

Luck Lutheran Church Newsletter

April 2024

PONDERINGS OF THE PASTOR

⁵When they entered the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a white robe sitting on the right side. The women were shocked, ⁶but the angel said, "Don't be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Look, this is where they laid his body. ⁷Now go and tell his disciples, including Peter, that Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you before he died." --Mark 16: 5 - 7

Dear friends in Christ,

Alleluia! Jesus Christ is risen from the dead! He is not in the tomb – he is risen and on the loose!

We are an Easter people. We believe in Jesus Christ and the resurrection hope that what happens to Jesus will happen to us: that death will not ever have the last word. The last word is LIFE.....everlasting with God in his heavenly kingdom....forever and ever.

What does it mean for us that Christ is risen and the tomb is empty? It means that God cannot be contained in death. It means that the in-breaking of God in our life is a daily occurrence. It means that Jesus is alive and well and walking with us in our difficult faith journey....calling each one of us into his mission on earth. A mission that calls us into the world with joy and challenge.....a mission that cannot be contained within the walls of our church buildings. We come to church to praise God and get refueled to enter the mission field. And where is that mission field? Right outside our church doors....that's where it starts....and it extends deep into our community and around the world.

The tomb is empty and God is up to something new. He always has been and always will be. And that is a good reminder as we look continue our search for a new pastor at Luck Lutheran: God is ahead of us, leading us into a new future filled with new possibilities and hope. He is up to something new and we are to follow his lead knowing that He's got this. God is up to something new at Luck Lutheran. And because God is with us, we need not fear or doubt.

And the something new that God was up to that first Easter?

"He isn't here! He is risen from the dead!"

Jesus is risen from the dead and is on the loose; going ahead of us, leading us into new places, meeting new people, addressing new social and community needs with new ways of doing ministry.


And how are we to respond to where God may be leading us? Trust in Jesus and trust that his plans for us are more than good...as always!

And then hang on for the ride!

Rejoicing in the risen Christ,

Pastor Mary Ann





"Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:6

ENCOURAGE

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GATHERING

APRIL 13, 2024
8:00 - 4:30

GRADES 5-8

\$50 PER PARTICIPANT

Bethany Lutheran Church
35 W Messenger Street
Rice lake, WI



Information and Registration:
<https://nswi.org/synod-youth-board>



Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**Mission Action
God's Work Our Hands**

We spent March gathering items for Personal Care Kits. All of us are so lucky to have so much because there are so many people in this world with less. A powerful witness to this is a story from the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) who help get these quilts and kits into the hands of those in need. A priest in Jordan told this story. "One of our most active church members-a woman who faithfully attends mass, makes home visits to indigent Christian families and helps the church in reaching these poor-asked me to visit her family late one evening. I thought she had a family problem. Upon arriving, I was shocked to see that she was poorer than the poor she visits to help. Her two children sleep on the floor atop a torn mattress with very light sheets covering their thin bodies. Her husband earns around \$220 a month, not enough to meet their basic needs. Shyly she asked me, "I like the kits and the quilts you give me to distribute to the poor families, and I ask you if I may have two quilts and two Personal Care Kits for my children for Easter." The following night I carried 2 quilts and two Personal Care Kits and 2 toothpaste packs with some food rations towards her home. She kissed my hand, asking me to thank IOCC and LWR for assisting her two children, 5 and 7 years old. I went back home thinking of how many people are deprived of the wealth that we enjoy every day. It is a reminder to us all that we play an important role in God's redemptive and restoring work that is happening RIGHT NOW. Let's join together with gratitude in this work that we have been so gratefully given.

The LWR quilters are in need of Cotton or cotton blend fabrics that we can cut into squares for mission quilts. Any size is needed as we cut the larger pieces into the sizes we use.

Loaves & Fishes Monthly Report
Open Tues. & Thurs. 11 am-1:00pm
Lions Hall, 300 W. 3rd Ave. Luck, WI
P.O. Box 554 Luck, WI 54853

February 2024

# Households served	36	Luck 24
Adults:	57	Unity 12
Children:	7	
Total people:	64	

Donations: Money: \$691.00
(Below includes TEFAP, purchased food, donations)
Weight of food coming in: #1337
Weight of food going out: # 1,600
Volunteer hours: 52 hours

Needs for next month: eggs, milk, mayonnaise, coffee, peanut butter, tuna. Personal products, men & women.

