

REFLECTIONS

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

525 Minuteman Causeway, Cocoa Beach, FL 32931

Phone: (321) 783-0852 email: office@goresurrection.com

Website: www.goresurrection.com Follow us on Facebook



April 2021

OUR MISSION – To welcome and lead all to Christ





HOLY WEEK

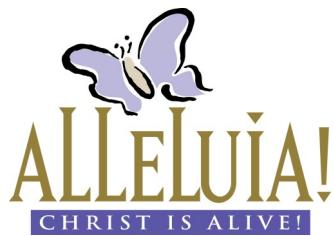
Palm Sunday, March 28th
9:00 am Outdoor Worship
10:30 am Inside Worship



Maundy Thursday, April 1st 7:00 pm Inside Worship



Good Friday, April 2nd 7:00 pm Inside Worship



Easter Sunday,
April 4th 9:00 am Outside Worship
April 4th 10:30 am Inside Worship

Please call the church office for reservations for all Inside Worship. When you register for our indoor services, please indicate if you would be willing to be an usher for an indoor service. Sherry will contact you to usher on a specific Sunday. Thank you for stepping up to help.



FROM OUR **PASTOR**

A NOTE FROM PASTOR

Some of you may be getting excited about the prospect of calling a new pastor so that you can settle in and relax. I keep reminding people that the clergy and laity are a team. You see, God is on a mission to bless and save the world and we have been hired on to be partners with God in this mission.

Reading through Ephesians (chapters 1-3) Paul says, “*You are a child of God!*” And in chapter 4 Paul describes how we are to live as children of God. With words like humility, gentleness, patience, forbearance, Paul invites Christ-followers off the bench and into the game, living out the story of God’s love that we find in scripture.

Each one of us is called off the bench and into the game to lead lives worthy of the calling to which we have been called. Paul calls us from the sidelines onto the field—to be in the game—by using words like apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers, saints gifted and equipped for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. Long gone is the huge misunderstanding that pastors are hired to do ministry while lay people simply watch them, even admire them, from the sidelines. Friends, you cannot pay people to love people.

But it happens and it can be comical: “Man, aren’t our pastors great! She’s leading this group, teaching that class, started that new ministry, and volunteers at the food pantry! Our other pastor wrote that devotional series, brought in all of those new members and visited five people in seven different hospitals, while dictating a sermon to his Blackberry just after praying in the parking lot of the nursing home before he made those visits! And that was just yesterday afternoon!” If you want to kill a pastor, just keep supporting that kind of activity.

The wider church has sometimes been described as a football team with 11 players badly needing a rest, watched by 11,000 spectators badly needing some exercise. One of the joys is that it’s not like that here at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection. Many here understands that the strength of the church comes not as much from the caliber of its ordained minister as from the number and caliber of its active lay people. Much of the ministry throughout these years may have fallen to the pastor; but I see that there is a remarkably strong sense of discipleship—led by lay people with a passion to see God’s dreams turned into reality through ministry. But there is a danger that we could forget that and slip into spectator mode.

When that happens, it’s like the team that stood on the sidelines in a huddle, praying together with the coach in the center of everything. When the prayer was finished the players gave a great cheer, and the coach ran out onto the field all by himself.

Continued on next page

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As the rest of the players went and sat on the bench, a sportscaster with a microphone went up to one of the 280 pound guards and asked, “What’s the coach doing out there?” “Oh, he’s going to play today,” the guard replied. “All by himself?” the sportscaster asked. “Sure, why not? He’s had a lot more experience and training than the rest of us. We’ve got a lot of rookies on this team, and we might make mistakes. Anyway, they pay the coach well. We’re all here to cheer and support him—and look at the huge crowd that’s come to watch him play!”

And so, confused and perplexed, everyone watches as the opposing team kicks off. The coach catches the ball. He courageously charges up the field, but is buried under eleven opposing tacklers. He’s carried off half-conscious. It seems ridiculous, but it’s a picture that’s far too familiar in so many places.

But Paul reminds us in verse 11 of the 4th chapter of Ephesians, where he basically says “coaches coach, players play.” The way Paul says it is this: *The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.*

Here’s how we understand that: simply put, I am a coach. You are a player. As coach I am a skilled, passionate follower of Christ and I am a trainer, mentor, instructor, and guide. My job is to equip the saints, to equip you, for the work of ministry, for the building of the body of Christ! You have some exciting times ahead of you. God is inviting you to get off the bench and get into the game. Take advantage of the learning opportunities, share your gifts of service for the building up of the body of Christ.

