

THE SCRIBE



From Pastor Ken

April 2024

He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!

As we gather through the weeks of this Easter season, we will hear Jesus called by many names:

He is Not Here (in the tomb) but is the Risen One.

He is the Word of Life, the Author of Life.

He is the Eternal Life that was with the Father and was revealed to us.

He is the Stone That Was Rejected, but now the Cornerstone of the church.

He is the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep.

He is the Vine, and we are his branches.

But Jesus' greatest name is the one we hear from Thomas, who struggled to believe.

Jesus is my Lord and my God.

Adult Classes In April

April 7	Book of Acts (last session) Intentional Parenting (3 rd of 6 sessions)
April 14	New Member Class Intentional Parenting A Man Called Martin Luther (video)

NALC

This month we will also be learning about our North American Lutheran Church (NALC) and our mission across the continent and the world. Look for the insert in your bulletin as well as a brief video on Sundays.

April @ BFLC

- **Women's Bible Study. *New Study! Becoming a Woman of Prayer.*** Our new Bible study will begin April 1st. We meet every Monday @ 1:00p. Contact: Roxie Larson.
- **Mom's Group.** Every 1st Tuesday and 3rd Wednesday of the month @ 4:30p. Moms, if you need some "me" time, come and check out the Mom's Group. We do a Bible Study, occasional crafts, chat about life and be supportive of one another. The kids also have a great time! Meeting dates are April 2 and 17. Contact: Karina Isley.
- **Men's BBQ.** Friday, April 5 @ 6:00p. At David Klein's house. Sign up sheet on bulletin board. Contact Dave Havelka.
- **Intentional Parenting Class.** Continuing Sunday, April 7 @ 9:15a. This is a class on intentional, faith-centered parenting for parents of all ages. Topics: Creating a Biblical Foundation, Sports, Family Culture, Technology, Guiding Our Children. Led by Andrew Koetsier and Lisa Regennitter. Meet in basement.
- **Youth Service Day.** Saturday, April 13 @ 8:30a. We will be helping Crossfire Ministries in Colorado Springs (<https://www.crossfireministries.org/>) again this month. We will meet at the church at 8:30am and drive to Crossfire. Please RSVP to Andrew at youthbflc@bflchurch.org or 719-822-4610 if you/your student would like to participate!
- **New Member Class.** For those interested in joining Black Forest Lutheran Church and anyone else wanting to attend. We get to know each other, learn about why we do what we do in worship, Baptism and Holy Communion, our spiritual gifts and who we are as BFLC. We will meet in the Sanctuary starting April 14 @ 9:30a.
- **AARP Driver's Safety Class.** Wednesday, April 17 @ 12:00p. All are welcome to join. Contact: Stephan to register (719) 597-5683
- **Wildfire Risk Reduction Class.** Saturday, April 20 @ 10:00a. **How to reduce the chance your home will catch fire during a wildfire.** In fields, forests, or in town, there are little things you can do to starve those burning embers. I'll show you "home hardening" and "home ignition zone" ideas you can do today to make your home safer. Print free home evaluation form you can use yourself www.nvfc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/WFAP-home-assessment-checklist.pdf. Contact: Lisa Hatfield 719-339-7831. Sign-up on the bulletin board!
- **Senior Social.** Wednesday, April 24 @ 1:00p. Every 4th Wednesday of the month in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us for our monthly get-together to socialize, play dominoes, or do crafts. Individuals bring their own crafts to work on. Others use the opportunity to just sit and talk.
- **Men's Peer Group.** Thursday, April 25 @ 6:30p in office off of kitchen. In our ever-changing and trying world men need to know that it is okay to struggle, to be challenged, and to ask for help. Mike Regennitter invites men to join him in conversation and discover that they are not alone. We will be given tools for how not to just survive, but to thrive.

A Big Thank You!

A sincere "thank you" to all who participated in the March 2, 2024, loading of the NALC disaster response truck. Once again, you've proven that you answer (even on very short notice) when called to help. We estimate 40 people participated in this event, moving 300+ buckets of cleaning supplies, 60 boxes of personal hygiene kits (~ 20 kits per box), 60 additional boxes of quilts, bibles, and baby supplies, and three very large (and very heavy) containers of shovels, rakes, and brooms. As many of you know all too well, these items are extremely important when dealing with the aftermath of a wildfire.

