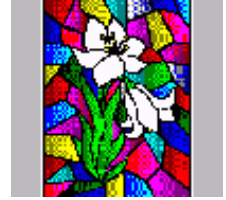




# Grapevine

## April 2011

### American Lutheran



#### ALC Staff

Henry Thorberg - Pastor  
Jane Plettner-Nielson -  
Director of Music  
Clarice Riege Secretary

#### ALC Council

##### Executive Committee

President - Keith Spilker  
Vice-President - Michael Welsh  
Secretary - Joel Bacon  
Treasurer - Char Rohl

#### Committee Chairs

Finance-Dustin Lottman  
Outreach-Dave Dermann  
Parish Education- Wendy Hirsch  
Property-Mike Wheeler  
Social Concerns-Liz Cooper  
Stewardship-Trevor Hanson  
Worship-Mavis Seelmeyer  
Youth- Doug Dexter/  
Brenda Spilker



### April Worship Schedule

April 3



**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**Sunday School Sings - St. Paul**  
8:15 am Traditional Worship/Communion  
9:15 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Praise Worship/Communion

April 6



**Lenten Worship [5]**  
**Special Music**  
5:30 pm Lenten Supper/Property/Finance  
7:00 pm Lenten Worship

April 10



**Fifth Sunday in Lent/Baptism**  
**Joyful Noise - St. Peter**  
8:15 am Traditional Worship  
9:15 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Praise Worship/baptism  
11:30 am Stege Parish Hall

April 13



**Lenten Worship [6]**  
**Special Music**  
9:30 am Martha Circle  
5:30 pm Lenten Supper/Social Concerns/Stewardship  
7:00 pm Lenten Worship

April 17



**Palm Sunday**  
**Sunday School/Gospel Rings/& St. Thomas**  
8:15 am Traditional Worship/Communion  
9:15 am Sunday School/Easter Egg Hunt  
10:30 am Praise Worship/Communion

April 21



**Maundy Thursday**  
**Sanctuary Choir/Special Music**  
7:00 pm Seder Meal?

April 22



**Good Friday /Special Music**  
4:00 pm Lenten worship  
7:00 pm Lenten Worship

April 24



**Easter Sunday**  
**Sanctuary Choir - St. James**  
7:00 am Sunrise Service/Continental Breakfast?  
8:15 am Traditional Worship/Communion  
9:15 am Sunday school

# End of Times?

This is a last minute change to my newsletter article; because I have been hearing much talk about the end of our days on earth from numerous sources. An ancient calendar ends in 2012. Some self-proclaimed woman has set a date in May for the return of Christ. The Bible says at the end of days there will be wars, rumors of war, earthquakes, floods, disasters of all sorts, and we seem to be deluged with all kinds of disasters and we hear about them right away and in ways that seem perhaps even more awful than they already are!



For that reason, I am not at all surprised by the number of people who are back in the business of predicting dire consequences in the near future when Judgment Day will surely descend upon us with the vengeance and recompense of GOD! Though I have no inclination to argue with them regarding the timing of the day when judgment comes, because I do not see it to be my place to say with certainty what Jesus refused to say! There are a couple of things with which I would take serious issue!

All throughout the history of the church there have been people who have said they know the date of Christ's return. They have prepared their followers for that event only to have to refigure it when Jesus did not listen to their predictions. Years ago when I was serving in Kansas, there was a group who were ready. They sold all their property and went out in the hills to wait. The day came and went; so they

returned to town, went to the bank and got their money out of the savings accounts where they had deposited the proceeds from their sales.

The instructions we have regarding the coming of Christ were not intended to cause such a response from us; but they did mean to make a difference in the way we live our life while we wait. We are to live in expectation of Christ; so that when he comes he discovers us doing the work he calls us to do! That means that we live as disciples every day of our life! There is to be no break from our mission even if the wait is very long!

The second issue I have with what they teach is that I find no reason – not a single reason – not even a tiny reason to be afraid of that great and terrible (not terrifying!) day!!! It is a day to be anticipated unlike no other day. It is better than the day we can get our driver's license! It is better than the day we got that dream job! It is more wonderful than the day of our birth, or baby's birth, or even our grandbaby's birth! It's better than our wedding day! It is better than any day you might want to put on the list of wonderful days!

It is most wonderful because on that day every one of us who believes in Jesus and trusts GOD gets to go to heaven. Nothing on this earth is beautiful enough to compare to that; so there is no cause to fear that day. There is only cause to anticipate the final great gift GOD intends to give us. If it is coming tomorrow, go do what Luther suggested – plant a tree!  
AMEN!

