

CrossTalk March 2018

Risen Christ Lutheran Church

41 E Possum Road. Springfield, Oh 45502

(937) 323-3688

www.risenchristlcms.org

Return of the LORD!

And [the angel] said to [the women], "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen! (Mark 16:6)

Throughout Lent, we are focusing on the words: *Return to the Lord!* It's a call from the prophets of old for us to repent and come back to our gracious God and live under his grace.

However, on April 1, we're going to find the switching of one word makes all the difference in the world...forever! The Return of the Lord shows that death has been conquered and heaven's gates have been opened to all who believe in Jesus.

To ready your heart for that glorious day, take part in all the special worship services this month presents. Hear the calls of Hosea, Malachi, and Amos on the first three Wednesdays of March at 7 pm. Rejoice with the crowds as Jesus enters Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, March 25. Commune with Christ as he institutes the covenant meal of the New Testament on Maundy Thursday, March 29 at 7 pm, and stare in disbelief as the altar is stripped at the end of that service. Grieve at the noon hour Chief Service and 7 pm Tenebrae (Service of Darkness) of Good Friday, March 30, as Jesus dies on the cross, bearing your sin. And finally, rejoice on Easter morn as Christ bursts forth from the tomb victorious, defeating death.

Invite your friends to join you for one of these moving worship services as this is a season when many are open to coming to church. Whom would the Spirit have you bring?

Also offer to bring the kids of your neighborhood to our Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 24. Not only will they have a lot of fun, they'll also hear the salvation story from me.

As if that weren't enough activity for the month, we'll also be welcoming into our congregation several new families on Sunday, March 18.

When all that is through, how good it will be to come together on Easter morning and again shout together: *Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!*

Pastor Rich

Church Office Staff

Pastor

Richard Tursic

Elders

Randy Schwarz

Jim Perks

Dennis Norden

Bob Craven

Jamie McGuffey

Office Manager

Celeste Whitehead

CrossTalk Publisher

Celeste Whitehead

School Staff

Administrator

Rebecca Reid

Director of Records

Kathy Ackley

Preschool Director

Michele Leitch

Preschool Aide

Karen Dunn

Kelli Inskip

Kindergarten

Megan Ramsey

1st Grade Teacher

Heidi Congleton

2nd Grade Teacher

Deb Rutledge

3rd Grade Teacher

Jeff Parks

4th Grade Teacher

Caitlin Everhart

5th & 6th Grade Teacher

Anna Schack

Elementary Aides

Kathy Ackley

Before/After Care

Lillian Swain

School Support Staff

Betty Ward

Lisa Mulkey

A BIG "THANK YOU" TO...

- The Rutledges for the new office clock and for counting the kids' church offering change.
- Ministry Team Leaders for making reports to the voters regarding 2017 accomplishments and 2018 goals.
- Mickey Dahle and Judy Lemmon for organizing the meal for the Mote family.
- Linda Sears for stepping in on Sunday and playing the service on a minutes notice.

March 2018 Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays



- 3 Steve Roberts
- 4 Bob Craven
- 10 Alexander Ervin
- 11 Veronica Heilmann
- 14 Tana Henderson
Brenda Montecalvo
- 16 Charles Dahle
Mary Norden
Noelle Wiebeck
- 19 Edward Hoecker
J.L. Draganic
- 22 Kaleb Whitt
- 23 William Lambacher
- 27 Susan Motter
- 28 Nicky Kuziak
- 29 Duane Wiebeck
Austin Henderson

Baptism Birthday



- Beryl Boggess
- 3 Michelle Dahle
- 10 Becky Krieger
- 12 Patricia Arnold
- 14 Sydney Ryman
- 17 Judith Lemmon
David Petersen
Owen McGuffey
- 18 Sherry Whitt
- 30 Brad Reid
- 31 Homer Ryman



Wedding Anniversary

- 21 Brian & Dakota Perks

Elder Article

At one of the men's bible studies back in Jan. we were talking about what the meaning of blue is during the advent season. I must confess that I wasn't sure what the meaning was. This got me to thinking that maybe I should brush up on the colors of the church and on the seasons in which they fall. I would like to share with you what I found.

The Lutheran Church breaks up the year into what we call "seasons" and our church year is a different than our regular calendar as you will see in the explanation of our seasons and colors.

Colors are used for different items being worn by the people leading worship, (called vestments); such as the pastor's stole and the cloths (called paraments) that go on the altar, pulpit, and lectern. The colors are there to call attention to the nature of the season or festival being celebrated.

Our church year begins four Sundays before Christmas with the season of Advent. This is a season of hope, when we wait for Christ's birth and His return. In most churches the color used in Advent is blue. This color was chosen because it represents hope. In some congregations you may see them use purple as the color of Advent. Purple represents the royalty of the coming King. This meaning of purple is different during Lent.

Following Advent is the season of Christmas. Christmas lasts for 12 days, from December 25th until January 5th. This is the season of the Celebration of Christ's birth. The color used during Christmas is white. White represents the purity and completeness of Christ and the joy and light we find in Him.