~Pastor Marge



COMMUNION MINISTERS

If you would like to participate or learn more about this ministry, please plan to attend an information/training session on Sunday, April 11 at 11:30 a.m. (after the 2nd service). This ministry would consist of people going out by twos to visit our members who are homebound or hospitalized and offering the sacrament of Holy Communion. Typically, this is done on Sundays after worship; the already consecrated (blessed) elements are taken from the altar directly to our homebound (there are exceptions of course). This will be an upcoming ministry to start when all feel safe from COVID; but for now, let's start the training for those feeling called to serve Christ in this manner.

~ Pastor Marge

From Evangelism

We are blessed that the local COVID cases seem to be coming down and with more and more folks getting the vaccine, we can start thinking again of getting together.

There are still ways to connect virtually. Enjoy Pastor John's bible study which are on the website, and the online services (enjoy watching them in your pajamas with a cup of coffee like we do). And soon to come Pastor Marge's "A Word for the Day" podcasts.



But we also are going to be sharing in person connection opportunities including ways to help the Congregation through Lee's tractor riding class, and a Saturday morning with Diane Stees to discern weeds from native plants. Very useful information for Floridians. 😊 . And we will be sharing new opportunities for us to come home and re-energize our church connections. Please let Sherry know of any new activities starting back-up like our Card Ministry or Lynn's great Noon Knitting and we'll make sure we share them.

God bless and stay safe. Kathy

Property Committee In Need Of More Lawn Angels

It's Spring and the Property Committee is looking for help getting everything looking great. We will be holding training on driving lawn tractors on Saturday, April 10, and Saturday, April 17, at 8 am. So, if you ever thought you would like to help mow the lawn but don't know how, this will be your chance to get behind the wheel and learn to mow. Also, we are looking for anyone who would like to paint. We will be holding painting lessons on the backside of the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, Thanks, Lee Russell, Property Council



Fellowship:

The Council has decided to start offering coffee and cookies beginning at 8:30 am before the 9:00 am outdoor worship. We welcome all to enjoy. It's great to be slowly offering a little treat to our fantastic church family.
Love and peace from your Fellowship Committee.



WELCOME again to our IN-PERSON Traditional worship in the beautiful Sanctuary at the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, starting Palm Sunday, March 28th, 10:30 am

- Advanced reservations are strongly encouraged:

- Email office@goresurrection.com or call Mon-Thur. 9am-1pm 321.783.0852
Reservations via phone or email ends Thursday at 1pm
- Via website www.goresurrection.com Online reservations end Saturday at 9pm.

Those preregistered have priority for seating. Once seating is at capacity, registration will be closed.

The 9:00 am OUTDOOR WORSHIP in the Memorial Garden will continue, weather permitting.

We also offer two weekly online worship settings, Traditional and Connections, at www.goresurrection.com, Facebook and YouTube.

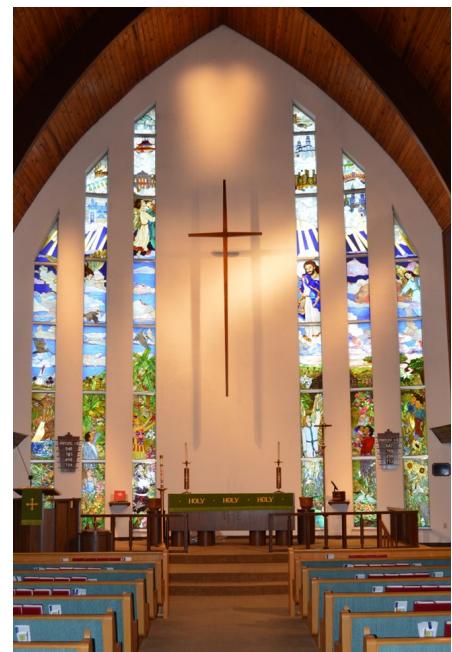
The following are indoor worship protocols:

