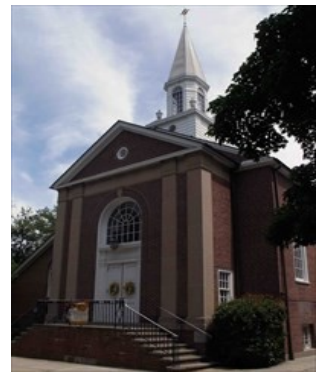




# The Parish *Messenger*

APRIL 2020 NEWSLETTER

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR  
HADDONFIELD, NJ



## CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 CONGREGATIONAL UPDATE

We are all acutely aware of how great the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic has now affected our lives and also how uncertain it will be when our daily lives might return to normal. At this time the Council and I agree that in the interest of doing our part to flatten the curve of infection and impact on our health care system it is best **we extend our suspension of all use of our building until May 9, with our first worship back in the building on Mother's Day.** Be aware this is a tentative date as the status of the pandemic changes daily and the impact to our regular daily living is still increasing at this time. There is always the possibility we may need to extend it beyond May 9, pending our nation and state's ability to curb the rise in cases, and control or contain the virus thereby lessening the risk to our senior population in particular. We hope and pray we can actually return sooner.

In the meantime I invite and encourage the congregation to take advantage of and participate in the following opportunities to live out your faith and be the body of Christ in community yet at a distance.

**WORSHIP:** Participate in our Facebook Livestream worship that we will provide each week at 10:30AM on Sundays on our church Facebook page. Not sure how to get there? Go to our website, [www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org](http://www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org), and we will be sure to have a link that will take you directly there. For those without internet access I encourage you to stop by the church to pick up a Christ In Our Home devotion book for April-June for both daily and Sunday worship as well as contact the church office to let us know if you would like a DVD of Sunday's worship sent to your home for viewing. We invite you to have some bread and juice (or wine) available to share and eat if you want to feel connected to the body of Christ during the Lord's Supper.

**OFFERINGS:** We realize this pandemic is having a significant impact on many with some of our members already having filed for unemployment. Paul reminded the church in Corinth that "one cannot give from what one does not have," so for those who are now financially struggling to get by please let us know if there is any way we can assist you. For those who are able to continue giving toward God's work we invite and encourage you to provide your offerings either by mail, by online bill pay through your bank, or by Simply Giving (click the GIVE link on the website homepage and then Simply Giving further down the Give screen).

**MINISTRY GROUPS/CLASSES/MEETINGS:** We have signed up for Zoom Meetings and will begin holding all necessary meetings, Bible discussion groups, and confirmation classes by Zoom. You will receive an email invitation from the group leader/facilitator to join in the meeting or class at the specified time and you can participate using your computer or smartphone by clicking on the link to join the Zoom meeting.

This has not been an easy decision for me or the leadership to make. We realize how in a time when one's faith may be tested and stretched not having access and availability to the community and place of worship can only add to that stress. Please know we are doing what we can to be available to you as well as the community at large in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ and serving the needs of all people during a time when we can only gather virtually by the internet. Know that with God all things are possible and by the power of the Holy Spirit our faith in our risen Christ is renewed and refreshed. May you all experience a blessed Easter life. He is risen indeed. Alleluia.



## Lenten Self-Denial Piggybanks for World Hunger Now Due on Mother's Day... Maybe

At the time of this publication the Council and Pastor Wayne Zschech agree that extending our suspension of all use of the building be extended to May 9. As a result we are tentatively pushing the return of our Lenten Self-Denial Piggybanks for World Hunger from Palm Sunday to Mother's Day. This is, of course, depending on whether returning to worship in the building is possible at that time as the projected impact of the Coronavirus large scale infections is likely to extend beyond May 10. Please be patient and while we all may be watching our nickels and dimes in this time of crisis we also pray there may be some pennies to put in the piggy. Our goal remains at \$715 that would provide a Family Farm of animals, seeds, and farm tools for one family through the ELCA Good Gifts Program.