Following Christmas, on January 6th, is "The Epiphany of our Lord." The word epiphany means "a shining forth" or "revelation." This day is often the day we recognize as the coming of the Wise Men. The Epiphany of our Lord is when we celebrate the many ways - through prayer, miracles, and preaching – that Jesus made Himself known to us as God made flesh. White to represent the same ideas of Christmas, joy and light found in Christ.

The Baptism of Jesus is a day that celebrates the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. This is the first Sunday after the end of the Christmas season. The color of the day is white like Christmas and The Epiphany of our Lord.

Then we have the season after Epiphany. This is what we refer to as the season of light and helps us to remember how we can lead others to Christ. This season can last anywhere from 4-9 Sundays and goes from January 6 (the day of Epiphany) until the day before Ash Wednesday. The color of the season is green to reflect our life and growth in Christ.

Ash Wednesday falls 40 days (not counting Sundays) before Easter and is the first day of Lent. It can fall as early as Feb. 4th (Feb.5th on Leap Year) and as late as March 10th. Black is the color of Ash Wednesday, symbolic of the ashes to which we will return, the other acceptable color for the day is purple - a color of repentance.

Lent is the season during which we reflect on the upcoming crucifixion of Christ and we prepare ourselves through prayer, meditation, and self-denial. The forty days of Lent are meant to reflect the time that Jesus spent in the desert being tempted by Satan before beginning His public ministry. The color for Lent is purple to represent repentance.

Palm Sunday is the Sunday before Easter during which we remember Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem followed quickly by the crowd's cheers turning to calls for his crucifixion. The color of the day is scarlet "scarlet is a color anciently associated with the passion ... the color of blood". The next day of Holy Week is Maundy Thursday. This is the day that we remember Jesus washing the feet of His disciples and sharing in the Holy Meal before He is taken away to be crucified. The color of the day is scarlet. Jesus is crucified on Good Friday. Black is the absence of light, Jesus the light of the world is gone!! The color of Good Friday is black.

Easter morning, Christ has risen from the grave. The light of the world is back declaring victory over sin and death. The color is white, for light and joy! Gold can also be used (Gold represents value and worth).

The season of Easter lasts 50 days and the color white is used during this time. White is the color of purity and completeness. This is the message that "though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow."

The Day of Pentecost follows the 50 days of Easter and is when we remember the Holy Spirit, the tongues of fire, descending on the followers of Christ. The color of the day is red to symbolize and remember the tongues of fire.

Holy Trinity Sunday is the Sunday after Pentecost and eight weeks after Easter Sunday. The day we stand in awe of the mystery of our three-in-one God (God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit). The color of the day is white to represent the mystery of the day.

The rest of our church year is the season after Pentecost. This is our longest season, which begins with the day of Pentecost and ends with Christ the King Sunday. This season really focuses on the work of the Church in the world, Jesus' message to us, and our growth in Christ. The color of the season is green to remind us of that growth and life.

Reformation Day is October 31st every year. This is only celebrated in the Lutheran church and is the day we remember the work of Martin Luther and all the Reformers and their contributions to the faith. The color of the day is red reminding us of the power of the Holy Spirit coming among God's people - much as in the Day of Pentecost.

The last day of our church year is Christ the King Sunday in which we celebrate the true royalty of Christ and proclaim Him king of all. The color of the day is white for joy and celebration.

Other lesser festivals throughout the year are celebrated and most often their color is white. The exception to this is when we remember the life of a martyr, in which case the color of the day is red.

You can find more on the LCMS website. Hope this is helpful to you.

To God be the Glory!

Dennis Norden

Mattress Sale Kick Off

Mark your calendars!!!

Risen Christ Lutheran School Fund Raiser
Mattress Sale - Saturday, March 3rd, 10 am-5 pm



Sisters in Christ



Saturday, April 21

3:00-5:00

**Family Fun Event Sponsored by
The Sisters in Christ
(more details to come)**



Kids- Let's Celebrate
Easter! Bring your friends!

Saturday, March 24, 2018

10:30 am-12:00pm

Risen Christ Lutheran Church

Crafts, games, Easter story followed by the
Egg Hunt!

We are in *need* of donations of *candy and small toys*—due by March 9. Place in tub in Narthex. We also *need volunteers* to man various stations: Craft, Snack, Game, Story, Egg Hunt. Please contact Erika Linderman or Kathy Tursic if you have questions. You can sign up to help on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

GETTING TO KNOW OUR RISEN CHRIST FAMILY

Meet John Bacevic

John is one of our new members at Risen Christ and also new to this area. He moved from the Boston Massachusetts area to New Carlisle this past December. He is an Electronic Engineering alumni of the University of Connecticut. His career included assignments in designing electro optical systems mostly for military applications prior to moving into business development and strategic planning, then progressing into management.

John has been active in church work over the past years. He has served in positions from president to polishing floors when needed. He served as treasurer at Lutheran Church of the Way prior to coming to Ohio.

John's son Johnny and his wife live in Springfield and have two daughters who also live in the area.

At Risen Christ, John currently serves on the Finance and Stewardship Team.