- Properly worn masks are mandatory with no exceptions. Should you decline to mask—we invite you to participate in the online options. There will be new masks available should you not have one. Children are expected to be of an age and maturity to properly wear a mask during the entire service.
- Only worship leaders may temporarily remove masks, and only for that time they provide active designated leadership.
- Worshippers are to honor mask safety throughout the service with the exception of Holy Communion. Please wear your mask to fully cover nose, mouth, and chin. The mask protects OTHERS. They are protecting you by properly wearing their mask; please give the same courtesy to protect them.
- We will be appropriately seated, social distanced, at least 6 feet apart. Families living in the same household may sit together, without required social distancing.
- We will rigorously adhere to honoring adjusted Sanctuary room attendance capacity of 50. Please be aware and honor that requirement. Those pre-registered will be seated with first priority. Others may be seated after those pre-registered if capacity allows.
- Once we reach our seating capacity, we will invite you to join via online. (See the important note about pre-registration above.)

We feel obligated and have a moral responsibility to provide a safe / healthy environment, as much as possible.

1. Due to health pre-screening, please arrive AT LEAST 10 minutes early. Every attendee will be pre-screened upon entry with a “no touch” forehead laser temperature unit; only those without elevated temperature will be able to enter for worship.

2. **Hand sanitizer** is readily available for attendee use. "Cleanliness is next to Godliness," so please use the hand sanitizer.
3. **Offering plates** are positioned at the entry / exit; the plates will not be passed among those attending for sanitary considerations. We also offer giving via online, mail-in or a giving app. **Thank you for your continued support** in thanksgiving for God's blessings and the ministries of The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection.
4. **There is no congregation singing.** Singing produces the micro-liquid aerosol effect in the air that is the #1 contributor to the spreading of viruses.
5. You are welcome to participate in the responses while keeping your mask on. An order of service will be provided.
6. **Holy Communion** – as you enter you will be given a sealed communion element container containing unconsecrated bread and wine, with peel-off lids. You may unmask at this time.
- **Remain seated** for the Eucharist portion of the service.
 - **AFTER** the Words of Institution **for the bread**, all will partake of the consecrated bread together, as directed.
 - Likewise, **for the wine**, CAREFULLY turn over *the wine container to be positioned up*. Following the second portion of the Words of Institution, consecrating the wine, all will partake of the wine together, as directed.
 - **Patiently hold the empty Communion container** in your hand until ushers come to collect them to reduce the potential for residual drips or spills of the wine. Should there be a mishap, please tell an usher, so that area can be given proper cleaning attention.
7. At the **conclusion of the service**, the rear seats will be dismissed first, then proceeding toward the front pews. Patiently exit maintaining 6 feet of social distance from those ahead /behind you.
8. You are **welcome to chat and socialize OUTSIDE**, with the understanding that we recommend all continuing to be masked for health safety. Please proceed out into the breezeway for your socializing.
9. An **instructional video** of these health and safety procedures will be posted on the church website, Facebook and YouTube channel.
10. Each indoor worship will be live cast and recorded for later posting on the website, Facebook and YouTube.
11. **Should you exhibit Covid19 symptoms after attending a worship service, please contact the church office IMMEDIATELY (321.783.0852) for the health and safety of others who may have been seated nearby.**



SING SONGS OF PRAISE

Musicians for Outdoor Ministry for March

April 4th - Maryanne Franz, Elaine Gregori, Sue Hall, Amanda Matrow, Rick Stees

April 11th - Dave Birks

April 18th - Elaine Gregori, Andy Gregori

April 25th - Sarah Schunk, Dave Birks

Worshippers-

We are looking for a very special group of people willing to be responsible for the altar and communion (when we return to our pre-covid ways). This is dedicated work that takes some time each week. When we get a committee together, your commitment may only be for one Sunday a month. I will be working with you until we get to that crucial number. We will have a Prayer Vigil on Good Friday from 6 am to 5 pm. Please sign up on Sunday or call the office to reserve your time (in half hour segments). We would like to have one member in prayer throughout the day. For more information, please call Claire Brew through the church office or drop her an email at JCBrew5@aol.com.



