



# ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH THE EAGLE

VOLUME LXII

APRIL 2022

ISSUE Nº 4

Available online @ [www.stjohnnorfolk.org](http://www.stjohnnorfolk.org)

## From Our Pastor

My Dear Family in Christ,

I share with you an excerpt entitled “Resurrection” from United Methodist Bishop Will Willmon’s new book, *God Turned Toward Us: The ABCs of Christian Faith*:

“Better than a resuscitation of a dead body, the Resurrection is a vindication of crucified Jesus. ....No resurrected Christ, no hope. In his resurrection appearances we learned, it ain’t over between God and us until God says it’s over. Because of resurrection Christians don’t do dejection: ‘People don’t change.’ ‘It’s over and finished.’ ‘Get real.’ ‘Nothing to be done.’ If God can raise crucified Jesus, never again can we be sure what’s impossible. Jesus is alive and busy, our labors are not the sole effort and death never gets the last word.

A resurrected God keeps insisting on bringing something fresh into every situation, even the worst. The God of the exodus and the homecoming after the exile loves to surprise.

It’s scary ‘to fall into the hands of the living God.’ Presumably it’s not frightening to be in the hands of a dead God, a dumb idol who never surprises or demands anything, a fake, a projection of our fondest desires and silent wishes. No wonder that the predominant Easter sermon is fear.

What’s the first thing done by the risen Christ? He goes looking for his dim-witted disciples, returning to the same knuckleheads who betrayed and disappointed him. One would think that on the first day of your resurrected life you would burst into the palace in Jerusalem saying, ‘Pilate, you made a big mistake. Now it’s payback time.’

No, the risen Christ returns to Galilee, land of origin of his disciples. They didn’t go looking for him; once again, he turns to them and then turns them out into the whole world.

We have never known how to take the risen Christ’s words, ‘I am with you always.’ Promise or threat? It’s as if Christ says, ‘I had but a few years to harass you before I was murdered. After resurrection, I am with you always.

You’ll never be able to get God off your back.’  
The Easter mandate? ‘Go tell somebody.’ “

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Pastor Don

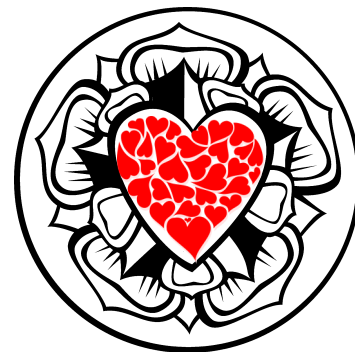


## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:30 am  
Worship Service

## OUR MISSION

*We are a family  
of Christ,  
committed to serving,  
teaching, welcoming  
and loving  
all God’s people.*



Visit us on  
Facebook

## From Our Council President

Spring is in the air! Daylight Savings Time is a welcome reprieve from the early darkness during winter nights. After much discussion of more pros than cons, Council voted to change the day and time of our monthly Council Meetings to a Sunday after Worship. Our first meeting will be April 3rd at noon. One of the by-products of this change may be an increase in volunteers to serve on this governing body since the meetings will be held on a day we are already in the building and not after dark.

The recently purchased part for the heating unit near the classrooms seems to have fixed the problem. Council voted to contract with John C. Wright to clean and service the Munchkin (that's right Munchkin!) hydronic boilers. If the maintenance contract keeps those Munchkins working another 5 years, we are in business.

The school and church agreed to split the cost of a security system from Stanley Security. The current system with Verizon is not cellular and will cost more to convert than switching companies.

Sunday Worship Attendance increased in February.

Stay tuned for a recommendation to celebrate our "roots" with a Military Sunday close to Veterans Day in November.

Pastor agreed to offer an Adult Bible Study beginning in May. The group will meet at 9:00 am before Worship. No decision yet on the focus of the study.

The Policy Committee held their first meeting on March 13th. Next meeting is April 24th after service.

Our website developer created a drop box for pictures and texts for the new site. A preview was shown in February. If interested in learning how to maintain the site once completed, leave a message with Anne, our Church Secretary.