Waiting with you, *Pastor Henry*

## From the Music Director:

**The rehearsal schedule for the month of April will be (every Tuesday):**



Joyful Noise – 5:30 to 6:15 (grades 1-5)  
Gospel Rings – 6:15 to 7:00 (grades 6 through adult)  
Sanctuary Choir – 7:00 to 8:00 (grades 6 through adult)  
Praise Team – 8:00- 9:00 (grades 6 through adult)

The schedule for sharing our musical gifts during worship (for the next two months) is as follows:

April 3 – Sunday School and St. Paul Praise Team (singers Pastor, Mavis, Jim, Angie, Vanessa)  
April 6 – Lenten Service – Special Music  
April 10 – Joyful Noise and St. Peter Praise Team (singers Travis, Brenda, Laura, Kelli, Natalie, Sherri)  
April 13 – Lenten Service – Special Music  
April 17- Palm Sunday – Sunday School, Gospel Rings, Special Music and St. Thomas Praise Team (singers Keith, Jana, Michelle, Beth)  
April 21 – Maundy Thursday – Sanctuary Choir and Special Music  
April 22 – Good Friday – Sanctuary Choir and Special Music  
April 24 – Easter – Sanctuary Choir and Special Music and St. James Praise Team (singers Bruce, Kim, Morgan, Claire, Marcia)  
May 1 – Sunday School and St. Paul Praise Team (singers Pastor, Mavis, Jim, Angie, Vanessa)  
May 8 – Joyful Noise and St. Peter Praise Team (singers Travis, Brenda, Laura, Kelli, Natalie, Sherri)  
May 15 – Gospel Rings and St. Thomas Praise Team (singers Keith, Jana, Michelle, Beth)  
May 22 – Music Appreciation Sunday (all music groups) and St. James Praise Team (singers Bruce, Kim, Morgan, Claire, Marcia)  
May 29 – Special Music and St. Paul Praise Team (singers Pastor, Mavis, Jim, Angie, Vanessa)

### OFFICE HOURS

There are two Mondays in April (the 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>) as well as three Mondays in May (the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup>) when I may not be available for my usual office hours (6:00 to 7:00 p.m.) The Legislature is now debating bills all day (previously, they were debating bills on the floor in the morning and holding hearings in the afternoon). If they stay past 5:00, the office I work in stays open to provide services as the senators need them. Not everyone has to stay every night. The week is divided up so each person is responsible for staying one or two nights, as needed. My nights to stay are Monday and Thursday. (Tuesday and Wednesday nights I am needed at the church for rehearsals and Lenten services.)

Also, on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, I will be in the office from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m., instead of 10:00 to 12:00, so that I may attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Cornhusker Football Spring Game.

If you wish to visit with me about anything, please feel free to call me at 402-440-1895 (leave a message if I don't answer and I'll return your call). Thank you for your continued support of the music program. Your patience and understanding are most appreciated, as I continue to fulfill my obligations with my full-time job with the State of Nebraska.

Jane Plettner-Nielson

## Attendance and Stewardship

	Worship		General Offering	Phase III Offering	Other Offering
	8:15 am	10:30 am			
February 20	67	70	\$2666.00	\$110.00	\$242.25
February 27	53	79	\$1594.00	\$170.00	\$125.00
March 6	59	87	\$5785.70	\$590.00	\$182.00
March 9	Ash Wed	82	\$396.00		
March 13	60	97	\$3167.00	\$290.00	\$105.00
March 16	Lent 2	70	\$439.75	\$500.00	\$137.00
March 20	62	87	\$1980.00	\$130.00	\$128.00

## Financial Statement

### Financial Results through 2/28/2011

	February	YTD
<b>Budget Income</b>		
Pro-rata needs	\$ 13,910.00	\$31,297.00
Offerings	\$ 14,370.00	\$30,840.00
Difference	\$ 460.00	[\$457.00]
<b>Budget Expenses</b>	\$ 19,262.00	\$35,244.00
<b>Phase III:</b>		
Debt Obligation	\$ 2,976.00	\$5,952.00
Budgeted (mortgage )	\$ 1,761.00	\$3,642.00
Phase III Offerings	\$ 1,215.00	\$2,310.00
Total Paid	\$ 2,976.00	\$5,952.00
<b>Cause of the Month:</b>	\$285.00	

*God*



## Lincoln Cluster Food Pantry

In April the pantry needs: Juice, canned meat [tuna, treat, chicken], peanut butter & jelly, tomato products, boxed potatoes.