We are currently operating with two interim food shelf coordinators. We would like to get a Full time coordinator. We will train people who are interested. We can always use more volunteer workers.

If interested, please contact Pam Girtz 320-232-7541 email: girtzp@gmail.com

Looking Ahead:

A Celebration of Life service for Lorelei Aherns will be at Luck Lutheran on Saturday, May 11. Visitation will begin at 1:00PM with worship at 2:00PM. A time for coffee and fellowship will immediately follow the worship service.

THANK YOU SO MUCH for your recent contribution and we are so grateful for your support and appreciate your sponsorship with us. We at Lutheran Social Services continue to keep you all in our prayers and ask that you keep us in yours.

Thank you again, and God Bless You All! Tammy from Lutheran Social Services

FREE SPRING CLOTHING EVENT will be held on Monday, April 15 from 2:00-6:00 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, Dresser. Good, used clothing for spring and summer wear will be available at NO COST to you! Please do not arrive before 2:00 p.m.. Bring your own bag if you have one. This clothing event is for everyone!!

Confirmation Sunday

On Sunday, May 5th, our parish will celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism for five of our youth. In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ receives us and makes us members of his church. Confirmation marks the completion of our program of two years instruction of our Christian faith, as confessed in the teachings of the Lutheran Church. Those making public professions of their faith (Affirmation of Baptism) are:

**Liliana Carter- Landon Holdt- Josh Paulsen
Gabriel Renfroe- Dalton Rowell**

MAY-AUGUST LECTORS & USHERS

We will have a sign-up list at church for volunteers to sign-up to be a lector, greeter/usher and communion assistants on the Sundays in May through August. Please sign up on a Sunday(s) that you may help. Thank you for your ministry!

Luck Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
February 12, 2024 - 6:00 p.m.

I. Meeting was called to order by Jason R., Council President

II. Opening Devotions were led by Quinn S.

III. Motion to review and approve previous meeting minutes was made by Kathy D. and seconded by Quinn S. Motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report: Decision was made to move PPP loan: Property | committee funds transfer to campership fund. Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Lori P. and seconded by Kathy D. Motion carried.

V. Old Business

A. Call committee update: A follow up interview was completed and it was decided to not move forward with the candidate.

B. NW Synod "Walking Together" Event: Will take place February 17, 2024 in Rice Lake. Pastor Mary Ann, Jean Giller, Mark and Laurie Nelson will be attending. Members can still sign up if interested.

C. Outside Nativity Scene: Given in Memory of Mae Petersen from Marilyn Hubenette 12/12/1997 (both have passed away). This will be removed ASAP.

D. Lent serving: G/O and Property serving February 21; Choir/Music serving February 28th. Lent supper offerings will be donated to local missions. Soup sales donations will be given to world hunger.

VI. New Business

A. Sanctuary Heat: Comfort Systems was out to the church on January 31 to inspect what needs to be done. Email from Comfort Systems, to Property Committee, describing two options were reviewed and discussed. Motion was made by Jason R. and seconded by Quinn S; to replace all zone valves and add plastic protective boxes over thermostats.

B. Northwoods Homeless Shelter "Hope House" Chili Feed is on March 10, from 11:00-1:00

C. Council installation Sunday will be on February 25th

VII. Committee Reports

A. **OFJ/Education/Youth**- Plans to have a committee meeting sometime during Lent to discuss VBS for this summer.

B. **Generosity/Outreach** – Serving Lent supper on 2/21

C. **Property** - Plan to have a committee meeting soon to restart a maintenance “needs” list. Laurie N. will be helping with the Property Committee. D.

Worship/Music – Donna J. will help lead service groups and altar care

team.

VIII. February Pastor’s Report:

The February Pastor’s Conference meeting was held at Bone Lake Lutheran Church on February 8th at 7:00PM. Delegates to the Synod Assembly in June from our Apple River Conference congregations were in attendance to learn about the process for selecting a new Bishop. Mark and Laurie Nelson represented our congregation.

