

THE SCRIBE



April 2020, Volume I

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

All worship services are on our website-bflchurch.org
Click church media then sermons.

PORTALS OF PRAYER-

Lisa will put the April-June Portals of Prayer Devotionals out on a table outside while she is at the office.

If you would like one dropped off, please let her know.

Palm Passion Sunday, April 5-We hear of Jesus triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Then later, the once joyful crowd turns angry and cries out for his death on a cross. See pg. 4 for a Palm Sunday idea.

Maundy Thursday, April 9-Maundy is Latin for mandate or command. Jesus washes the disciples' feet and gives a new command: to love one another as he loved us. Through his presence we become servants to each other. Our worship ends with the dramatic stripping of the altar, preparing us for the stark reality of Good Friday.

Good Friday, April 10-Called good because on this Friday the greatest gift was given: the life of our Lord for us. In the service of Tenebrae (darkness), readings are interspersed with music, so we hear the story of our Lord's passion in the gradual darkening of the sanctuary.

Our Lord's Resurrection (Easter Sunday), April 12- In the darkness of grief, Jesus' follows come to the tomb only to find the stone rolled away and to hear the news. "He is Risen!" Jesus' light scatters our darkness. His presence transforms life itself.

FROM PASTOR KEN

This is clearly a time of uncertainty. How long? Will we have what we need? Will we be ok? So many questions so much uncertainty.

But into that uncertainty comes a promise. A promise more certain than any other. The Apostle Paul says it:

If God is for us, who is against us?

He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not with him give us all things?

Continued on next page.

(Nothing) will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:31-32, 39

Now that's a promise! It's the one and only guarantee we have.

The most important prayer for me in my 20's was based on this powerful promise. I commend it to you. Learn it by heart.

Lord, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending by paths as yet untrodden through perils unknown

Give us faith to go out with good courage

Not knowing where we go

But only that your hand is leading us, and your love is supporting us.

Nothing is more certain than this.

OUTREACH

No doubt this is a difficult time for all of us. Families are separated, jobs have been lost, loved ones are ill or exposed to the coronavirus and on top of all that we are unable to gather for worship and minister to each other in person. It is at times like these that we look for new ways in which to connect with Jesus and each other as we navigate this storm together.

We have been searching for those new ways to connect and provide support for Black Forest Lutheran members and their loved ones. Below is a list of steps we have taken so far. Please feel free to contact the church office if you need additional support or have other ideas for ministering to others.

- Shepherding lists have been updated and outreach to all members has begun. You will be receiving calls on a regular basis to check in with you to see how you and your family are doing and to share new church information as we make changes and please let them know if you need anything, we have many people that want to help out.
- Pastor Ken, along with some very gifted helpers, has been holding services with a small group and creating audio and experimenting with video recordings for the Lenten services and Sunday services. Our plan is to have both options available for each service going forward.
- The website www.bflchurch.org has been updated with a few new features: You can now go to Sermons on the website to listen or watch each service. We hope to have them available to you by the time each service would take place. We've added new support features on the Home Page that include:

-Service time update. -A message of hope from Pastor Ken. -A free Max Lucado Bible Study that addresses anxiety.

-Personal Bible Index. -Prayers for Your Journey

We will continue to update you through the website, email and calls from your shepherd and/or calls from staff.

We encourage you to share the links to sermons with family, friends and neighbors. Even though we are unable to have face to face contact we can still be life to life disciples in a virtual environment. And start up those Bible studies again that you were doing before this. It will make a difference in your day. Contact Lisa if you are not sure how do a conference call :)

TITHING-Some of you have asked about your tithing. Here are some options: 1. we recommend that you either mail your check in directly to church or utilize the resources of your financial institution to donate. 2. Go to <https://www.bflchurch.org/our-church/stewardship/>. At the bottom of the page you'll see a Donate button. This will allow you to make a donation by credit card or PayPal. There is a note section where you will be able to designate where you'd like the donation to go. Please remember to add your member number, if you know it (we do get charged for this). 3. Or you can bring in any donations you may have once we resume a normal schedule.

APPALACHIA MISSION TRIP-please keep us in your prayers, we are still planning on going!