In September 2022, BFLC received a truckload of disaster response supplies from the NALC. The NALC supplies were designated for use in a future emergency. Well, that day arrived last Thursday, February 29. We were asked to load these NALC disaster response items into a large truck (which arrived at BFLC Saturday morning at 9am). On Sunday, this truck went to Gage, Oklahoma, where the supplies will be brought to areas in Texas, most impacted by the recent wildfires.

Your time and effort loading these NALC disaster response items will have a direct impact on people in those areas. Thank you for your generosity.

BFLC Disaster Response team

Proverbs 11:25

Generous persons will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

Compassionate Outreach Committee

One of the global outreach efforts supported by our Compassionate Outreach Committee is El Porvenir, an organization in action in Nicaragua to improve the lives of people in the second poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. El Porvenir has 4 primary mission goals of providing clean water, sanitation, reforestation, and fuel-efficient, vented stoves, primarily to people in rural areas.

A look at what El Porvenir provided in 2023 includes: 15,949 Nicaraguans served; 39,297 trees planted; 626 household water taps installed; 10 school handwashing stations; 404 toilets and latrines; 1,496 water quality tests; and 50 fuel-efficient vented stoves. El Porvenir strives to educate local Nicaraguans in order for them to educate others and pay it forward. Their hygiene education program had 14, 254 participants in 2023 and 30 out of 34 El Porvenir staff members are Nicaraguans.

One of El Porvenir's primary offices is located in Broomfield, Colorado, and our church contact person is a very personable Jenna Saldana. BFLC sponsored a project in 2021 to build 6 fuel-efficient vented stoves for 6 families. These vented stoves are so very necessary, as a staggering number of women in Nicaragua have lung cancer by the time they are 30 years old as a result of the smoke from burning wood used to cook in their homes. One of our own BFLC members has actually been a participant in building these stoves and has seen first-hand the impact our benevolence dollars make in the lives of these very grateful people!

Love God, Love our Neighbors!

Your Compassionate Outreach Committee

Outreach Feedback

Chloe Henry, Faith in Action Program Manager for the Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity, presented Pastor Kenneth Hohag a framed certificate of appreciation for the support the Church provided the Habitat for Humanity Apostles Build effort in 2023.

The Church Compassionate Outreach (previously Social Ministry) Committee provided the Habitat with a significant Benevolence Grant early in 2023 and on July 22 2023 provided volunteers to work at a local build site. The church volunteers provided a total of 72 hours of labor that day, the equivalent of 9 eight hour days of work, on a home that was being built for a Colorado Springs family.



Chloe Henry, Pikes Peak Habitat for Humanity, presents a certificate of Appreciation to Pastor Kenneth Hoag on 22 February 2024 for the support the Black Forest Lutheran Church membership provided The Habitat for Humanity in 2023.

Council Connection

- Council is studying the Special Studies Group Report from 2018.
- The new Council officers for 2024 were elected: President Cliff Collier; Vice President Winston Churchill; Treasurer John Summerfield; Secretary Pam Wagner.

Mark Your Calendars!



Black Forest Lutheran Church
Women's Ministry

Spring 2024 Women's Revive! LIVING YOUR FAITH SERIES. JOY: Finding Joy in Life's Journey. BFLC Women's Ministry is pleased to invite you to the Spring 2024 REVIVE! event on Saturday, May 18, 2024, from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall of Black Forest Lutheran Church!

In September of 2023 we launched the Living Your Faith series. "Prayer" was the first topic of the series. In January 2024 we continued the Series by focusing on "Forgiveness". At our May REVIVE! Event we will turn our focus to the 3rd and final topic in the series, JOY: Finding Joy in Life's Journey. Life has its ups and downs, and sometimes challenging events seem to occur all at once. When our world feels upside down, how do we find and hold on to our joy? Joy and happiness are often used interchangeably. The truth is happiness refers to the emotions that come from a situation, experience, or material objects. On the other hand, joy is a gift from the Lord that can be discovered and nurtured even in times of grief or uncertainty. Please join us as we discover how to find and nurture joy in our lives!