*The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior is a faith community that worships Jesus as our Lord, proclaims and shares God's Word, welcomes all people, serves human needs, and nurtures personal and spiritual growth through fellowship all to the glory of God.*



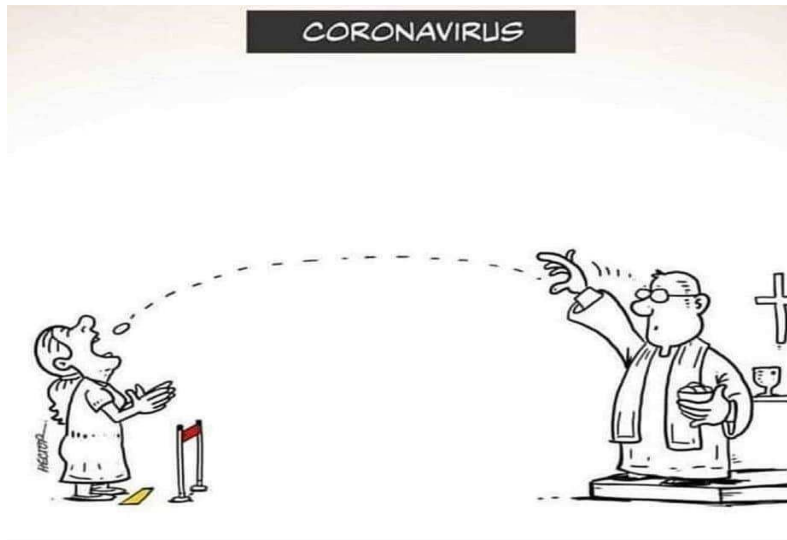
## “Indeed!”

By Pastor Wayne Zschech

Every Easter we open our celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord with the same proclamation. I boldly say, “He is risen!” to which the congregation enthusiastically responds, “He is risen indeed! Alleluia!” We do this three times. It reminds us of the three days Jesus lay in the tomb, dead, with seemingly no hope of God’s salvation for a world that was, and is, in bondage to sin and death. Yet on that day, the first day of the week, the first day of a new dawn, a new era, a new way of life in this world, Jesus was not in the tomb but had risen. He was the firstborn of the new creation God has in store for all those who are joined to Christ’s death and resurrection in the waters of baptism and live by faith in the same.

He is risen INDEED. That one word proclaims our hope that this Coronavirus does not have the last word in our lives of social distancing, sheltering in place, and quarantine. Indeed, whenever death confronts us in life in all its various forms we place our hope and trust in the God who promises new life by the raising of Jesus on Easter day. Indeed, we shall not lose hope when the market is grim and our wallets are slim, but trust in the God we pray to “give us this day our daily bread” in all that we truly need for life. Indeed, we will not lose faith in God because God has time and time again shown to be faithful toward creation and humanity.

We are living in a time pretty much only Jean Schroeder has lived through before when the Spanish flu pandemic hit our country and most heavily in the Philadelphia area because people ignored the warnings to avoid being in large crowds and many participated in a parade that resulted in overwhelming deaths. As we prepare for the celebration of Easter and the hope of new life it offers let us also be diligent in our life together. Stay safe. Stay at home. Wash your hands. Contact me if you need pastoral care or guidance. My cell phone is 856-419-7852. I know we are living in fearful times but we have not been given a spirit of fear, but God’s Holy Spirit of life and courage and hope and love. Let us live in that spirit, the spirit of our risen Christ during these days. Let us proclaim at Easter and every day our rallying cry, “He is risen. He is risen INDEED! Alleluia!” Amen



## Easter Lily Memorials

Each year the altar is decorated with lilies for the Easter Services. If you would like to donate a lily in memory of a loved one, or in honor of a special occasion, please fill out the form below and enclose a check for \$25, made payable to “LCOS Altar Guild”. The lilies are delivered to our homebound members and nursing home residents on Monday, April 13. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, April 5.