The schedules for all activities and committees have been affected by the Coronavirus Quarantine, so once we resume these activities the office will let you all know, but for now I thought it would be nice to highlight "Small Groups" & Committees that happen at BFLC, if you have something you would like to share email it to Lisa at bflc@bflchurch.org

Prime Timers-For ages 50 - 65, but anyone is welcome to come and enjoy the activities and fellowship. We usually meet on the third Saturday of each month. So far we have done a picnic and hiking at Mueller State Park, Bowling, Dinner and a movie, a game night and a wine and cheese night. For April we will be joining the inter generational trivia night at church and in May we'll be bowling again. So we have different activities for people to come and have some fun.

Women's Evening Bible Study: We meet Thursday evenings 6:30 - 8:00 pm in one of the upstairs classrooms. Right now we are doing Max Lucado's Esther. We stopped meeting during Lent and will pick up again after Easter (if we're not still on the stay at home order). Our studies are open to any women who want learn more about what God's word is telling us without a lot of homework commitment. Each lesson is taught by one of the women, which is completely voluntary, as with everything else with this group you do not have to speak or share, if you don't feel comfortable doing that. Some of the past studies we have done are: Max Lucado's Ruth, the study that accompanied the movie War Room, Developing a Servants Heart by Charles Stanley.

Quilters: As soon as we are allowed, we will resume quilting on Thursday mornings. In the meantime if you are in need of any supplies to work on projects at home, let me know and we can get together (from a 6 foot distance) to get you anything you need out of our store room. Take care of yourselves. Miss you so much. Sew on!

Black Forest Lutheran Church Stewardship Committee

The word stewardship comes from the Greek word *oikonomos*, which means somebody who manages a household, even though they don't own the household. And stewards in the ancient world, of course, were entrusted with everything from seeing that the floors were clean, to the finances, to the public face of that household. We are not the owners but have been entrusted with resources and care of everything God has given us—ourselves, our time and our possessions—signs of His gracious love.

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It has been said that stewardship is far more about faith-raising than it is about *fund*-raising. The primary purpose of stewardship in our congregation is to help our members grow spiritually. As we grow spiritually, yes, we do discover the joy of giving and a serendipitous effect will be that the church will have more money and resources with which to fulfill the mission and ministry to which Jesus calls us. The key to effective stewardship, indeed to all ministry, is prayer.

The BFLC Stewardship Committee encourages you to listen to God's direction for how you can give of yourself, your time, and your possessions to the glory of the Lord. We welcome your prayers for this committee and for Black Forest Lutheran Church.



PALM SUNDAY- Put a Branch on Your Door or Window

What if everyone on **Sunday, April 5** in the morning, puts a branch on the door of their house or on the window, to celebrate Palm Sunday. It could be any green branch you can get. This would help, despite the social distancing, to be connected as we enter into the Holiest of Weeks. Want to join? We may be physically isolated, but not separated. We are united as the members of the body of Christ. We are the Church.



Please take the time to connect with someone today. Your phone call could put a smile on their face. Or it could put a smile on your face.

- Share what your devotional was about.
- Share how your pet is adjusting to this quarantine.
- Encourage each other to take advantage of the warmer Spring days and sunshine.
- Ask if they need help with grocery shopping
- Share a recipe.
- What book are you reading?
- Have you watched any good movies?
- Do you know any good card games?
- What crafts can you do at home?
- Pray together.

We have a strong community at BFLC. Let's continue to grow in and through Christ in this challenging time.



Sunday School

1. Music: I am a C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YH_mhPX7C5k
I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=imK7pAMf61E>
2. Magic: Magic Man on our website.
3. Message and Mess:

Craft Ideas: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a71kSWmnOfQ&list=PLh_ZCcaNyX7drMn4ghyok-yDCDW3qmg4y&index=2&t=0s

Full Sunday School lesson with craft and message: <https://ministry-to-children.com/lazarus-raised-sunday-school-lesson/>

Resources for Parents and Youth regarding COVID-19:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=243&v=ElcgYCWCoa0&feature=emb_title

<https://ministry-to-children.com/talking-to-kids-about-coronavirus/>

A NOTE FROM REBECCA...

Grace and peace to all of the families of Black Forest Lutheran! A word of inspiration from Psalm 16:8
"I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken."

Amen! What a season of opportunity and uncertainty for each of us. It's been lovely to hear updates from many of you as you come close together as a family and work through creative tasks, conflict, sickness and health. May God bind you together in his love and grace.

