

Faith's Blessings

Faith Lutheran Church
6567 Glades Pike
Somerset PA 15501
(814) 443-3179
(814) 483-3097 Pastor Kathy

April 2024



*“How can we who died to sin still live in it?
Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?
We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death,
in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father,
we too might walk in newness of life.”*
Romans 6:2-4

April...as you read this the festivities of Easter may already be a faded memory: The leftover ham has been eaten or found its way into the freezer for another day, Easter baskets put back in their corner of the attic, and flowers are beginning to fade a bit...and all those sweets? Well, they may very well be long gone! But what of the Easter gospel and the glorious “Alleluias”? Have they, too, been “put away”? What of the message of God’s grace, God’s love, borne by Jesus’ death and resurrection? How has it changed us? Are we like Spring bulbs which have been lying dormant, ready to burst through the layers of soil with renewed hope?

As I pondered these questions, I came across a devotion by Miriam Drennen from her book, *Devotions from the Garden...her words captured my heart, not because they fell within the realm of one of my beloved hobbies, plants and gardening, but as uplifting affirmations of the season, Easter, as well as Spring ... and so I share them with you:*

“Perennial bulbs produce such gorgeous plants and flowers year after year that it’s hard to believe their unsightly, humble beginnings. Bulbs originate as somewhat withered-looking balls, some with fine, hairy roots extending outward, and others with crackly, dry skin. On the inside of each is a small bud, protected by those ugly outer layers. If you were to set these bulbs on a shelf, they would stay lifeless and be purposeless. But when the fall season arrives and we bury them, we set the stage for something miraculous to occur. We will witness the complete transformation of our ugly bulbs.

Upon the first hints of spring—when days are a bit longer and the snow is melting—specks of green begin to dot the soil. Each day the warmer sun coaxes and calls, “Come on! Come out!” until finally the seedlings push through the dirt, the leaves emerge, and the stage is set for the tiny flower buds to sprout and open. At long last, beautiful masterpieces open up, sharing their vibrant color for all to see. The cold ground has given birth to these explosions of joy that greet the new season.

Year after year these lovely miracles reappear. New flower buds spread rainbows of color and joy as if to remind us that they weren’t asleep or dead in the ground, that they had been in a season of transformation. After being swaddled in rich soil, protected from cold winter temperatures, watered with nourishing rain, and fed with the warm, bright sun, the ugly bulbs eventually emerge as something new and beautiful, unmistakable evidence of their transformation”.

Here is the wonderful thing about being united with Christ “in a death like His”. If we are in Christ, God has rewritten our story within His story. Our lives are full of grace! Christ, suffered, died and was buried – it is what we believe, it’s what we affirm in our baptismal promises, it is what we profess in our creeds – we are “buried” in His grace forever.

If you have bulbs in your yard, dig one up today. Or buy some new ones.... Before planting them, hold each one for just a moment and consider what each one will become—and remember that the Lord holds you the same way...” well beyond Easter...to eternal life.

Christ is risen and is our Hope. He conquered death, He makes all things new.

He has risen! He has risen indeed!

Easter Blessings borne of the Risen Christ,

Pastor Kathy +



During the month of March we lifted the following in prayer: Family and friends of Scott Coughenour, Debbie Gudes, Sandy Long, Louise Spangler, Randy Fieg, Tomalee Will, Christopher Will and Faith's Homebound Members.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care visits are a means of bringing the presence of Jesus Christ into the lives of our community of Faith at times of acute illness, pending surgery, long-term care and rehabilitation of care, as well as hospice care. We rely on family members, friends, and neighbors to let the church staff know when someone is in a hospital or other facility; please call the church office 814-443-3179 and provide the name of the individual, name of hospital or care facility, and room number if known; and it is also helpful to give time/date of surgery. After office hours you may call Pastor Kathy directly at 814-483-3097.

Second Offering

Our second offering for April has been designated for the Faith's Kid's Kamp. The collection will be used to offset the costs for supplies, food and field trip for the children/youth.

For the month of March, we collected \$71 for the Hooversville Food Pantry.

A colorful graphic saying "Thank You!" in large, multi-colored letters. The word "Thank" is in blue, pink, green, and orange. The word "You!" is in pink, blue, and green. There is a green exclamation mark at the end.

