

Second Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2022 – 10am

Modern Worship, ELW Setting 4



Prelude Music

Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.
For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing. You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through. In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear. To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Gathering Song:

Blessed are Those Who Do Believe

(words below)

Blessed are those who do believe. Blessed are those who do believe. Though they have not seen they trust God faithfully.

Blessed are those who do believe. Blessed are those who do believe. Though they have not seen they trust God faithfully.

Some people doubt what they have not seen. They will not blindly follow what is said.

Others view this as a weakness but it can authenticate instead. See my nail pierced hands. Come touch my wounded side.

I give what you need for faith as you give your trust completely my Spirit will guide.

Blessed are those who do believe. Blessed are those who do believe. Though they have not seen they trust God faithfully.

Blessed are those who do believe. Blessed are those who do believe. Though they have not seen they trust God faithfully.

As I've been given so I give you to the world, forgive the sins of all,

...bringing hope to doubting faces, tearing down where hatred builds a wall. And as you bring life to places here and far,
...always keep in mind you are not loved for what you do but for whose you are.

Blessed are those who do believe. Blessed are those who do believe. Though they have not seen they trust God faithfully.

Blessed are those who do believe. Blessed are those who do believe. Though they have not seen they trust God faithfully.

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all!

C: And also with you!

Kyrie

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord have mercy.**

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray together,

C: O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 5:27-32

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

²⁷When they had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 118:14-29

¹⁴The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!**

¹⁶The right hand of the Lord is exalted! The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!”

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.**

¹⁸The Lord indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.**

²⁰“This is the gate of the Lord; here the righteous may enter.”

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the Lord has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵**Hosanna! O Lord, save us! We pray to you, Lord, prosper our days!**

²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord.

²⁷**The Lord is God and has given us light. Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.**

²⁸You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

²⁹**Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God’s mercy endures forever.**

Gospel Acclamation:

Gospel Acclamation

(words below)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel: John 20:19-31

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who “have not seen and yet believe.”

P: A reading from... **C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.” ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are

not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Paul Busekist

Song of the Day:

Alleluia, Alleluia Give Thanks

(words below)

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord; alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth; he is the king of creation.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord; alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth: Jesus has died and has risen.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord; alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

We have been crucified with Christ; now we shall live forever.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord; alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

God has proclaimed the just reward: life for all people, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord; alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.

Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of Heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Church / Sign of the Peace/Offering

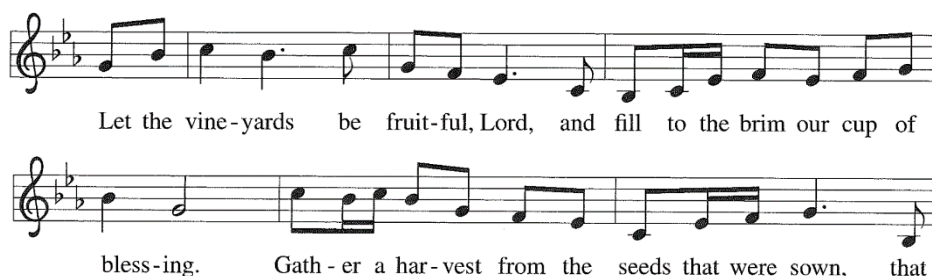
Offering Song:

