



# Ascension Acolyte

April 2018

**Sharing  
Christ's  
Love -  
Growing in  
Grace!**

Living by  
God's grace,  
we share the  
love of Jesus  
with our  
neighbors and  
grow together  
in faith.

**Lutheran  
Church  
of the  
Ascension**

1801 East Cliff Road  
Burnsville, MN 55337

952-890-3412

Sunday Worship  
9:00 AM

Adult Bible  
Study  
10:30 AM

## AfterShock

*And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.  
At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.  
The earth shook and the rocks split. – Matthew 27:50-51*

This year, Easter Sunday is the first day of April. So we've got an entire month to allow the excitement of this high festival day to work in our lives. Are you ready for the days, weeks and months after Easter? Will you be ready for the after-Easter effect to kick in? Do you remember what it was like last year? The candy clearance sales in the commercial world. The Easter baskets and bunny rabbit decorations neatly placed back in their storage boxes. The relatives who visit once a year will finally be gone. The ham and lamb leftovers will fill the refrigerator. At Ascension a peaceful calm descends upon the church. The Christian community at large breathes a big sigh of relief. We made it! The high festival of the church year will have come.....and gone. Meanwhile the secular world will hardly recognize that anything has happened. After all, a Sunday holiday doesn't affect the work week. Maybe it should!

*"The earth shook and the rocks split."* A significant event. This earthquake wasn't from two tectonic plates colliding like the devastating events that occur when a 7 or 8 point earthquake is reported in our world. Rather the earthquake on Good Friday was a miraculous event caused directly by the death of Jesus. His death not only caused the created earth to shudder as its Creator died and the temple curtain was torn in two (signifying that through Jesus we can now approach God), but the death of Jesus gives us a bunch of living object lessons as well. With the Good Friday earthquake *"the tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life"* (vs.52). Now that's something you don't see every day!

Dead relatives brought back to life would probably make quite a stir in the Twin Cities if they were seen marching down Hennepin Ave. or around Lake Harriet or trying to get on the light rail or MVTA buses. We are told that *"after Jesus' resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people"* (vs.53). I bet these once-dead-but-now-living relatives probably gave rise to quite a few stories in Jerusalem. I wonder what they told the people they met in town. I wonder if they attributed their new life to the One who proclaimed His victory over death on Easter Sunday. Looking back on the earthquake of Good Friday it is easy to marvel at that miracle. But I believe the aftershock (what happened three days later) is much more powerful!

Continued...

## **Staff**

### **Pastor**

Rev. Joel Vano  
Office: 952-890-3412  
Cell: 952-999-2025  
[pastorjoel@ascensionburnsville.org](mailto:pastorjoel@ascensionburnsville.org)

### **Office Manager**

Brenda Larson  
Office: 952-890-3412  
[office@ascensionburnsville.org](mailto:office@ascensionburnsville.org)

### **Senior Choir Director**

Mike Tomlinson 612-396-3658  
[mtomlinson73@gmail.com](mailto:mtomlinson73@gmail.com)

### **Organist**

Nancy Schaffert 651-335-2235

### **Keyboard/Accompanist**

Cindy Lonnquist 651-452-9258

### **Prayer Chain Leader**

Kristy Hesser 952-423-3953  
[ascensionprays4u@ascensionburnsville.org](mailto:ascensionprays4u@ascensionburnsville.org)

The **PRAYER CHAIN** is available to everyone. If you have a prayer request for healing... peace...help...thanksgiving...etc., please call Kristy Hesser or use the email address. If you are interested in becoming a link in our chain, please give Kristy a call. New links are always welcome!

## **Lay Ministers**

Dan Dahl	952-894-6651	Don Pitzer *	952-890-2839
Joe Fellerer	952-890-5054	Jim Skille	651-890-3669
Peggy Lausen	952-432-6727	Jan Werner	952-890-0627

\* Board Director

## **Random Angels**

Random Angels are quietly at work among us doing household cleaning, visiting shut-ins, and other activities. If you know of someone in the congregation in need of a "Random Angel" or are willing to donate your time to be one, please contact Lorna Pitzer (952-890-2839) or Kristy Hesser (952-423-3953) or put a note in the Random Angels mailbox across from the pastor's office. Volunteers are always contacted to determine if an individual's needs meet their schedules.

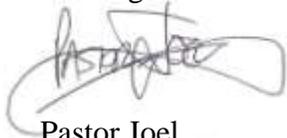


Cover page continued....