HOW SWEET IT IS



Sunday, April 14

immediately following 9:00 am worship

“HOW SWEET IT IS” to be loved by God!

To celebrate God’s love for us and the Spring season,
we invite you to bring your favorite dessert to share

– we’ll provide the forks and spoons .

ALL are invited to join in this dessert taste testing spectacular and help pick the
“tastiest”.

A trophy will be awarded for Faith’s “Best Dessert”.

Mark your calendar and plan to join in the fun and fellowship.

We thank those who are willing to serve
for the month of April

April 7

Altar Guild	Patti Trent	Reader	Sandy Pyle
Assisting Minister	Darren Walker	Acolyte	Nolan Pyle
Greeters	Nolan & Dylan Pyle		
Council Person	Keith Rhoads		

April 14

Altar Guild	Patti	Reader	Genette Swank
Assisting Minister	Brock Bowers	Acolyte	Kohen Breegle
Greeters	Bob Duppstadt & Joe Swank, Sr.		

April 21

Altar Guild	Patti	Reader	Steve Will
Assisting Minister	Brenda Maust	Acolyte	Olivia George
Greeters	Lori Dill & Karen Shaffer		

April 28

Altar Guild	Patti	Reader	David Pyle
Assisting Minister	Dave Pugh	Acolyte	Ari Ohler
Greeters	Ken Will & David Pyle		

**Please remember, that if you have a "job" and can't be here, you must
find a replacement and notify the office!**

April 2024

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1		2 Caring Workers 10 am	3	4	5	6
7 Worship 9 am; Donut Sunday Kid's Kingdom Scouts SCS 10:30 am Synod Lay Leader Authorization Worship 3 pm	8 Fred Gross Memorial Svc. at noon WELCA 7 pm	9 Caring Workers 10 am	10	11 Bible Study 10:30 am Council 7 pm	12	13	
14 Worship 9 am 2nd Offering (Kid's Kamp) Dessert Cook-Off Aater worship SCS 10:30 am	15	16 Caring Workers 10 am	17	18 Bible Study 10:30 am	19	20	
21 Worship 9 am SCS 10:30 am	22	23 Election Day	24	25 Bible Study 10:30 am	26	27	
28 Worship 9 am SCS 10:30 am YIA 4-6 pm G.U.M.'s the Word	29	30 Caring Workers 10 am					
			Second Offering for April is designated for Faith's "Kid's Kamp"				

Mark your calendars ...



Tuesday, April 2 - Caring Workers 10 am

Thursday, April 4 - **NO** Bible Study

Sunday, April 7 - Worship 9 am; Donut Sunday;

Kid's Kingdom; Scouts; Synod Lay Leader Authorization Worship 3 pm

Monday, April 8 - Fred Gross Memorial Service noon; WELCA 7 pm

Tuesday, April 9 - Caring Workers 10 am

Thursday, April 11 - Bible Study 10 30 am; Council Meeting 7 pm

Sunday, April 14 - Worship 9 am; Second offering for Kid's Kamp; SCS 10:30 am;
Dessert Cook-Off in fellowship hall immediately following worship