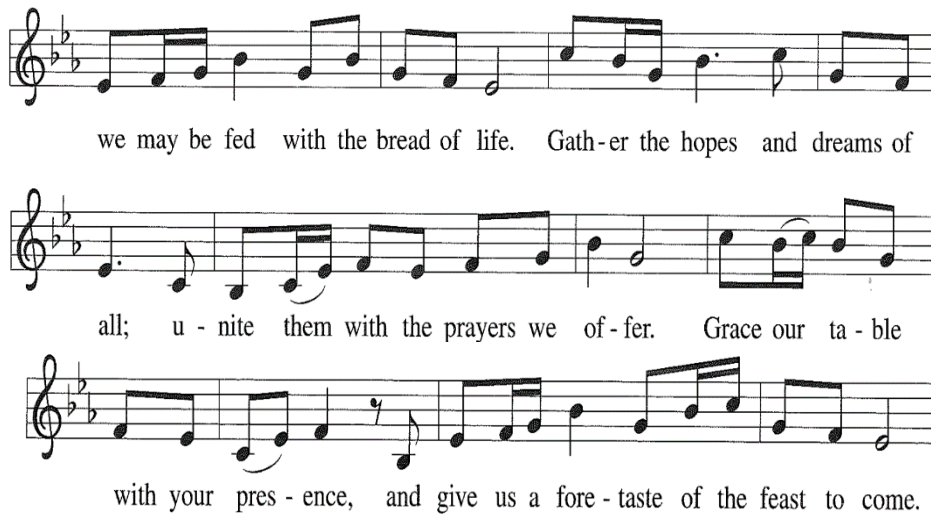
We Praise You, O God

ELW 870

Offertory:

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful





Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray.

C: Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion

Communion Songs:

**We Walk By Faith
Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!**

ELW 635

ELW 383

Final Blessing

P: God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song:

Shout for Joy

(words below)

Pour out your fervent praise; There's a song to raise like a banner high;
Lift up your grateful heart to the Morning Star; He's alive and here with us.

Shout for joy, for the Son of God is the Saving One; He's the Saving One;
Shout for joy, see what love has done; He has come for us; He's the Saving One.

We stood on sinking sand; He reached out His hand, pulled us to his side;
We turned our hearts away; He was strong to save, now our Savior reigns in us.

Shout for joy, for the Son of God is the Saving One; He's the Saving One;
Shout for joy, see what love has done; He has come for us; He's the Saving One.

(interlude)

Oh, oh, oh, oh. Oh, oh, oh, oh.

There is no other God like You; We sing the praises that you're due Jesus, You have saved us, oh, whoa;
There is no other God who reigns; You are the name above all names; Jesus, You have saved us, whoa, whoa

... and shout for joy, for the Son of God is the Saving One; He's the Saving One;
Shout for joy, see what love has done; He has come for us; He's the Saving One.

Dismissal

A: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

A: Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C: Thanks be to God.



Bethlehem
LUTHERAN CHURCH

1050 Peninsula Drive
Traverse City, MI 49686
(231) 947-9880
www.bethlehemtc.org

April 24, 2022

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

4/24—Carl Tacke
4/26—Roy Dumond
4/30—Carolyn Burns
5/1—Carolyn Mann

4/25—Sandy Parkinson
4/26—Lewis Paddack
4/30—Annie Slabaugh

Please note the change: A COVID update from Council:

Last week, the Grand Traverse County Covid positivity dipped below the 14-day average 17.5% Covid positivity threshold set up by Council for our current precautions. **Therefore, have transitioned to a new worship masking standard of "masks optional for vaccinated persons and required for unvaccinated persons."** This will ensure that we are doing our part to keep our parishioners and community safe.

Stay safe, pray for all good things, and see you soon!

-Your Bethlehem Church Council

Please note that the Building and Office Hours are: 9:00am – 2:30pm, Monday – Thursday.

Offerings: The offering plates will now be passed during the service. The vase in the back of the Sanctuary is still available for those who prefer not to touch the offering plate.

DOLLARS AND SENSE: Bethlehem Lutheran Church has greatly expanded our outreach into the community and the world with our live streaming programing. We feel blessed to be able to do this and all of our ministries here at Bethlehem. We need your support to continue this work.

Through mid-March our contributions are running behind where we should be by \$13,585.00. That is a significant shortfall that we as a congregation need to address. We encourage you to stay current with your pledge.

Together we can do more and accomplish our vision for the future. Thank you for your support.

