



The Eternal Light

Eternal Savior Lutheran Church
2688 North Park Drive
Lafayette, CO 80026
303-665-6105

April 2025

WORD IS . . .

Volume 2/Issue 5 May
A WORD FROM PASTOR THORSON

ACTS 17: 28a

for “In him we live and
move and have our
being . . .”

Living, Moving, Being aka: Screaming, Squirming, Scared

It must be a scary thing to be born. What a drastic change of scenery! From mom’s warm belly to the big broad (and often cold) world, not to mention a scary person in a mask (the doctor) greeting the little person and the goofy looking guy that will come to be known as dad standing next to scary masked person. That child’s existence is turned upside down. No wonder babies came into this world, screaming, squirming and scared. The birth of a child causes us to ponder ancient questions about life and existence. Why am I here? What am I going to do now that I am here?

These are the very questions that Paul addressed to the Athenians at the Areopagus (see Acts 17: 22-34). As the men sat around and pondered the “deepest questions” of life, Paul stood up and addressed them on their own terms with language about God that they could understand. Paul put it to them that they had all the answers they needed in the God that they had labeled “unknown.”

*“[E]ach year Jesus digs deeper, holds tighter and
fights more furiously to make you new”*



This Easter we remember that God, who created everything and sent Jesus to die, rise and save the world, was and is the answer to even the oldest questions of men. For it is in him that we, the Athenians, and all of creation live, move and have being. God is the reason we come into this world screaming, squirming and scared. God is the reason we continue in this world screaming, squirming and scared in various ways at various times. He

sustains all his creation, and by his Son, Jesus the Christ, he has given redemption and life for his creation. As Jesus burst

forth from the tomb, he creates new value in our screaming and squirming. Paul lets us know by his speech to the Athenians that we have the answers we need; we are more than screaming, squirming, scared bundles of flesh. Instead, we find our purpose and very being in Jesus who rescued us from screaming, squirming and being scared in eternal death. We are God's creation made alive by the Father, redeemed by Jesus and sustained by the Holy Spirit; by our very breath we testify to God's glory and mercy. Through our faith and fear, may the Holy Spirit guide us to use our words and actions to testify about the God that this world does not know, that this "unknown" God might be glorified in more of his creatures' screaming, squirming and scared lives, and Jesus might become known to all the world.

In Christ,



Upcoming Events

April 17th – Maundy Thursday Service 7:00p.m.

April 18th – Good Friday Noon Service 12:00p.m, Good Friday Tenebrae Service 7:00p.m.

April 20th – Easter breakfast provided by the Youth 7:30a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt during Sunday School 10:30a.m.

April 26th - WinGS is hosting an LWML Spring Workshop

April 27th – Confirmation Sunday. Celebration of confirmands will follow service.

April 27th – Provide meal at ULC

Confirmation during Lent will meet on Sundays at 2:00 via zoom.

Lenten Season

We will be having Lenten services on April 2 and April 9.

Holy Week Schedule – April 13 – Palm Sunday

April 17 – Maundy Thursday service at 7:00p.m

April 18 – Good Friday noon service at 12:00p.m.

April 18 – Good Friday Tenebrae service at 7:00p.m.

We will not be having pot-lucks before services this year.

We will be following a sermon series entitled: ***You Meant It For Evil, But God Meant It For Good***

We will be having a round robin of pastors from the circuit for each Lenten service:

April 2 – Pastor Rob Jarvis sermon “Faith for a Complicated World”

April 9 – Pastor Dave Ahlman sermon “He Was Numbered Among the Transgressors”

