

# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN NEWSLETTER

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Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Adult Bible Study 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

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## Mission Statement

Our Mission is to Honor God, by sharing His love, living in Christ, and serving our community.



*How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.*

*Anne Frank, 1929-1945*



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## Determining the Date for Easter

“Easter was early this year,” you might have heard someone say. But isn’t it always celebrated on the same day every year? The answer is “No.” So how then do we determine the date of Easter Sunday?

There was considerable debate in the early church as to the day Easter should be celebrated. Initially, Easter was celebrated on the fourteenth day of the lunar [Jewish] month of Nisan which included parts of our current months of March and April. But that proved to be problematic. It meant that Easter could fall on any day of the week, not just Sunday! The feeling was that Easter should only be celebrated on a Sunday; the day Jesus actually rose from the grave. Finally, in the fourth century, the controversy was put to rest. Easter would be celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the first day of Spring. [I have to wonder if there were some politicians involved in making that determination.] This year we celebrated Easter on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Next year it will be celebrated on April 20<sup>th</sup>, three weeks later than this year and about as late in the year as Easter Sunday can be celebrated. If you are wondering where to find the future dates of Easter, the Lutheran Service Book has the future dates of Easter up to 2050 on page xxiii.



While we tend to think of Easter as a single Sunday, Easter is actually an entire liturgical season of the church year. It consists of seven Sundays and fifty days. The first Sunday in Easter is of course Easter Sunday and the last, the seventh Sunday, is always followed by Pentecost and preceded by Ascension Day. Each Sunday in the season of Easter has a specific emphasis, e.g., doubting Thomas, Jesus’ appearances to the disciples and Good Shepherd Sunday which is always the fourth Sunday of Easter. Ascension Day, the day Jesus ascended into heaven, falls forty days after Easter meaning it always falls on a Thursday. It was that day when Jesus told the disciples to remain in Jerusalem until they were given the Holy Spirit. Then fifty days after Easter, we celebrate Pentecost. Why is it called Pentecost? Hint: “Penta” means 50.

During the season of Easter our Old Testament Readings are replaced by “First Readings” all of which come from the book of Acts. Those readings demonstrate the work of the apostle’s as they spread the good news of Jesus victory over sin and death and the resulting growth of the Christian church throughout the world. In some churches the Gospel is always read from the center of the sanctuary indicating that Jesus is still with us.

The season of Easter is a season celebrating Jesus’ victory over sin and death. It is a time for us to boldly proclaim our faith in our risen and victorious savior. May God bless your Easter Season.

*Pastor Larry Oliver*

## Scripture Readings For April

Season	Date	Festival	First Reading	Psalms	Epistle	Gospel
	Apr. 7	Second S. of Easter	Acts 4:32-35	Psalms 148	1 John 1:1-2:2	John 20:19-31
	Apr. 14	Third S. of Easter	Acts 3:11-21	Psalms 4	1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24:36-49
	Apr. 21	Fourth S. of Easter	Acts 4:1-12	Psalms 23	1 John 3:16-24	John 10:11-18
	Apr. 28	Fifth S. of Easter	Acts 8:26-40	Psalms 150	1 John 4:1-11 (12-21)	John 15:1-8

## April Serving Schedule

Dates	Elder	Greeter	Reader	Server	Altar Guild	Counting Team
4/7/2024		Linda Tedisch	Ann Oliver	Jeanne Butler		
4/14/2024		Jim & Nita Marshall	Keith Moore			Gregg Grill
4/21/2024		Roy Fender	Brenda Rowe			
4/28/2024		Greg & Patti Grill	Priscilla Stratton			

**Thank you for serving your church  
If you cannot serve, please find someone to take your place.  
Please leave a note for the secretary.**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

### April Birthdays

- Cooper Steel ..... 4/14
- Dennis Hewitt ..... 4/20
- Ann Capps ..... 4/27



Do all the good you can  
By all the means you can  
In all the ways you can  
In all the places you can  
At all the times you can  
To all the people you can  
As long as ever you can



## Foolish History

April Fools' Day dates back over 400 years; it's even older than Thanksgiving. Which means there have been lots of chances for good mischief. Here's a history of the day.

The following is an excerpt from an article by Bill Hangley Jr. and David Colton, AARP Bulletin

### 1582—Fool's Gold

Pope Gregory XIII introduced the Gregorian calendar, moving the start of the new year to January from April. Those who kept celebrating the old new year were ridiculed as "April fools," which led to a new unofficial holiday, historians suggest.

### 1698—A Wild Start

The first documented April fools' prank took place in London. A clever Brit announced a special event at the Tower of London: "See the Lions washed." No such public cleansing of jungle cats was planned, but the announcement drew a crowd of rubes.

