



**THE VOICE**

Of Pentecost Lutheran Church

[www.pentecost-racine.org](http://www.pentecost-racine.org)

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***As forgiven children of God, we, the Pentecost Family of Faith, are committed to show everyone Life in Christ.***

Last month I had written on the season of Lent, so this month I found it fitting to write on Holy Week. What is it? Why are there so many church services?

The events of Holy Week are recorded in all four Gospels. These consist of the final seven days of Jesus' earthly ministry. There is so much going on between Palm Sunday and Easter morning. Keep in mind that most of the events happen in or around Jerusalem.

Palm Sunday, one week before Easter, is the day that Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey. You may remember this as the church service where we wave palm branches and exclaim, "Hosanna!" This is the beginning of Holy Week.

Though we don't typically have services Monday through Wednesday, there are still events recorded in scripture. On Monday, Jesus and the disciples have a meeting with the teachers and cleanses the temple. Tuesday, is Jesus' last day of public teaching. He teaches using parables, answers questions from the religious leaders, and asks questions of His own. It was on Wednesday that Judas went to Jerusalem to betray Jesus.

On Thursday, Jesus celebrates Passover with His disciples in Jerusalem, He washes the disciples feet, and He institutes the Lord's Supper. And while Jesus and the disciples travel to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray, Judas leaves to gather the soldiers. We have service this night known as Maundy Thursday, "maundy" meaning command. Jesus has commanded us to partake in the sacrament of the altar. This is one of the ways in which we receive God's grace and forgiveness of sins. This is done through the true body and blood, the bread and wine and the words instituted by Christ. The service concludes with the stripping of the altar, symbolizing the stripping of Jesus by His captors, both of His clothing and His honor.

On Friday, Jesus is arrested in the garden and taken to Jerusalem. The disciples run off and a crowd around Jesus grows. Jesus is taken to the house of Caiaphas, the high priest. Peter and John enter the courtyard, curious to see what will happen to Jesus. At sunrise on Friday morning, Jesus is condemned and led to Pilate's palace. Pilate listens to the accusations, questions Jesus, realizes He is innocent, and attempts to let Him go. Pilate offers to release Jesus in place of Barabbas. But the crowd wouldn't have it. Instead, Barabbas was released, and Pilate gave Jesus up to the soldiers to be mocked and crucified. Then Jesus is led out of the city to Golgotha. He is crucified around 9 in the morning. The sky grows dark at noon and Jesus dies around 3 in the afternoon. Jesus is laid in the tomb. We gather on Friday of Holy Week for the Good Friday service. We leave in silence after a door is slammed shut, symbolizing the tomb being sealed.

On Saturday, the religious leaders and soldiers make sure the tomb remains sealed in fear of Jesus rising and escaping as Jesus had said He would.

Finally, we arrive! It's Easter! It is early in the morning when Jesus is raised. The angels roll the stone away from the tomb. The women find the tomb empty. Where is Jesus? Can you imagine the confusion and worry? Jesus appears to the women and some of the disciples at different points. Later, the disciples are gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem when Jesus shows up. He shows them His wounds, breathes on them, and gives them the Holy Spirit. During Easter service, the church is filled with joy and as many "He has risen indeed, Alleluias!" as we can say. It is because of the resurrection that we can say with complete confidence that our faith is not in vain. We rejoice in Jesus' victory that it was finished upon the cross. Death is dead and Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

I'll end with my favorite verse from the powerful resurrection hymn, "We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God."

You Christ, are king of glory, the everlasting son,  
Yet you, with boundless love, sought to rescue everyone.  
You laid aside your glory, were born of virgin's womb,  
Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb;  
Then by Your resurrection You won for us reprieve.  
You opened Heaven's kingdom to all who would believe.



Christine Luxem – 04/03	Simon Jacob – 04/20
Beth Bitner – 04/04	Donna Rick – 04/22
Abigail Ekstowicz – 04/05	Lilian McGregor-04/24
Dylan Sadowski – 04/06	Joan Langendorf –04/26
Cody Schrubbe – 04/17	Jeff Foss – 04/28

*Matt & Amy Luxem – 29 years – April 6<sup>th</sup>*  
*Robb & Debby Cooper – 38 years – April 25<sup>th</sup>*  
*Mason & Laura Wagner – 1 year – April 28<sup>th</sup>*  
*Mike & Cheryl Lynn Wilkinson – 36 years – April 29<sup>th</sup>*



**Hospitality Center Collection**

In April we are collecting hoodies (all adult sizes) for the Hospitality Center. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support of this mission! - M&E Team

*Thank you for your generous contribution to the continuing support of the Hospitality Center. In February we collected 110 pairs of gloves, 3 pairs of mittens, 8 hats, 2 scarves and 10 pairs of socks!*



We will be celebrating confirmation for nine of our young members on April 27, 2025. We are looking for a point-person to coordinate the confirmation reception after the 9:00 a.m. combined service. If you are interested in helping out with this, please let Tim Hasko or Katy Wagner know. The costs of the reception are covered by the church.