RSVP to Lisa at bflc@bflchurch.org. Invite family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, and more!

Graduation Sunday Sunday, May 12



If you will be graduating from high school or college in May, please let Lisa know.
Cake will be served between services to celebrate!

AARP Shredding is back! Saturday, June 29 @ 9:00a. Stay tuned for further details.

Vacation Bible School with Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp. Monday, July 22 – Friday July 26. VBS is always an outreach to our children as well as the children in the community. It provides a great venue for introducing children to Jesus and growing them in their relationships. More details to come! Contact: Andrew Koetsier or Lisa Regennitter.

Scribe Article Deadline. Please have all Scribe Articles in to Stephanie Strasner by the 20th of each month to be put into the following month's Scribe.

Thank you!

- ✝ From Global Health Ministries: "Thank you for your partnership and investment in our shared mission to help the hands that heal around the globe."
- ✝ From Carolyn State: "Thank you for the Valentine cookies you gave me."
- ✝ From Jamie with Lutheran World Relief: "Thank you for stepping out in faith to share good news with neighbors like Feride & Onur Aaikgoz."
- ✝ From Tunnel to Towers Foundation: "Please accept our heartfelt gratitude for your generous contribution of \$600."

Baby Corner!



Congratulations to grandparents Didi & Serafina Panzo on the new addition to their family!



Welcome "Eliora Josephine Panzo"
Born 03/02/2024



Sophia Callentine	1	Stan Beckner	15	Brian & Sondra Evans	4
Brian Gould	1	Kayla Hoelscher	16	Larry & Andi Lockwood	16
Joe Ricci	2	Hudson Koetsier	16	Bob & Lora Hahn	21
Scott Buttermore	3	James Leitte	18	Aric & Holly Hanson	24
Brian Green	3	Aggie Weyers	18	Kent & Debbie Stalnaker	25
Mary Nifong	5	Kent Anderson	19	Jon & Lisa Fountain	26
Lana Benson	6	Michael Wolfe	19	Keith & Shari Kraus	27
Riley Long	6	Mike Regennitter	20	David & Jennifer Havelka	29
Sid Landers	7	Jack Yonce	21	Duane & Kathy Steinke	30
Cindy Bannister	8	Misty Hopp	23		
Nikki Belleque	9	Christina Collier	24		
Freda Fry	9	Avelyn Green	26		
Martha Weyers	9	Jacob Wolfe	26		
Rob Pratt	11	Tracy Kosman	27		
Lyle Belleque	12	Evelyn Worrell	27		
James Pennington	12	Griffen Peters	28		
Izzy Ysebaert	12	Jerry Johnson	30		
Kathy Schwindt	14	Debbie Stalnaker	30		



Youth & Family Ministry

Greetings BFLC Family!

What a blessing it was to reflect on our Lord Jesus' Passion week, culminating in the celebration of His resurrection on Easter Sunday. In the words of the angel at the empty tomb, "He is not here, for he has risen, as he said." (Matthew 28:6)

This past month we took a break from our regular youth group and Confirmation gatherings to join the rest of the church body in the Lenten Services. Starting the first Wednesday in April, Youth Group will be back on Wednesdays on a weekly basis. Confirmation will resume on Wednesday, April 10.

We are also excited about the Intentional Parenting class that will continue each Sunday morning through the month of April. We are praying that God will grant us grace and His enabling strength as we seek to lead our children in following Jesus together.

I pray that this month that you, like the early disciples, would be emboldened by the truth and power of His resurrection to go "be His witnesses" (Acts 1:8) where you live, study, work, and play.