### 1796—New Jokes In the New World

The earliest recorded American April fools' prank took place in Middletown, Connecticut, where a handbill promised a marketplace for "fool's coats." It said sellers should bring coats of various colors, yellow to "predominate," with lots of tin bells and tassels.

### 1974—An Explosive Prank

When residents of Stika, Alaska, awoke to see smoke rising from Mount Edgecumbe, officials responded to a possible volcanic eruption. But really, a group of people had piled hundreds of tires and greasy rags in the crater and set them on fire - and spray-painted "APRIL FOOL" on the snow.

### 1980—A New Meaning of Hat Hair

The magazine of the British army reported that its guards' fur helmets needed trimming because the bear pelts were so thick that the hair continued to grow. The London *Daily Express* reprinted the prank story as fact - perhaps because it suggested a bear hormone could be a baldness cure.

### 1983—Some Meta Mischief

When an Associated Press reporter asked Boston University history professor Joseph Boskin about the origins of April Fool's Day, he jokingly cited a fictitious King Kugel - the name inspired by a noodle dish. He was shocked that the reporter had run the gag as fact.

### 2001 - A Groundbreaking Hoax

For earth-shattering impact, few pranksters can beat the British DJs who said a replica *Titanic* could be seen from the cliffs of Beachy Head, in East Sussex. Crowds flocked to view the made-up ship, and part of the fragile cliffs cracked - then later crumbled.

### Corporate Cutups

How companies tease customers on April Fools' Day:

#### 1998

Burger King took out a full-page ad in *USA Today* explaining that southpaws could order a lefty Whopper, with condiments rotated 180 degrees, creating a left-handed taste.

#### 2015

"America has spoken, and we at Cottonelle have listened," read an announcement for toilet paper for lefties.

#### 2019

Audi Australia announced B-tron, a vehicle that runs on honey, "a sustainable, naturally acquired fuel harvested from robina flowers in Bavaria." The car was to include an onboard toaster for sweet morning treats.

#### 2019

McDonald's restaurants in Australia announced the McPickle Burger—"juicy, flavour-some pickles layered between melted cheese, ketchup sauce and toasted sesame seed buns."

#### 2023

KLM Royal Dutch Airlines unveiled a "Recline Alert System," saying, "We've developed a sound effect that notifies passengers when the seat in front of them reclines."

### PICKLES



## Heaven's Grocery Store

I was walking down Life's Highway  
a long time ago.  
One day I saw a sign that read,  
Heaven's Grocery Store.  
As I got a little closer the door  
came open wide,  
And when I came to myself  
I was standing inside.

I saw a host of angels, they were  
standing everywhere,  
One handed me a basket and said,  
"my child shop with care."  
Everything a Christian needed was  
in that Grocery Store.  
And all you couldn't carry you could  
come back the next day for more.

First I got some Patience,  
Love was in the same row.  
Forther down was Understanding,  
you need that everywhere you go.  
I got a box of Wisdom,  
a bag or two of Faith,  
I just couldn't miss the Holy Ghost  
for it was all over the place.

I stopped to get some Strength and Courage  
to help me run the race.  
By then my basket was getting full,  
But I remembered I needed some Grace.

I didn't forget Salvation,  
for Salvation that was free.  
So I tried to get enough of that  
to save both you and me.  
Then I started up to the counter  
to pay my grocery bill,  
For I ;thought I had everything  
to do my Masters will.

As I went up the aisle I saw Prayer  
and I just had to put that in  
For I knew when I stepped outside,  
I would run into sin,  
Peace and Joy were plentiful,  
they were on the last shelf.  
Song and Praises were near so  
I just helped myself.

Then, I said to the Angel,  
"Now how much do I owe?"  
He just smiled and said,  
"Just take them everywhere your go.  
Again I smiled at Him and said,  
"How much, do I really owe?"  
He smiled again and said,  
"My Child, Jesus Paid Your Bill  
A Long Time Ago"

**ALL MY  
PASSWORDS ARE  
PROTECTED BY  
AMNESIA**

## Just for Laughs 😂

Apparently exercise helps you with decision making. It's true. I went for a run this morning and decided I'm never going again. ...The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have started asking humans to prove that they aren't a robot.



You can't control the length of your life — but you can control the width and depth. You can't control the contour of your face — but you can control its expression. You can't control the weather — but you can control the atmosphere of your mind. Why worry about things you can't control when you can keep yourself busy controlling the things that depend on you.

### Immanuel Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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**We're on the web!**

**Immanuelalbany.org**