So how will you handle the aftershock of Easter this year? Will it be something worth talking about with the people in your life even after it's back to life as usual? In the truest sense you and I were dead people, but we have been raised to life in Jesus. Maybe it's time for us to be the aftershock in the lives of those around us, both Christians and unbelievers alike. The energy of Easter often dissipates after the event. Don't let that happen to you this year! Continue to experience the aftershock of Easter each week as we celebrate together in Sunday morning worship. Continue to live in the spirit of Easter long after April 1, 2018. Use the energy of Easter which you have experienced to impact the lives of your friends who are walking around as though nothing has happened. Because you know that something has happened!

Yes, Jesus died. But He didn't stay in the grave. Jesus rose! And lives have been changed ever since. Your life has been changed. Are you amazed and awed that Jesus would do all this for you? Are you still reeling from the shock of such a profound love? Is the aftershock of Easter a reality for you? I pray that the message of Easter would continue to move you and affect the lives of others in your life. That's an aftershock that I want to experience!

Shaking the world with Jesus!



Pastor Joel



### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE -- MONDAY, APRIL 9**

You may email your announcement or article for the *May Acolyte* to [office@ascensionburnsville.org](mailto:office@ascensionburnsville.org) or please have it written out and place it in Brenda's drawer in the library area at church. Thank you!

The A/V Team is looking for additional members to help with the A/V presentations during worship each week. Please consider joining us. You don't need any experience to get started. Everything can easily be learned along the way, at your own pace. Contact Steven Larson if you are interested in serving in this way.



### **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE**

Ascension's Blood Drive was held on Monday, February 26 from 12:30-6:30pm. 21 units of blood were collected. A special thank you to Marlys Groshens and her crew of volunteers, who gave their time to this ministry.

# April Birthdays

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Brown, Robert	4/16	Lausen, Peggy	4/13
Friedrichs, Daniel	4/6	Olson, Lynn	4/3
Friedrichs, Mark	4/6	Studer, Gerald	4/3
Hesser, David	4/8	Werner, Ralph	4/29
Koch, Ben	4/1		

*If your birthday is in April and it is not listed here, it's because we don't have it in our member records. Please let us know, so we can wish you a happy birthday!*



## FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

For your calendars, the upcoming Feed My Starving Children food packing volunteer event is:

**Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> 9-11 a.m.**



Anyone 5 years old and older can volunteer. Invite your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to come to the Feed My Starving Children's Eagan location (990 Lone Oak Road, Suite 160) and help pack meals for hungry children across the world. Want to contribute money to help with ingredient costs? Just make a check to Ascension with FMSC in the memo line.

The fiction, best-selling book selected for April's ABC is *Chop.Chop* by the contemporary Christian author L. N. Cronk. In the story line, it seems to David that both Greg and Laci are a bit . . . out there. Between each of them constantly chopping off their hair for charity and Greg's clandestine hand signals, neither of them seem likely to develop friendships with reserved young David. Despite their differences, however, all three grow closer to each other and - as they do - David grows closer to God as well. Nearing adulthood, David finds himself content in every way . . . but when tragedy strikes, David must struggle to find his way back to God. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion of this award winning book at 6:30, Monday, April 16. Come and bring friend!





## SE SUBURBAN LWML ZONE SPRING RALLY

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**DATE: SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018**  
**TIME : REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:30 AM**  
**PROGRAM BEGINS AT 9:00 AM**  
**LUNCH WILL BE SERVED**

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR  
14980 DIAMOND PATH, ROSEMOUNT, MN.

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**Theme: "FREE TO BE FAITHFUL" Rev. 2:10b**

Religious liberty in an ever changing society.

**Presenter:** Rev. Fred Hinz, MN.SO. District, Asst. to the President for  
Mission Formation and Public Policy Advocate

**Cost:** \$10.00

**Gifts from the Heart:** Monetary donations to the LCMS Disaster Relief  
(make check out to LCMS and in memo line put Disaster Relief) or Cleaning  
Supplies (delegate has list) to be used by the LCMS Disaster Relief teams.

**SAVE THE DATE !!**

27<sup>th</sup> Biennial MN South District LWML Convention

June 29-30, 2018

Verizon Wireless Center in Mankato

For more information, see Martha Sloboden or the WOM Newsletter.

MINNESOTA SOUTH DISTRICT LCMS OLDER ADULT MINISTRY



S.A.G.E.S.



