



# A Christ-focused Word-centered Family

Church Office 402-256-3622  
Email - [contact@laurelulc.org](mailto:contact@laurelulc.org)

United Lutheran Church  
305 West 3rd Street  
PO Box 367  
Laurel, NE 68745

## APRIL NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024

VOLUME 53

NUMBER 4



### The Life-Changing Power of the Cross and the Resurrection

By Debbie McDaniel

*"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me.'"* John 14:6

The cross is empty and so is the tomb.  
You can try to bury Power, but it won't stay there.  
You can try to bury Truth, but it is not dead.  
You can try to bury Love, but it cannot be contained.

Jesus is alive, He won the victory of sin and death. And He's still the same, even in all the days after the Easter weekend. He never changes. He made a way for us to live free. No other truth in history has the ability to change our lives and affect our future like this. Yet so many still choose to reject Christ's sacrifice and love. He offers us a choice today, and it's the best decision you could ever make.

What Christ's Death on the Cross and the Power of His Resurrection Offers:

-It provides a bridge, a way, to God. It gives us an opportunity to have a personal relationship with the very God who made us and loves us more than we could imagine. Without the cross, there is no way to cross over to the other side of relationship with him. Any attempt will fail. He is the Only Way.

-It provides opportunity for forgiveness of sin. Through the price that Jesus paid on Calvary, we have the chance to be forgiven of our own sin. He took our sin and shame upon his very shoulders. He took the blows on our behalf so we wouldn't have to suffer. Such incredible love. Such amazing sacrifice.

-It provides freedom to all those who believe. Freedom from the shackles of sin. Freedom from shame. Freedom from fear. Freedom from worry. Freedom from hopelessness. Freedom from despair. Freedom from addiction. Freedom from guilt. Freedom from darkness and eternal separation from God.

-It provides new life. We are not only forgiven and set free, but we have a whole new life and destiny through Christ. We are changed, from the inside. He renews our minds. He changes our hearts and desires. He gives us fresh purpose for every day set before us.

-It provides power for us to live today. When Jesus died on the cross, and was buried, it didn't stop there. The final picture of all that the cross provides lies in the powerful Resurrection of our Lord. He won. He didn't stay dead. His power broke through, and that same power is alive within us today. As believers, God gives us the power of the Holy Spirit, living and moving through us each day.

-It provides the way to have victory over Satan. We don't have to fear him or his attacks. As we live aware of his traps, the power of Christ over our lives gives us a covering and protection from his evil schemes. We're not left to fend for ourselves. We don't fight in our own strength. We can stand strong in the Mighty Name of Jesus Christ.

-It provides for us an eternal heavenly home. We never need to fear about what will happen when we die. In Christ we have been given the gift of eternal life. This earth is only our temporary home. God is preparing a place for us, with him, to live forever. And you can be assured it will be far greater than we could ever imagine.

*"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Cor.15:57*

Dear God, thank you for your great gift of love and sacrifice, so that we can live free. Thank you for the power of the cross and the Resurrection. We ask that the truth of it all sinks deeply into our hearts and changes us forever. Fill us fresh with your Spirit today. In Jesus' Name, Amen

**Further Reading:**

2 Corinthians 5:17

John 8:36

Ephesians 1:7

Acts 1:8

---

Taken from <https://thewordfm1007.com/devotionals/easter-devotionals/easter-devotional-march-26>



A change in the schedule is being planned for the Youth Group. The Youth Ministry is planning to have youth for the High School Group on the first Wednesday of the month and the Junior High Group on the third Wednesday of the month. An activity will be planned for the groups jointly during the month as well. The time and format for the groups will remain the same-6:30 Supper and then lesson and games until 8:00. We hope that this new schedule will accommodate both groups and they will continue to grow in their faith in our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. If you would like to help with youth, please contact one of the members of the Youth Ministry Team.

United Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting  
March 14, 2024

Members Present: Dustin Showen, McKenzie Roeber, Jon Mullen, Tiffany Ebberson, Lisa Karnes, Tom Biernbaum, Nathan Abts, Joe Ankeny & Matt Maxon.  
Members Absent: Steve Luedtke, Sara Pehrson & Doug Olson.

Dustin called the meeting to order. The group recited the Mission Statement and Dustin opened with the reading of a devotion and prayer.

Tiffany Ebberson read the minutes from the last meeting. Lisa Karnes made a motion to accept the minutes. Joe Ankeny seconded. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lisa presented the P&L and balance sheets. Tiffany Ebberson made a motion to approve the treasurer report. Sara Pehrson seconded. Motion passed.

**Trustee's Report:** Erica Diediker has applied for a grant to help cover the cost of a new AED. The total cost of the AED is approximately \$1,900 and the grant would cover roughly \$1,300. The closing mechanism for a south door has been leaking oil. The trustees would like to replace the devices on both of the south doors and the total cost would be around \$550. Joe Ankeny made a motion to approve the purchase of both mechanisms. McKenzie Roeber seconded. Motion passed. There has been concern expressed about the front doors being locked. Jon is going to talk to a locksmith in Wayne to see options for new lock options for the double doors. Jon will also contact Zach Spahr to see if he has an estimate for new LED lighting for the Sanctuary.

**Parish Ed Report:** McKenzie covered the Parish Ed and Luther League account balances. VBS planning has started and looking for volunteers. New ideas for a Sunday School curriculum are being discussed. Parish Ed is looking into doing a church wide or youth-based mission trip possibly in 2024. Have any suggestions? Please talk with Sara Pehrson or any Parish Ed member!

### **Other Business**

- Online giving will turn over to Stride next month.
- ULC is hosting a food drive for various Laurel families. They are able to do this in conjunction with the Laurel Ministerial Association

**Deacon's Report:** There has been a concern with how the Confirmation class is set up. Could we possibly look into having a "foundation class" for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students/1<sup>st</sup> year confirmation students? This would provide a review or basic understanding of what will be needed to know for Confirmation. More discussion to happen on this topic. The Deacons continue to work through list of home visits.

### **President's Report:**

#### **Communion Stewards**

- \* Maundy Thursday – Joe Ankeny
- \* Easter – Dustin Showen
- \* April – Jon Mullen

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Tiffany Ebberson, Council Secretary



**Please find a substitute & notify the church office if you are unable to be present.**

### **ALTAR GUILD for APRIL**

*Barb Pigg, Elizabeth Erwin, Keila Olson & Kylie Maxon*

#### **April 7 (White) Communion                      Second Sunday of Easter**

LECTOR - Jon Mullen  
GREETERS - Matt and Mindy Christensen & Family  
COMMUNION STEWARD - Jon Mullen  
USHERS - Mike & Cathie Jacobsen, Kody & Bradyn Urwiler, Don & Erica Diediker, Greg & Deb Urwiler  
ACOLYTE - Carlee Stanley  
NURSERY - Mandi Swanson  
MUSICIAN - Glenda Johnson  
FELLOWSHIP COFFEE - Don & Erica Diediker, Diane Peterson, Lisa Kames

#### **April 14 (White)    Third Sunday of Easter**

LECTOR - Diane Peterson  
GREETERS - Drew and Kayla Detlefsen & Family  
USHERS - Lathan Detlefsen, Robert Patefield, Scott & Evan Urwiler, Tom Biembaum  
ACOLYTE - Payton Swanson  
NURSERY - Katie Bose  
MUSICIAN - Anita Gade  
FELLOWSHIP COFFEE - Matthew & Kiley Maxon, Tim & Teresa Granquist, Charley & Paige Green

#### **April 21 (White)    Fourth Sunday of Easter**

LECTOR - Doug Olson  
GREETERS - Roger & Linda Klausen  
USHERS - Verneal Gade, Les Owen, Marlin Bose, Jon Mullen, Craig Kames  
ACOLYTE - Jacob Kolar  
NURSERY - Amy Kort  
MUSICIAN - Sherie Lundahl  
FELLOWSHIP COFFEE - Jim & Karen Thompson, Steve & Mitzi Luedtke, Marlene Jussel & Gary Schmitt