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship of donor to memorialized one \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to the church office no later than April 5.**

## Environmental Challenge



For God's People and God's Planet and God's Animals

Earth Day is an annual event  
celebrated around the world on April 22  
to demonstrate support for environmental protection.

What can we do ??

Go to a beach or wooded area and help clean up

Use a reusable water bottle

Use a reusable bags at the grocery store

Lessen the use of plastics everyday

Walk or ride a bike

Plant a tree

Just a few to make a difference ...

Remember every day can be Earth Day !!

Be The Change God's World Needs



Because of Easter  
we can experience Christ's  
peace, power, and presence  
Rejoice !

Our Savior's library has a plentiful amount  
of Lent and Easter books.  
Come on in and experience Christ's hope !

~ The Library Ladies



## Youth Sunday Postponed Date To Be Determined

Given our first worship back in the church building may not be until Mother's Day, when our youth planned to be leading worship, it has been decided to postpone Youth Sunday until a date yet to be determined in the fall. Jaime Baldwin will notify the youth as to when planning will begin for the new date.

## Pantry Volunteers April/May

Thank you to our March Volunteers: Marianne Aponte, Steve & Debbie Cain, Jerry Murphy, Lynn Block, Connie Wolf, Hoffman/Bridges Family, Millie King, Deery Family, DiGirolamo/Gralish Family

Week of Apr 5: **Hoffman/Bridges Family**

Week of Apr 12: **Marianne Aponte, Steve & Debbie Cain, Jerry Murphy**

Week of Apr 19: **Vaughn Family**

Week of Apr 26: **Deery Family, Lynn Block**

Week of May 3: **Bob & Nancy Dempsey**

Week of May 10: **Marianne Aponte, Steve & Debbie Cain, Jerry Murphy**

Week of May 17: \_\_\_\_\_

Week of May 24: \_\_\_\_\_

Week of May 31: \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact Lynn Block, Pantry Coordinator, if you have any questions, recommendations, or you can fill in the blank spaces:

blockstar59@ hotmail.com or 609-238-7419.



## PANTRY NEEDS : APRIL

All donations welcome!

Special Needs: **peanut butter (16 oz.),  
tuna (5 oz.), meals in a can (15 oz.),  
canned meat (12 oz.) toilet paper**

Pantry Families Thank You's:

"Dear Pantry Angels, Thank you so much for the Ac-me gift card. Your generosity always makes my life better!! Many Blessings."

"I want to express how much I appreciated receiving groceries in my time of need. Thank you and your helpers for all that was done in my behalf. God Bless"

Thank you to all the Pantry Volunteers and all of you who donate groceries/money to the Pantry, you make a huge difference in peoples lives.

## Easter Lily Delivery Volunteers

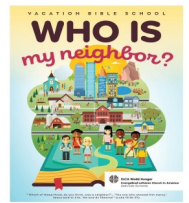
### Needed April 22 at 9:30

Help is needed to deliver Easter lilies to those in our congregation who could use a "touch" of resurrection life and love this spring. Volunteers need to arrive at church by 9:30 in the morning and gather in the Parish Hall. This is a great family event so parents consider making this a ministry event for your children since they'll be on break as well. Contact the Church Office if you plan to participate in this ministry of care and encouragement. 856-429-5122





**Vacation Bible School**-Vacation Bible School registration will open on April 13th. In order to register, you must pay at the time of registration. This year VBS is open to 3 year olds who are potty trained to kids going into 6th grade. Our theme this year is Who is "My Neighbor?". I am very excited to come back just in time to be a part of a great week! VBS will be from July 27th to 31st. If you want to help out in any way, please let Jaime know at [lcossjaime@gmail.com](mailto:lcossjaime@gmail.com).



While Jaime is on maternity leave, all e-mails to [LCOSJaime@gmail.com](mailto:LCOSJaime@gmail.com) will be answered by Sidney Speas.



Save the date: May 31st at 5:30 PM will be our annual Acolyte Dinner.