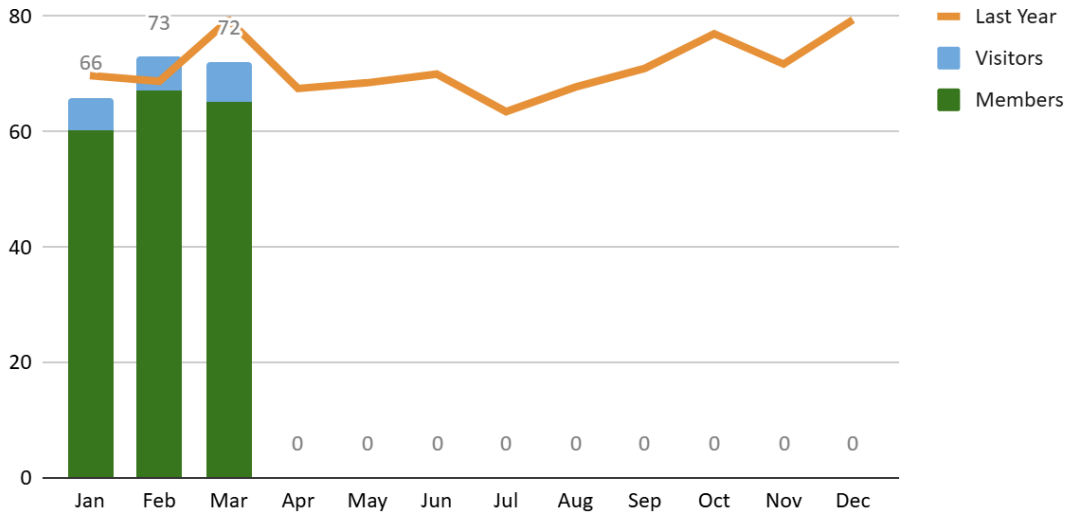
Please join us and experience Pastors from around our circuit.

Attendance Graphs!

Members of Eternal Savior.

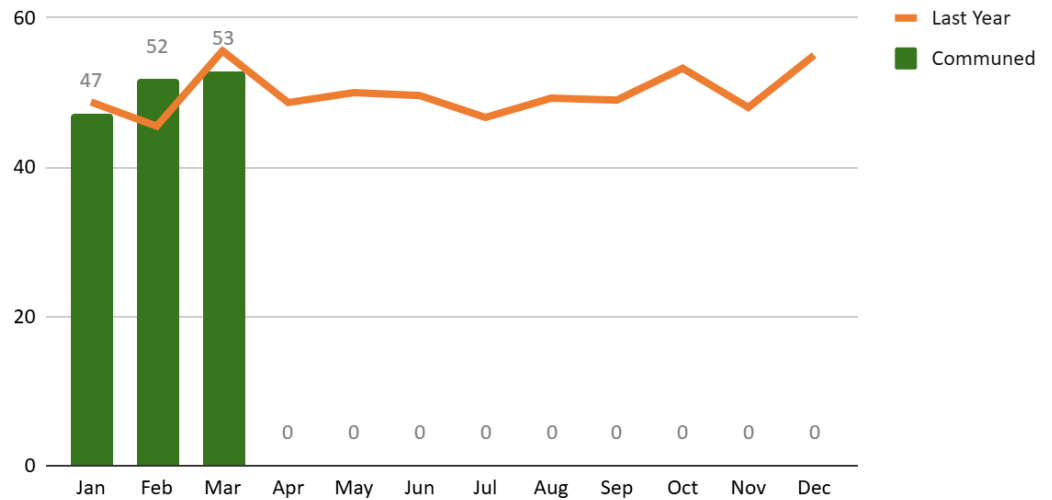
These are graphs showing our attendance and communion for 2025.

2025 Attendance: Per-Sunday Average



Average by Month

2025 Communed: Per-Sunday Average



Average by Month

OFFERING REPORT

Offerings for the month of February were:

March 2	\$3,664
March 9	\$1,855
March 16	\$7,226
March 23	\$5,403
March 30	\$3,806
Online Offerings	\$6,375



This weekly average (\$4,721) compares to our 2024 weekly budget needs of **\$5,018**.

COUNTER SCHEDULE

If you have a conflict on a day you are scheduled, please arrange with another counter to cover that day.

