

April 2015

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

Some of you may be noticing that we are using different Gospel texts for Palm/Passion Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. We have veered off the lectionary which traditionally follows the Gospel of John, and have allowed the voice of Mark to be heard in continuum. Why have we moved from the traditional readings in John? I feel it is important for our understanding to hear the story of Jesus from one voice. The single voice of Mark was needed to shape how we enter and celebrate the resurrection, since this is the Year of Mark. This means that, both as we journeyed through Holy Week, and as we celebrate the Easter season, the words we will use - like life and salvation - are informed by Mark's holistic view of God's gift as liberation, forgiveness, restoration and new life - all of which impact us on every level: personal, relational, and social.

During Mark's telling of the events of Holy Week, there is urgency and an immediacy that are told nowhere else in the Gospels. Mark's narrative provides guidance that the followers of Jesus will suffer, as did Jesus. The Son will come like 'a thief in the night' so believers should remain steadfast and be prepared. Jesus is not some miracle worker. Jesus is the one whose death redeems and saves many.

Unlike other canonical Gospels, Mark records no resurrection appearances. The young man at the tomb reminds the women that Jesus had promised to return to his followers. The reconciliation is recorded in other Gospels, not in Mark. The earliest manuscripts end abruptly at verse 8. The early church added to Mark's original conclusion. Mark emphasized Jesus' glory as manifested in suffering and servitude, not in signs and wonders.

Mark's challenging message which we are being invited to hear and embrace is this: the resurrection of Jesus is not just an historic event. It is a reality which we can and must live each day, and living in Christ's way alone leads us into lives that are liberated from all that binds and breaks us. This life of wholeness, my friends, cannot be tamed; we must go forward and liberate others.

Holy Week may have ended on Easter; but Easter is a new beginning that continues to call us every day.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Peggy

FLOWER & PLANT SALE

Bethany's 28th Annual Flower & Plant Sale will be held on May 8th and 9th, which is Friday and Saturday of Mother's Day Weekend. We will be selling our usual beautiful hanging baskets, patio pots, annuals, such as marigolds, impatiens, geraniums, & petunias, perennials, and vegetable plants. There will be a Hanging Garden Raffle. This has always been a wonderful sale because we reach out to so many people in the community. The sale for many of us is the time we begin to plant our own gardens, especially with these bright flowers and vegetables, and to shake off winter's gloom.

We are always looking for volunteers to work the sale. Our sale hours will be from 8AM to 6PM on Friday and from 8AM to 3PM on Saturday. We start on Friday morning at 5:30am, unloading a truck full of plants and arranging them. **Any amount of time** you could commit to would be appreciated. A **sign-up sheet will be posted in April** to show the jobs and times available to sign up. It is a fun time for all! If you have perennials from your garden that you would like to donate, it would be greatly appreciated as some people are looking for these also. If you are interested in donating plants or working the sale or have any questions, please contact Sandy Goodman at 482-0649, or Kathy Heider at 458-1069.

Sandy Goodman and Kathy Heider, Co-chairs

Bethany Family and Friends - Kathy Casey

Come join us for a fun day on April 12 for game day. We will be staying at the fellowship hall and have lunch, either sandwiches or pizza or maybe both! After that we will play board games, cards or whatever you would like. It will be a lot of FUN!!

On May 10, we will go to Washington Park and enjoy the lovely tulips and entertainment at the annual tulip fest.

On June 14 (Flag Day), we will be going to Pastor Peggy's lovely home for a fun filled picnic (weather permitting).

Be Our Guest Dinner – Kathy Casey

On March 17, Bethany and neighbors enjoyed a delicious corned beef and cabbage dinner. Thanks to Wendy and all who helped to make this a success.

On April 21, we will be having pulled chicken, Potato salad, tossed salad and dessert and beverage. We are always looking for volunteers to contribute but also come and join us for a good meal and fellowship.

In May, we tentatively have planned a homemade Chinese meal. I can't wait for that. I missed last year's dinner in July when we did Chinese.

So whet your appetite!

REGIONAL FOOD BANK

Saturday, April 4, 2015 – Volunteer Opportunity at the Regional Food Bank!!
9:00 AM – 11:30AM – come for as long as you can!

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2015

CROP HUNGER WALK

Contact David VanAlstyne for sign-up and donation details.