Cash donations are used for immediate needs. To donate cash, place it in the collection plate, clearly marked "Food Pantry"

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### Worship Assistants :

Once in awhile, there may be a time when you have been assigned to usher and do another task, such as serve communion. This was not done intentionally. If there are enough ushers, this shouldn't be a problem. It is sometimes difficult to schedule worship assistants, while also trying to accommodate various requests. We certainly appreciate your patience and understanding. If you have any questions in regard to the schedule for worship assistants, please contact someone from the Worship Committee: Carlee Stevens, George Stevens, Jane Plettner-Nielson, Marcia Worth, or myself.

Thank you,  
Mavis Seelmeyer,  
Chair, Worship Committee

## ALC March Statistics:

### Change of Address:

Luke Worth - to: 4320 North 7th Apt. 207  
Lincoln, NE 68521

Delcia Itzen - to: 5601 NW 11th Circle  
Lincoln, NE68521-4236

Lois Gillispie - to: 7915 Yellow Knife Dr.  
Lincoln, NE 68505-3095

Elmer Ahlman - to: 5660 Fremont, Apt. 78  
Lincoln, NE 68507-1673

Toni Walbridge - to 14241 Heywood St.  
Waverly, NR 68462-1431

\*\*\*\*\*

### Executive Committee and Church Council

will meet Thursday evening, April 14th ,  
at 6:15 pm and 7:00 pm respectively.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear American Lutheran Church,

Thank you very much for your \$285.00 contribution to Lighthouse. I appreciate your generous and on-going support.

Sincerely,  
Peter Allmann President

## **This & That . . .**

### **International Quilt Study Center & Museum**

*Quilt House, University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

**1523 N. 33rd Street**

**Lincoln, NE 68583-0838**

Here is a warm invitation for the coming months: We invite your senior group of your congregation to tour our museum as our guests. This offer of **FREE ADMISSION** is being extended for a limited period [through April 30, 2011] to senior groups (three or more individuals over age 55) in our community.

Quilt enthusiasts and members of the general public tell us they are glad they made our unique museum one of their destinations. Your group will enjoy:

- ◆ A warm welcome and orientation by museum staff.
- ◆ Two major exhibitions:
  - ◆ “Marseille: White Corded Quilting” running throughout April, “Revisiting “The Art Quilt””, running through April 3, then “Nebraska Quilts & Quiltmakers opening April 8.
- ◆ Free audio tours for “Marseille: White Corded Quilting.”
- ◆ More Quilts in our Education gallery
- ◆ Our virtual gallery for more quilt browsing and interactive fun
- ◆ Charming doll quilts and furniture in our Reading Room
- ◆ A new panel exhibition focusing on worldwide quilting traditions
- ◆ A new video not showing behind the scenes looks into the museum and quilt care, and
- ◆ A museum shop with unique quilt-related merchandise.

To take us up on this free offer just give us a call at 402-472-6549, ask for Mary or Barb, and we will arrange the right date and time for your group. Feel free to share this offer with your friends or other groups.

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## **Carol Joy Holling**

### ◆ **Spring Quilter & Crafter Retreats!**

**Free Form Cutting and Piecing Quilters Retreat—April 10-12-2011**

**Unfinished Objects Retreat—March 27-29, 2011**

*Bring all your supplies and use this time to finish up all of those partially done projects!*

See brochure and more info on the table in the narthex.

Council Minutes

Worship Assistants

Calendar

**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH**

4200 Vine Street  
Lincoln, NE 68503  
Phone: 402 466-6488  
Email: amlutheran@windstream.net  
Web Page www.americanlutheranlincoln.org

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Lincoln, Nebraska  
Permit No. 201

Henry Thorberg, Pastor  
Sunday Worship 8:15 am  
Praise Worship 10:30 am  
Christian Education 9:15 am

Address Service Requested

*I am the vine, you are the  
branches.*

*He who abides in me, and I in  
him, bears much fruit.*

*John 15:5*



04/01 Michael Welsh  
04/02 Franklyn Manning  
04/02 Angela Hanson  
04/04 Jessica Martin  
04/05 David Everett  
04/06 Brenda Spilker  
04/06 Debra Hanna  
04/09 Laura Huesers  
04/10 Zyhmia Wagy  
04/11 Mavis Seelmeyer

04/12 Aaron Seelmeyer  
04/12 Lance Neeman  
04/12 Samuel Hanson  
04/13 Jill Aerni  
04/14 James Spilker  
04/14 Dorothy Klein  
04/14 Gloria Bell  
04/16 Shirley Hinz  
04/17 Laura Martin  
04/18 Mary Akin

04/19 Mark Krumm  
04/20 Gloria Dowding  
04/24 Morgan Malone  
04/24 Adela Donahoo  
04/26 John Shafer  
04/27 Kayla Franzen  
04/28 Terri Wheeler  
04/28 David Foley  
04/29 Tim West  
04/29 Trevor Westerholt