April 6 – Sam and Lynn Kelley
April 13 – Sam and Lynn Kelley
April 20 – Polly Cowley and Cindy Stahly
April 27 – Katherine Moore and Polly Cowley

May 4 – Cindy Stahly and Mary Bunge
May 11 – Mark and Mary Bunge
May 18 – Mark and Mary Bunge
May 25 – Marc and Jan Ertle

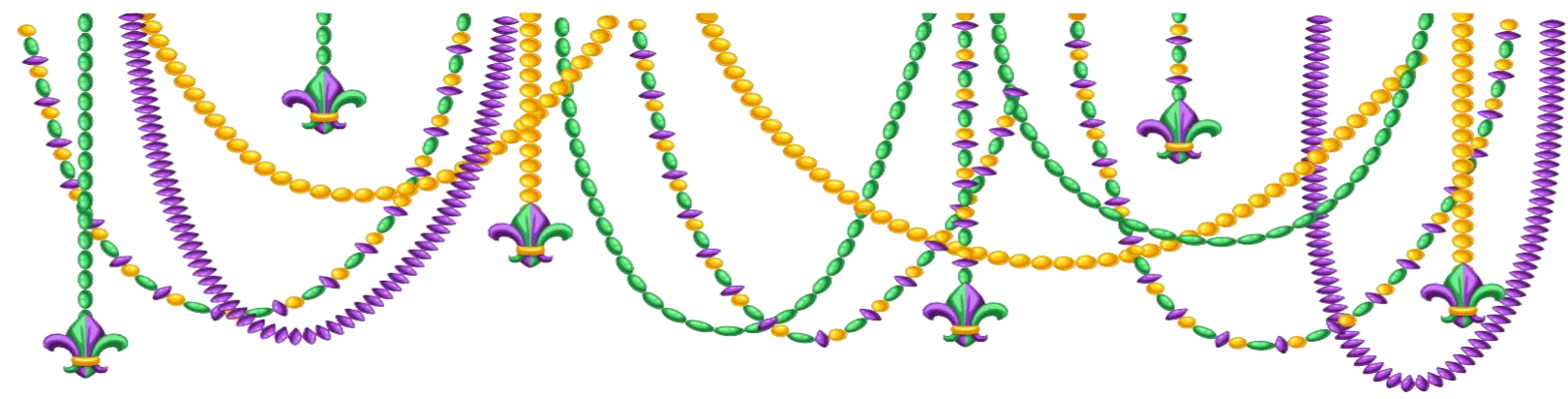


Quilting News

After our holiday break, we are enjoying working again. In January, we sent 15 double and 8 baby-child quilts to Orphan Grain Train. In March, we gave them 11 full and 9 baby-child quilts. This gives us a grand total of 1,774 quilts!

In February, we received a Thrivent Action Teams grant of \$250.00 to spend on fabric for our quilts which we will use to purchase fabric for quilt backs. We watch for fabric to go on sale so we spend our money wisely. This will become more challenging since JoAnn's Fabric stores are going out of business.

We can always use donations of fabric provided the area is big enough for either a $6\frac{1}{2}$ " or $8\frac{1}{2}$ " squares. Continued thanks to the Deacons Fund for purchasing our batting. Check with Diane Oehlkers at 303-666-9627 with any questions.



CONGREGATIONAL DINNER

The Youth prepared a wonderful dinner for the congregation and they auctioned themselves off to earn donations to help them attend the Youth Gathering this summer in New Orleans.



WinGS News



Women in God's Service at ESLC

Upcoming events:

April 26th 2025- Hosting Spring Workshop make plans to attend and participate!!

June 2025- Fellowship gathering

June 26th-29th 2025 – 41st Biennial LWML Convention in Omaha NE Registration is open now, make plans to attend at <https://www.lwml.org/convention> contact Cindy Stahly if you would like more information! Early registration ends May 1st! Or see the Winter 2024 Quarterly in the narthex for more information!

More updates next month!

Mission Grants remaining for the 2023-2025 Biennium:

- 8. Expanding Gospel Proclamation Worldwide — Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO \$100,000
- 16. Care for Street Children of Western Kenya — Capstone Ministries \$50,000 — Partial payment of \$28,418
- 17. Nurturing Faith for the Aging — Lutheran Ministries Media (Worship Anew) \$100,000 — Partial payment of \$50,000
- 18. Zoe's Home Support — Zoe's Home, Trinity Lutheran Church, Clinton, MO \$75,000 — Partial payment of \$50,000
- 23. A Legacy of Love for Special Needs Children — Lutheran Special Education Ministries, U.S. \$100,000 — Partial payment of \$50,000
- 25. Bringing God's Word to India — India Bible Translation Project \$100,000 — Partial payment of \$74,019
- 26. Life Connection Events and Kits — Lutherans for Life \$70,000

Fill your mite boxes and bring them in to complete the Goal!