Please stay tuned... Sending a few updates for you to come in the scribe. In the meantime, may you lean on Jesus for patience and strength as schooling takes place in the home. Please use this time to be creative and reach out to your neighbors virtually! 🤖

Attention all Confirmation parents! Confirmation camp is still on for June 21-23. To assure your child's participation, please submit a \$50 deposit to the office. Packing list to come soon. Questions? Ask Rebecca!

PORTALS OF PRAYER-Lisa will put the April-June Portals of Prayer Devotionals out on the table outside while she is there during the day. If you would like one dropped off, please let her know.

HOW ARE YOU SPENDING YOUR TIME BEING QUARANTINED? Email Lisa and we would love to share with others!

Quarantine for Mary Montie has been sew sew! (These dresses/short sets will be going to an orphanage in Haiti).



This Photo by

Denise Deblois	1	Brian Gould	1	Joe Ricci	2
Scott Buttermore	3	Brian Green	3	Mary Nifong	5
Cindy Bannister	8	Freda Fry	9	Rob Pratt	11
Kathy Schwindt	14	Kim Stephens	14	Stan Beckner	15
Debbie Dorn	15	Kayla Hoelscher	16	Lane Swenson	17
James Leitte	18	Kent Anderson	19	Michael Wolfe	19
Mike Regennitter	20	Jack Yonce	21	Misty Hopp	23
Kori Woods	24	Avelyn Green	26	Ethan Olson	26
Jacob Wolfe	26	Tracy Kosman	27	Monika Klimas	28
Jerry Johnson	30	Debbie Stalnaker	30	Tami Ward	30



Debbie & Robert Stepp	1	Brian & Sondra Evans	4	Michael & Denise Deblois	11
Andi & Larry Lockwood	16	Bob & Lora Hahn	21	Aric & Holly Hanson	24
Debbie & Kent Stalnaker	25	Jon & Lisa Fountain	26	Keith & Shari Kraus	27
Duane & Kathy Steinke	30				

WEBSITE FOR ELDERLY

This website has some resources for the elderly to get food, help, grocery store hours, check-in phone calls, etc.

https://innovationsinaging.org/covid19/?fbclid=IwAR0_hmotEoT3EQz9wDjsMidVH5WA_yEBrBCmwgaFPUJeN59iyAwgTOZKniQ

NOTE FROM OUR DEPLOYED

Hello All,

First note: I hope this finds you all doing well. From speaking with Christine and what I've read, there is a lot of chaos back home regarding COVID-19, from supply shortages, shut-downs and the like. I suppose you could say we had a head start as most of our supplies are military provided and already rationed. Biggest impact was from local travel bans that prevented service contractor access, limiting/stopping mail, food, and water delivery/removal...hello combat showers and tactical dining. All-in-all, I (we) are doing well. Speaking of which, I received the care package the other day (while mail was running). Thank you very much. I shared with my unit and it was pretty cool seeing eyes light up when they saw the treats...especially the Chez-its, go figure, Chez-its. We heard shipments are running again, but we've decided to keep a few of the snacks to the side just in case.

Second note: Aside from feeling a bit cooped up, they all seem to be doing well. From the other side of the globe...while slower, our shipments seem to have restarted and we're back to "normal" (i.e. 3 hot meals a day, shower when you want...yea?). When I sent the pervious message, I didn't realize you all sent two boxes. THANK YOU so much. We all really appreciated it.

Prayers and blessing to you all back home dealing with the impacts currently being faced. Stay positive. We are never truly alone.

Thanks again and send my hellos and prayers to everyone.

Respectfully,
STEPHEN, MSgt, USAF



OUR STAFF

Pastor - Kenneth D. Hohag
Ministry Coordinator - Jeanette Gould
Interim Youth/Family Ministries Director - Rebecca Hohag
Administrative Assistant - Lisa Regennitter
Organist - Barbara Gurnett
Choir Director - Melanie Hohag
Handbell Choir Director - Bill Fitzpatrick
Ministers - All Members

OFFICE HOURS

Weekday Hours

9:00am-2:00 pm Tuesday-Friday
(Closed Mondays)

Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:30 am

Sunday School Classes 9:30am

OUR MISSION

Black Forest Lutheran Church glorifies God through worship, prayer, education and service as ambassadors of Christ.

CONTACT US

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BLACK FOREST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Recipient Name

Street Address

City, ST ZIP Code