

THE MESSENGER

April 2023

The newsletter of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Holy Week Schedule

April 2 @ 9:00 am

Palm Sunday worship
(Holy Communion)

April 6 @ 6:30 pm

Maundy Thursday worship
(Holy Communion)

April 7 @ 6:30 pm

Good Friday worship

April 9 @ 8:00 am

Easter Sunday worship

April 9 @ 9:30 am

Easter Fellowship Breakfast

Open Forum

On Sunday, **April 2** there will be an open forum in the basement of the church starting at **10:30 am**.

An open forum is an avenue for all members to have an informal discussion on various topics. Items to be discussed include:

- Digital display worship aids
- Fundraising for new hymnals
- May 20 outreach event

No Sunday School or Bible studies will be held so that interested youth and adults may attend.

In this Messenger:

- 1) Holy Week Schedule, Open Forum, Voters' Meeting
- 2) Pastor's Devotion
- 3) Calendar
- 4) Men's Bible Study
- 4) WELS Youth Night
- 4) Birthdays/Anniversaries
- 4) Attendance & Financial Numbers
- 4) Shut-in Visits
- 5) Confirmation Invite
- 5) WELS & ELS Singles Group
- 5) Help Wanted – Outreach Event May 20
- 6) Family Vacation Bible School
- 6) WELS Night at the Brewers
- 7-8) Bowling Pictures

Voters' Meeting

The quarterly Voters' Meeting will be Sunday, **April 23** starting at **10:30 am** in the sanctuary. Topics to be voted on include:

- Ratify the treasurer appointment (until Jan. 2024): Mr. Bill Wendorf
- Ratify the Technology Committee chairman appointment (until Jan. 2024): Mr. Ken Cerney
- Combine the Board of Elders and the Board of Christian Education
- Combine the Stewardship and Finance Committee with the Evangelism Committee
- Camp Phillip delegate elections (each a 1 year term): Mr. Jerry Natzke, Mr. Alan Zimmerman
- Digital display worship aids
- 2022 Audit



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Holy Week (The Other Days)

From April 2-9 we will be celebrating Holy Week. Some of the days of Holy Week are familiar to us such as: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. But there are other days that make up Holy Week, so let's take a quick look at these days.

Monday: Two things happened on this day. Jesus entered into the temple courts and cleared it. He overturned the tables of the money changers and drove them out of the temple. The reason for this was because they had changed God's temple from being a house of prayer and made it into a den of robbers. Also on this day Jesus made a fig tree wither since it had no fruit even though it was in bloom. After the tree withered Jesus used this as a lesson to teach his disciples that when they pray they should not doubt but believe. Let what Jesus did on this day serve as a reminder for us as well. When we come to church it is to be a time of meditation, of prayer, and of listening to God. And as we pray let us not doubt but trust that God listens and answers our prayers.

Tuesday: This day is sometimes called "Busy Tuesday" because of everything that happened. This is the day where the Pharisees and the Sadducees really tested Jesus with their questions. They questioned Jesus about his authority to do things. They asked him if it was right to pay taxes to Caesar. They questioned him about the resurrection and which commandment was the greatest. Jesus answered all of their questions and the people were amazed at this teaching. During the evening of this day Jesus taught about the end of days, and how one day he would return in all of his glory and authority to judge all people.

Wednesday: This day has the nickname "Silent Wednesday" because we are not told of anything Jesus did on this day. What Scripture does tell us is that on this day the religious leaders were looking for some way to arrest Jesus. They found a way to do this because on this day Judas Iscariot went to them to betray Jesus for money.


Saturday: By now Jesus had died on the cross and was quickly buried in a tomb. You might think that the religious leaders would have been done dealing with Jesus since he was dead, but they approached Pontius Pilate and said, "We remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise again.'" They wanted permission from Pilate to have guards posted at the tomb so that the disciples wouldn't steal Jesus body and deceive the people that Jesus was alive. Pilate agreed to this, and the tomb was made as secure as possible by putting a seal on the tomb and having guards stationed at the tomb.