Jim Monroe, Your Financial Secretary

Church Council Elections We are going to be having our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday June 12th. A part of this meeting is the election of Church Council members for a three-year term to fill expiring vacancies. The Nomination Committee is looking for referrals to contact. If you are interested in serving on the council (yes, you could submit your own name) or if you know someone else would be a good referral, please make your thoughts known. You will find a white box on a table in the entry to the Narthex for the referral. You will also find a brief form to fill out and place in the box. The Nomination Committee will contact the referrals and then nominate a slate for the election. Don't worry if someone thinks you would be a good candidate and you're not ready. Just let the committee know when contacted and be honored that someone thought of you! If you have any questions, please contact Mark McPherson at markandkjo@sbcglobal.net or 860-658-1554

The May issue of the STAR is now available. For current issues of the Star, feel free to check online at www.bethlehemtc.org < About Us > "The Online Bethlehem Star" or type this URL to get these directly: <http://www.bethlehemtc.org/the-bethlehem-star-newsletter>.

Prayer Requests:

- Prayer Chain: Please contact Jan Stretlien at jstretlien@gmail.com or 231-947-3265
- Prayers read from the altar: Please call Rebecca in the church office 231-947-9880

THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD STEWARD

~A good steward is trustworthy. 1 Corinthians 4:2, 2 Kings 12:15


~A good steward is faithful regardless of the size of the job he's been given

~A faithful steward remembers that ultimately we work for God and everything belongs to him.

Colossians 3:23, Psalm 24:1

After God created man, he planted a garden and put Adam there to tend and keep it.

He made Adam a steward.

We are all stewards of BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH  And as such we need to keep you updated to how the funds and resources needed to run our church are doing.

March income was \$28,315 compared to a budgeted income of \$29,598 or a shortfall of \$1,283.

Expenses were \$31,843 compared to a budget of \$30,615 resulting in spending \$1,689 more than budgeted. On a cash basis, expenses exceeded income by \$1,689.

Through March income was \$77,819 compared to budgeted income of \$89,615 for a shortfall for \$11,796. Expenses were \$97,751 compared to the budget of \$90,871 resulting in spending \$6,880 more than budgeted. On a cash basis, expenses exceeded income by \$18,676.

As you can see above from the finance committee we are behind in income because the donations have been down so far in 2022. We appreciate everyone and every donation received but we kindly ask if you are able to contribute to our wonderful church it would be especially appreciated in these tough financial times we are currently experiencing.

Thank you very much for your consideration

Scott Farley

Stewardship Chairman

Today's altar flowers are donated: *in Honor of the Singers, Ringers and Musicians at BLC.*

Today's Rose on the baptismal font is in: *celebration of Evelyn Josephine Goldsmith, born April 7, 2022, daughter of Alex & Heidi Goldsmith and granddaughter of Gail Goldsmith.*

Celebrate a new child in your life with a rose on the baptismal font! Cost \$10.00 per rose. Contact Barbara Oster at beo6475@yahoo.com or 231.668.7038.

Due Dates for STAR/Bulletin/Screen Announcements:

STAR: The third Friday of the month sent to admin@bethlehemtc.org (Please note STAR in subject line)

Bulletin/Verbal Announcements: Wednesday of the week sent to admin@bethlehemtc.org (Bulletin/Worship Folder is printed on Thursday morning.) (Please note Bulletin or Announcement in subject line)

Screen Announcements/Weekly BLC Emails: Tuesday of the week sent to annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org (Annie works Sunday – Wednesday)

The newest Living Lutheran magazine and the April/May/June Christ in our Home can be picked up at the welcome table on Sunday mornings, from the Shooting STAR box below the outside mailbox, or during parking lot communion.

Monthly STAR: Thanks to all of you who have said that you will read the STAR on line or pick it up at church. Those of you who come to church, be thinking if there is any member close in your neighborhood that you could deliver their copy to them. If you have recently decided to read on line or pick-up at church please call the office and let them know.

