher             Ed Stiver  
 Greeter          Ed Stiver  
 Scrip             Debbie Stogbauer

**HOLY COMMUNION**

Sunday, April 7    10:15 a.m.	Monday, April 8    6:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 21    10:15 a.m.	Monday, April 22    6:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 5    10:15 a.m.	Monday, May 6    6:30 p.m.

**Feel free to exchange times where practical.  
 Need for volunteers to serve as ushers and greeters.  
 Contact Jim Beilke if interested.**

**AUDIO VIDEO SCHEDULE APRIL 2024**

Sunday, April 7    Karen and Gene Pagel	Monday, April 8    Bonnie Grueneberg
Sunday, April 14    Bonnie Grueneberg	Monday, April 15    Karen and Gene Pagel
Sunday, April 21    Bonnie Grueneberg	Monday, April 22    Rodney Dahlke
Sunday, April 28    Bonnie Grueneberg and Evelyn Reinhart	
Sunday, April 29    Karen and Gene Pagel	
Sunday, May 5    Karen and Gene Pagel	Monday, May 6    Rodney Dahlke



**Thrivent Members:**  
**MAKE a DIFFERENCE**  
 by directing your  
**Thrivent Choice Dollars!**

THRIVENT CHOICE GIFTS recently were received from

Leon and Beth Bartelt  
 Jerome and Judith Buch  
 Joseph Calmes  
 Gerhard and Sally Hannemann  
 Marlene Krenz  
 Julaine Myska  
 Robert and Bernie Porath  
 LuAnn Ruhbusch

These gifts help to further support the important work of the church. Thank you.



*On the weekends of **April 7-8 and 14-15** at Faith, non-perishable food items, personal hygiene items, cleaning products and paper items will be collected for HAVEN in Merrill and The Gospel TLC in Weston.*



**The 30  
 Hour  
 Famine**

## **Faith In Action**

**Youth from Circuit 6 will participate on May 10-11**

Events began at Faith Friday evening and end at St. Paul's Saturday

One in nine people in the world don't get enough to eat. Many poor farmers can't grow enough food to feed their own families, much less sell to get income for essentials like education and healthcare. That's why World Vision partners with communities to address immediate food needs — but also to equip them to grow food for the long term. And this change happens when groups raise money through the 30 Hour Famine!

*Watch for details in bulletins and the May newsletter*

Suggestions for such items for both centers include

- **Non-Perishable Food Items**
- **Kleenex**
- **Paper Towel**
- **Toilet Paper**
- **Copy Paper**
- **Dishwasher Pods**
- **Dawn Dish Soap**
- **Disposable Vinyl Gloves in M, L, and XL**
- **Bleach**
- **Distilled Water**
- **Disinfectant Wipes**
- **Ziplock Bags – all sizes**
- **Men's Deodorant**
- **Shampoo and Conditioner**
- **Napkins**
- **Aluminum Foil**
- **Saran Wrap**
- **Parchment Paper**
- **Glade Plug-In Refills**
- **Scrubbing Bubbles Shower Cleaner**
- **Laundry Pods**
- **Dryer Sheets**
- **WalMart Gift Cards**
- **Any Monetary Donations will be used to purchase WalMart gift cards**



Starting  
 Monday, April 8,  
**FAITH CHOIR  
 REHEARSALS**  
 will be on  
 Mondays at 5:30  
 p.m. before evening worship.

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.








# Adoration: Beholding God

## April

### Daily Reading Plan




- Day 1: Psalm 59:16
- Day 2: Exodus 15:1-18
- Day 3: 1 Chronicles 29:10-13
- Day 4: Job 34:13-15, 37:5-6
- Day 5: 1 Kings 8:23-24
- Day 6: Psalm 18:30-31
- Day 7: Psalm 95:1-11
- Day 8: Psalm 23:1-6
- Day 9: Psalm 36:5-9
- Day 10: Psalm 83:18
- Day 11: Psalm 86:15, 89:14
- Day 12: Psalm 90:1-4
- Day 13: Psalm 93:1-2, 5
- Day 14: Psalm 104:1-9, 24
- Day 15: Psalm 111
- Day 16: Psalm 139:7-16
- Day 17: Isaiah 30:18
- Day 18: Is 40:11-15, 17-23
- Day 19: Is 40:25-31
- Day 20: Is 44:24, 45:5-6
- Day 21: John 1:3-4
- Day 22: Romans 11:33-36
- Day 23: Galatians 1:3-5
- Day 24: Hebrews 1:3
- Day 25: Hebrews 2:9-10
- Day 26: Rev. 1:8
- Day 27: Rev. 3:7
- Day 28: Rev. 5:11-12
- Day 29: Rev. 15:3-4
- Day 30: Rev. 19:6-7

*The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.*

*Hebrews 1:3*

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
15425 South County Road K  
Merrill, WI 54452

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RISEN JESUS,  
*as spring blossoms*  
around me,  
MAY YOUR LOVE  
BLOSSOM IN ME,  
that I might share its  
*fragrance and brilliance*  
WITH OTHERS.