Easter Sunday: Even though the religious leaders tried their best to stop the disciples from stealing Jesus' body, they didn't expect Jesus to rise from the dead. But that's exactly what happened. The angels rolled away the stone from the tomb, not to allow Jesus to exit out of the tomb but to allow others to see that Jesus was no longer dead but alive. But Jesus' resurrection is important not just by showing us that Jesus is alive, but since Jesus rose from the dead our sins have been forgiven and he will give us eternal life.

- Pastor Neal Behm

April 2023

View the most up to date calendar at christmerrill.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:00 am Children's Fest @ Smith Center
2 9:00 am Palm Sunday Worship (Holy Communion) 10:30 am Open Forum	3	4	5	6 6:30 pm Maunday Thursday Worship (Holy Communion) 7:30 pm Choir Practice	7 6:30 pm Good Friday Worship	8
9 8:00 am Easter Worship 9:00 am Easter Breakfast	10 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study	11 6:30 pm Council Meeting	12 9:00 am Adult Bible Study	13 6:30 pm Catechism Class	14 1:45 pm Worship @ Bell Tower	15 9:00 am Men's Bible Study
					Fri – Sun Spring Teen Retreat @ Camp Phillip	
16 9:00 am Worship (Holy Communion) 10:20 am Children's Group Time 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Teen Bible Study 10:30 am Adult Bible Study	17 6:00 pm Board of Elders Meeting	18 6:00 pm Northland Lutheran High School (NLHS) Open Forum 7:00 pm NLHS Delegate Meeting	19 9:00 am Adult Bible Study	20 6:30 pm Catechism Class	21	22
23 9:00 am Worship 10:20 am Children's Group Time 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Teen Bible Study 10:30 am Quarterly Voters' Meeting 5:45 pm WELS Youth Night @ NLHS	24 DARE to Lead Conference	25	26 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 6:30 pm Choir Practice	27 6:30 pm Catechism Class	28	29
30 9:00 am Worship 10:20 am Children's Group Time 10:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Teen Bible Study 10:30 am Adult Bible Study						

8:00 am Sundays - worship service on the radio (96.3FM, 730AM)

9:00 am Sundays - worship service online at youtube.com/@christmerrill

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: The study of the series *Destruction and Deliverance* will continue on **April 15 at 9 am**. The topic *By Faith Noah...* will be discussed. All men are invited to attend. Please note that the study will be on the third Saturday of the month because of Easter.



WELS YOUTH NIGHT

For teens in **8th to 12th grades** on **Sunday, April 23** from **5:45 to 8:30 pm** at Northland Lutheran High School. Teens will experience an inspiring evening of games, music, prayer, Bible message, small group discussion, and fun with their peers from local WELS congregations. The goal is for our youth to see that they are not alone and to be encouraged to enjoy the faith they share with others. Youth are encouraged to invite a friend to this **FREE** event! Pizza will be provided. [**REGISTER ONLINE**](#) (via Sign-Up Genius)

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

9 Preston C.	22 Jacob M.
9 Don P.	23 Steve H.
12 Derek S.	23 Christina W.
14 Grace G.	24 Lisa K.
17 Marion S.	24 Laura P.
20 Pastor Behm	30 Hans H.
21 Dick S.	30 Lois W.
22 Trina G.	

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

1 Wayne & Lorna P.
24 Alan & Diane Z.
30 Leon & Jennifer M.



SPIRITUAL GROWTH WEEKLY AVERAGES	February
Sunday worship	65
Ash Wednesday worship	26
Men's Adult Bible Study	5
Sunday Adult Bible Study	15
Wednesday Adult Bible Study	9.3
Women's Adult Bible Study	5
Sunday School & Teen Bible Study	10.3

OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD (as of 2/28/23)

Anticipated offerings: \$26,402

Actual offerings: \$21,902

Actual expenses: \$28,977

General Fund balance as of 3/13/23: \$27,008

Your offerings help to support the ministry of the congregation. We are currently trending below budget. For more information see the Treasurer Report on the bulletin board by the elevator.

CALLED WORKER TUITION ASSISTANCE: Applications for those preparing for full time ministry are due **May 1** and may be turned into the Board of Christian Education mailbox.

SHUT-IN VISITATION: The Elders welcome help from members visiting our shut-ins. Members are encouraged to visit and/or keep them in our prayers. Please reach out to Pastor or an elder for contact information.