In His Grace,
Andrew Koetsier

Upcoming Activities:

Each Sunday in April: Intentional Parenting Class (9:15am-10:15am)

Wednesday, April 3: Youth Group Resumes Weekly (6:30-8pm), no Confirmation

Wednesday, April 10: Confirmation Resumes (5:45-6:45pm) followed by Youth Group (6:30-8pm)

Saturday, April 13: Youth Serve Day at Crossfire Ministries (8:30am-1:30pm)

Sunday, April 21: Youth Breakfast Burrito Fundraiser

Sunday, May 12: Youth Breakfast Fundraiser (Mother's Day and Graduation Celebration)

What God's Been Doing

- **First Communion:** On Saturday, March 2nd, we had nine 3rd-6th grade students attend our annual First Communion Retreat. In total, we have thirteen kids/youth who have started taking Communion in the last month.
- **Baptisms:** On Easter Sunday we celebrated two kid/youth baptisms
- **Our nursery is growing:** On one Sunday this past month, we had 10 babies/toddlers in the nursery just during the second service. With this growth, we need more volunteers to continue adequately caring for our little ones. Please let me or Lisa know if you can serve in this way (even 1x a month is a great help!).
- **Summer Mission Trip Update:** June 2-7 Youth Mission Trip to Denver in partnership with Youth Works. Middle School, High School and Parents welcome. For more details contact Andrew.



A P R I L



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 1:00p Women's Bible Study	2 4:30p Mom's Group 7:00 Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	3 6:30p Youth Group 7:00 Contemporary Worship Practice	4 9:00a Quilters 9:30 Staff Mtg. 7:30p AA Mtg. Al-Anon	5 6:00p Men's BBQ	6 7:00a Men's Bible Study 1:00p Mensa Test-
7 8:00/10:30a Worship 9:30 Sunday School Classes for All Ages *Bible Study on Acts *Intentional Parenting Class	8 1:00p Women's Bible Study	9 6:00p 4-H 7:00 Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	10 12:00p AARP 5:45 Confirmation 6:30 Choir Practice Youth Group	11 9:00a Quilters 9:30 Staff Mtg. 7:30p AA Mtg. Al-Anon	12 12:00p Exec. Mtg.	13 8:30a Crossfire Service Day 9:00 Property Cmte. Mtg.
14 8:00/10:30a Worship 9:30 Sunday School Classes for All Ages *New Member Class *Intentional Parenting Class *A Man Called Martin Luther	15 1:00p Women's Bible Study	16 7:00p Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	17 12:00p AARP Driver's Safety Class 4:30 Mom's Group 5:45 Confirmation 6:30 Choir Practice Youth Group 7:30 Contemporary Worship Practice	18 9:00a Quilters 9:30 Staff Mtg. 7:00p Council Mtg. 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon	19 1:00p St. Luke's Council Retreat	20 7:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30 St. Luke's Council Retreat 10:00 Wildfire Risk Reduction Class
21 8:00/10:30a Worship 9:30 Sunday School Classes for All Ages *New Member Class *Intentional Parenting Class *A Man Called Martin Luther	22 1:00p Women's Bible Study	23 7:00p Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	24 1:00p Senior Social 5:45 Confirmation 6:30 Choir Practice Youth Group	25 9:00a Quilters BF Community Garden Club 9:30 Staff Mtg. 3:00p Compassionate Outreach Mtg. 6:30 Men's Peer Group 7:30 AA Mtg.	26	27
28 8:00/10:30a Worship 9:30 Sunday School Classes for All Ages *New Member Class *Intentional Parenting Class *A Man Called Martin Luther	29 1:00p Women's Bible Study	30 7:00p Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.				



April 2024 SCRIBE

OUR STAFF

Pastor – Ken Hohag
Youth and Family Director – Andrew Koetsier
Director of Ministries – Lisa Regennitter
Administrative Assistant – Stephanie Strasner
Organist – Barbara Gurnett
Choir Director – Melanie Hohag
Handbell Choir Director – Bill Fitzpatrick
Keyboard – Landra Decker/Alexandra Cullen
Ministers – All Members

OUR MISSION

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

CONTACT US

Phone: 719-495-2221
Fax: 719-495-2222
E-mail: bflc@bflchurch.org
Web site: bflchurch.org

OFFICE HOURS

Weekday Hours
9:00am-2:00pm Tuesday-Friday
Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

BLACK FOREST LUTHERAN CHURCH

12455 Black Forest Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80908

Recipient Name

Street Address

City, ST ZIP Code