



The Abounding Joy Herald

Gathering in Joy - Reaching Out with God's Love
Wednesday, March 27, 2024



Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024

Worship is at 7:00 am and 10:00 am

Three Worship Options: In-Person, Drive-in (88.5 FM), Video Message

HOLY WEEK

On **Maundy Thursday** tomorrow, March 28, we will worship at **6:30 pm**. Our students who have been preparing for first communion will also be partaking this evening in a special celebration. *Please stay after the service for cake and ice cream* to celebrate our first communicants having joined us at the Lord's Table.

On **Good Friday**, March 29, we will offer two opportunities to worship at **noon** and **6:30 pm**. This will be a Tenebrae service, focusing on Jesus as He is denied all the way to the Cross, where He will die for our sins. Our Men's Ensemble will be leading music at this service.

On **Easter Sunday**, March 31, join us for worship either at **7:00 am** for a Sunrise service or at **10:00 am** to worship our Risen Savior! *Please note that there will be NO Sunday School or Confirmation Classes; and NO Fellowship following either Service on Easter Sunday.*

GOD'S WORD Easter Sunday's sermon will be posted to our church website and at www.ajlcmc.org as soon as possible. Prepare your hearts for worship on Easter Sunday, March 31, and read: Isaiah 25:6-9, 1 Corinthians 15:3-11, John 20:1-18.

IN OUR PRAYERS: *Jeffery Karbedeh, Ken Lucy, Don* (Dave Greenwaldt's brother), *Jim* (Joanie Peterson, Joyce Cass, & Jeanie Frolander's brother), *John* (Marie Neuman's brother), *Nathan* (Ron & Sandy Stewart's son), *Lee* (Elijah and Simon Krystosek's uncle), *Matt* (Penny Peterson's son-in-law), *Martin* (Margaret Rey's nephew), *Kathy* (Joyce Neyssen's niece), *Deb* (Joyce Neyssen's cousin), *Brian* (Jane Armstrong's friend), *John* (Terry & Jo Duea's friend), *Stephen* (Erik & Miranda Berg's friend), *Jan* (Deb Hendrickson's friend), and *Faye* (Madge Rowe's friend).

WE EXPRESS OUR CONDOLENCES to *Rick* and *Michelle Bellrichard* and *family* on the recent death of Rick's father, Jim from Austin, MN.

CONTINUED PRAYERS and CONDOLENCES to *Terry* and *Jo Duea* and *Family* on the recent death of their son *Kirk*.

May the promise of the resurrection to new life in Jesus bring hope and comfort to all who grieve.

MEN'S FAITH TALK meets at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesdays. Come for some Bible focused discussion. ALL MEN are invited and encouraged to be part of this gathering.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to:

Cheryl Braaten, Sunday, March 31
Margaret Rey, Monday, April 1



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to:

Ron and Madge Rowe who celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary on Friday, March 29; and *Jerry and Anna Lahr* married 16 years ago also on Friday, March 29th; and *Gary and Cheryl Bratten* celebrating 6 years on Easter Sunday, March 31st.

God's blessings to these couples as they mark this important milestone in their lives.

THANK YOU We would like to thank you, our Abounding Joy family, for the cards, thoughts, and prayers during this very difficult time. These have surely helped us get through the last few days. Thanks to all of you who helped with the luncheon after the funeral. Your efforts were greatly appreciated. A special thank you to Pastor Brandon who was very caring and understanding and for the wonderful ceremony at church.

Terry and Jo Duea

PRAYER REQUESTS may be made by a request to our new volunteer Prayer Team coordinator Pr. Deb Peterson: AJ.prayers@ajlcmc.org and/or 320-250-0647. She contacts the prayer team for prayer. Daily prayer will be offered for one month. If you wish to have continued prayer, please submit a new request.

MEN'S BREAKFAST & SPEAKER—April 6 As part of the Celebrate Minnesota event, area churches are bringing men together for fellowship, worship, and an incredible speaker - Walleye Dan Eigen. Eigen has a great story to share, including his moving testimony, cancer battle, and experience mentoring young men. You fellows are invited and encouraged to attend this totally free event on Saturday, April 6, 7:00-8:30 am, at Harvest Fellowship Church in Sauk Rapids. Register online at <https://celebratemn.org/breakfast> by Monday, April 1st. See the poster on the bulletin board for details.