It’s not too late to register for Walking Together, our Synod’s annual learning event for congregations. This day-long event will be held at Bethany Lutheran on Saturday, February 17. Registration is online on our synod’s website, <https://nswsi.org>

Our mid-week Lenten journey begins with Ash Wednesday, February 14. Worship is at 6:15PM. Our mid-week series will be based on a book by Adam Hamilton, 24 Hours that Changed the World. North Valley, First Lutheran of Cushing, and Faith Lutheran in Balsam Lake will join us for our mid-week services starting on February 21 and each take a turn at making/serving the suppers. These are the congregations representing our combined Confirmation youth. Supper will be served from 5:30 – 6:15PM; worship is from 6:15 – 7:00PM. Both Middle and High School youth will assist with the worship services.

Confirmation students who are in their second year have started the process of writing their Faith Statements.

Prospective students/families for First Communion instruction will be receiving a letter the end of this month. First Communion will take place during worship on Maundy Thursday, March 28th.

I am working with the Education Team regarding the revision of their job description/expectations. Our goal is to have a better leadership model and the ability to delegate responsibilities to more people.

Looking ahead: The School District of Luck has asked to use our church for

Baccalaureate services on Sunday evening, May 12.

IX. Next Council Meeting: March 11, 2024 6:00PM -Devotions: Jason R. X. Motion to Adjourn made by Donna S. and seconded by Kathy D. Motion carried. XI. We closed with the Lord's Prayer

Frandsen Bank & Trust Endowment Fund Balance: \$11,439.99

Luck Lutheran Prayer Chain

Thank you to all of you who have been a part of our prayer chain either by email or by phone. If you are not on our prayer chain member list and would like to be included, please call Sheila Brom, our Prayer Chain Coordinator, at 715-566-2187 or email at smbrom@lakeland.ws.

Also, if you want someone to be added to our prayers, please talk to Pastor Mary Ann and Sheila.

We can pray about all aspects of our lives and the lives of others, including thanks to God for prayers that are answered.

REMEMBER...THINGS HAPPEN WHEN WE PRAY!!

REMINDER: When you are using the kitchen at Luck Lutheran, please make sure you clean up the kitchen, wash the fellowship tables and bring towels home with you to wash when you leave. Thank you!

LUTHER POINT BIBLE CAMP +EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE ++April 1, 2024

Luther Point Summer Bible Camp brochures are available in the narthex. Early Bird Discount Registration deadline is April 1st. Please fill out the registration form and mail it with your deposit or register online at LutherPoint.org. Camperships provided by Luck Lutheran will be 1/2 after the Member and Early Bird Discount Rate. Camperships will be sent from the church directly to the camp.

(see narthex bulletin board for more camp discounts.)

PERSONAL CARE KITS - BASKETS of PROMISE

Thank you to everyone who contributed toward this ministry.
Very much appreciated.

NEEDED: Luck Lutheran Quilters would like donations of new or lightly used twin, full, queen or king size FLAT sheets (colored – not white) Please label them and put them in the quilting room (located in the fellowship hall). Thank you!

THE INDIANHEAD CHORUS will be hosting at Luck Lutheran Church their annual Gospel sing on Sunday, April 14, 2024. It would be about 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Please join us!

THANK YOU to Michelle Doolittle for coordinating the sale of soups and all who prepared and purchased our soups for World Hunger.
We helped all those who are in need and who are hungry with a donation of \$500.00 to World Hunger! Fantastic!!

WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE YOUR OFFERINGS TO LUCK LUTHERAN:

Thank you for your generosity and support of the ministries at Luck Lutheran Church!

There are several ways to send us your offering:

- You can always give cash, write a check, or use your offering envelopes.
- You can give electronically by visiting the church website www.lucklutheran.org/donate and follow the prompts for one-time or recurring giving.
- Give electronically by scanning our congregation's QR code
- You can contact your local bank and arrange for other options regarding direct giving.

NOTE: If you use your credit card for electronic giving, Luck Lutheran is charged up to 3.5% for your transaction. So, if you could have your donations linked to your checking/savings accounts, that is a better option for our congregation.

Questions? Please contact Paula Hischer, Luck Lutheran's administrative assistant at 715.472.2605 and she will answer any questions you may have.



