

THE SCRIBE



April 2020, Volume II

Face Masks

Please let Lisa know if you need a face mask, we will get you one!

This coming Sunday, April 19, we'll focus on the Risen Jesus' appearance to his disciples. I encourage you to read the story in John 20:19-31 before Sunday. Some questions to ponder:

How is our situation similar to the disciples'?

Is ours better or worse than theirs?

What are the risks and dangers of both?

What is it like to have 12 people in a room for a week?

Recently, I watched the movie, 'The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind.' It's a story of a community in Africa facing drought and hunger. A 13-year-old boy there invents a creative way to save them from famine.

The movie put our situation into perspective for me. True, I am not able to go where I want when I want. I cannot get together with those I want. Yet most of us are healthy, well fed, warm, and protected.

I encourage you to reframe this time as an opportunity. An opportunity to appreciate what you do have. An opportunity to go deeper. Picture it as a retreat where you can set aside time to read, reflect, and pray. Again, I remind you of the Personal Bible Index on our website. Use it to guide your Bible reading.

Take time to pray to the one who promises to always be with you, even as he was with the first disciples 'the evening of the first day of the week'. The Lord be with you.

New 'Youth Director'

I am delighted that Jacob Oglesby has joined our staff today, April 15, and will overlap time with Rebecca for two weeks. Here is Jacob in his own words.

Continued on next page.

Hi all, I'm Jacob Oglesby. I am a Kansas native, seminary graduate, third generation minister, and have been involved in youth and pastoral ministry for just over a decade. My wife Lauren is a Colorado native from Rye, Colorado and is working for the United States Air Force in the space experimentation squadron. She is working on Schriever Air Force Base where we currently live. We both love being outdoors, taking our dog Echo for long walks, taking up new hobbies, working with our hands, and we're always up for learning a new trade.

After a prayerful selection process, I have been chosen to be your new Youth and Family Ministry Director and I could not be more excited. I look forward to getting to know each of you and feel very blessed to be a part of such a close, supportive Christian family.

I know that in this time there are a lot of unknowns and even some amount of fear for what is to come, but I am reminded by a Biblical promise that I hold very close to my heart. No matter what we go through and no matter what we experience, God is and always will be faithful. My wife and I are very excited to see what God has in store and we are thrilled that it will be with our new church family here at BFLC.

Jacob will be answering the 719.822.4610 number and the Church email, youthbflc@bflchurch.org from this point forward.

Watch Jacob's video on our church website.

THANK YOU!

It has been a blessing to continue to worship with BFLC during Easter season from the comfort of our own home. While Pastor was very sensitive to maintaining social distance and minimizing the number of people at church, he was able to help feed us spiritually by providing both our Holden Evening Prayer and Sunday worship services. These services were done with the help of many throughout the last month: Cameron and Zach Regennitter, Kirsten Bush, Joey Partridge, Patrick Turechek, Francesca Wahlborg, Barb Gurnett, Mike and Landra Decker, John Fountain, Dinah Kress, Melanie Hohag, Patsy Wurster, Jeanette Gould, Donna and Jack Yonce. We are thankful to have such a talented community who made adjustments to our 'regular' recording practices, so that we could also watch a video. In addition, the altar guild, readers, and musicians helped to make the worship familiar and seamless.

Please, continue to worship with us online at <https://www.bflchurch.org/> during the remainder of the stay-at-home order.

OUTREACH

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.

MARIAN HOUSE UPDATE

Considerable changes are having to be made in serving clients at the Marian House during this time. We cannot serve hot meals, so the alternative is a lunch bag meal. This requires items that are not normally donated to the soup kitchen, or are in stock. Because of these adjusted services, Marian House is asking for the following items that are in great need. Donations are accepted Monday-Friday from 10-11 am at 14 W. Bijou St.

Brown or white paper (8 lb) paper lunch bags	Peanut butter & jelly	Plastic spoons
Apples & oranges	Styrofoam containers such as coffee cups with lids (8 oz.)	Sliced bread
Lunch meat - canned tuna and chicken	Single serve chips	Sandwich bags
Nitrite food service gloves in any size		

BFLC is coordinating with Marian House on purchasing several of these items using funds from our Good Samaritan Fund, which was set up years ago to respond to a crisis such as this. Keep in mind 400 - 500 lunch bags are being served every day! That's a lot of supplies!

Thank you, Mary Montie

DIDI UPDATE

Didi and Serafina are in Minneapolis, at the World Mission Prayer League. He originally came to the US for eye surgery, home leave, and to meet with supporters. The quarantine has delayed most of that. They hoped to visit their daughter, Nicole, in Wisconsin. Eye problems and a detached retina required immediate surgery. The recovery has been slow.

Their work in Boma, DRC has centered primarily on domestic violence of women and on helping orphans. Both Didi and Seraphina provided counseling and training. They also, with support from BFLC, helped several farmer families to become more productive, thus better providing for his family. Didi was the main force in improving the seminary at Tshela. They have built a dormitory but have much more to do.

Didi would like us to pray for the DRC, especially as they are so ill prepared for the Corona Virus. We should also pray for Didi's improving eyesight; that he has the strength to recover and is able to follow the many medications and restrictions that come with it. Didi will be working on a plan to visit supporters, once our country recovers as well.