Brad B.	Laurene H.	Tom L.
Phil M.	Lorna P.	Kathleen P.

HAS YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGED?

Please write your current address, phone number(s), and/or email address on the Friendship Register page next to your name or on a colored paper found in the pew rack. Thanks.

Please submit items for next month's *Messenger* by the 20th of this month to ChristMerrillEducation@gmail.com.

Church Members Invitation:

You are invited to witness and celebrate the confirmation in the Christian faith of

*Derek S.
and
Sonia T.*

May 7, 2023

Christ Ev. Lutheran Church

9:00 am Worship Service
including the Confirmation Rite
and Holy Communion

**11:30 am Lunch and
reception** at the church

WELS & ELS Singles Group

There are over 950 members in their Facebook group. It's a great place to discuss things related to single life, to ask questions about dating, encourage other people in their singleness, or share things that make you laugh. On Facebook, check them out at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/wels.els.singles>

You can also sign up to receive monthly emails from the group at wels-els-singles.com/subscribe.

Christ Ev. Lutheran Church Garage Sale/Cook Out



Event will be held **Saturday, May 20**
from **8:00 am to 4:30 pm**

Please consider donating clothes and other various items. Items can be dropped off at the church the week of May 15th - 19th. Setup in the church basement will occur on May 19th.

We need volunteers to help **set up on Friday, welcome visitors on Saturday, help grill out hamburgers and hotdogs, show our guests around or answer questions they may have of our church** and for members to **help run the garage sale in the basement**. We are also asking for some **baked goods** to be donated so our visitors may have a snack when they come.

Contact Christy C. or Pastor for more information, to arrange a drop off time for donations, or to volunteer to help with the event.

Thank You!

Mark your calendars for Family Vacation Bible School

Look ahead to vacation Bible school, where we will *look back*. Yes! We'll go back in time—*Back to Jerusalem!* This year's theme is about time travel. We'll enter a time machine and go back in time starting on May 31. Adults and children are welcome to attend.

Your help is needed for Vacation Bible School

Ready! Set! Rewind! Go back in time at our vacation Bible school program called *Back to Jerusalem*. We need time travelers of all ages to invite their friends, relatives, and neighbors to learn about their Savior, Jesus. We'll provide registration forms. We also need teens and adults to help with games, refreshments, crafts, and Bible stories. Even if you can spare only an hour, we can use your help. Sign up at the back of church, call Scott S., or say YES if someone asks you to use your talents to serve the Lord and others.



FRI, 7/7  **VS**  **7:10PM**

Mark you calendars and plan to join thousands of WELS members for another exciting WELS Night at American Family Field! Seating will be together for WELS members in all three seating categories.

TICKET PRICES		
FIELD OUTFIELD BOX \$21	LOGE OUTFIELD BOX \$17	TERRACE RESERVED INFIELD \$10

NEW FOR 2023! - Each church that purchases 20 or more tickets will qualify for the opportunity to have a member from their congregation throw out a 1st pitch prior to the game

Tickets can be purchased online at brewers.com/wels
Deadline to purchase tickets is Friday, June 9.

Bowling Fun at Lincoln Lanes!



Bart	94
Rusty	98
Ninja nick	147
Leader of the pack	99
Old timer	124





Derek 77

Jacob	9.-	9 /	X	⑦ /	⑧ 1	X	9 /	X	X	X 8 1	193
	9	29	49	67	76	96	116	146	174	193	

JACOB JUST THREW 3 IN A ROW!



LEON 201



HENRY 79



Larry 138



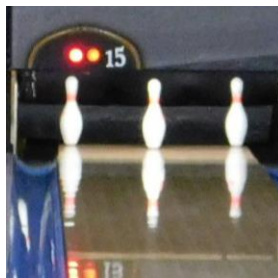
Katelyn 135



Scott 128



TRACY 94
JENI 81



Ellen 115

Jason	X	X	X	X	X	X
	30	60	90	120		

Jason Ham & Turkey Dinner! X

James 46

Owen 49

Christy 113

Lisa 85

Laura 122

Maylissa 107

Jason	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8 /	X	XX 9	277
	30	60	90	120	150	178	198	218	248	277	