



April

2018

Redeeming Words

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April Calendar

- April 1 Easter Breakfast 9:30 am
Easter Worship 11:00 am
- April 8 Worship - Easter 2 10:00 am
Sunday School
Coffee & Conversation 11:15 am
- April 10 Mutual Ministry Committee 7:30 pm
- April 15 Worship – Easter 3 10:00 am
Coffee & Conversation 11:15 am
- April 16-18 Deans' Meeting, Mississauga
- April 17 Congregational Council 7:30 pm
- April 18 Montreal Lutheran Council 7:30 pm
- April 21 Men's Breakfast 8:30/9:15 am
- April 22 Worship – Easter 4 10:00 am
Sunday School
Coffee & Conversation 11:15 am
- April 25 Worship for Seniors 2:00 pm
- April 26 LARA 7:30 pm
- April 29 Worship – Easter 5 10:00 am
Coffee & Conversation 11:15 am
Worship & Music Com. 11:30 am

Holy Week

- March 29 Maundy Thursday Potluck 6:00 pm
Maundy Thursday Worship 7:30 pm
both at St. Barnabas (12301 Colin)
- March 30 Good Friday Walk of Faith 8:50 am
Good Friday Worship 7:30 pm
- March 31 Easter Vigil 7:30 pm

Easter Breakfast

Everyone is invited to the annual breakfast on Easter morning, April 1. Food will be served from 9:30 until 10:30 am. Ham and egg casseroles, hot-cross buns, and fruit salad will be served, along with beverages. Please sign up or contact the church office. Help us set-up after worship on Good Friday, to serve meals, or to clean-up afterwards. An offering will be received to support an outreach project.



Easter Worship

We celebrate the resurrection of our Lord on April at 11:00 am. Hymns, readings and the sermon will reflect our awe and gratitude for God's victory over sin and death, which is freely shared with us.

Congregational Council

Some highlights from our meeting on March 20:

✠ Council continues to consider requests for the long-term rental of our building, as well as other short-term requests

✠ Our organ is in need of \$2800 in repairs; an appeal for special offerings will soon be made

✠ Several renovations will be made at the parsonage in NDG, including the installation of a stairlift

✠ We'll celebrate the 50th anniversary of our building on Sunday May 26, in worship and at a catered lunch afterwards

✠ We'll support the renovations at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary to the tune of \$500 per year for three years

The Kingdom

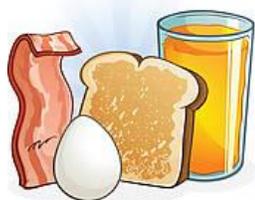
It's a long way off
but inside it
there are quite different things going on:
festivals at which the poor man is king
and the consumptive is healed;
mirrors in which the blind look at themselves
and love looks at them back;
and industry is for mending
the bent bones and minds fractured by life.
It's a long way off,
but to get there takes no time
and admission is free,
If you will purge yourself of desire,
and present yourself with your need only
and the simple offering of your faith,
green as a leaf.

R. H. Thomas

Literary Companion to the Lectionary

Men's Breakfast

Men are invited to gather for breakfast on March 24. The cooking begins at 8:30, with a meal served at 9:15, followed by a short discussion. Look for the sign-up sheet.



New Members

Pastor Jim is trying to organise a class for new members, this spring or early fall. Those who would like to transfer from other Lutheran congregations, join us from another Christian denomination, or who have no background in the Church at all are invited to a series of classes preparing them for membership at Christ the Redeemer. Members are able to vote at congregational meetings, and hold office.

If you're interested please contact Pastor Jim, and be prepared to discuss meetings dates – weekday evenings or Saturdays – in May/June, or October/November.



Waterloo Lutheran Seminary Capital Campaign

The seminary in Waterloo Ontario, which is more than 100 years old, is undergoing a significant renovation. The \$9 million project will upgrade class rooms, create a student lounge, and be wired for the 21st century. Along with funding from federal, provincial and municipal sources the seminary hopes to raise \$1 million from the 200 congregations in the Eastern Synod.

Our Council has decided to support this project by providing \$500 per year for the next three years. An offering of about \$350 from the Pancake Brunch on February 11 has already been directed toward this goal.

Church Mouse

The Church Mouse was busy searching for stored nuts this month, and will return with a column next month.

Outreach

Beginning in April and until June our emphasis will be Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) "FIGHT BACK AGAINST DROUGHT. To do this, support for construction of small-scale dams and reservoirs is needed. This project is mainly in Ethiopia and northern Egypt where drought is common. These dams and reservoirs will help sustain crops and livestock during dry spells. This project is also eligible for matching grants from the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and Global Affairs Canada.

New Compiler/Editor

We're searching for a new compiler/editor of the for Redeeming Words. The printed and electronic form of our monthly newsletter serves to inform the members and friends of the congregation about our common life. See Pastor Jim.

CLAY Gathering

Canadian Lutheran and Anglican Youth will gather August 15-19, in Thunder Bay, Ontario. The theme is *Threads*. Visit www.claygathering.ca, and register at www.eply.com/clay2018
Pastor Jim is prepared to lead a group of teens.

Sunday School

Our teacher, Vicki, will lead sessions for children three and older, on Sundays April 8 and 22, from 10:00 until Communion. She'd welcome your help in working with the children.

Lessons

April 1 Easter Sunday Acts 10:34-43,
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11,
Mark 16:1-8

April 8 Easter 2 Acts 4:32-35, Psalm 133,
1 John 1:1-2:2, John 20:19-31

April 15 Easter 3 Acts 3:12-19, Psalm 4,
1 John 3:1-17, Luke 24:36b-48

April 22 Easter 4 Acts 4:5-12, Psalm 23,
1 John 3:16-24, John 10:11-18

April 29 Easter 5 Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31,
1 John 4:7-21, John 15:1-8

The "Jesus Event"

Throughout the season of Easter we'll be reading from the Acts of the Apostles – Luke's account of life in the Early Church. On Easter Sunday the passage is Acts 10:34-43.

Peter has just had his vision about a sheet lowered down in front of him, filled with animals that were ritually unclean to Jews. God's own voice assured him that he could now eat them. And it led him to think that God was inviting the Fishermen to welcome gentiles into the Christian community.

Then we get a short sermon from Peter. In the Good News translation verse 36 begins "You know of the great event that took place throughout the land of Israel..."

Which leads me to ask "What is this great event?"

Luke, the author, tells us that it started after the preaching and baptising of John. First in Galilee, and then in Judea and Jerusalem. He sounds like he's referring to the whole of Jesus public ministry - preaching, teaching, healing, exorcising, suffering, dying, and rising.

And in light of the previous passage the "Jesus Event" might also mean that a Saviour has come for Jews *and* gentiles. And only after Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, and after Peter's strange dream, that the apostle begins to see that God has been loving all people from the beginning.

I wonder, then, if part of our Easter discovery/transformation is the realisation that God loves us as well as others who are not like us at all. Like Peter, does the empty tomb and the risen Christ instruct us to broaden our gaze, and see God at work outside of our family, congregation, denomination and even the Christian Church.

The season is not simply about God's victory over sin and death, but also about the change that sweeps over us, just as God's restless Spirit once hovered over the seas of Creation.



In Christ,
Pastor Jim Slack