I can tell from his notes that he is a little lonely and he would much appreciate emails from you. His address is:
dpanzo@wmpl.org

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY-2020 Thrivent Habitat Faith Home

Black Forest Lutheran Church continues to support the Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity with an annual monetary gift, working with Thrivent Financial. This partnership, Thrivent Builds, which began in 2006 has helped subsidized over a dozen homes in the Pikes Peak region. On average they contribute about 55% of the cost of the Habitat home. Local churches are asked to provide 10% of the cost and PPHH contribute 35%. Thrivent Builds is changing its name to Thrivent Faith Build, and plans are being made for the 2020 build at 811 Bunting Ave., Fountain, CO. The Ground Blessing was scheduled for April 18; however, that will probably change. If you have interest in working on a Habitat house, please talk to Joe Dowdy. More workers are always appreciated.

Four new Habitat homes were dedicated in January. The homeowners are all single women, who put in their required hours of sweat equity and are now able to bring stability to the lives of their children.

BLACK FOREST CARES is also in need of spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, and pork-n-beans. You can drop off at the church office, Tuesday - Friday from 9:00a-2:00p, Lydia says "Thank you"!

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.



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.



UPDATE ON APPALACHIA MISSION TRIP-It is with a heavy heart that we have received notice that the Appalachia program has been canceled for the summer of 2020. Due to COVID-19, Appalachia is putting its ministry on hold. We are grateful for your support and monetary donations. Please, keep us in your prayers as we decide on future mission trips. (Picture is from our Spaghetti Fundraiser.)

-SEWERS! All You Sewers at BFLC-Your talents are needed!

Hope everyone receiving this email is in good health. We know we are in God's hands and our faith is our strength.

Speaking of hands, if you are part of our sewing community this is a time, we can use our hands and talent to participate in a needed ministry during this pandemic time. "I hope we can broaden our network of sewers!" Last week I received a plea of help from Mosaic, then a couple days later, I received word from nursing homes in general, all needing face masks for their workers and clients, and Norine Kerstein would like to send some to Ukraine.

I'm attaching two patterns - both are very simple and take 10 to 15 minutes to make at the most. There is a box in the narthex at the church in which to put the finished masks. Our first obligation is to Mosaic - they have requested several churches to consider donating 25 masks each. We have already reached that goal. Liberty Heights also reached out, and they prefer the masks made with ties, as they have found the elastic stretches over time due to their use. They also tend to be more comfortable after wearing long hours.

Perhaps members of our own congregation could use a mask. If you know of anybody, let me know.

If you need fabric, also let me know and I can take some to church for you to pick up. I also have several packages of bias tape. Send me an email if you need these supplies. I plan to order some elastic also, but that could take a few days. I will be happy to share when I've received it. Thank you for considering participating!

Here is a site to view making a mask with elastic. The 1/4" elastic is becoming scarce; Jenn Reily ordered some from Walmart at: <https://www.walmart.com/ip/Selfieeee-6mm-45-Yards-Braided-Elastic-Cord-Elastic-Band-DIY-Mask-Heavy-Stretch-Knit-Elastic-Spool-00151-White/802316862>

Contact Mary Montie at maryemontie@yahoo.com .



A note from Rebecca...

A word this day of New Life...

As this 2019-2020 season at BFLC draws to a close, with God's help, I will be working part time starting today through the end of April to transition Jacob! I am compelled to share how grateful and glad I am to see God working before, beside and behind Jacob as he transitions to BFLC Youth and Family Ministry! Thank you for your prayers, discernment and support in this time of NEW.

It is an honor and true heavenly GIFT to have worked and walked alongside you, your children and their friends this season at Black Forest Lutheran Church: I will always be HOME here in more than one way. What a joy it has been to walk with your kiddos (and make music at Christmas! Thank you for being a part of BFLC's faith family: in Sunday school/Worship, Wiggle Worship, and events! I trust God to guide my future steps...somewhere =)

As we are all learning and growing together, know you are prayed for and held in God's capable hands.

A resource for you <https://www.bflchurch.org/kids-corner/>

Please feel free to reach out to the BFLC Staff, myself and get to know Jacob in the coming weeks!

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

CONGRATS ON GRANDSONS!

Bill and Kris Partridge welcomed the arrival of their 2 new grandsons: *Joshua William* on March 18, 2020, weighed 6 lbs. 14 oz. and 20.5" long. Parents are Joey & Jill Partridge. And *Brantley Christopher* on March 1, 2020. He weighed 7 lbs. 3 oz., 20.5" long. Parents are Chris & Maddy Palmer.

CASA

For this month's focus, the Social ministry Committee asked Nadine Duffin to write an informational article on CASA, which is a ministry that our committee supports. Nadine is a volunteer for CASA and shares the following:

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) trains and supervises volunteers to represent the best interests of victims of child abuse, neglect, and severe domestic conflict. CASA volunteers are appointed by judges to be a voice for these children in court and in the community. The desired result is that children are placed into safe, loving homes where they can thrive. CASA volunteers get to know the child by talking with everyone in that child's life. They use the information they gather to inform judges of what the child needs and what will be the best permanent home for them. CASAs serve as impartial observers, conducting an independent investigation; information gatherers obtaining all relevant facts about the child(ren); monitors to ensure that the court's orders are carried out; reporters, submitting written reports to the court. CASA is central to fulfilling society's most fundamental obligation by making sure a qualified, compassionate adult will fight for and protect a child's right to be safe, to be treated with dignity and respect, and to learn and grow in the security of a loving family. CASAs also provide fun family activities for the children and their foster families like free family trips to the North Pole Santa's Workshop. CASA also provided financing for Tai Chi classes, Drivers Ed classes and summer camps. The Hanger is a free clothing shop for teenage foster kids which is run by CASA.



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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Web site: bflchurch.org

BLACK FOREST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Recipient Name

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