

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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PAID

Blaine, WA

Permit No. 41



APRIL

2021

Worship Service

Sunday 10:30 am

Sunday School and Bible Class 9am

Upcoming:

Maundy Thursday Service 4/1 @ 7:00pm

Good Friday Service 4/2 @ 7:00pm

Easter—Sunday, April 4 (Bring flowers for the Cross)

9:00am for those who are vaccinated. (see inside for more details)

10:30am for everyone.

Happy Easter!

I pray that your journey to the cross has been blessed by God and that this can bring you a little hope to keep pressing on in Jesus!...

We live in a world that is falling apart around us and because of that, we are given plenty of opportunities to let worry and stresses creep into our lives. I think this is the true test for each one of us in how MUCH do we believe in God? Worry is just another way of telling God, I don't think that You are big enough to handle this problem or circumstance in my life.

No matter what happens in our lives, He already knew it would happen long before it came to be, so why do we sometimes have such a hard time trusting Him fully? Our future is never certain here on earth and it is always full of unknowns. But, we have 2 options...we can keep focusing on the problems and darkness around us....which are continually increasing, or we can fix our eyes on Jesus... the One who NEVER changes...the ONLY constant we have in our lives. As this world grows darker, we can be sure of one thing, that we are never alone. We have the One who is undefeated on our side...He is the Almighty God. He knows ALL, and nothing ever takes Him by surprise...so why are we so quick to wonder where He is in the midst of it all? The enemy can roar at us all day long, but when we choose to stand on the truth of who God is and who we are in Him, nothing will be able to shake or defeat us because we have the power of the Living God inside of us...and you and I can walk in that confidence knowing we already have the Victory in Him.

When we stand firm with our eyes locked on Him...we WILL get through anything that the enemy tries to throw our way. If we focus on the changes going on around us, we can easily lose our footing because we are no

longer focusing on the truth of who God is. Life is full of unknowns and it can leave us feeling defeated but we serve a never changing God who is the ONLY constant in our lives...if only we would build our lives around that truth and allow Him to be that for us. He is always fighting for us and He WILL NEVER be defeated.

We hope to see more of you face to face at Easter or soon after. Peace be with you in Christ!

Pastor

Easter Services - April 4th

9am service for those who have received their full vaccination (including 14 day quarantine) - masks will not be required
10:30 service for everyone - masks will be required

Please help us provide as many opportunities for everyone to come and celebrate Easter by understanding that we have two sets of guidelines for Easter services this year. We are offering two services to make sure we have enough space for everyone. We are having one service for vaccinated people to enable individuals to come back to church who have not been able to come to church for many months because it is difficult for them to wear a mask for an extended period of time. Please be joyful for the return to church of many of our brothers and sisters who have been separated from us for some time.

The CDC has recently recommended that vaccinated individuals can get together with others that have also been vaccinated. We long for and look forward to the day when everyone can come together mask free but this is the only way we can offer a mask free service at this time.

We pray that your Easter celebration is joyful and blessed by our Risen Savior.

Jesus Our Rock

This is our second Easter of the pandemic. While last year's was like none other, this year's will be a bit more of the same. I don't know about you, but it is starting to wear on me. There has been so much and it is not over. One day it will be over and for that I am quite thankful.

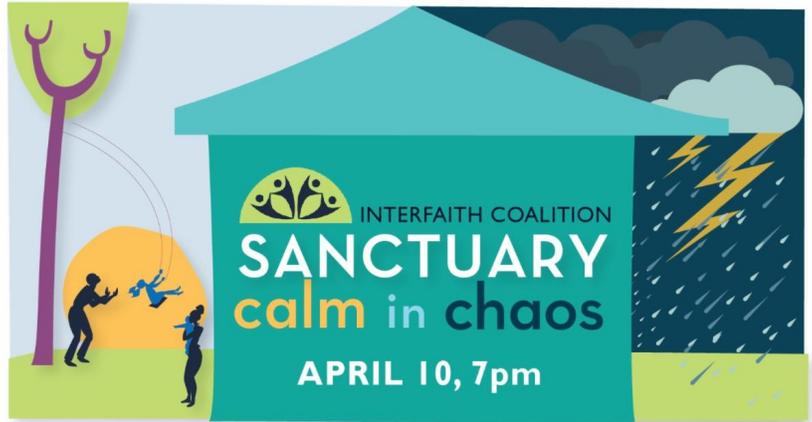
In the meantime we need to continue to be making connections, asking people how they are doing with this on going change. We need to be listening to their responses and continuing to be a positive source of encouragement in their lives.