Music news at BLC: Many of you commented how much you enjoyed the choir music during Holy Week. The choir members appreciate the nice comments and we relay them to our new director, Tony Bero. It is sad that he is not on-site so he can hear from you himself. If you want to make certain he knows how much his skill in selecting the anthems and preparing the choir is appreciated, feel free to drop him a note in the "choir director" mailbox by the office or send him an email at bero.tony@gmail.com. And for all of you budding vocalists out there....just think...if he can make the 4 of us sound that good, what could he do with you?!? Don't hesitate...the choir always wants more singers.

LAUNDRY BASKET PROJECT FOR 2022: We are collecting cleaning items to be given out during the Baby Pantry here at Bethlehem. There is an example basket in the Narthex along with a list of items needed. You may fill an entire basket OR bring single items if you prefer. We would like to have baskets available beginning in March. Thank you for your participation!

Children's Message Corner: Children's Message Corner on Zoom takes place every other Sunday on Zoom at 2:45PM and all are invited. We take a few minutes of Fellowship before going over the Children's Message and have a more in depth discussion of the gospel lesson and message. To be put on the email list to receive the Zoom link please see Annie after worship or contact her at annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org Our next Children's Message Corner will be on Sunday, May 1st!

For April the BLC book club will be reading "The Stranger in the Lifeboat" by Mitch Albom. It is a very appropriate and thought provoking book to be reading during Lent. THIS BOOK IS NOT AVAILABLE IN A LIBRARY BOOK BAG SO YOU WILL NEED TO PURCHASE OR BORROW YOURSELF FROM THE LIBRARY. Plan to join us on ZOOM on Tues, Apr 26 at 5:30. If you are not already on the list send your email to cmonroe@chartermi.net.

The Wednesday morning bible study of Matthew meets from 9-11am. All are welcome. Bring your own bible. We read the bible and then talk about what we read. We say a prayer for any needs that are shared. Come. Join a fellowship. Leader is Barbara Graf.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS: Northern Michigan weather is NOT cooperating so the opening of the BLC outdoor 24/7 food pantry will be postponed to May 1. If you see special deals at the stores you can be buying them and place them in the teal container under the table by the mailboxes. The community will appreciate your generosity.

Stony Lake Camp Registration is open and free to all young campers interested! The deadline has been extended indefinitely and there is still room! Please register online as soon as possible and let Annie know! The week Bethlehem Adult Leaders will be there is Week 1 (June 19 – 24) so make sure you register for that week! Reach out to Annie either after worship or at annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org with any questions or concerns.

We are looking for volunteers and leaders to join us on a fun faithful adventure with Jerusalem: Marketplace! Join Jesus' faithful friends and followers during His final days on earth. You'll travel back into Bible times--without setting foot outside your community! We are looking for volunteers to participate! VBS is currently being planned for the week of Monday July 25th but participation will be crucial in determining what VBS will look like this year! We have sign up sheets in the Narthex but please see Annie after service or reach out to her at annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org for more information! There will also be a Volunteer Informational Meeting on Tuesday, May 10th 6:00PM - 6:45PM where you can ask questions, and get more information as to what will be required of our volunteers and you can sign up then as well if you wish.

Please consider signing up for Altar Flowers for a Sunday service. While we do not have Altar Flowers during Lent, there are plenty of dates available for the rest of the year. You may use the sign-up poster in the Narthex by signing on the date you request. **Then fill out a pink slip with the necessary information and place it and a check for \$40 (payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church or BLC) in the offering plate on Sunday morning (Preferable) or during the week, in the Administration Assistant's mailbox near the church office entrance.** You may select either "in honor" or "in memory" or "to celebrate". If someone has already signed on the date you would like, feel free to add your name – we welcome more than one on a Sunday.