Tuesday, April 16 - Caring Workers 10 am

Thursday, April 18 - Bible Study 10:30 am

Sunday, April 21 - Worship 9 am; SCS 10:30 am

Tuesday, April 23 - **NO** Caring Workers; Election Day

Thursday, April 25 - Bible Study 10:30 am

Sunday, April 28 - Worship 9 am; SCS 10:30 am; YIA G.U.M.'s the Word 4-6 pm

Tuesday, April 30 - Caring Workers 10 am



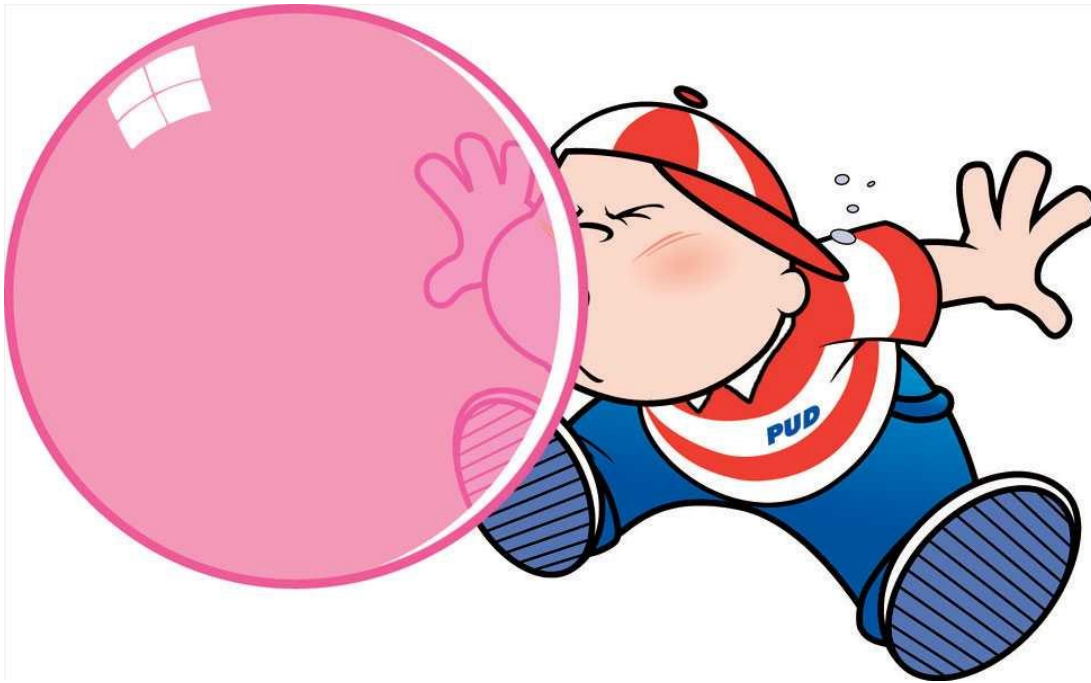
Keith Rhoads	April 1	Cadem James	April 13
Jacob Maust	April 2	Cole James	April 13
Cindy Miller	April 3	Alan Shockey	April 13
Gloria Weyant	April 4	Carrie (Jane) Evans	April 14 89 yrs
Madison Trevarrow	April 6	Michelle Lake	April 14
Zachary Carpenter	April 7	Angela Briskey	April 16
Rob Schrock	April 7	Justin Rhoads	April 16
Dawn Walker	April 7	Kimberly Clark	April 19
Kathy Rhoads	April 8	Kay Mostoller	April 20
Tomalee Will	April 9 84 yrs	Asher Custer	April 22
Caden Harding	April 11	David Custer	April 24
Jodi Miller	April 12	Laura Miller	April 24
Ashley Woy	April 12	Melissa Boring	April 25
Debra Guddes	April 12	Ava Friedline	April 25
Nichole Keller	April 12	Marian Walker	April 29 94 yrs
Jeffrey Weimer	April 12	Joshua Zerfoss	April 29



Lori & Butch Dill	April 4	43 years
Dawn & Steve Will	April 11	32 years
Kathy & Keith Rhoads	April 15	46 years
Sandy & David Pyle	April 16	46 years
Bobbie & Garen Black	April 27	45 years

Youth in Action

Doing God's Work with Our Hands In Fellowship and Fun



G.U.M.'s the Word!

“Sticking Together” in Faith

Sunday, April 28th, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Come join us for a rather “sticky” afternoon as we learn about

“G.U.M.” (God Uses Me),

chewing gum, bubbles and all kinds of “bubbling” fun.

Bring a friend! See if you can blow a bigger bubble than Pastor
Kathy!

A light supper will be served so be sure to let us know you are coming.



**We give THANKS to the following
who continue to share their
time and talents
here at Faith Lutheran**

- Everyone who provided soup and bread for the mid-week Lenten Services
- Clifford Spangler for cutting out our “sheep” for the Easter Treat Bags
- Caring Workers for stuffing the Easter Eggs and the treat bags
- Everyone who donated eggs or candy for our bags

Thank You!



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

6567 Glades Pike

Somerset, PA 15501

Reverend Kathleen Stump

www.faithlutheransomerset.org

flc15501@gmail.com

Sunday Worship 9 am

Sunday Church School 10:30 am

Kid's Kingdom—1st Sunday of Each Month 10:30am

Youth in Action! Last Sunday of the Month