Worship Committee



Prayer List

**Marge & Ken Green
Leigh Murrell
Don and Barbara Rathbun
Ward Gerlach
Craig Rideout**

April Birthdays

- | | |
|------|--------------------|
| 4/1 | Lou Ann Janke |
| | Amy Murrell |
| 4/4 | Tristan Cuda |
| 4/5 | Dara Pauley |
| 4/6 | Shae Lee Janke |
| 4/7 | Eleanor Delp |
| | Dick White |
| 4/8 | Paul Hackl |
| | I-B Johansson |
| | Linda Karbler |
| | Ben Troemel |
| 4/9 | Leigh Murrell |
| 4/12 | Jim VanZino |
| 4/13 | Joshua Kirkpatrick |
| | Susan Morris |
| | Brian Schunk |
| 4/15 | Andy Gregori |
| | Mert Kesselring |
| 4/16 | Isabelle Murrell |
| 4/17 | Rocco DeCioccio |
| 4/18 | Matthew Zigan |
| 4/19 | Marlene DeCioccio |
| 4/22 | Jane Christopher |
| | Alyssa Kesselring |
| | John Zastawney |
| 4/24 | Juanita Godke |
| 4/27 | Rachelle Fritz |
| 4/28 | Erik Prince |
| | Gene Quilling |
| 4/29 | Karen Snyder |



April Anniversaries

- | | |
|------|------------------------------|
| 4/3 | Joyce & Bill Fish |
| 4/9 | Lauren & Matt Masson |
| 4/11 | Tracy Smith &
Ben Troemel |
| 4/18 | Judy & Tim Timothy |
| 4/22 | Libby & Jim VanZino |
| 4/25 | Lisa & Fred Stotz |

TRANSITION PROCESS

Just to fill you in, your Council has been diligent and working hard on all the items required to be reviewed and accomplished prior to calling the Call Committee. There are three pages of items to be accomplished: covering everything from audits, updating constitution, reviewing all policies, evaluating the physical plant, completing a Mission Insite demographic of the surrounding community, etc.

The Council has already been working on many of the items; in fact, two team members are reviewing the list and checking off completed items. It is planned to have an enlarged copy of the Transition Process Checklist on display for the congregation and as further items are complete, these items will be checked off and dated. In addition, someone from Council will be offering an update during announcements at Worship, as well as in the newsletter.

This can seem like a long-drawn-out process, and it is. This is not something you want to rush through. Often times when a church has had a long-term pastor (LCR's was for 26 yrs.), the congregation takes on the identity of the pastor, and so it is important for the congregation to review their current goals, vision, spiritual gifts and discern if it is time to adjust our overall mission (our guiding principles). This is something in which the whole congregation is involved and will be invited into these discussions of discernment.

Once this has been accomplished, the appropriate documents are forwarded to our Synod for review. Then it will be time to form the Call Committee. Believe it or not, this portion of the process can go fairly quickly, provided there are pastoral candidates available. In the meantime, I invite you to use this time to examine where you have been, what needs to change or adapt to better serve our congregation and the surrounding community. Are there things we can be doing to expand and grow the mission of sharing the "good news?"

Once you know who you are as a congregation and how you are gifted to serve, you will be in a much better position to call a pastor who will help you follow your mission. And as a reminder, you do have a pastor as you work through this

process. I may be an "interim" pastor, but I am your pastor throughout this time of transition in every sense of the word (presiding, preaching, teaching, baptizing, etc.) I look forward to this time of exploring God's mission for LCR together and pray for the Holy Spirit to bless this process.

~ Pastor Marge



The Bulletin Board

Open Invitation to Join Our Prayer Chain:

The Prayer Chain is an excellent way for you to serve those in need, by praying for them. The duty of a Prayer Chain member is simply to converse with God on behalf of the person the prayer is requested for and pass on the request to the next person on your Prayer Chain List. If interested please call Marge Hinds through the church office.



The Saturday morning work crew keeps our property safe and beautiful. The time of service runs from 8:00 to 10:00 am. If you would like to help, just show up at the maintenance shed on the west side of our property. We will maintain social distance and proper hygiene.



As our church and community starts opening back up, please contact the church office for any information you would like added to our Bulletin Board in the newsletter and emailed to you, the parishioners.



SOCIAL MINISTRIES AT LCR

FOOD PANTRY: The featured items for the Food Pantry are listed below. Please put them in the shopping cart outside the food pantry in the morning before or during office hours. (Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm) Or bring them to the church on Sunday.

April 4th - Canned Tuna

April 11th - Peanut Butter

April 18th - Rice

April 25th - Pasta Sauce

Our pantry always need paper grocery bags!



Thank you for your gifts. Please give from the heart.

PANTRY HOURS:

First Saturday of every month: Pantry will be closed.