Month	3 Year rolling average %	Total Revenue per Budget x Rolling Avg % = 2020 Plan Giving	Actual Monthly Giving 2020	Actual Giving vs Plan Difference Over (Under)	Actual Monthly Giving 2019	Actual Monthly \$ Difference 2020 vs 2019 Over (Under)	2020	2019	2018	2017	AWWA - Monthly Diff. 2020 vs 2019
Jan	7.49%	\$ 34,757	\$ 38,641	\$ 3,884	\$ 44,273	\$ (5,632)	185	152	155	145	22%
Feb	6.90%	32,027	33,445	1,418	32,308	1,137	186	168	186	182	11%
Mar	7.06%	32,761			33,620			169	202	153	
April	9.60%	44,556			40,413			303	225	281	
May	7.38%	34,254			37,875			162	194	172	
June	8.57%	39,759			35,509			165	176	153	
July	6.75%	31,324			28,510			108	133	122	
Aug	7.10%	32,958			26,152			109	119	122	
Sept	7.72%	35,799			35,294			165	172	163	
Oct	7.53%	34,960			28,114			160	162	190	
Nov	8.38%	38,886			38,212			180	192	199	
Dec	15.51%	71,958			74,766			210	214	181	
Total	100.00%	\$ 464,000	\$ 72,086	\$ 5,301	\$ 455,046	\$ (4,495)					

**Average YTD Worship Attend-**

186	160	171	164
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All Envelope Offerings

Avg. Weekly Worship Attendance

## Pandemic. A poem by Rev. Lynn Ungar.

What if you thought of it  
as the Jews consider the Sabbath— the most sacred of times?  
Cease from travel.  
Cease from buying and selling. Give up, just for now,  
on trying to make the world different than it is.  
Sing. Pray. Touch only those  
to whom you commit your life.  
Center down.

And when your body has become still, reach out with your heart.  
Know that we are connected  
in ways that are terrifying and beautiful. (You could hardly deny it now.)  
Know that our lives  
are in one another's hands.  
(Surely, that has come clear.)  
Do not reach out your hands.  
Reach out your heart.  
Reach out your words.  
Reach out all the tendrils  
of compassion that move, invisibly,  
where we cannot touch.  
Promise this world your love--  
for better or for worse,  
in sickness and in health,  
so long as we all shall live.



## Holy Week and Easter Worship by Facebook Livestream

Since Our Savior, along with all other congregations in Haddonfield and Lutheran churches in South Jersey, have agreed the likelihood of holding worship in our buildings for Holy Week and Easter is unlikely we will be providing the following Facebook Livestream worship for those services as well as offer suggestions for how you can experience them more fully at home.

**Maundy Thursday, April 9 at Noon:** This service has three foci and we encourage you to participate with the following suggestions.

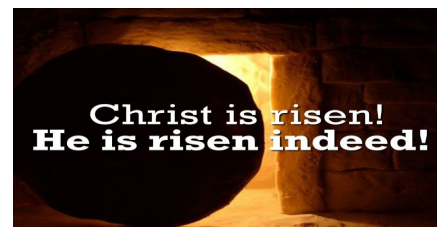
*Absolution by Laying on of Hands:* At the time of absolution place your hands on the head of another in your home, or if you live alone place your own hands on your head, as Pastor Wayne proclaims the absolution in worship.

*Foot Washing:* We introduced this only recently and while you may not want to wash one another's feet at home you might consider placing your feet in a basin of warm water during the foot washing portion of the service. Have a towel handy to dry off as well.

*Holy Communion:* As in our Sunday livestream worship we invite you to have some bread and wine/grape juice available to share and eat when Holy Communion is celebrated in worship so you might feel connected to the Lord's Supper being shared by the body of Christ on this day.

**Good Friday Tenebrae, April 10 at Noon:** We will hold the service of shadows at noon on Good Friday that includes the reading of John's Passion narrative as well as the Bidding Prayer and prayers centered on the seven last words of Christ on the cross. We invite you to create a way for you to kneel during the Bidding Prayer so you might experience the physical penitential aspect of this worship. You may also choose to light some candles in your home and darken the room where you are watching the livestream.