We need to know that we are seen and loved by the one true God, who sent His Son to this crazy mixed up world to save us. Jesus Christ, who walked this earth, who saw heard and saved us! The Messiah who created a safe place for us in this world and the next! We need to cling to Him, our Rock and Redeemer! When we do we are at peace! (When I started writing I was a bit bummed and now that my focus shifted to The Lamb of God there is a peace that was not there at the beginning! Thank You Father!)

Thank You Jesus, for giving up everything, coming to this world, for suffering, dying and rising so that we may be with you forever and ever! We love You and praise You, our Risen Lord!

May we always remember that no matter what happens in this world we are always in His Grip!

Kelley/Mrs. Z



Mark your calendars!

Join us for an evening of storytelling to support Interfaith Coalition

On **April 10, 7 pm**, we come together virtually to share stories from Bellingham community members, including a former Family Promise guest, a Moth Story Slam winner, and a member of the Nooksack tribe, all on the theme of **Sanctuary: Calm in Chaos**.

Laughter, tears, encouragement, surprise – the stories will inspire these and more. Tell all your friends and help us end family homelessness in Whatcom County.

Registration is free – go to <https://www.interfaith-coalition.org/sanctuary-calm-in-chaos>.

How You Made a Difference in 2020

In 2020, Interfaith housed 23 families, including 49 children, in its emergency and transitional housing. We sheltered additional families (13 families, including 26 children, in 2020) via its Family Promise program, which houses families in Covid-safe, static locations as they work towards self-sufficiency. Even with the pandemic challenges, an amazing 6 families graduated into stable housing during 2020. You also supplied nearly 4,000 meals to people living on the streets in Bellingham and warm coats to 1,500 Whatcom County neighbors.



Lutheran Hour Ministries plays a vital role in helping spread the Gospel message all over the world with 34 ministry centers on six continents reaching into more than 50 countries, often bringing Christ to places where no other Christian evangelistic organizations are present. Ministry center volunteers reach out to their neighbors and communities in culturally appropriate ways with the story of Jesus—sometimes at great personal risk.

The Lutheran Hour Ministries ministry center in Mexico is locally known as Cristo Para Todas las Naciones (Christ for all Nations). LHM—Mexico works closely with local Lutheran missions and pastors to support the outreach of each mission church, and to build a collaborative effort among all Lutheran agencies working in Mexico.

Bible Correspondence Courses are an important part of the outreach and work of LHM because people in Mexico are largely unfamiliar with the Bible. Currently, LHM—Mexico is using six different courses. LHM supports the church through training and education of lay ministers.

DIGITAL OUTREACH. Young adults gravitate to the internet seeking help, including millions who are curious—or have doubts—about Christianity. The Vivenciar.net website serves as our hub for digital outreach in Mexico and throughout Latin America. Through Vivenciar, we establish online relationships with individuals and provide biblically based answers for their lives. Eventually, as God opens their hearts, we share the Gospel with them and guide them into church.

Maria is 33 years old and has an 11-year-old daughter. She follows the LHM-Mexico Facebook page and reached out

to the staff after watching one of their Facebook live videos. The Facebook live topic was violence, and being a previous victim, it really touched Maria's heart. She has talked with LHM-Mexico staff several times and has started attending women's Bible studies before being referred to an LCMS congregation. Maria desires to have a relationship with God and is enjoying learning more about Him each day.

Every \$10 you give enables LHM to reach over 2,000 people with the Gospel! A \$50 gift shares the Gospel with more than 10,000. To donate or for more info: lhm.org/international

Pastor Dennis W
Lutheran Hour Ambassador



Preschool News

Spring is here and boy are we excited! It feels great to be able to play outside in the warmer sunshine!

March was full of exciting adventures as we learned all about things that go! The St. Jude Trike-a-Thon happened at the end of the month. We got to learn about bike safety, practice generosity, and bring our bikes to school! We also have been talking about why we celebrate Easter. It is amazing that Jesus would go through such a painful journey because He loves each and every one of us so that we are able to love Him in return!

April starts off with Easter and spring break. When we get back from break we will be learning about the spring season. Only a couple more months of school until summer and I just can't believe how fast this year is going by.



LWML Mount Baker Zone *virtual* Joyshop

Saturday, April 10, 2021 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

(log-in opens at 9:15 a.m.)

