

# LEBANON LUTHERAN CHURCH

## APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

*Sunday School @ 8:45 am*

*Worship Service @ 10:00 am*

*Phone (540)465-5456*

*10120 Middle Road*

*Lebanon Church, VA 22641*

*Email: [pastor.lebanon@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.lebanon@gmail.com)*

*John 3:16*

*For God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son,  
that whoever believes in  
him should not perish but  
have eternal life.*



*John 11:25-26*

*Jesus said "I am the resurrection  
and the life; he who believes in  
me, though he die, yet shall he  
live, and whoever lives and  
believes in me shall never die."*



**NALC**  
North American Lutheran Church



# *A Message From The Desk Of The Pastor*



*Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you — unless you believed in vain. 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, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles... Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised... And*

*if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.*  
1 Cor 15:1-7, 12-13, 17-19

IT SEEMS GOOD to me to begin this meditation with the preceding passage from 1 Corinthians today, where St. Paul clearly proclaims *the Gospel*, the *Good News* that we have hope in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. I find this to be the case because we are so thoroughly inundated with *bad news*. This latter sort of news comes from many sources, and we Christians can become inured to its effect, but it is certain that it does have an effect.

We recently heard news of the terrible fires in our county and beyond – or perhaps we suffered from the event itself – and we naturally feel buffeted, tossed to and fro, feeling the fundamental insecurity of life. And so too, we heard of the terrible bridge collapse in Baltimore and of deaths due to the complicated conditions of modern life, and we may wonder... is this all there is? Or we hear the cavalcade of fiery denunciations from politicians and pundits, or of corruptions in government, high and low, or of new threats to our children from sources we once believed to have their best interests at heart, or of statistic upon statistic that suggest our time is short and doom is growing closer by the moment. Are we all simply biding time as we anticipate the destruction of the things that we cherish? If we think in this way, have we thrown up our hands in complacency or resignation? Or have we perhaps become the target of one worldly ideology or another, promising safety, renewal, and a brand-new day just around the corner... all of these things are possible.

But we Christians have always had an alternative to fear, paranoia, and unnecessary alarmism (which are so easily coopted by dubious players); we have the GOOD NEWS! That is, we do if we have received it, and are striving to *stand in it*.

First, we should continually check ourselves – we should ask, “do I actually know the Gospel, can I tell it to someone else?” Once we do this, we should then go on to ask, “Do I actually believe this? Am I actually showing that I do? Would anyone observing my daily behavior ever have reason to wonder if I believed in Christ and His saving work? Is there any evidence? Do I serve my neighbor without any further concern? Do I forgive those who have wronged me? Do I pray for their souls and for their ultimate good?” This is an important series of questions that can help us to see where our hope is.

But of course, we need to be sure of that first thing: knowledge and reception of the Gospel. I will offer one way of presenting it here: The Good News is this: God sent His only-begotten Son to fulfill all the promises of God, take upon Himself the fleshly condition of humankind, show what the Kingdom of God is like and proclaim its coming among us, and then to die on a cross for the sins of the world, thereby defeating sin, death, and the devil, and also thereby becoming the first-fruits of the resurrection – so that all who believe in Him may share in His victory over the enemies of mankind.

That’s not very pithy. It’s probably a bit wordy (one of my consistent failings). But I think it is truthful and fairly comprehensive.

St. Paul gives us a more concise formulation in our passage above – sounding a lot like the Creeds – *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*. Here it is in its essential reality, and we are convinced that it is exactly this, a reality!

St. Paul makes this clear, if Christ has not been raised from the tomb, in the most real and truly physical yet more than physical way, then we are to be pitied.