YOUTH GATHERING Next Wednesday evening, April 3, at 7:00 pm, we are invited to the Clase-man home for a youth group gathering. Their address is 6312 Fallow Road, St. Cloud (Luxemburg). They have a great game room space above the garage where we can hang out, play games, and have a little Bible study and conversation. We're hoping to see all of our students in grades 7-12 there. If this Wednesday night experiment works out, we could start adding Wednesday night events on a regular basis. See you there!

MARCH IS FOOD SHARE MONTH When you are shopping for your household, you are encouraged to remember those in need and buy a little extra for donating. Please bring non-perishable food items (not expired) and/or cash or check (made payable to Abounding Joy with a memo 'food shelf') to help fill the shopping cart. Your help with this project is greatly appreciated. We thank Carl and Betty Batdorf for delivering the donations.



INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP meets on Thursdays at 9:00 am at Abounding Joy. We invite you to join our intercessory prayer group led by Pastor Deb Peterson. We believe that we are called to not only pray FOR others, but to go into our community and pray WITH others. For more information contact Pastor Deb Peterson at 320-250-0647.

TABLE-TALK: The Household's Christian Calendar

Join us for an evening of fellowship and conversation Sunday, April 14 with dinner at 5:30 pm.

The Christian life is a life of continued hearing of God's Word about the great things He has done for us in Jesus. In this Table-Talk we will consider the importance of family devotional life and look at how observing days, weeks, and even years of the Christian calendar can be a great tool for our family life of faith, especially as we wonder how to pass faith in Christ to the next generation.

Our guest speaker, Kristen Einertson, is a blogger and a co-founder of All the Household, a one-stop shop for teaching and learning about Lutheran liturgical traditions. Kristen is the wife of Christian Einertson and mother of Theodore and Mary. She and her family live in Farmington, MN.

Please sign up at the info table or let Tim know you are coming, so that we have enough food ready for everyone. Childcare for younger kids can be provided upon request.

Named after Martin Luther's custom to discuss various important topics at the dinner table, Table-Talk is an opportunity for families and people of all ages to engage important topics and questions in light of God's Word.

EASTER OUTREACH Again, you have outdone your thoughtful kindness with gift card and money donations to total \$1,635. This amount was divided to help 5 families. We and the recipients are so truly thankful for *you* sharing your blessings and making this outreach possible! (A special *thank you* to Elaine Mullenmaster for creating and setting up the display, collecting and buying gift cards with the cash donations, and buying the Easter greeting cards in which to enclose the gift cards for the recipients.)

Sunday, March 24, 2024	ATTENDANCE: 140
OFFERINGS	
General \$7,379	Building/Mortgage \$3,100



This Week at Abounding Joy

Maunday Thursday, March 28

6:30 pm Worship Service

Good Friday, March 29

Noon Worship Service

6:30 pm Worship Service

Easter Sunday, March 31

7:00 am Easter Sunrise Worship Celebration

10:00 am Easter Worship Celebration

No Fellowship/Refreshments

2:30-5:00 pm Every Tribe and Tongue Worship

Tuesday, April 1

10:00 am Audit Team Meeting

6:30 pm Men's Ensemble Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 2

9:00 am Men's Faith Talk

Noon Bible Study

1:15 pm Joyful Stitchers Quilt-tying and Binding

Thursday, April 3

9:00 am Intercessory Prayer Group Meeting

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

The Abounding Joy Foundation

Brad Lundquist, President

Bill Latare, Council Liaison

Carl Batdorf, Vice President

Deb Hendrickson

Dan Tysver, Treasurer

Wally Osterholt

Greg Norman, Secretary

Pastor Brandon Foster, Non-voting member

Abounding Joy Lutheran Church

LCMC - Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (www.lcmc.net)

NALC - North American Lutheran Church (www.theNALC.org)

Ministers: All the people of *Abounding Joy*

Pastor Brandon Foster

Pastor Brandon's contact info: (701) 446-7561 email: Pastor.Brandon@ajlcmc.org

Director of Youth and Family Ministries: Tim Knorek

Tim's contact info: (507) 508-4128 email: tknorek@ajlcmc.org

Church Secretary: Marilyn Schultz

Custodian: Al Kutz

Ministers of Music: Ginny Shimota, Mary Schumann, Michelle Tomsche

Acoustic Joy Directors: Roger DeBoer and Cindi Rhoe

The Church Council welcomes your feedback and suggestions.

Kim Mielke, Pres. Bill Latare, Vice-Pres. Darlene Stover, Sec. Bruce Peterson, Treas.

Erik Bergs Steve Hancock Dennis Holland Amy Krystosek Marc Schrantz

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Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 9:00 am-1:00 pm