

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod



THE SECOND WEEKEND IN EASTER
APRIL 11 & 12, 2026

Rev. Dr. Harold Ristau
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WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The glow of Easter remains! Our risen Lord has promised to be with us always. He welcomes all of us who have come to worship.

Glory be to the Father, to the Son and to the Holy Spirit!

SMITHS GROVE SITE - Saturdays

Meeting at First Christian Church (427 College St, Smiths Grove, KY)

Bible Class: 4:00 p.m.

WORSHIP: 5:00 p.m.

BOWLING GREEN SITE - Sundays

553 Ashmoor Ave

WORSHIP: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Ignite! & Bible Classes: 9:30 a.m.

Bulletin Cover: Digital image provided courtesy of Pitts Theology Library, Candler School of Theology, Emory University.

TO OUR VISITORS: We are delighted that you have joined us today. We pray that the service blesses you and invite you to worship with us again. If you are seeking a church family or would like to know more about Holy Trinity, please contact the Church Office at (270) 843-9595. We are here to serve you. Please use the red attendance folder at the end of your pew to provide your **email, mailing address and phone number** so that we might extend a special welcome.

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are available from the ushers
at the Bowling Green site.**

HOLY COMMUNION GUESTS

At Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, we believe and teach that Jesus has given His Church the Lord's Supper to grant us forgiveness and life, gifts received solely by faith in Jesus. St. Paul says, "Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Corinthians 11:28-29, ESV).

(CONTINUED)

In personal examination, I freely and joyfully affirm:

- 1) That I have been baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
- 2) That I believe in the crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ as my only Savior and Redeemer;
- 3) That I remain in this baptismal faith and am not living in unrepentant sin, but desire to amend whatever is wrong in my life;
- 4) That I believe I receive in the Lord's Supper not only bread and wine, but also the true body and blood of Jesus (according to His words, "This is my body... This is my blood");
- 5) That I do not affirm the teachings of those churches which teach this is a merely symbolic meal;
- 6) That I have received basic instruction regarding the Lord's Supper and agree with this congregation's teaching and practice.

If you are a member of a Lutheran Church Missouri Synod congregation (or one in fellowship with the LCMS), we invite you to share in this Holy Communion. If you have not communed with us previously, we invite you to speak with the pastor, who will be happy to work with you toward an appropriate reception of Christ's holy meal in our midst. Even if you do not commune today, you are welcome to approach the front (arms crossed) to receive a blessing from the pastor.

NOTE: The white individual cups are dealcoholized wine.

TO THE MEMBERS AND VISITORS OF HOLY TRINITY: The presence of

children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our church is growing. Please welcome all children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents. Some tips for parents/guardians of children in church:

- Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome.
- Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on at the altar. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.
- Quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of the pastor, deacons, readers, acolytes, choir, etc.
- Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

(CONTINUED)

- If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, “Let the children come to Me.”
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

WORSHIP BAGS for our young worshipers are located in the Narthex at the Bowling Green site. Please use these as needed during worship.

NURSERY AND CRY ROOM: If necessary, a nursery and cry room are available to your children. The nursery is located in the old annex area. Exit the sanctuary and follow the hallway to the left, then turn at the first hallway to the right. The nursery is no longer staffed, therefore parents may use the room as needed but must remain with their children. The nursing/cry room is located in the hallway outside the sanctuary (nearest to the Nursery room hallway).

Help each of us, O Lord, to experience the same joy which the friends of Jesus felt when meeting the risen Christ.

PLEASE REMEMBER: **Silence/Turn Off your cell phone** as you come into the Sanctuary to worship the Lord. While you are silencing your phone, we encourage you to ‘check in’ on Facebook that you are with us today. Thank you.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

EASTER PROCLAMATION

P Christ is risen!
C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

Please stand

Entrance Hymn LSB 490

“Jesus Lives! The Victory’s Won”

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

L In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Exhortation *LSB 184*

L Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

L Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

L I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

(CONTINUED)

Confession of Sins *LSB 184*

L O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Absolution *LSB 185*

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit *Psalm 105:1–5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2–3*
(congregation responses are in **bold**)

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation—

if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;

make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him;

tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name;

let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

Seek the LORD and his strength;

seek his presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.