The Good News that Christ has been raised from the tomb is the truth that makes us not only able to *bear* the bad news of the world, but to confront it head on and to be courageous in the face of it. Think of it, if our God has taken care of the problems of sin, our frail flesh, the world, death, and the devil, then what do we finally have to feel insecure about? Properly speaking, we should only have a kind of holy anxiety that we are *standing* – as St. Paul says above – in that faith. This is not a sapping, depleting anxiety, but a holy and Spirit-laden walk with the Lord Jesus. As we claim this truth above all others, we make use of the gifts of God’s grace in Christ: we rush to hear the Word preached and to the place where the saving Sacraments are given to repentant sinners like us. We take up our Baptismal life again and again, abiding in Christ’s Word, reveling in His goodness and mercy. We hold these before our eyes when the devil and the world want us to gaze at the tragedies, the insecurities, the wars and rumors of wars.

We, as Christ’s holy Church, press on in this Spirit-given hope, even as we pray to remain in it until the Kingdom comes fully among us.

Come Lord Jesus, our Mighty and Victoriously Resurrected Lord, come quickly to bless and glorify Your people! Give us a courageous hope in Your Resurrection and work in us the faith that overcomes the world.

Prayerfully,

Pastor Porter



## Events at Lebanon

### *Neighborhood Watch Meeting*

*Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> @  
7:00 PM  
\*Speaker will be an  
Investigator*

*Women's Meeting  
Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>  
@ 7:00*

*Men's Prayer Breakfast  
Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> @  
8:00 AM @ Queen St Diner*

*Church Clean-up Day  
Saturday, April 13 @ 9:00*

**Sunday School Class led by  
Chris Heird is at 8:45 Sunday**

### **Christian Education**

**Children's/Elementary  
Sunday School Classes led  
by Leslie Heird, Dorothy  
Harriman and Missy  
Hockman is at 8:45 Sunday**

### *Wednesday's*

*8:15 AM Matins  
10:00 AM Individual  
Confession & Absolution  
1:30 PM Communion  
5:30 PM Vesper Service*

### *New Times for Sunday Church Service and Sunday School*

*8:45 AM Sunday  
School*

*10:00 AM Divine  
Service*

### *Choir Practice*

*Choir will practice  
Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> and  
Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> or  
24<sup>th</sup> ? @ 7:00 PM*

*\*See Evelyne if interested in  
joining the Choir*

### *April Birthday's*

*1<sup>st</sup> Arden Kimmons  
3<sup>rd</sup> Kara Hockman Rick,  
9<sup>th</sup> Brandi Rosenberger  
8<sup>th</sup> Billy Hockman  
11<sup>th</sup> Lucy King  
19<sup>th</sup> Lisa Parks  
30<sup>th</sup> Leslie Heird*

### *Anniversaries*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Joe Jackson and  
Karla Funkhouser  
5<sup>th</sup> Steve & Shirley Foster  
7<sup>th</sup> Willard & Wilda Clem  
27<sup>th</sup> Steve & Tina Lowe*

*If you would like to send  
Margaret Daley a note, she  
would enjoy hearing from you.*

*Margaret Daley  
411 West Locust Street  
Woodstock, VA 22664*

### *Flowers For Sunday Morning Worship*

*If you would like to provide  
flowers, please see Dorothy  
Harriman (540)409-6470*



# Strasburg Mayfest Booth

**Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>  
@ 10:00 – 5:00**



We need volunteers to help with the church booth @ Strasburg Mayfest on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. We have morning shifts and afternoon shifts to help with handouts to children and fill helium balloons. Please see Jeff Hamman if you are available to help.