The 12th Annual Inspired by Ryan Art Fair will be held on Saturday, April 12 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Union Grove Elementary School. All proceeds from the event benefit the MACC Fund for research of childhood cancer and other related blood disorders. The event will include a variety of arts and crafts for sale, a bake sale, performances by musicians and vocalists, and a make 'n take area for kids. There is fun for the whole family. Donations of hand-made arts and crafts are currently being accepted. Donations of baked goods are also needed. Any questions, see Amy Luxem.



WHO will get to kiss the PIG?? It is up to you, members of Pentecost! Voting goes through April 27th. Please see the display in the narthex, where you will find 6 jars. Each jar represents one of the 6 contestants that you can vote for to KISS the Pig! The price of 1 vote is \$1, placing your dollar into the jar of your choosing. The lucky contestants include the chaperones attending the Gathering: Jenna King, Sheryl Christensen, Crystal Barron, Laura Sadowski; AND their biggest cheerleaders: Tim Hasko and Pastor Brady!



Kenosha Kingfish game will be Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>  
 More information coming soon!

# Stewardship Corner

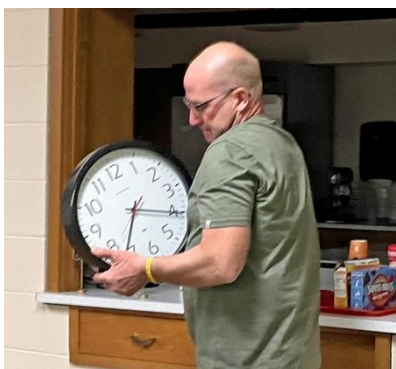
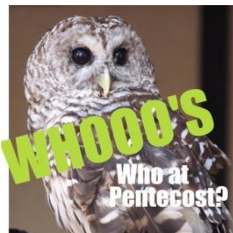


*We're Taking Pictures*

It's picture time at Pentecost and no matter how you say it,

## MEET & GREET

we're trying to get pictures of all our members to help us get to know each other better. Since we are displaying pictures of over 100 families, pictures will be about 3-4 inches square with most of the background cropped out. Although Tim put a March 30 deadline for taking pictures, I'm sure if you don't like the picture he took or didn't get a chance to have yours taken we can add or change pictures in the display. You can also submit your own photo by putting a copy in Joyce's church mailbox or emailing it to [joycehasko@gmail.com](mailto:joycehasko@gmail.com). As of March 23<sup>rd</sup> we're about halfway to our goal.



something new has been added to their job. Thanks, guys, for all you do.

Trustee Matt Luxem helps us "Spring Ahead" by adjusting the clock in the Fellowship Hall. Our trustees, Matt, Glen and Rob are always busy fixing things around the church. It seems that at every Council meeting



church! Sofia also plays her clarinet most Sundays.

Yes! That really was a cello you heard at the introduction to Sofia's solo on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Amy says her daughter can be very persuasive when she wants you to do something like play along with her. That's Sofia playing the piano when she sings. How lucky we are to have so many talented musicians in our

# Welcome,

## New Members



Dawn Friend  
Jonathon Blome



John & Lori  
Heidenreich

Although these two families have been worshipping with us for quite a while, they recently officially became members, both transferring from Grace Lutheran Church in Racine.

**Dawn** is a school bus driver. She has three children, Matthew (29), Holly (27) and Jonathon (11). She enjoys diamond painting, camping, spending time with family, and volunteering in the community.

**Jonathon** is currently attending Concordia but will be at Wisconsin Lutheran in the fall.

**The Heidenreich's** moved to Mt. Pleasant from Sparks Nevada where they had attended Our Savior Lutheran Church. **John** is a retired Letter Carrier and **Lori** worked for the City of Reno in the Business License Department, as a Community Service Officer for the police department. A CSO Supervisor and a Management Assistant in charge of payroll. John has three daughters from his first marriage, Crystal, Stephanie, and Lesley. Together they have two more daughters, Emilie and Johanna, 16 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. They both like to travel. John's hobby is model railroading. Lori's hobbies include knitting, crocheting, needlework, reading, playing her flute, and she loves having pets. They both grew up in Wisconsin but moved to Sparks, Nevada, in 1990. They decided to retire in Wisconsin to be closer to family. We're happy to have Lori as an addition to our Sunday instrumentalists.