Happy Birthday

- 1 Kathleen Babcock
- 2 Wilma Holdt
- 3 Brooklyn Petersen
- 3 Jack Pouliot
- 3 Jude Johansen
- 7 Whitney Petersen
- 7 Zoey Stone
- 8 Lance Lindvall
- 9 Jack Johansen
- 12 Mike Broten
- 12 Lois Skow
- 12 Margie Hunt
- 14 Anders Dueholm
- 17 Sherrie Johnson
- 20 Ben Broten
- 26 Jack Holdt
- 26 Nicole Holdt
- 27 Caden Langeness
- 29 Rachel Petersen

Dear Luck Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,300.00 to ministries of the ELCA through ELCA Good Gifts. As a church, we are freed by the transformative life of Christ, and this freedom emboldens us to love and serve our neighbors just as Christ has shown us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power of God's love.

Your Good Gift is a very good gift indeed. Through resources such as seedlings and seminary courses, vaccinations and vegetable gardens, Bibles and blankets, you equip God's people-around the world and around the corner- with what they need to live abundant lives.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God shines through you.

With gratitude,
Rachel Wind

OFJ

Below is a link to sign up to help with OFJ. If you have any questions please reach out to Juanita or Quinn. All supplies will be provided besides the food for the meals. All the things we are doing are super easy to lead. We appreciate all the help we can get! Thank you so much!

<https://forms.gle/7aHHqkYrX5oHF81g9>

MISSION BOX SCORE for February 2024

	<u>General Offering</u>
February 4	\$1,550.00
February 11	\$1,080.00
February 18	\$1,928.00
February 25	\$3,854.00
 Vanco/EFT	 \$2,920.63
 TOTAL FEBRUARY INCOME:	 \$11,332.63
 YEAR TO DATE INCOME:	 \$20,604.61
 NEEDED FOR BUDGET:	 \$28,000.00
 FEBRUARY EXPENSES:	 \$13,149.84
 TOTAL EXPENSES TO DATE:	 \$30,552.43

<u>2024 Budget = \$182,850 = \$3,500+/week needed</u>	-	-		
(weeks)	<u>Off. Needed</u>	<u>Month Off.</u>	Monthly Differ.	Year Balance
January (4)	\$14,000.00	\$9,271.98	-\$4,728.02	-\$4,728.02
February (4)	\$14,000.00	\$11,332.63	-\$2667.37	-\$7395.39
March (5)	\$17,500.00			
April (4)	\$14,000.00			
May (4)	\$14,000.00			
June (5)	\$17,500.00			
July (4)	\$14,000.00			
August (4)	\$14,000.00			
September (5)	\$17,500.00			
October (4)	\$14,000.00			
November (4)	\$14,000.00			
December (5)	\$17,500.00			

Generosity/Outreach

Lori Pardun/Kathy Deiss, Council
Lori Vilstrup
Paula Hischer
Lisa Nick
Carol Giller
Jean Giller
Sheila Brom
Barb Sparish
Jan Howie

Property/Maintenance

Donna Johnson/Laurie Nelson, Council
Mark Babcock
Jason Richter
Bruce Rowe
Kelly Steen
Brian Paulsen

Worship Committee

Donna Johnson, Council
Pastor
Mark Nelson
Margie Nelson
Robin Lindvall
Janet Holdt

OFJ-Education/Youth

Quinn Stone, Council
Juanita Dietmeier
Stephanie Johnson
Ashley Nagel
Jean Giller
Kathleen Babcock
Paula Moore

Luck Lutheran Church

REVISED '24 Spring Choir Schedule

Here is a revised schedule for the remainder of our 2024 spring choir season.

NOTE THAT THE ROUTINE PRACTICE TIME ON WEDNESDAYS WILL BE 7:15 PM!!!!

February 7th – Wednesday practice at 7:15 pm.

