

## Pastor's Corner

Dear Disciples,

### **Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!**

What a joyful proclamation that we share in this season! It has become a refrain that we are very familiar with, and in that way, it has become the expected pattern. We have full confidence that resurrection will always happen after death, we trust entirely that God has power over death, and in many ways we walk the journey knowing the tomb will already be empty. So, what is the impact of Easter for us now then? Where is the unexpected nature of the empty tomb? Where is the astonishment of the resurrection? Short answer - resurrection is everywhere!

God is making things new all around us, from the freshly blooming spring flowers, to the new ministries developing in this community. Sure, we can often be fearful of death and even of the good news of the resurrection, because the truth is that we like to know what God is up to. It is far more comfortable to see where we are headed and know what the ultimate outcome will be. Yet, resurrection invites us into a new journey that turns logical conclusions upside down. When we live into the resurrection, we follow God into the not-yet-known and undiscovered territory. So maybe there is a bit of fear and anxiety in resurrection living.

But wait, there's more! When we expect death and instead come face to face with resurrection, it can make us wonder what we can know for sure. However, this resurrection news is also the fulfillment and assurance of an age-old promise between God and God's people. God promised salvation. God promised redemption. God promised a love that knows no limits. With the resurrection we see that God has remained faithful to the promise.

So, this Easter season, look for resurrection. Look for the places where God is restoring, renewing, and giving new life. Look for the ways that God unexpectedly shows up and does something new. Look for the invitation to be on an unknown journey. But most of all, know that God will always be faithful no matter if we are facing death or resurrection. The journey has just begun and what a great people to be wandering in God's promise with!

**Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Let's Go!**

† Yours In Peace,  
Pastor Niki †

### **COOKIES CAUSE WE CARE**

We'll be sending Cookies out once again the week of April 8<sup>th</sup>.

Please send any names and addresses for our college or military friends and family to Jeanmarie at:  
[jmullen22@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jmullen22@sbcglobal.net) or call:  
203.264.8315.

Please bring your offering of homemade cookies prior to the 10:30 service on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

Anyone willing to help package the cookies, please meet in the kitchen on April 8<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 service.

Thank you.

### Pastor Niki's Hours

**Mon: 9am- 1p m**

**Sat: @ Starbucks 9am-2pm**

(Or by appointment)

For Pastoral care, please call

**508.439.0439**

## Immanuel's Blessings!

Many thanks go out to our Youth Group for the delicious Easter Breakfast they prepared and to Deb & Tom Solomon, Kim & Lee Burton and Julie Cormack.

Thank you to all musicians; leaders, soloists, instrumentalists, and vocalists for your rich contributions to Holy Week worship. The Lutheran tradition is strongly tied to Word and music with both elements carrying the cross and proclaiming the gospel. Your talent, hard work, and dedication made for truly moving worship and has (as always) added extra depth to the liturgy. Thank you!

## The Food Bank Corner

### Jelly & Pasta Sauces

### Spooner House Meal

Tuesday, April 24th

Thank you,  
Barbara & John Enquist  
for this month's meal.

## Happy Anniversaries

17 Diane & Mark Wagner

## Happy Birthdays

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 2 Lars Edgren        | 9 Wendy Cegelka     |
| Christopher Cummings | 10 Richard Steckert |
| Kinley Mentgen       | 11 Noah Urbanowicz  |
| 3 Jan Cormack        | 12 Austin Tupper    |
| Benjamin Cegelka     | 15 Dorothy Rippel   |
| John Otis            | 19 Martha Parkins   |
| Vanessa Bogle        | 20 Susan Hatstat    |
| 4 Robert Mullen      | Brando Fletter      |
| 5 Rick Parnoff       | 22 Bob Maciog       |
| Christina Campion    | 24 Anella Porto     |
| 7 Shirley Drummer    | 29 Kristina Wambolt |
| 8 Dale Peters        | 30 Janet Edgren     |

**New baby?** Let Karin Schidat know so a rose can be placed on the font in their honor. 203.888.5976

**Prayers: Deb Steckert (203.888.1218)** Please take a look and let me know how they are doing. Thank you.

|                  |                   |                 |        |                  |                          |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Aaron & Jessica  | Sebastian Estrada | Jody            | Jordan | Gracelynn Orfiss | Chandra & Chris Proch    |
| Joe Abate        | Linda Williamson  | Kevin Johnson   |        | Dila Ostertag    | Charlie Ricco            |
| Amy              | Arleen Flach      | Kazia Chodoba   |        | Tyler Otis       | Joanna Rooney & children |
| Ann Marie Lisa   | Francis           | Linda Kunecki   |        | Olivia Grace     | Rose                     |
| Helen Ahearn     | Gloria            | Marge Lane      |        | Olivia Rose      | Lynne Ross               |
| Bob Ancefsy      | Louise            | Roy Lingdell    |        | Nancy Pandolfi   | Joyce Sauer              |
| Shirley Bernardo | Art Gillette      | Sarah Leventhol |        | Brian Parsons    | Margo Steckert           |
| Alan Burton      | Gary Grabowski    | Jerry Lower     |        | Nanci Patchofsky | Dorothy Stockman         |
| Charlie          | Millie Grele      | Wilma Luft      |        | Florence Pawlak  | Ed Stockman              |
| Mary Ann Croves  | Todd Hollis       | Ava Nebbia      |        | Gordon Pinckney  | Pete Thompson            |
| Jean Deuel       | Illiana           | Tacia Neumann   |        | Pat Ploch        | Paul Wislocki            |
| Ruth Edgren      | Irene             | Chuck O'Neil    |        |                  | Dee Voccola              |