Guest speaker from Pregnancy Resource Center, Everett

Ingathering to benefit Pregnancy Resource Center Cash donation at prcpartners.org or Amazon wishlist at <https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/prc-expectingmiracles-january-2022-everett/2FAYUE5F38DH4> (or local ingathering to benefit your local prolife center)

Bible Study with Vicar Lesley Chen, Immanuel Lutheran Church

Send email to LWML Mt. Baker Zone President Doris Hildenbrand at mrsdgh@yahoo.com to RSVP. Then watch your inbox for the Zoom link.

Dessert (recipe) provided by host society: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Everett

Mites may be collected through your society.



A Little Church Humor...

The Best Way to Pray

A priest, a minister and a guru sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby. "Kneeling is definitely the best way to pray," the priest said. "No," said the minister. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven." "You're both wrong," the guru said. "The most effective prayer position is lying down on the floor." The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Hey, fellas," he interrupted. "The best prayin' I ever did was when I was hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

The Picnic

A Jewish Rabbi and a Catholic Priest met at the town's annual 4th of July picnic. Old friends, they began their usual banter. "This baked ham is really delicious," the priest teased the rabbi. "You really ought to try it. I know it's against your religion, but I can't understand why such a wonderful food should be forbidden! You don't know what you're missing. You just haven't lived until you've tried Mrs. Hall's prized Virginia Baked Ham. Tell me, Rabbi, when are you going to break down and try it." The rabbi looked at the priest with a big grin, and said, "At your wedding."



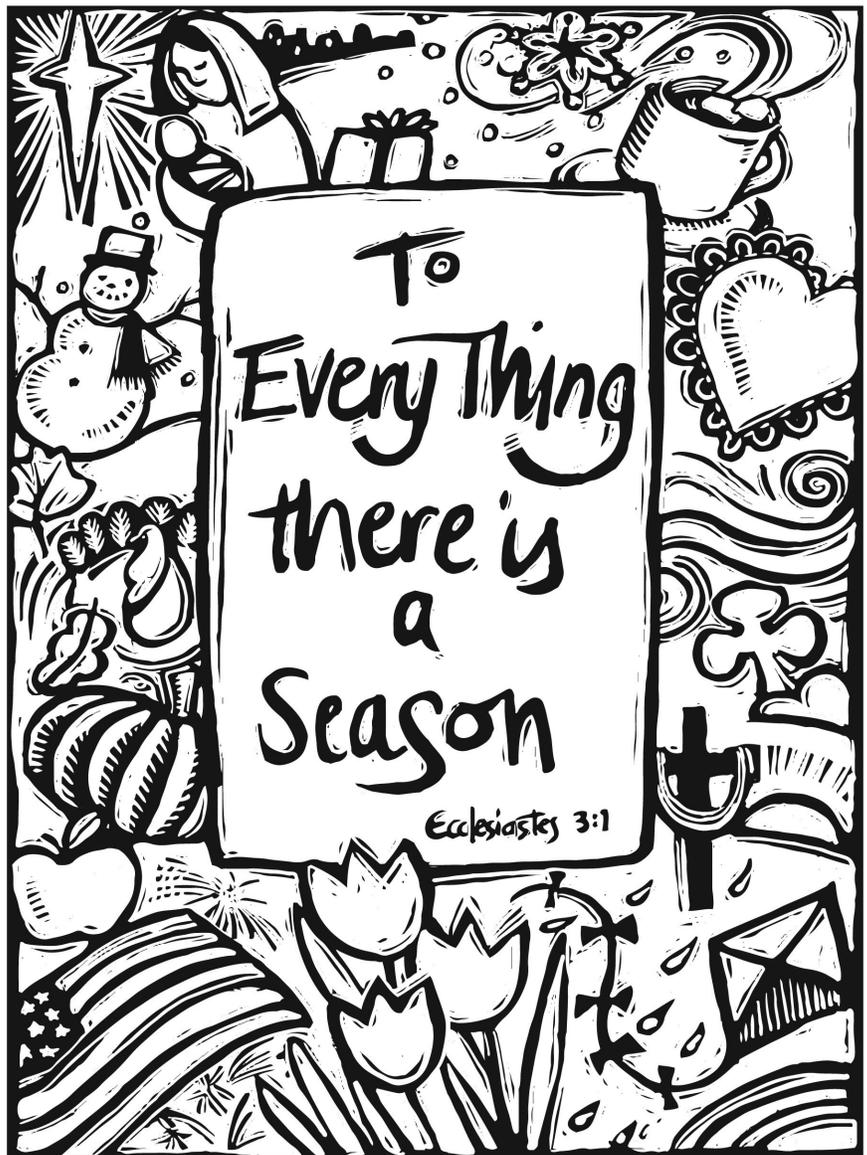
APRIL 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Maundy Thursday 7pm	2 Good Friday 7pm	3
4 Easter 9:00 & 10:30 Worship w. Communion	5	6	7	8	9	10 Men's Bible Study 8am
Pastor on Vacation & Office Closed						
11 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	12	13	14	15 <i>NewsLetter DEADLINE</i>	16	17
18 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship w. Communion Council Meeting 1:00pm	19	20	21	22 Lay Ministry Meeting 6:15pm	23	24 Men's Bible Study 8am
25 9:00 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	26	27	28	29	30	