In his leisure time John enjoys cooking, photography and woodworking as hobbies.

He usually attends the 8:00 worship service and the Sunday morning Bible class so we hope you will have the opportunity to get to know him better and welcome him to our Risen Christ family.

Easter Flowers

Altar Care Committee is planning to decorate the sanctuary with potted spring flowers to the glory of our Resurrected Lord for Easter Sunday. We hope to work with a florist to order the flowers and give the congregation the opportunity to choose and donate their favorites. After Easter worship, the donor will be able to take their flowers home to enjoy. Watch for further information and donor sheets coming out in March. For more info, contact Deb Rutledge or Jo Baumgardner.



Scriptures for March 2018



VERSE OF THE MONTH – March 2018

“For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”

1 Corinthians 1:18

March 4

Third Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Gospel: John 2:13-22

Psalm 19

March 11

Fourth Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

Epistle: Ephesians 2:1-10

Gospel: John 3:14-21

Psalm 107:1-9

March 18

Fifth Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Second Reading: Hebrew 5:1-10

Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

Psalm 119:9-16

March 25

Palm Sunday

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: Mark 11:1-11

Psalm 118:19-29

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*HC Holy Communion				1	2	3 5 pm School Mattress Sale
4 8 am Worship 9:30 am Bible Class 10:45 am HC Worship 6 pm Confirmation	5	6 9:45 am Women's Bible Study 5 pm School Board 5:30 pm Girl Scouts	7 6 pm Soup/Salad 7 pm Lenten Service	8 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	9 ← Jr High → Ohio District Youth Gathering	10
11 8 am HC Worship 9:30 am Bible Class 10:45 am Worship 6 pm Confirmation	12 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	13 9:45 am Women's Bible Study 7 pm Ministry Team Leaders	14 6 pm Soup/Salad 7 pm Lenten Service	15 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	16	17 10 am New Member Orientation
18 8 am Worship 9:30 am Bible Class 10:45 am HC Worship 6 pm Confirmation	19	20 9:45 am Women's Bible Study 12-2 pm Food Pantry 5:30 pm Girl Scouts 7 pm Ministry Directors	21 6 pm Soup/Salad 7 pm Lenten Service	22 CrossTalk Articles Due	23	24 10:30 am Easter Egg Hunt
25 Palm Sunday 8 am HC Worship 9:30 am Bible Class 10:45 am Worship	26 6:30 am Men's Bible Study	27 9:45 am Women's Bible Study 7 pm Elders	28	29 Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Communion Service	30 Good Friday 12 pm Chief Service 7:00 pm Tenebrae Service	31 3:30 pm Henman/Petersen Wedding

Those serving us in the month of March 2018

8:00 SERVICE

	Elder	Acolyte	Greeters	Ushers	Reader	Altar Care	Sound Board
3/4	Denny Norden	Isabel Brown	Chandra Shrader	Dave Petersen Greg Shrader Ed Berg	Chuck Dahle		Scott Tursic
3/11	Rob Hunt	Kelsey Vollrath	Linn Silliman	Rich Silliman Gene Baumgardner Paul Bok	Linda Sears	Deb Rutledge	Steve Rutledge
3/18	Bob Craven	Kaden McGuffey	Ed Berg	Keith Vollrath Philip Sears Steve Rutledge	Greg Shrader		Wiebecks
3/25	Randy Schwarz	Stephen Wiebeck	Lynn Henman	Chuck Bern Gene Baumgardner Dave Petersen	Jo Baumgardner	Jo Baumgardner	Wiebecks

10:45 SERVICE

	Elder	Acolyte	Greeter	Ushers	Reader	Sound Board	Counters
3/4	Denny Norden	Erica Cremeans	David Arnold	Homer Ryman Rick Miller Phil Hawkins	Beth Ervin	Wiebecks	Deb Rutledge Denna Johnson
3/11	Rob Hunt	Ethan Cunningham	Judy Lemmon	David Arnold Denny Norden Jon Linderman	Chris Heilmann	Sarah Bussell & Bob Craven	Dave Thomas Dave Petersen
3/18	Bob Craven	Alisha Ervin	Sharon Heilmann	Chris Heilmann Denny Norden Steve Rutledge	Anthony Montecalvo	Bob & Reed Dahle	Beryl Boggess Denny Norden
3/25	Randy Schwarz	Joey Koval	Phil Hawkins	Bob Craven Jon Linderman Homer Ryman	Scott Tursic	Perks Family	Steve Rutledge Chris Heilmann

MAUNDY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

	Elder	Acolyte	Greeter	Ushers	Reader	Sound Board
3/29	Randy Schwarz	Benjamin McKee	Linn Silliman	Bob Craven Jon Linderman Homer Ryman	Linda Sears	Duane Wiebeck
3/30 12 pm	Denny Norden	Christina Kaiser	Helen Craig	Chuck Bern Gene Baumgardner Dave Petersen	Anthony Montecalvo	Duane Wiebeck
3/30 7 pm	Rob Hunt	Wesley Perks	Judy Lemmon	Dave Petersen Greg Shrader Ed Berg	Beth Ervin	Duane Wiebeck