"Zoom Book Study" gathering via Zoom has returned on Wednesdays at 1:30pm. Besides the thought-provoking discussions, we also have great conversation and fellowship. For this series, we have a new book, ***Home By Another Way*** by Barbara Brown Taylor. It contains sermons that walk us through the church year. The book can be ordered through Amazon - if necessary, Barbara Oster can help with ordering. Please contact Pr. Paul if you are interested in joining.

A big thank you to all who turned in Olesons receipts. We have received \$276.88 from Olesons so far this year. Please continue to drop your Olesons receipts off at church.

Have something important going on at Bethlehem that you'd like others to know about? Maybe a Small Group? A Club Event? Feature it on the Screen Announcements and on our Facebook Events Page! If there is something you'd like featured or included for either Screen Announcements or Facebook Events please reach out to Annie at annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org.

Bethlehem sends weekly emails directly to your inbox with important announcements and information! If you are not getting them for any reason or if you have something you'd like to have added please reach out to Annie at annie.slabaugh@bethlehemtc.org.

Our blog has been renamed "Paths of Hope". Check it out on the Bethlehem website: <http://www.bethlehemtc.org/new-blog-paths-of-hope>.

How would we rate: Most often the decision for a church home is made on one factor alone—the friendliness of the people. A lady in Lincoln, Nebraska, created a rating form on friendliness. She visited 18 churches during Sunday morning worship. During each visit she sat near the front of the worship center, dressed neatly, wore a cheerful smile, and always asked at least one person a question about the church. This is her rating scale:

- 10 points for a smile from a worshiper
- 10 points for a greeting from someone
- 100 for exchange of names
- 200 for an invitation to fellowship hour
- 1000 for an introduction to another person
- 2000 for an introduction to the Pastor

In her visits, each of the 18 churches earned less than 100 points. She concluded: the teaching may be biblical, the singing inspirational, and the sermon uplifting, but when visitors find no one cares, they are not likely to come back. How would the lady from Nebraska rate us?

The church calendar has returned below. Please be sure to notify the office (admin@bethlehemtc.org or 231.947.9880) to be sure that your group is on the calendar.

CALENDAR

Sunday, April 24

- 10:00am—Worship Service (S)
- 11:00am—Parking Lot Communion

Tuesday, April 26

- 9:00am—LWR Quilters (FH)
- 9:00am—Property Work Group
- 10:00am—Staff Meeting (CR)
- 5:30pm—Bok/Supper Club (Zoom)
- 6:30pm—Newcomers (FH)

Wednesday, April 27

Bulletin articles due today

- 9:00am—Bible Study (YR)
- 11:30am—Music Rehearsal (S)
- 1:00pm—Johnson SG (Offsite)
- 1:30pm—Zoom Bible Study

Thursday, April 28

- 5:30pm—ACOA (GS)
- 7:00pm—Choir Rehearsal (S)

Friday, April 29


- 1:00pm—Lehto SG (GS)

Saturday, April 30

- 9:00am—All-Star DE (FH)

Sunday, May 1

- 10:00am—Worship Service (S)
- 11:00am—Parking Lot Communion
- 11:15am—WELCA Board (CR)
- 11:15am—Worship and Music
- 1:00pm—Children's Message Corner (Zoom)



VOLUNTEER

with the Grand Traverse Conservation District!





ARBOR DAY PLANTING AT THE NATURAL EDUCATION RESERVE

Help District staff plant native tree and shrub seedlings on the Natural Education Reserve. Kids are welcome. A light snack and water will be provided. Please bring your own shovel (a few extras will be available), and wear suitable footwear and gloves.

When: Friday, April 29th from 9:30am - 1:00pm

Where: Natural Education Reserve. Meet at the Beaver Pond Trailhead (off Cass Rd., East of Robbins Bridge)

Plants funded in part by Keep Michigan Beautiful



231-941-0960
www.natureiscalling.org
1450 Cass Rd., Traverse City, MI 49685