



Note
from the
pastor

Newsletter April 2016

Funny, but even though it was a mild winter it seems to have been a long winter. Maybe it was because we had those weird 60 degree days teasing us in the midst of it.

I am excited. I am noticing those delightful hints of spring all over the place. The winter has been washed away by buckets of rain and the whole world smells like mud. Many of us are so happy to see it we almost forget to complain about it. The days are getting longer, the tree frogs are peeping, the birds are chirping and the daffs are boldly pushing themselves up.

This is what the Easter season is all about. During what seems to be the endless cold dark days of winter, we start to experience the new life that rises up from what we once were sure was dead. The Easter season offers us the opportunity to seek and experience new life, new life in our congregation and new life for ourselves.

We have spent time this Lenten season considering our own personal journey through the wilderness into Jerusalem. We have prayed about what we bring to the cross and more importantly, what resurrection transformation have we come to expect in our own lives this Easter. Over the past weeks, we have been talking about discovering the Christ within us, to be the resurrected, living Jesus we know God has called us to be.

We come into spring expecting the miracle of new life, to be transformed. Again, that is what Easter is all about. Some miracles are large and some are small, some require that we look for them. A number of them even require that we work to reveal them. However, if we look, if we keep expecting them and are willing to do what God asks us to do; those miracle will just keep coming.

I am excited about what this Easter season has to offer all of us, personally and as a community in Christ. I encourage you to keep your heart, mind and spirit open. Let us plan together, pray together, and work together. Let us prepare to be transformed.

Take care and be well, Peace
Pastor Ken



Prayers for

Karen Marie, Sue, Scott, Mimi, Dan, Kathy, Rich, Maraleen, Doug, Gordy, Jack
Bishop Sr., George, David, Lynn, Erin and Charlie, Angel

Lunch at Zehnders & Wine Tasting in Frankenmuth

Saturday, April 30 - A trip is being planned to go for a wine tasting at Wine & Chocolate and have lunch at Zehnders. Lunch will be at Zehnders of Frankenmuth at 1:00pm., prices range from \$12.50 up, to all you can eat chicken at \$20.95 per person. The wine tasting will follow lunch with a cost of \$5.00 per person for either 6 wines with 5 chocolates or 6 wines and a commemorative glass. If interested in Bronner's please indicate on sign-up sheet. If the majority would like to go we can fit this in prior to lunch. Please sign up on clipboard in church basement. Please advise you need a ride. More information will follow.

Financial Goal Report

The goal for March was \$6,000. As of last Sunday donations, corn beef dinner proceeds, euchre and large turnout for Easter Breakfast and Service netted \$8,393.63. Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to accomplish this total for the needs of St. James.

Year to Date Report (First Quarter)

The total financial goal for January, February and March was \$18,000.00. The total contributions for these months was \$16,322.63 which was \$1,677.37 short. Please continue to donate what you can so the obligations of St. James can be met.

Liturgists / Ushers & Greeters Needed

We invite you to participate in the ministry of the church by being an usher/greeter or liturgist during our worship services. Many have found that serving in these roles has enriched their worship experience. Please sign up for a Sunday of your choice on the clipboards downstairs.

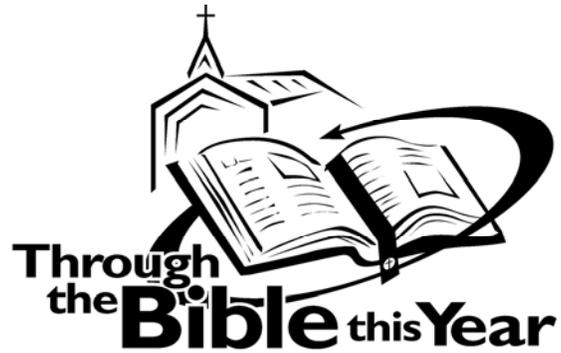


K.I.D.S. in Distress

Kids in Distress is in desperate need of boys pants sizes 3-12, boys underwear size 6-8 and size 16, and girls underwear size 16.

There is a bin in the basement here at church for your donations. Thank you for your support.

**CURRENT
NEEDS**



Scripture Readings for April

Sunday, April 3

- *Acts 5:27-32
- *Ps 118: 14-29 or Ps 150
- *Rev 1: 4-8
- *John 20:19-31

Resurrection Witness

Sunday, April 10

- *Acts 9: 1-6 (7-20)
- *Ps 30
- *Rev 5:11-14
- *John 21: 1-19

The Way Forward

Sunday, April 17

- *Acts 9: 36-43
- *Ps 23
- *Rev 7:9-17
- *John 1-: 22-30

Life-Giving Acts

Sunday, April 24

- *Acts 11: 1-18
- *Ps 148
- *Rev 21: 1-6
- *John 13: 31-35

Imagine





**EVERYTHING I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT LIFE,
I LEARNED FROM NOAH'S ARK!**

- 1) Don't miss the boat.
- 2) Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- 3) Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
- 4) Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask YOU to do something really big.
- 5) Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
- 6) Build your future on high ground.
- 7) For safety's sake, Travel in pairs.
- 8) Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- 9) When you're stressed, float a while.
- 10) Remember – The Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
- 11) No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