Looking for Activity ideas for the group to do together! They can be fellowship, food, fun, servant oriented etc. Please share your ideas in the mite box when you drop off your mighty mites!

Stained-Glass News

“Thank You” to all who have donated to the stained-glass window fund. We are currently needing just under \$500 to meet our goal of \$25,000. The committee has met weekly this past month, making lots of decisions. Our final design is shown below, and the Scottish Stained-Glass Company has begun production on building the window. Martin Faith, owner of the company, worked with the committee at the church on March 21st to select a final design and help us with glass color choices. Martin explained that his company will lightly paint each piece of glass around the edges and then fire it in a kiln to make the paint become part of the glass. This process will give the glass a bit of a shadow to provide more depth and intensify the color. Martin also added that his computer program is not a true representation of the colors, especially the bronze and amber. Those colors are much prettier in person.

As a reminder, the window shows the dove to complete the Trinity representation on the Reredos and above in the window. The painted mountain mural represents God the Father and creation, the cross represents Jesus, and the dove represents the Holy Spirit. The dove is descending. This might look confusing as it isn't head down. The committee had several discussions about this with Pastor. If the head and beak of the dove are bending downward, it is descending. The dove in the window will very appropriately be looking downward towards the altar.

The background design of the window was designed by our very own, Pam Mayer. Pam is a member of the committee and knew what we were looking for in the design. Pam's contribution will make the window more connected to our congregation and a great additional piece of history. Thanks to Pam for sharing her talents with us. Oh, and Martin offered her a job!

The committee found out that our work is not done. Our congregation has been blessed by an anonymous donor to put stained-glass in two additional windows. Stained-glass will be put in the top arched windows in the north and south sides of the church. One window will be centered on the theme of “Water and the Word” while the other window will focus on “Body and Blood”. The committee is excited to continue working together. Committee members are Jeanie Fink, Cindy Griffin, Nancy Hire, Pam Mayer, Diane Oehlkers, Mike Scott, Cindy Stahly, Robin Warnken and Pastor Thorson (advisor).

The committee members are honored to be doing this work for the congregation and to God be the Glory. The pictures below show the window design, Martin taking measurements, the color selections, and committee.



REMINDERS

The Deacon's Fund supports Emergency Family Assistance, ULC, and other charities as well. All of these funds will be used to alleviate the needs of people who are in very vulnerable circumstances. The agencies have expressed great gratitude. We are only able to do this because of the generous and faithful contributions of you, our dear members, to the Deacon's Fund! Please consider contributing via your offering envelopes or in the Deacons' Fund collector in the Narthex! Thanks!!!

Please be responsible!!! For everyone who has access to the church building, it is your responsibility when you leave to make sure that all lights are off, the heat/air-conditioning/fans are turned back or off and all of the **doors are locked and secure!!** Please do double checks before you leave.

We ask that all members of the congregation please be conscious of protecting their valuables while at church. Many times, the doors are left unlocked, and people are downstairs. This gives easy access to someone who may not be a member. We will try to remember to lock the doors after service.

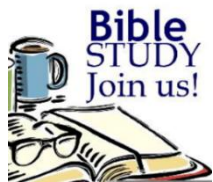
Sign Up to Receive Text Messages - Eternal Savior is building a text message list for urgent communications. i.e., Service is cancelled due to a blizzard. If you would like to receive notifications like that via text message, please text **ETERNALSAVIOR** (one word, no space) to 84576. Contact Laura Raben if you need help signing up.

The **2025 Flower Chart** is now available on the bulletin board. Please look to see if there is a service you would like to provide flowers. Also include if the flowers are for a special occasion.

Parking spaces in front of the church should be reserved for those members and visitors that need to park close to the building due to health concerns or weather. Please be considerate and leave these spaces to those who need them most.

Large print worship service folders and assisted listening devices are available. Please ask an usher if needed.