#### **April 28 (White)    Fifth Sunday of Easter**

LECTOR - Erica Diediker  
GREETERS - Mike & Cathi Jacobsen  
USHERS - Steve, Jacob & Kody Luedtke, Nick Kort, Ron Lundahl, Jon Pehrson, Drew & Koby Detlefsen  
ACOLYTE - Mason Kort  
MUSICIAN - Glenda Johnson  
FELLOWSHIP COFFEE - Cody & Stephanie Urwiler, Marlin & Mary Bose, Jerry & Glenda Johnson

#### **May 5 (White) Communion                              Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY**  
LECTOR - Lisa Kames  
GREETERS - Jerry & Glenda Johnson  
COMMUNION STEWARD -  
USHERS - Mike & Cathie Jacobsen, Kody & Bradyn Urwiler, Don & Erica Diediker, Greg & Deb Urwiler  
ACOLYTE - Treytan Lawyer  
NURSERY - Teresa Granquist  
MUSICIAN - Anita Gade  
FELLOWSHIP COFFEE - Mary & Joe Ankeny, John & Nancy Abts, Jack & Rozanne Hintz

#### **May 12 (White)    Seventh Sunday of Easter**

LECTOR - Sara Pehrson  
GREETERS - Verneal & Anita Gade  
USHERS - Lathan Detlefsen, Robert Patefield, Scott & Evan Urwiler, Tom Biembaum  
ACOLYTE - Aliya Detlefsen  
NURSERY - Stephanie Urwiler  
MUSICIAN - Sherie Lundahl  
FELLOWSHIP COFFEE - Doug & Keila Olson, Jacob & Mandi Swanson, Verneal & Anita Gade



### **Cards and Napkins**

The WMF has a wide variety of cards and napkins for sale. All proceeds from the sales go to help fund WMF outreach projects.

Many cards and napkins to choose from. All occasions, including Christmas, Graduation, Thanksgiving, Birthday, Baptism, Confirmation and many more.

*Check out the west cupboard in the Fellowship Hall. Look for the sign.*

# United Lutheran Calendar



## WEDNESDAY, April 3

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

## THURSDAY, April 4

9:00 a.m. Sarah Cirelç

6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Ruth Cirelç

## SUNDAY, April 7

9:00 a.m. Worship with Communion

*Fellowship Coffee follows Worship*

10:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation

4:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Marquardt

## WEDNESDAY, April 10

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

## THURSDAY, April 11

6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

## SUNDAY, April 14

9:00 a.m. Worship

*Fellowship Coffee follows Worship*

10:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation

4:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Marquardt

## WEDNESDAY, April 17

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group and Supper

## THURSDAY, April 18

6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study

## SUNDAY, April 16

9:00 a.m. Worship

*Fellowship Coffee follows Worship*

10:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation

2:30 p.m. Hilcrest Service

4:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Marquardt

## MONDAY, April 22

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!!!**

## TUESDAY, April 23

6:00 p.m. Youth Ministry Team Meeting

7:00 p.m. Parish Education Meeting

## WEDNESDAY, April 24

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

## THURSDAY, April 25

6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study

## SUNDAY, April 28

9:00 a.m. Worship

*Fellowship Coffee follows Worship*

**Blood Pressure Checks**

10:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation

4:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Marquardt



## WEDNESDAY, May 1

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Sr. High Youth Group and Supper

