

A P R I L 2 0 2 4

NOTATIONS

COMING TOGETHER TO LEARN, LIVE, AND SHARE THE TRUTH OF CHRIST



He lives, all glory
to his name!

He lives, my Jesus,
still the same.

Oh, the sweet joy
this sentence
gives:

“I know that my
Redeemer lives!”

CW152:8

April
St. Paul's Greeters - Grace Ushers

- April 7
Joy Taylor Mike Blaubach, Bob Blaubach
- April 14
DuWayne Zamzow Breck Blaubach, Bryce Blaubach
- April 21
Mark & Joline Bartelt Jeff Levich, Malachi Levich
- April 28
Dan & Rita Pittsley Scott Christian, Gerald Pagel

Together We Shine

Northland Lutheran High School's primary fundraiser is coming up, noon on April 21! Set the date aside, and plan to attend—it's always a warm and wonderful day of fun, food, and fellowship. The event begins with a Soup Cook-off (taste them all and choose your favorite), and there are many wonderful items to bid on in the silent auction. Thank you to our members who have contributed auction items! Come, join the fun and help support our area Lutheran high school.

Grace Lutheran Church celebrates her 140th anniversary this year!

In preparation for the event, we will be creating a pictorial directory. Do you have a good quality camera, or know someone who does? Are you skilled with it? Please let us know! We also seek volunteers to assist with scheduling our families for the photography sessions. Please speak with one of our committee members and lend a hand!



Committee: Corey Neumann, Melissa Neumann, Michaela Levich



St. Paul's welcomes to her membership Bill & Tracy Krenz, with son Oliver. They have transferred from Light of the World Lutheran Church in Fairbanks, AK. We are happy you have joined our family!



Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School will be held July 22-26, 9:00-11:30 am at the Berlin Center.



PACE has organized a summer trip to see a Brewers game and some of our Synod's sites in the Milwaukee area. Flyers with more information and registration forms are available in back.

Grace Financial Update

February Income:	\$ 8,814.25
February Disbursements:	\$ 5,869.18
YTD Mission Offering:	\$ 860.00
2024 Mission Goal:	\$ 6,000.00
Percent of Mission Goal:	14.33%
Parsonage Garage:	\$ 6,370.00
Garage Goal:	\$ 20,000.00
Christian Ed Fund:	\$ 6,318.32
NLHS:	\$ 0.00

St. Paul's Financial Update

February Income:	\$10,947.00
February Disbursements:	\$14,446.89
YTD NLHS Offerings:	\$ 680.00
2024 NLHS Commitment:	\$ 5,000.00
NLHS Debt Reduction:	\$ 915.00
YTD Mission Offerings:	\$ 737.00
2024 Mission Goal:	\$ 4,500.00
Good Samaritan Fund:	\$ 840.00

THE GREAT DECEPTION

Matthew 27:62—28:4,11-15

The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate. "Sir," they said, "we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise again.' So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first." "Take a guard," Pilate answered. "Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how." So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard. After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

Strange thing, we aren't told that the guards went looking for the disciples and the body of Jesus, which one would guess should not be that difficult to locate, especially since the disciples had no get-away vehicle.

Some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened.

Nor did the chief priests send out authorities to search for the disciples and the dead body of Jesus.

When the chief priests met with the elders and devised a plan: they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, telling them, "You are to say, 'His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.' If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.

Another strange thing, how could the guards report that Jesus' disciples stole his body away while they were sleeping? How would they know what happened if they were sleeping? The fact is, they weren't sleeping, and stealing Jesus' body was the farthest thing from the disciples' minds as they cowardly hid behind locked doors for fear of the Jews.

Those guards knew well what had happened; so did the chief priest and elders, though their hearts were too hardened to accept the obvious truth. So in the end it was they and not the disciples who circulated "the great deception." The actions and lies of Jesus' enemies only serve as greater evidence of his resurrection.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! A blessed Easter season to all of you.

Your friend in Christ our risen Savior,

Pastor Willitz

"Welcome, happy morning!"

Age to age shall say:

"Hell today is vanquished:

Heaven is won today!"

Lo, the Dead is living,

God forevermore!

Him, their true Creator,

All his works adore.

"Welcome, happy morning!"

Age to age shall say:

"Hell today is vanquished:

Heaven is won today!"

CW163:1

BLESSED EASTER TO YOU ALL!