# Palm Sunday Service & Processional



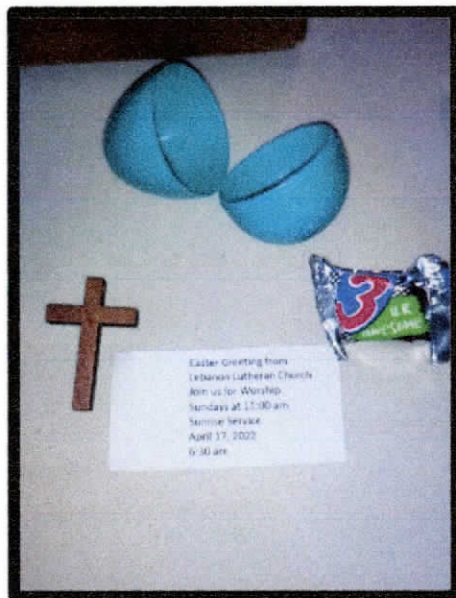


## Reaching **OUT** Thru Outreach

Jan.	Bar Bath Soap – Canned Chicken	July	Bar Soap – Hamburger Helper
Feb.	Hamburger Helper – Dish Detergent	Aug.	Small Laundry Detergent – Canned Chicken
Mar.	Canned Pasta – Instant Potatoes	Sept.	Rice a Roni – Pasta Meal Kits – Toilet Paper
Apr.	Ramen Noodles – Toilet Paper	Oct.	Salt – Pepper – Dish Detergent
May	Pork n Beans – Toothpaste – Toothbrush	Nov.	Instant Potatoes – Gravy Mix – Canned Gravy – Broth
June	Tea Bags – Coffee – Mayonnaise	Dec.	Soup – Saltine Crackers

### Compassion Cupboard Monthly Needs For 2024

Above is a list of items which are needed each month and distributed to those in need in our community. You can bring them to church and place them in the blue tub. (No glass please - jars, etc.)



Easter eggs were filled with a cross, bible message and candy and they were taken to Woodbine Market where they were given out to the public.



# Family Promise Steak Dinner Fundraiser

Thank you to all that attended the Steak Dinner Fundraiser for Family Promise on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

This was a great time of fellowship and support for those in need in our community.







# Lebanon Lutheran Church



◀ Mar 2024		April 2024					May 2024 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1  <b>*Pastor Porter Vacation</b>	2  <b>*Pastor Porter Vacation</b>	3  <b>*Pastor Porter Vacation</b>	4 7:00 Choir Practice  <b>*Pastor Porter Vacation</b>	5 5:30 Shenandoah Co Pregnancy Center Annual Spring Support Celebration @ The Yellow Barn, Mt Jackson (Reminder for those signed up)  <b>*Pastor Porter Vacation</b>	6  <b>*Pastor Porter Vacation</b>	
7 8:45 Sunday School 10:00 Divine Service  <b>*Easter 2</b> <b>*Pastor Porter Vacation</b>	8 10:00 Judges Bible Study	9 11:00 The Maynard Service (Greenfield)	10 8:15 Matins 10:00 Individ. Confession 1:30 Communion Service 5:30 Vesper Service	11 6:00 Outreach Meeting 7:00 Council Meeting	12	13 8:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast @ Queen Street Diner 9:00 Church Clean-up Day	
14 8:45 Sunday School 10:00 Divine Service  <b>*Easter 3</b>	15 10:00 Judges Bible Study	16 11:00 The Maynard Service (Greenfield) 7:00 Neighborhood Watch Meeting	17 8:15 Matins 10:00 Individ. Confession 1:30 Communion Service 5:30 Vesper Service	18 7:00 Choir Practice? Or April 24 <sup>th</sup> – check with Evelyne	19	20	
21 8:45 Sunday School 10:00 Divine Service  <b>*Easter 4</b>	22 10:00 Judges Bible Study 7:00 Worship & Music Meeting	23 11:00 The Maynard Service (Greenfield)	24 8:15 Matins 10:00 Individ. Confession 1:30 Communion Service 5:30 Vesper Service	25 7:00 Women's Meeting	26	27 9:30 – 3:00 NALC District Convocation	
28 8:45 Sunday School 10:00 Divine Service  <b>*Easter 5</b>	29 10:00 Judges Bible Study	30 11:00 The Maynard Service (Greenfield)	<b>Notes:</b> 1) Pastor Porter is on vacation April 1 <sup>st</sup> through April 7 <sup>th</sup> 2) Lebanon Lutheran Church is hosting the NALC District Convocation on Saturday, April 27 <sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 – 3:00				