He remembers his covenant forever,

the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

Gloria Patri *LSB 186*

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.**

Kyrie *LSB 186*

C **Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 187*

C **Glory be to God on high:
and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon
us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

L **The Lord be with you.**

C **And with thy spirit.**

L **Let us pray.**

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection
may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and
God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with
You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated

First Reading *Acts 5:29–42*

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men.
³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree.
³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”
³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while.
³⁵And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle *1 Peter 1:3–9*

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,

(CONTINUED)

⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Alleluia *LSB 190*

C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel *John 20:19–31*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”

(CONTINUED)

²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

(CONTINUED)

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.**

Please be seated

Children's Message

Pastor Ristau

Hymn of the Day LSB 470

"O Sons and Daughters of the King"

Sermon

Pastor Ristau

Message: "The Lord of Peace"

Text: John 20:19-31

Please stand

Offertory LSB 192

**C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from
me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free
spirit. Amen.**

Please be seated

Offering

Please stand

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface *LSB 194*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

Proper Preface

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus *LSB 195*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.**

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer *LSB 196*

C **Our Father who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against
us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord *LSB 197*

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini *LSB 197*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei *LSB 198*

C **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have
mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have
mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

Please be seated

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Left Column *LSB 199*

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal *LSB 199*

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.

C **Amen.**

The Distribution Hymns (BG site only)

LSB 467 **“Awake, My Heart, with Gladness”**

LSB 642 **“O Living Bread from Heaven”**

(Sung to the tune of LSB 906, “O Day of Rest and Gladness”)

- 1 O living Bread from heaven,
 How well You feed your guest!
The gifts that You have given
 Have filled my heart with rest.
Oh, wondrous food of blessing,
 Oh, cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing,
 With praises overflows.

(CONTINUED)

(13)

- 2 My Lord, You here have led me
To this most holy place
And with Yourself have fed me
The treasures of Your grace;
For You have freely given
What earth could never buy,
The bread of life from heaven,
That now I shall not die.
- 3 You gave me all I wanted;
This food can death destroy.
And You have freely granted
The cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit
The favor You have shown,
And all my soul and spirit
Bow down before Your throne.
- 4 Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened
With heav'nly food, while here
My course on earth is lengthened,
To serve with holy fear.
And when You call my spirit
To leave this world below,
I enter, through Your merit,
Where joys unmingled flow.

LSB 472 “These Things Did Thomas Count as Real”

(Sung to the tune of LSB 902, “Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now”)

- 1 These things did Thomas count as real:
The warmth of blood, the chill of steel,
The grain of wood, the heft of stone,
The last frail twitch of flesh and bone.

(CONTINUED)

- 2 The vision of his skeptic mind
Was keen enough to make him blind
To any unexpected act
Too large for his small world of fact.
- 3 His reasoned certainties denied
That one could live when one had died,
Until his fingers read like braille
The markings of the spear and nail.
- 4 May we, O God, by grace believe
And thus the risen Christ receive,
Whose raw imprinted palms reached out
And beckoned Thomas from his doubt.

Please stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199*

- C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.**

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

- A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.**

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Salutation *LSB 201*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

Benedicamus *LSB 202*

A Bless we the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction *LSB 202*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

C **Amen, amen, amen.**

Closing Hymn **LSB 464**

“The Strife is O’er, the Battle Done”

The Closing Statement

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Acknowledgments

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++ OUR WORSHIP CONTINUES IN OUR DAILY SERVICE ++

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The church office will be open on Easter Monday, April 6. Elizabeth will be on vacation the following week, Monday, April 13 – Friday, April 17. Nancy Melke will be working in the office during normal office hours on Monday April 13 – Wednesday, April 15. After that, the office will be closed.

Please contact Pastor Ristau if you have a pastoral need at 307-301-9040 or harold.ristau@htlc-bg.org.

