

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEK OF APRIL 16, 2023

IN OUR PRAYERS: Jack & Lureen Vaught; Darlene Welsh; Walt & Carolyn Trier; Ralph Hammel; Michele Zeller; Jerry & Sylvia Braun; Roy Kincaid

VOTERS' MEETING for spring quarter **TODAY** at 9am.

THURSDAY VESPERS: join us for Vespers on Thursdays at 6:30pm right before Bible study at 7:00pm!

THE WOMEN'S GROUP will have an "outing" to attend the LWML Zone Gathering **this Saturday, April 22**, at 9:00am at St. John's in Columbia City.

RESPIRE NIGHT: the Life Team will host a respite night on Friday, April 28, from 5:00 – 8:00pm. Drop off your kids at the church and enjoy a night out! (Supper, etc. provided for the kids). **Please RSVP** to Caland & Alex Sembach!

SEEKING DONATIONS OF YARN & COTTON MATERIAL: a member of our Life Team is sewing and crocheting blankets for Project Linus. If you have any unused or unwanted yarn or cotton material it will be greatly appreciated and put to good use! (See www.projectlinus.org for more info on this project).

HIGHER THINGS: pick up a registration form from Pastor Mullet. In addition to the completed forms we require a deposit of \$100 per attendee.

CALENDAR

Sun. Apr. 16 (Easter 2 – Quasimodo Geniti)	8:00 & 10:00am Divine Service 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Voters' Meeting
Mon. Apr. 17	8:30am Discussion of next Sunday's readings
Wed. Apr. 19	7:00pm Divine Service
Thu. Apr. 20	6:30pm Vespers 7:00pm Bible Study (James)
Sat. Apr. 22	9:00am Women's Group to LWML, St. John's CC
Sun. Apr. 23 (Easter 3 – Misericordias Domini)	8:00 & 10:00am Divine Service 9:00am Sunday School / Bible Study
Fri. Apr. 28	5:00pm Respite Night

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Luther writes of St. Thomas and our Gospel reading this week:

Now, what does Christ do with the poor unbelieving man? He does not delay long, but on the eighth day after his resurrection, when Thomas had strengthened himself in his unbelief, and was almost dead, and no one hoped that Christ would show himself to him specially, he appears to the disciples again and at the same time to Thomas also, and says: Peace be unto you; comprising in this word also the poor, great sinner, Thomas, that he may have a joyful heart.

“Reach hither thy finger, and be hold my hands, and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side,” (favoring him so much more that he not only should see, as the others had seen, but also touch and feel him, as he had said,) only that you be no longer “faithless, but believing.” These things are written for our sake, that we should learn how Christ loves us, and how friendly, paternally, kindly, and mildly he treats us, and will continue to treat us. . . But that the Lord shows his hands and his feet, he thereby gives us to understand, that his works and no others belong to salvation, for by hands and feet the Scriptures understand the works and conduct. But should any one ask, My dear friend, you speak much of faith, and that our salvation depends entirely upon it, may I ask you, how can we obtain faith? I will tell you. Our Lord Christ has said, “Peace be unto you! Behold my hands, etc.” Behold, O man, I am the only one who hath taken thy sins away, and hath redeemed thee.

The resurrection the most important article of faith. It is a fundamental article, because it is the highest and most important, and should therefore remain certain and firm, together with other articles on which our salvation depends. For this article has met with and still meets with the most opposition, and is the most difficult to believe. But upon such testimony, the heart of every Christian should leap with joy, and certainly and without doubt believe that Christ arose from the dead on the third day. For Pilate, the governor, and Caiaphas, the high priest, and all the people of Jerusalem, together with King Herod, are witnesses on the one side; then the apostles testify on the other side, and their testimony goes through the whole world. Thirdly, the work testifies for itself; and lastly, the Holy Scriptures testify. On this we can certainly confide, and need no further special revelation.

Mueller & Anstadt, *Luther's Explanatory Notes on the Gospels* (York, PA: P. Anstadt & Sons, 1899), pp. 399-401.