February 14th – Sing at Ash Wednesday Church Service at 6:15 pm

February 28th – Serve Lenten Supper at 5 pm before Lenten Service

March 13th – Wednesday practice after 6:15 pm Lenten Service

March 20th – Wednesday practice after 6:15 pm Lenten Service

March 28th – Thursday practice after 6:15 pm Maundy Thursday Service

March 29th – Sing at Good Friday Church Service at 6:15 pm

March 31st – Sing at church service at 9:30 am (Easter Sunday)

April 17th – Wednesday practice at 7:15pm

April 21st – Sing at church service at 9:30 am

May 1st – Wednesday practice at 7:15pm

May 5th – Sing at church service at 9:30 am (Confirmation Sunday)

May 19th – Sing at church service at 9:30 am (Pentecost Sunday)

Apple River Conference Women of ELCA present

Spring Into Life Gathering

Saturday April 13, 2024

NUIC Deronda Lutheran Church

1239 65th Ave

Amery, WI 54001

Theme: Spring Into Life

Theme Verse: *“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he has planned for us long.”*

Ephesians 2:10- New Living Translation

Guest Speaker

Kathy Scwanke

*Kathy will be presenting the message “**You are a Masterpiece.**” Kathy encourages women to live in the light of God’s love and truth. She has 10 years of speaking ministry and has published two bible studies.*

Music: *Taunya Kobernick*

Devotions: *Pastor Hillary Toulson, East Immanuel Lutheran Church*

Coffee and Registration: 8:00 a.m.

Program and guest Speaker: 9:00 a.m.

Lunch: Noon

Registration \$15.00

Send registration and payment to:

Nancy Priebe

2881 140th Street

Frederic, WI 54837

(715)645-0947

Registration due April 5, 2024

NOTE: Registration forms are available in the Narthex bulletin board.



REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR SUMMER CAMP!

WHAT A GREAT PRESENT FOR A CHILD IN YOUR FAMILY!

"Forming Faith Pointing to Christ"

Calling all parents, aunties, uncles, and grandparents! Are you looking for a great gift for a child that can have a lasting effect for years to come? How about gifting a week of Bible Camp at Luther Point in Grantsburg, WI?

All our youth completing grades 1 through 12 are encouraged to attend a session of camp this summer. *Choose a week that best fits your family schedule.* Outdoor camping ministry is a great way for your child to grow in their faith and learn more about how God is at work in their lives. For most kids, a week at Bible camp is a life-changing experience. Please visit the camp's website at lutherpoint.org for more information.

Through the generosity of our congregation, camperships are available to help defray the cost of your child's camping experience. We firmly believe that any child who would like to go to camp will be able to attend, regardless of their family's financial situation.

Paying for Camp: Early Bird, Member Church, and Sibling/Invite discounts are available when you register. In addition, please use these codes below to apply your campership gift from our congregation:

Full Week: LLCFullWeek = \$200.00 **Half Week:** LLCHalfWeek = \$100.00

Overnight: LLCOvernight = \$50

If you have any questions, talk to Pastor Mary Ann at church, or call Luther Point directly at (715) 689-2347. Thank you!

Our Campership Fund could use a boost! If you would like to contribute to this fund, please designate your gift to the Luck Lutheran Campership Fund.

Thank you so much for your generosity!

LUCK LUTHERAN CHURCH

Congregation of
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

CONTACT US:

510 Foster Avenue East, Luck, WI 54853

(715) 472-2605

secretarypaula@lakeland.ws

LuckLutheranNewsletter@gmail.com

Kitchen: (715) 472-8300

VISIT US:

www.lucklutheran.org

OUR STAFF/COUNCIL

Mary Ann Bowman, Interim Pastor.....(715)554-0789
Donna Johnson, Property/Worship.....(715)554-0964
Jason Richter, President.....(715)491-6451
or (715)431-0036
Kathy Deiss, Generosity/Outreach.....(715)553-1057
Lori Pardun, Generosity/Outreach.....(651)395-1738
Laurie Nelson, Property.....(651)247-4125
Heather Pouliot, Secretary.....(715)553-1591
Quinn Stone, Education/Youth.....(760)573-3614
Paula Hischer, Office Secretary.....(715)472-2605
Lori Johnson, Custodian.....(715)566-1987
Mark Babcock, Custodian.....(715)472-2612
Brianna Stone, Communications.....(715)825-1455
Margie Nelson, Organist.....(715)472-2828
Janet Holdt, Organist.....(715)472-8491
Mark Nelson, Choir Director.....(715)483-3152