ADULT CLASS - Smiths Grove site
Pastor Ristau's Bible Study

EDUCATION CLASSES – Bowling Green site

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY:

Ignite Sunday School is a combined multi-age class for PreK through 5th grade that meets in the Ignite room (012) each Sunday at **9:30am**.

We hope you can join us!

ABLAZE:

Ablaze is a place where students in grades 6th-8th can engage in deep conversations and grow in their relationship with God.

Join us on Sundays at **9:30am** in EO-201 upstairs.

ADULT CLASS:

Pastor Ristau’s Bible Study

OUR CHURCH ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

BG site:	The Church at Study	0	The Church at Worship	327
SG site:	The Church at Study	0	The Church at Worship	40
TOTAL		0*		367

* There was no Bible Study over the weekend.

Attendance at the Good Friday Service: 142

SERVING THIS WEEK – BG Site

	<u>8:00 Service</u>	<u>10:30 Service</u>
Greeters:	Bruce & Bonnie Borth	Ralph & Joyce Piel
Readers:	Bart White	Marsha Holm
Acolytes:	Mason Rosbottom	Sydney Davenport
A/V Assistants:	Michael Hartwein	A.J. Zirbel
Altar Guild:	Patti Stuckwisch	Sheryl Morris
		Jackie Blindauer
Communion Assts:	Michael Hartwein	Jason Owens

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Apr	12	Colin Haase	14	Lynn Clark
	14	Debbie Urman	14	Emmabeth Markel
	15	Nina Vratana	15	Stella Jones
	16	Carole Clark	16	Thelma Crabtree
	16	Linda Woods	17	Matthew Price
	17	Julie Powers	17	Jessica Heyungs
	18	Del Rathert	18	Ralph Stewart

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Apr	16	Bernie & Donna Schewe
	16	Jerome & Nancy Jascur
	16	Rick & Margaret Simpson

Next week's scripture readings are:
THE FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41
THE EPISTLE: 1 Peter 1:17-25
THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

SERVING NEXT WEEK – BG Site

	<u>8:00 Service</u>	<u>10:30 Service</u>
Greeters:	Connie Press	Geneva Bentley
Readers:	Bruce Borth	Heather Rathert
Acolytes:	Quinn Otto	Charlotte Fritz
A/V Assistants:	Michael Hartwein	Ayden Witherspoon
Altar Guild:	Patti Stuckwisch	Sheryl Morris
		Jackie Blindauer
Communion Assts:	Michael Hartwein	Jason Owens

PARISH NOTES

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to our worship service today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please submit announcements to the Church Office by Wednesdays by e-mailing, calling, or dropping a note in the offering plate on Saturdays or Sundays.



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS...

Marcus Schadwill joined by Profession of Faith.

*We rejoice in your decision to join our fellowship
and look forward to serving the Lord with you.*

APRIL NEWSLETTERS have been distributed via email and the Narthex/Lobby. If we have an email address for you then hopefully you have already received it. If we don't have an email, a printed copy is on the table in the Narthex/Lobby for you to pick up and take home.

If you would like to receive newsletters via email please contact the church office at 270-843-9595. The **DEADLINE** for articles for the May newsletter is Wednesday, April 15.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, April 12 at 3:30pm at the residence of David and Susan Justus (they live out in the forest about 20 minutes from church; 258 Delane Flora Rd/BG). They have several trails and paths that we could walk for about 45 minutes and then have a study (I plan on covering all the topics you suggested but the first one proposed is “The Seven Deadly Sins: what are they and what’s a Lutheran approach to them?”). Then we would have supper and could also have a campfire. If you have comments or plan to attend, please let Pastor Ristau or Elizabeth know as soon as possible.

We plan on ordering Young Adults apologetic material for future studies, but they have not come in yet. Pastor Ristau’s plan is to alternate discussions and studies between gatherings where we talk about that topic and the list of other topics you provided last time, to allow for variety.