• **Highlights from the March 20 Council Meeting:**

- 1. Correction from last month: we have paid \$53K toward the Furnace Fund and \$25 K is remaining.
- 2. Council approved 'Grow Your Own' a United Way-sponsored charity to our Community Garden, starting with this year's growing season.
- 3. Council approved an AA group to use our Hall on Thursday evenings.
- 4. Council approved Sandra Andes appointment to Mutual Ministry.
- 5. Stewardship reported 53 Pledges were submitted during the Pledge Drive. Members are encouraged to submit Pledges if they have not done so already. Raffle drawing scheduled for April 15th.
- 6. The Forward Leadership Team (FLT) reviewed a draft Mission Statement with Council. Comments were provided for the FLT consider for the next version.
- 7. After discussion, Pastor will be setting up workshop meetings over the next several months to discuss, 'Reconciling in Christ'.
- 8. Membership and Outreach (M&O) will be sponsoring 'Cookies Cuz We Care' on the first full weekend in April.
- 9. Council is seeking 2 people to represent Immanuel at the upcoming NE Synod Assembly in Springfield on the weekend of June 8-10. See Rick Kaeser for more information if you are interested.
- 10. M&O reported that 3,100 Easter Eggs were put together for the Easter Egg Hunt (Mar 24th).
- 11. Youth Group reported \$654 was raised for 9 of our youth (Pancake Breakfast) who participate in the Bowl-a-thon. A total of \$10,42 was raised for the Birmingham Group to support people affected by domestic violence.

| April Ministry |       |   |                            |                        |   |   |
|----------------|-------|---|----------------------------|------------------------|---|---|
|                |       | Ushers  | Assisting Minister         | Lector                 | Acolyte                                       | Coffee Hour                                   |
| 1              | 7:30  | <i>Diane &amp; Dale Peters</i>                  | <i>Wendy Cegelka</i>       | <i>Janet Edgren</i>    | <i>Samantha &amp; Brando Fletter</i>          | <i>Youth Group</i>                            |
|                | 10:30 | <i>Beth &amp; Rich Alves</i>                    | <i>Andrew Napomiceno</i>   | <i>Charlie Rippel</i>  | <i>Josh Napomiceno &amp; Tori Alves</i>       | <i>Youth Group</i>                            |
| 8              | 8:15  | <i>Betty &amp; Jerry Lower</i>                  | <i>Jeananne Urbanowicz</i> | <i>Janet Edgren</i>    | <i>Jayden Urbanowicz &amp; Samantha Seres</i> | <i>Peter Wright</i>                           |
|                | 10:30 | <i>Rick Kaeser &amp; Troy Adcox</i>             | <i>Teresa Mentgen</i>      | <i>Wendy Cegelka</i>   | <i>Lauren Burton &amp; Kinley Mentgen</i>     | <i>MaryAnn &amp; Ken Robinson</i>             |
| 15             | 8:15  | <i>Judy Gulish &amp; Dave Ahearn</i>            | <i>Julie Cormack</i>       | <i>Lynn Nesshoever</i> | <i>Ethan Andes &amp; Josh Napomiceno</i>      | <i>Sandra &amp; Dave Andes</i>                |
|                | 10:30 | <i>Charlotte Tottenham &amp; Charlie Rippel</i> | <i>Andrew Napomiceno</i>   | <i>Teresa Mentgen</i>  | <i>Jack Mullen &amp; Sophia Bogle</i>         | <i>Dorothy &amp; Charlie Rippel</i>           |
| 22             | 8:15  | <i>Sandra &amp; Dave Andes</i>                  | <i>Lillian Thompson</i>    | <i>Lars Edgren</i>     | <i>Avry &amp; Jainna Marcinczyk</i>           | <i>Jeananne &amp; Ed Urbanowicz</i>           |
|                | 10:30 | <i>Beth &amp; Rich Alves</i>                    | <i>Julie Cormack</i>       | <i>Karin Schidat</i>   | <i>Vanessa Bogle &amp; Stephanie Alves</i>    | <i>Sue Borchert &amp; Charlotte Tottenham</i> |
| 29             | 8:15  | <i>Janet Edgren &amp; Kelly Cormack</i>         | <i>Ellen Fritz</i>         | <i>Julie Cormack</i>   | <i>Jayden Urbanowicz &amp; Lauren Burton</i>  | <i>Kelly Urbanowicz</i>                       |
|                | 10:30 | <i>Anne &amp; Rob Dow</i>                       | <i>Jeananne Urbanowicz</i> | <i>Teresa Mentgen</i>  | <i>Kinley Mentgen &amp; Josh Napomiceno</i>   | <i>Teri Mazza &amp; Linda Laudano</i>         |