**Resurrection of Our Lord, April 12 at 10:30AM:** Worship will be at 10:30 on Easter Sunday to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. We will decorate the chancel as we always do for Easter so please utilize the Easter Lily order form enclosed in this newsletter in order to provide for the lilies. While there will be 10 or less people on screen leading worship we do encourage you to gather with your family to celebrate the most important event of our Christian faith.





## Words and Songs of Comfort in Times of Tumult and Anxiety



By the time you read this month's Messenger, LCOS will have had our doors closed for at least a week. I wholeheartedly believe in social distancing as a means to prevent the spread of disease, and I am thankful for the steps LCOS has taken to do so. Yet as a musician, I am still sad to see our Haddonfield Choir

Festival being postponed, our adult choir not getting to work on the glorious Easter music I had chosen, our youth to sing their new anthem to you, our kids choirs not getting to sing and ring music they've worked on for weeks, our adult bell choir not getting to ring in Holy Week...

So let me share the words with you. All of these are words straight out of our hymns and anthems that you won't get to sing and hear in worship, but I hope that they will bring you comfort during this tumultuous time:

"Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light, praise the One who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight. Praise the One who preached the gospel, healing every dread disease, calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace." (music by J. Wyeth, text by Rusty Edwards)

"May each soul in sorrow's night see the heavenly light. [...] All those whose feet may falter, lead unto the sacred altar. Oh shine from above, Divine Light of love!" (music by Peter J. Willhousky, text by Alice Mattullath)

"I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'Come unto me and rest; lay down, o weary one, lay down your head upon my breast. [...] I am this dark world's light; look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your days be bright.'" (music by John Helgen, text by Horatius Bonar)

"The Kingdom of God is justice and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Come Lord, and open in us the gates of your kingdom." (text and music from the Taize community)

If you have your own hymnal at home, I encourage you to use it to read the texts and sing along if you wish. There are hymns whose texts you can read or sing that are about healing – ELW 610-617, and right after that section, there is a section with hymns about hope and assurance – ELW 618-639.

I am praying to be able to lead you in prayer and song again soon, until then: sing on!

*Pauline Worusski, Director of Music*



What a time to be the church for each other, and for the world! The world itself has REALLY changed in so many ways since the last time I wrote a newsletter article, just a short month ago. You can see in the rest of this newsletter how things have changed and continue to be monitored as the situation in our community has had some real impacts on how things are done in this congregation and on the church property. But as I was reflecting on last month's newsletter, I was struck by something that reminded me, that though our methods may change, our mission is still the same.

My last article, and last event that I lead was for creating small group ministries at Our Savior. We had a wonderful turnout of people excited and interested in being leaders for a new small group emphasis for the coming years. While small group ministry as we would normally set it up isn't exactly a GREAT idea during this period of social distancing for the sake of our neighbors, the principles and hopes for our small groups are ABSOLUTELY the kinds of things we can all take up as priorities for ourselves during this difficult time.

**Fellowship** – I know this one seems like the most difficult, but if our recent livestreaming worship has taught me anything, it's that we still have wonderful ways of interacting with each other, even when we can't always be in the same room together. Phone calls, text messages, video chats, even a classic letter are great ways to keep in touch with each other right now. There are even great free options that can let you video chat with whole groups of people at a time! The possibilities are out there!

**Bible study** – Time away from the church can sometimes feel like time away from God, so what a great opportunity to dig into God's Word as many of us have a little more time on our hands at home. The free Bible app on our smartphones provide a verse of the day if you want just a small dose or provide full reading plans and devotionals. The ELCA also provides scripture daily, found here <https://www.elca.org/Faith/DailyBible>

**Caring for each other** – Church is all about community. Just like we can use the technology we have to engage in social connection and fellowship, we can also take the time to care for each other. Haven't seen a friend in a while? Reach out! Miss your favorite pew neighbor from weekend services, drop them a line! Ask each other how you can pray for them or see if there's something you might have that they might need!