The kitchen remodeling group has one estimate and secured the second late last month. We plan to install the new stove as part of the kitchen update.

In Christ's service,  
Gail Davidson, Council President



We will meet on April 20th  
at 11:30 am  
at the Ruby Tuesday Restaurant,  
located in Southern Shopping Center.  
For further information  
please contact Emily Kircheval.

**SEN-RETS**

**Worship  
Attendance**

Date	Congregation	Choir/Assistants	Nursery	Total
February 6, 2022	27	8	0	35
February 13, 2022	26	7	0	33
February 20, 2022	26	7	0	33
February 27, 2022	28	7	0	35

The season of Lent leading up to Easter, Christ's Crucifixion and Resurrection is not only a time of reflection but also anticipation of the events leading to Easter morning. This year we will celebrate the Triduum with the Maundy Thursday Service and washing of feet, Good Friday Service and the Vigil on Saturday. During this service we will celebrate the Baptism of Brooke Jones. Easter Sunday we will host our breakfast of casseroles, fruit and pastries at 9:00 am. Sign up sheets are posted outside Pastor's office for those wanting to help supply food for this event. The kitchen is not ready for use - paper products and utensils will be provided by the Worship and Music committee.



Easter lilies will again adorn the Altar on Easter morning. Watch your weekly Worship booklets for order forms and cost details. Purchase on either Sunday, April 3rd or 10th.

Margie Gish continues to deliver contactless Home Communion. If you know someone who would like this ministry, please call Margie directly or leave a message with the Church Office.

Please remember those who are unable to attend Sunday Worship. A phone call and/or "thinking of you cards" are much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gail Davidson, Chair



The St. John Congregation is participating in an effort to assist the Ukrainian people. This is in association with the group that uses Our Saviour Lutheran Church for their weekly school (held on Saturdays). They are collecting items to be sent to their country of origin at this time. This is a grass roots effort and the collection point is Our Saviour. The first shipment has already been sent there by a volunteer plane. The need is immediate and they are packing as items come in. We have been given a list of medical supplies that are needed. There is a blue container in the hallway with a Ukrainian flag on the side. A list of items needed can be obtained from the Church Office.

## CALL COMMITTEE NEWS

We are in a holding pattern with respect to the Committee. There are two members left on this Committee. Pastor Harry Griffith, area Dean, has agreed to assist in recruiting members for the Call Committee. The current Chair is stepping down and will continue to serve on the Committee. Ellen Wilson has a possible candidate for consideration. She will update the Call Committee after contacting the candidate for her interest.

In Christ's Service, Gail Davidson



## April Anniversaries

20 ~ Harry ♥ Amanda Shaffer  
20 years

Let us take the opportunity to  
congratulate them on their years together,  
and wish for them to have many, many more.

## April Birthdays

2 - Lynn Page  
5 - Tarn Krumm  
5 - Chris Page  
9 - Erin Shaffer  
20 - Maria Hoyt  
27 - Carl Harrington  
27 - Ray Slattery

ST. JOHN  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
*1953 & 1978*  
SCHOOL

*Celebrating 68 years of Ministry!*

8918 Tidewater Drive  
Norfolk VA 23503

757/ 588-7381 Church  
757/ 588-8227 School

Email: [churchoffice@stjohnnorfolk.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnnorfolk.org)

Website: [www.stjohnnorfolk.org](http://www.stjohnnorfolk.org)

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

President: Gail Davidson  
Vice President: Deborah Midgett  
Council Secretary: Ellen Wilson  
Financial Secretary: Karen Sutton  
Director of Music: W. Lee Hendricks  
School Director: Sheila Sanchez  
Parish Bookkeeper: Carolyn Moran  
Parish Secretary: Anne Combes

If your mailing information has changed,  
please notify the Church Office.

Thank you!



# HOLY WEEK

## WORSHIP SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 10	10:30 AM
MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 14	7:00 PM
GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 15	7:00 PM
EASTER VIGIL, APRIL 16	7:00 PM



*Easter  
Sunday*  
APRIL 17

Breakfast and Fellowship 9 AM  
in St. Matthias Hall

Easter Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

*The Resurrection of Our Lord*