Birthdays and Anniversaries for April

Gregory Empie	4/04	Lisa and Guy Empie 4/22 (25 years)
Bob Eberle	4/07	
Rena Mironchuk	4/09	
Polly Eberle	4/10	
Jordan Brazis-Eberle	4/17	
Dan Delehanty	4/20	

Holy Week Worship Schedule

April 2 Maundy Thursday – 1:00pm and 7:00pm

April 3 Good Friday – 1:00pm and 7:00 pm with Third Reformed at Bethany

Easter Sunday, April 5

8:00AM and 10:00AM

(Hot Cross Buns for those attending the 8:00AM service!!!)

Please plan positively to attend as many services as possible – each will have a different message!!

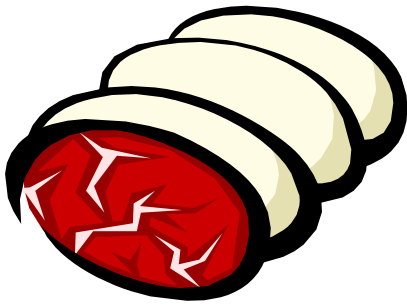
Roast Beef

Dinner

Saturday

April 18, 2015

4:00 PM to 6:30 PM



Roast Beef
Mashed Potatoes
Gravy
String Beans
Cole Slaw
Beet Salad
Rolls and Butter

Dessert Cart
Pies
Cheesecakes
Cakes
Etc!



Adults	\$12.00
Children (5-12 years)	\$ 5.00
Under 5 years	Free

Purchase tickets at the door

Take-out dinners available

Calendar - April, 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:00 AM - Helping Hands 07:30 PM - New Start Step Group	2 01:00 PM - Maundy Thursday Service 06:30 PM - Boy Scouts 07:00 PM - Maundy Thursday Service 07:30 PM - Nicotine Anonymous	3 10:00 AM - Painters 01:00 PM - Good Friday Service 07:00 PM - Good Friday Service 07:30 PM - AA Group	4 09:00 AM - 11:00 AM - Regional Food Bank 10:00 AM - Al Anon Group
5 08:00 AM - Early Easter Service 10:00 AM - Easter Worship 06:00 PM - Keeping Clean	6 09:00 AM - Chair Caners 09:30 AM - Women's Bible Study 07:00 PM - Step at a Time	7 06:30 PM - 07:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM - Choir 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM - African Violets	8 06:30 PM - Bible Study 07:30 PM - New Start Step Group	9 06:30 PM - Boy Scouts 07:30 PM - Nicotine Anonymous	10 10:00 AM - Painters 07:30 PM - AA Group	11 10:00 AM - Al Anon Group
12 10:00 AM - Worship 12:00 PM - Bethany Family and Friends 06:00 PM - Keeping Clean	13 09:00 AM - Chair Caners 09:30 AM - Women's Bible Study 07:00 PM - Step at a Time	14 06:30 PM - 07:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous 07:00 PM - 09:00 PM - Choir 07:00 PM - Fort Orange Stamp Club	15 06:30 PM - Bible Study 07:30 PM - New Start Step Group	16 06:30 PM - Boy Scouts 07:30 PM - Nicotine Anonymous	17 10:00 AM - Painters 07:30 PM - AA Group	18 10:00 AM - Al Anon Group 04:00 PM - 06:30 PM - Roast Beef Dinne
19 10:00 AM - Worship 11:30 AM - 01:00 PM - Consistory Meeting 12:15 PM - Buckingham Pond Conservancy 06:00 PM - Keeping Clean	20 09:00 AM - Chair Caners 09:30 AM - Women's Bible Study 07:00 PM - Step at a Time	21 04:45 PM - Be Our Guest Supper 06:30 PM - 07:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous 06:30 PM - 07:30 PM - Bell Choir 07:30 PM - 09:00 PM - Choir	22 10:00 AM - Helping Hands 06:30 PM - Bible Study 07:30 PM - New Start Step Group	23 06:30 PM - Boy Scouts 07:30 PM - Nicotine Anonymous	24 10:00 AM - Painters 07:30 PM - AA Group	25 10:00 AM - Al Anon Group
26 10:00 AM - Worship 06:00 PM - Keeping Clean	27 09:00 AM - Chair Caners 09:30 AM - Women's Bible Study 07:00 PM - Step at a Time	28 06:30 PM - 07:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous 06:30 PM - 07:30 PM - Bell Choir 07:30 PM - 09:00 PM - Choir	29 06:30 PM - Bible Study 07:00 PM - Fort Orange Stamp Club 07:30 PM - New Start Step Group	30 06:30 PM - Boy Scouts 07:30 PM - Nicotine Anonymous		