FELLOWSHIP EVENT: The fellowship event for April will be a Sock Hop, on Friday, April 24 starting at 6:30pm. Please sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, April 19. Put on your saddle shoes or go go boots and come join us for a night of dancing. Not a dancer? That is ok – come listen to the music, spend time with friends, and visit the snack area. Don’t forget to dress in the 1950s/60s if you like. A free will offering will be taken to be used towards the cost of the new round tables that will be used for the first time that night. Questions can be directed to Jackie Blindauer (920-207-9185) or Janese Cleary (931-801-1443).

CHILDREN’S/YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

1. **THANK YOU:** We are very grateful for a congregation who supports our youth programs! We send a huge THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered their time and talents for the Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt, especially to Dan Blindauer for coordinating the event and crew! We received a huge discount on the breakfast meats from Miesfeld’s Triangle Market in Sheboygan, WI (<http://www.miesfelds.com>). THANK YOU to those who donated to the free-will offering. We collected \$851 that will go a long way to support our Ablaze Youth program! He is Risen...He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

(CONTINUED)

2. **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED:** Junior High School teachers are needed for the 2026-2027 school year starting in August for the Ablaze class. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Sheryl Morris.

3. **FAITH NIGHT:** Confirmation and Fuel & Friends will restart Wednesday, April 15. However, the times have changed. Confirmation will be from 6:00-7:10pm and Fuel & Friends will be from 7:00-8:15pm.

For confirmation, this will be a one hour class followed by a 10 minute worship. Parents or guardians are encouraged to attend classes. This will equip them to reinforce the teachings of our Lord and His church at home, so that the faith of our precious youth is cultivated not just on Sunday mornings but every day of the week. Parents who have not yet spoken with Pastor Ristau are asked to call him before April 15 or, at the very least, visit with him before or after class for a friendly meeting.

Fuel & Friends will also begin meeting at 7:00pm and share in that 10 minute worship time. An optional shared meal will happen from 7:10-7:30, followed by a fun game and a short Bible lesson led by Pastor. Confirmation students are welcome to stay for the meal and youth group activities. The idea is to encourage the building of a relationship between the two groups so that after confirmation classes are completed, the confirmands continue participating in youth group.

4. **VBS REGISTRATION:** VBS registration has begun for children ages 3 years old through youth who are going into the 5th grade. The dates are Monday, June 22-Thursday, June 25 from 8:30-11:45am. Please fill out/submit the flyer in the bulletin in the offering plate by Sunday, June 7. Friends are welcome! We look forward to teaching the youth how to have a closer relationship with Jesus while having fun!

Our Ministry This Week

<i>Sunday</i>	8:00am	Worship – C
<i>April 12</i>	9:30am	Ignite! and Bible Classes
	10:30am	Worship – C
	12:30-2:30pm	Mara (Burmese) service (S/Ignite Rm)
	3:30pm	Young Adults Activity (Justus' home)
<i>Monday</i>	5:30-7:30pm	Fencing Club (Private) (FH)
<i>April 13</i>	6:00pm	Lutheran Schools Ministry Team Mtg (EO-123)
<i>Tuesday</i>	9:00am	HTLS Chesterton Meeting (EO-110)
<i>April 14</i>	9:30am	Men's Bible Study (CR)
	11:00am	Fellowship Meeting with Pastor Ristau
<i>Wednesday</i>	8:30am	HTLS Chapel (S)
<i>April 15</i>	5:15pm	Sanctuary Praise Choir (S)
	6:00pm	FAITH Night (See insert)
<i>Thursday</i>	6:30pm	Elders Meeting (CR)
<i>April 16</i>		
<i>Friday</i>	8:00am-12:00pm	HTLS PLC Day – ½ Day for K-6 grades
<i>April 17</i>	5:30-7:30pm	Fencing Club (Private) (FH)
<i>Saturday</i>	1:00-2:30pm	Private Wedding (S)
<i>April 18</i>	4:00pm	Smiths Grove Bible Study
	5:00pm	Smiths Grove Worship – C
<i>Sunday</i>	8:00am	Worship – C
<i>April 19</i>	9:30am	Ignite! and Bible Classes
	10:30am	Worship – C
	11:30	Outreach Ministry Team Meeting (EO-110)
	12:30-2:30pm	Mara (Burmese) service (S/Ignite Rm)