- 7 Shannon Hrutfiord
- 9 Theresa (Holleman) Goninan
Sandie Miller
- 10 Jan Mouw
Bella Elizabeth Hrutfiord
- 13 Thomas Berndtson
- 16 Loran Goninan
Anthony Persse
- 17 Rick Faulkner
- 18 Mitchell Liebert
- 20 Dwight Luce
Chloe Archer
Rowena Dehnke
- 22 Erika (Gervol) Creydt
- 23 Shauna Johnson
Beth (Thompson) Stoll
- 24 Kirk Mouw
- 27 Dale VanderYacht
Larry Van Wanseele
Nichole Thompson
- 29 Darwyn Dehnke
- 30 Margaret Prior
Nadine Bowler

- 11 Leonard & Marsha Wahl
Jane & Howard Woods
- 13 Kirk & April Mouw
- 20 Dan & Cheryl Persse
Steven & Rachel Hrutfiord
Jean Cartwright & Al Mason
- 21 Russell & Delray Carleton
- 26 Bruce & Margaret Prior



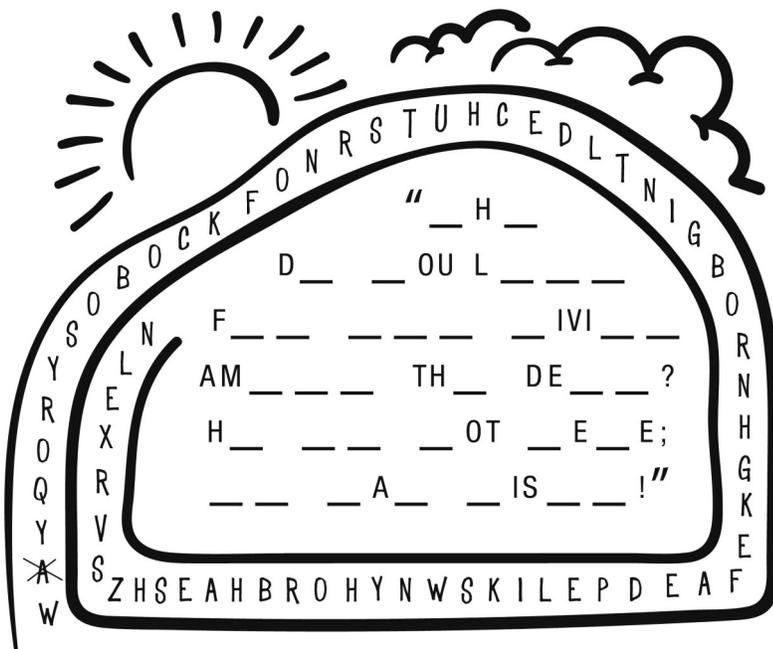
PUZZLE



EASTER MORNING *message*

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.



LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV

Bible Quiz

Acts 1:1 (NIV) reads: "In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach." What "former book" did the author write to Theophilus?

- A. Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John

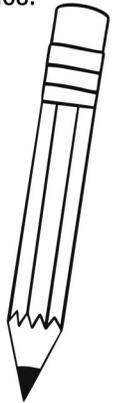


WHERE IN THE WORLD?

Jesus commands us to be his witnesses. This craft is a reminder to reach out to all our "circles."

What you need:

- 5 bowls or cups (assorted sizes)
- Construction paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Brad fastener
- Crayons or markers



What you do:

1. Place the bowls and cups upside down, each on a different color of paper. Trace around the circles and cut them out.
2. With a pencil, pierce a small hole atop each circle. Layer circles on each other from largest to smallest, aligning the holes. Insert the brad through all layers.
3. Starting in the center, label the circles *my house, my city, my state, my country, the world*. Draw a picture on each one.
4. Pray, asking Jesus how you can spread his message.