

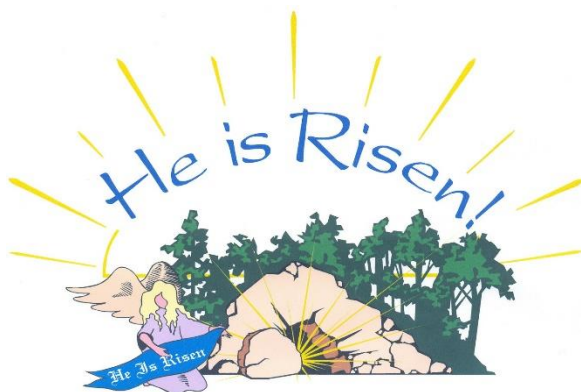
Bethany Lutheran Church

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Cushing, MN 56443

April 2024



Coloring

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www.bethanylutherancushing.org

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3

The historian Arnold Toynbee authored the book "The Study of History" in which he noted that there are four kinds of saviors that have appeared on history's stage. There is the savior with a scepter - a politician, the savior with a book - a philosopher, the savior with the sword - a military leader, and that savior who simply elevates himself to the position of god. Dr. Toynbee then added that each of these saviors have had something in common, they all died.

But our faith contends that the only savior who is qualified to deliver us, bring us hope, and to save us is Jesus the Christ, the carpenter from Nazareth, who shared his life with us, died for us, and rose again to save us. He is the only one to conquer death. And it's because he conquered death, we can know that within the promises of the resurrected Christ we find hope.

As we celebrate the Season of Easter, we need to realize that the divine energy which took Christ out of the grave to life, is there for us as well. But not just at the end of our lives, but here and now. For the resurrection power is alive and well right now to help us live in the here and now. And that's why we need to celebrate Easter and live into the message of the season. Because the power of the resurrected Christ is there for you and me, and it gives us the hope necessary to move forward in a world that all too often seems to be void of hope.

It was on Easter Day, 1930, and the communist in Russia had required that all men in a certain part of the city of Kiev attend a Communist rally at the City Hall. At the rally, the splendors of the Soviet Union were touted while at the same time, the Communist did everything in their power to try to stamp out Christianity.

To sing the praises of the Communist Party, the party's elite sent one of their greatest speakers to Kiev to address the people, Nikolai Bukharin. For two hours Bukharin spoke of the greatness of the Communist, telling the Ukrainian people how the only hope that they had as a people was found through the goodness of the party. And while he was lifting up the hope found in Russian Communism, he continually hurled insult after insult at the Ukrainian Christians, sharing his propaganda proof that the Christian faith found in the resurrected Christ was a fraud. When he was done speaking, Bukharin asked the crowd "are there any thoughts or questions?"

There was a long, lingering silence. But then a man got up out of his seat, walked up to the platform, adjusted the micro-phone, and exclaimed, Alleluia! Christ is Risen! And the whole crowd arose and yelled out in unison, Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Hope! The hope of the resurrected Christ: the hope of our today's and all of our tomorrows!

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor Carl

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 9:00 AM Quilting & Prayer Shawls	3	4	5	6 10:00 AM First Communion Instruction
7 9:00 AM Worship Svc w/Holy Communion 10:00 AM Fellowship/Sunday School Pastor Chis	8	9 9:00 AM Quilting & Prayer Shawls	10	11	12	13
14 9:00 AM Worship Svc w/Holy Communion 10:00 AM Fellowship/Confirmation Class Pastor Carl	15	16 9:00 AM Quilting & Prayer Shawls 6:00 PM Church Council Meeting	17	18	19	20
21 9:00 AM Worship Svc 10:00 AM Fellowship/Breakfast/Sunday School Pastor Chris	22	23 9:00 AM Quilting & Prayer Shawls	24	25	26	27
28 9:00 AM Worship Svc 10:00 AM Fellowship/Confirmation Class Pastor Carl Food Shelf Sunday	29	30 9:00 AM Quilting & Prayer Shawls				

April 2024

Team Petersen: Maggie & David Petersen, Mike LuConic, Chuck & Char Stockman, Randy & Janet Beinhorn, Steve Alrich & Barb Anderson, Synde Dehmer, Wendy Richmond

May 2024

Team Oberton: Gary & Susan Oberton, Marilyn Muller, Dave & Sharon Cina, Kathy Wray, Doug & Jackie Wiherski, Gary & Tracy Statema, Tom Sullivan & Ashley Statema



Apr 3rd Roxie & Don Flicek
Apr 5th Brad & Mary Hansen

Apr 1 st	Emily Miller
Apr 1 st	Mary Tanner
Apr 2 nd	Michael Oberton
Apr 2 nd	Austin Hendrickson
Apr 2 nd	Kelden Kjeldergaard
Apr 7 th	Becky Wetch
Apr 8 th	Norb Bueckers
Apr 11 th	Steve Poole
Apr 14 th	Tracy Statema
Apr 19 th	Brock Pantzke
Apr 20 th	Janet Beinhorn
Apr 21 st	Aubrey Petersen
Apr 24 th	Norm Siekman
Apr 30 th	Maggie Petersen

Contact any Council Member if you have specific needs:

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Gary Oberton 320-749-2992
Elizabeth Oberton 320-630-3100
Maggie Petersen 320-630-3529

VBS 2024 will be held August 12-15. Mark your calendars so you don't miss out on this fun-filled week! Stay tuned for further details.

Garage Sale: Bethany will be holding the Annual Youth Garage Sale on Friday and Saturday, May 31 - June 1. Any donated items may be dropped off and put into the end classroom. If you are bringing things from a previous garage sale, please remove the price tags before bringing to the church. The money raised from the sale will go towards the youth and chaperones attending the Youth Conference in New Orleans this summer.

Easter Egg Hunt: On Sunday, April 7, Bethany will have an Easter Egg Hunt following Sunday School.

First Communion: Bethany Lutheran will have First Communion instruction Saturday, April 6, at 10:00 AM. Parents decide when their children are ready to receive Holy Communion. We plan for First Communion to be celebrated on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, at 9:00 AM. Please let Pastor Carl know if your child is able to attend these dates or discuss alternative dates and times.