PRESENTS

GATHERING XXX

Pearls of Wisdom



ENTRUSTING THE TREASURE  
TO THE  
NEXT GENERATION

PSALM 145:4-7

FEATURED PRESENTER

Rev. Ted Schroeder

ENTERTAINMENT

"Just Friends"

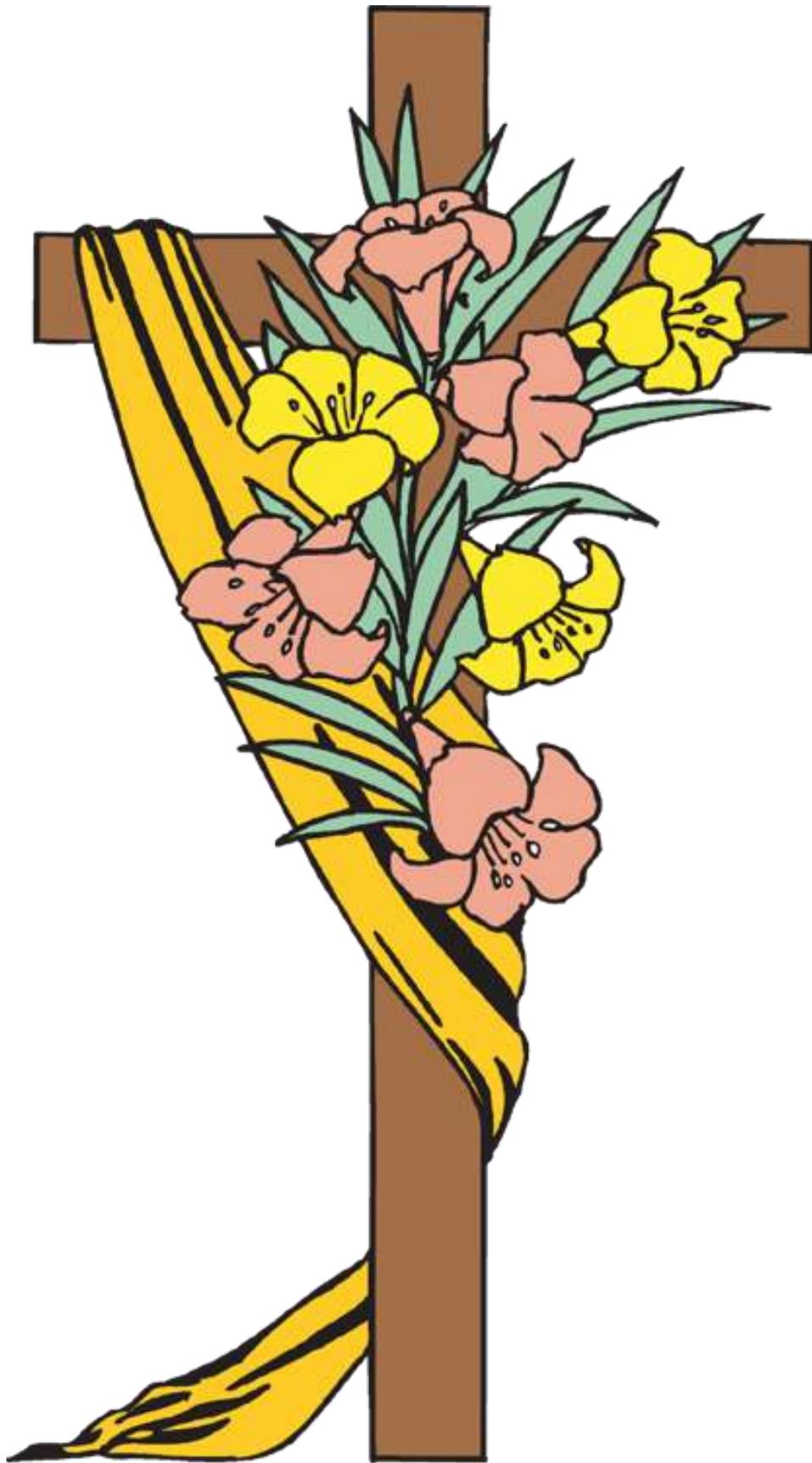
MAY 7 & 8, 2018

COUNTRY INN AND SUITES  
1900 PREMIER DRIVE, MANKATO MN 56001  
507-388-8555

(S.A.G.E.S. = Saints Alive, Growing, Ever Serving)

The Gideons will be giving a presentation at Ascension on Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. There will be a free-will offering taken following the worship service to support the Gideon ministries.

**Join the Ascension Chair Yoga Class!** Every Tuesday and Thursday -- 10:30am at Ascension. If you're looking for a *no impact* exercise, this class is for you! No special equipment needed. It's only a half hour of your time. Everyone is welcome!



**HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN, INDEED!**