**Service to the community** – Keeping with that caring theme, it's good to recognize who else in our community might need help. There are a lot of people who are now at home that could use resources as their jobs have sent them home without pay. There are also people still working in areas and situations that might not be recommended because they can't go without pay. Nobody can fix these situations by themselves, but we can all do little things to make the lives of other people just a little bit better! Just be sure to take care of yourself and be safe at the same time!

Just because we have to put on hold these bigger ministry ideas, doesn't mean we can't go deeper into our faith lives and practices! Social distancing just gives us opportunities to grow and learn and care in new ways!

And remember that even when we meet again in person, all of the above are STILL great ideas for living out our faith, both as individuals and as communities.

The Fix-It Team will not meet until further notice.



**Attention Seniors!**  
**Senior Game Day**  
***WILL BE CANCELLED UNTIL***  
***THE FALL.***

Peg Hartmann 856-745-2459  
 mamahart16@comcast.net



Mobile Giving

## The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior

204 Wayne Ave., Haddonfield, NJ 08033 (856)429-5122 (voice) (856)429-7245(fax) [www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org](http://www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org)

**Worship 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Nursery Provided at 10:30 AM**

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Pastor Wayne Zschech	Advisory member	wzschech@yahoo.com	856-429-7851

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Don Richards	Custodian/Sexton	dlrich1@msn.com	856-577-1149
Eva Shaw	Altar Guild	eslohboy@verizon.net	856-428-9434

**The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior**  
**204 Wayne Avenue**  
**Corner of Wood Lane and Wayne Avenue**  
**Haddonfield, NJ 08033**

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***April 2020 Messenger***

***Time Sensitive Material Enclosed Mailed March 19, 2020***

***Address Service Requested***



Apr 1	Margie Van Buren	Apr 21	Thomas Gonzalez
Apr 2	Jane Harris	Apr 21	Jodilyn Turner
Apr 2	Brett Hintz	Apr 21	Scott Vaughn
Apr 3	Clive Crosbie	Apr 23	Joyce Fetter
Apr 4	Annabelle Donegan	Apr 23	Kathryn Rivera
Apr 4	Liam Matula	Apr 23	Matt Wolf
Apr 4	Dylan Melcher	Apr 25	Rich Morris
Apr 4	Peyton Rhodes	Apr 26	Marie Santore
Apr 5	Collin Duckett	Apr 27	Brian Gensel
Apr 6	Mary Kay DeBerardinis	Apr 27	Frank Marciano
Apr 6	Gabriella Pietrangelo	Apr 27	Nina Pettersen-Smith
Apr 7	Heather Baxter	Apr 28	Carter Adams
Apr 7	Nicholas Heinze	Apr 29	Arlene Cooper
Apr 7	Jenn Jones	Apr 29	Erin Mills
Apr 8	Steve Cain	Apr 29	Jeffrey Picker
Apr 8	Henry Dickerson	Apr 29	Kristina Thompson
Apr 8	Bob Jelonek	Apr 29	Jay Wallace
Apr 9	Alexander Pietrangelo	Apr 30	Joanna Knauer
Apr 9	Madison Schemeley	Apr 30	Emma Morris
Apr 10	Rich Windle		
Apr 11	Amelia Wright		
Apr 13	Molly Mills		
Apr 13	Wyatt Needham		
Apr 13	Matthew Vitale		
Apr 13	Maryann Wallace		
Apr 14	Stephanie Hintz		
Apr 14	Matthew Morris		
Apr 15	Justin DeBerardinis		
Apr 15	Rick DeMichele		
Apr 15	Spencer Fallon		
Apr 16	Patricia Gruber		
Apr 16	Solveig Lawyer		
Apr 17	Robert Pineiro		
Apr 17	Frank Stiefel		
Apr 19	Linda Harrington		
Apr 19	Jean Schroeder		
Apr 20	Harvey Shaw		