Sunday Morning Bible Study – Please join us after service downstairs for Sunday morning Bible Study. This Bible Study is covering the Book of Ezekiel.



Sunday School! We are studying the “Enduring Faith” curriculum. Sunday School opening is at 10:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. All children are encouraged to join us!

Wednesday Night Bible Study - Please join us for Wednesday night Bible Study at 6:00p.m. We will be studying the book of Romans. *** **During Lent this Bible Study we not be meeting. This Bible Study will resume April 30.**

Thursday Morning Bible Study - Please join us for Thursday morning Bible Study at 10:30a.m. We will be studying the book of Romans. *** **This Bible Study will not meet April 24.**

SERVING IN APRIL

Wednesday, April 2 – Lenten Service

Preacher	Pastor Rob Jarvis
Pianist	Pam Mayer
Acolyte	Dylan Mayer
Usher	Roger Landowski
Elder	Marc Ertle

Sunday, April 6

Organist/Pianist	Linda Innes
Acolyte	Cole Mayer
Usher(s)	Tom and Cindy Stahly
Greeter(s)	Sam and Lynn Kelley
Counter(s)	Sam and Lynn Kelley
Elder(s)	Ryan Lambrecht, Marc Ertle
Altar	Linda Thompson
A/V Booth	Pete and Levi Hinrichs
Snow/Lawn	Bob Vieyra
Flowers	OPEN

Wednesday, April 9 – Lenten Service

Preacher	Pastor Dave Ahlman
Pianist	Pam Mayer
Acolyte	Cole Mayer
Usher	Roger Landowski
Elder	Keith Cowley

Sunday, April 13 – Palm Sunday

Organist/Pianist	Linda Innes
Cantor	Pam Mayer
Acolyte	Lydia Hurst
Usher(s)	Tom and Cindy Stahly
Greeter(s)	Keith and Polly Cowley
Counter(s)	Sam and Lynn Kelley
Elder(s)	Wayne Thomas (r), Ryan Lambrecht
Altar	Linda Thompson
A/V Booth	Kirk and Micah Anderson
Snow/Lawn	Bob Vieyra
Flowers	OPEN

Thursday, April 17 – Maundy Thursday Service

Pianist	Pam Mayer
Acolyte	Dylan Mayer
Usher	Roger Landowski
Elder	Wayne Thomas, Kirk Anderson
Altar	Linda Thompson
A/V Booth	Keith Cowley

Friday, April 18 – Good Friday Noon Service

Pianist	Linda Innes
Usher	Elder
Elder	Keith Cowley

Friday, April 18 – Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Pianist	Linda Innes
Acolyte	Luke Hinrichs
Usher	Roger Landowski
Elder	Marc Ertle
A/V Booth	Tom Stahly & Micah Anderson

Sunday, April 20 – Easter Sunday

Organist/Pianist	Valerie Iglar
Acolyte	Luke Hinrichs
Usher(s)	Marc Ertle, Ryan Lambrecht
Greeter(s)	Bob and Brenda Vieyra
Counter(s)	Polly Cowley and Cindy Stahly
Elder(s)	Eric Olson, Wayne Thomas
Altar	Linda Thompson
A/V Booth	Laura Raben
Snow/Lawn	Sam Kelley
Flowers	Raben

Sunday, April 27 - Confirmation

Organist/Pianist	Valerie Iglar
Cantor	Keith Cowley
Acolyte	Anna Lambrecht
Usher(s)	Roger Landowski, Michael Scott
Greeter(s)	Cheryl and Ryan Lambrecht
Counter(s)	Katherine Moore and Polly Cowley
Elder(s)	Ryan Lambrecht (r), Keith Cowley
Altar	Linda Thompson
A/V Booth	Nick and Noah Mayer
Snow/Lawn	Sam Kelley
Flowers	Confirmation Families

We have many ways in which our members can share their gifts with others each Sunday. Some of those are Greeters, Offering Counters, Ushers, Livestream and Audio Engineers, Lawn Mowing/Snow Removal. These are all listed on the Servant Calendar on our web site. Please reach out to Mary at the church office if you can serve. We so appreciate and thank God for your service!