## THURSDAY, May 2

9:00 a.m. Sarah Cirelç

6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Ruth Cirelç

## SUNDAY, May 5 - HS Seniors Sunday

9:00 a.m. Worship with Communion

***Fellowship Coffee Honoring HS Seniors***

10:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation

6:00 p.m. Small Group Bible Study

## TUESDAY, May 7

7:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting

## WEDNESDAY, May 8

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

## THURSDAY, May 9

6:00 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

## SATURDAY, May 11

LCC Graduation

## SUNDAY, May 12

9:00 a.m. Worship

***Fellowship Coffee Honoring HS Seniors***

10:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation

6:00 p.m. Small Group Bible Study

## TUESDAY, May 14

2:00-6:00 p.m. LifeServe Blood Drive

Laurel Fire & Rescue Hall

## WEDNESDAY, May 15

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group and Supper

# Happy Birthday and Anniversary to...



1. LEE DAHL
2. HALEY CARSON  
GRACIE MAE NAEVE
3. RACQUEL HOLLOWAY  
JOY HERRMANN  
LUCILLE WILLIAMS  
KONNER HOESING
5. KYLA SPAHR
6. NOLAN STANLEY
9. MATT CHRISTENSEN  
STEVE SCHMITT
12. KEVIN THORELL  
MIKE WILLAMS  
CARLEE STANLEY
13. JAMES RECOB
15. JERRY & SHELLEY GROENE

16. SAMANTHA PEHRSON
17. MINA YOUNG
18. DAVID PATEFIELD
20. JESSE SWANSON  
JENNIFER LUNDAHL
22. JACE GRANQUIST  
LEE & KAYLEEN DAHL
22. MIKE & SARAH NAEVE
24. JILL PETERSON  
JACK & ROZANNE HINTZ  
DOUG & KEILA OLSON
26. DREW DETLEFSEN  
JARROD HENDERSON  
TYLER RECOB  
HANNAH KORT
27. EVAN URWILER



Blood Pressure Checks  
Sunday, April 28, 2024  
During Fellowship Time

NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH



## LET LIFE BLOOM!

Sign up as an  
organ, eye, and  
tissue donor.

[organdonor.gov](https://organdonor.gov)





# Testicular Cancer Fact Sheet

for Patients and Caregivers



Testicular cancer starts in the testicles. Testicular cancer can develop at any age, but the average age at diagnosis is 33. In most cases, testicular cancer can be treated successfully.

## Risk Factors and Prevention

Many men with testicular cancer have no known risk factors. And many of the risk factors can't be changed, such as having testicles that did not descend, a family history of the disease, infection with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), and being White. At this time, there are no known ways to prevent testicular cancer.

## Early Detection

The American Cancer Society does not have guidelines for testicular self-exam, but some doctors advise men and boys who have gone through puberty to check their testicles each month. Talk to your doctor right away if you find any changes in your testicles or scrotum. Most doctors agree that examining a man's testicles should be part of a routine checkup.

## Signs and Symptoms

The most common sign of testicular cancer is a lump or swelling in one of the testicles. One testicle may feel harder or larger than the other. Sometimes there isn't any pain or discomfort. Other signs and symptoms might include aching in the lower belly, back, or groin, or a heavy feeling in the scrotum.

## Treatment

Treatment for testicular cancer depends on the type and extent of the cancer and results of any testing done on the tumor. A man's age, other health problems, and personal choices are also considered. If you have testicular cancer, talk to your doctor about the best treatment for you.

## Living With Testicular Cancer

Having testicular cancer affects a person's quality of life. Physical, social, mental health, spiritual, and money issues can come up at any time during and after treatment. For instance, after treatment, men with testicular cancer might have problems with sexual function and might not be able to father children.

People with testicular cancer may be helped by palliative care at any time. Palliative care focuses on helping patients manage symptoms, address issues, and improve their quality of life.

Good communication between a man with testicular cancer and his health care team is important. This should include:

- Asking and answering questions
- Working together to set care goals
- Shared decision making
- Managing side effects and other issues
- Scheduling follow-up tests and care

Visit the American Cancer Society website at [cancer.org/cancer/testicular-cancer](https://cancer.org/cancer/testicular-cancer) or call us at **1-800-227-2345** to learn more. We're here when you need us.



[cancer.org](https://cancer.org) | 1.800.227.2345

©2023, American Cancer Society, Inc.  
No. 086769 Rev. 1/23  
Models used for illustrative purposes only.