Second Saturday of every month: Drive-thru pantry and walk-up pantry will be open.

Third Saturday of every month: Walk-up pantry only will be opened.

Fourth Saturday of every month: Drive-thru pantry and walk-up pantry will be open.

Hours will still be 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

BIKE MINISTRY: Bike Ministry is open the 2nd and 3rd Saturday of every month from 10:00 am to noon. If you need a bike, please call the church



As we prepare to move back to worship in the Sanctuary, we are ready to build back our ministry partner teams.

One area to join is the Media/Tech Team. You do not have to have a knowledge of this as we will host a training in the coming weeks. You will do things like change cameras, minor sound adjustments, slides for words to songs and prayers and assist in the set up and rearranging of cameras for different services and events.

Contact Nathan Montgomery
at nathan@goresurrection.com

Other areas to serve include:

Ushers

Greeters

Welcome Team

Altar Team

Resurrection Student Team

Resurrection Kids Team





at LCR

North Thousand Islands Cleanup & Lagoon Blessings from the Dock

Volunteers Needed • Bring Your Kayak/SUP/Boat
or Use What's Provided • Join Us For The

Lagoon Blessing

Date: Saturday, April 24th, 2021

Time: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Where: Church Dock

What: Volunteers are needed for the north Thousand Islands cleanup which starts from the LCR dock. This event is part of Keep Brevard Beautiful's (KBB) annual countywide Trash Bash in support of The Great American Cleanup. The city of Cocoa Beach, Surfrider Foundation, Friends of the Thousand Islands, and other organizations typically participate. This cleanup was cancelled last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The city has provided a boat for transportation to and from the islands in past years, however, a boat might not be provided this year. If you can bring a power boat, kayak or Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP) to help out, please do. Complimentary kayaks courtesy of Fin Expeditions will be available to use. KBB provides litter grabbers, gloves and plastic trash bags.

Prior to the cleanup, Pastor Marge Neal will provide blessings from the dock for the Indian River Lagoon, all its inhabitants, and those who live, love and work along the Lagoon. We'll also try to get a picture taken from above of the event. For more information, call the church office at (321) 783-0852.

Bring: Boat, kayak or SUP if you have one, sunscreen, water shoes and a face mask.

Note: This event will be rescheduled or cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we will be following the latest guidelines regarding social distancing and face masks.



Above: Photos of the 2019 Thousand Islands Cleanup. This event was cancelled last year due to COVID-19.

Help The Lagoon

Citizen Scientists Needed To Report Diamondback Terrapin Sightings

If you live in Cocoa Beach you know that in the spring homeowners will often find diamondback terrapins in their yards, garages and pools. The Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, part of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, conducted a diamondback terrapin population assessment in the Thousand Islands back around 2018, and are continuing to collect data on the terrapins. The Thousand Islands is a known hotspot for terrapins.

Diamondback terrapins are the only North American turtles that live exclusively in estuaries like our Indian River Lagoon, a trait shared by few, if any, other turtles in the world. This coastal turtle species is found statewide in coastal marshes, tidal creeks, mangroves and other brackish and estuarine habitats. Diamondback terrapins are easily identified by the distinctive spotted pattern on their light-colored skin. There are seven subspecies of diamondback terrapin that live along the Atlantic coast from Massachusetts, down into the Florida Keys and around the Gulf coast to Texas; all are believed to be in decline due to historic over-harvesting, habitat destruction, crab trap mortalities and predation by animals such as raccoons. Florida has five subspecies (*Malaclemys terrapin*), three of which occur only in Florida. The Florida east coast diamondback terrapin (*Malaclemys terrapin tequesta*) is the subspecies found in the Indian River Lagoon.

A baby diamondback terrapin was found 3/2 on a pool deck near church.



A female diamondback terrapin ready to lay eggs was found in 2018 at a home near church.

You can help terrapins! Report sightings of diamondback terrapins in the Indian River Lagoon using a reporting form found at the Brevard Zoo's website: <https://brevardzoo.org/conservation/conservation-programs/diamondback-terrapins>.

Pictures and GPS coordinates are especially helpful. Terrapin sightings reported to the Brevard Zoo aid Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's terrapin research and conservation efforts. The Zoo is also a pickup location for free bycatch reduction devices (BRD), a simple add-on to crab traps which prevent diamondback terrapins from entering the trap and accidentally drowning.

You can also report diamondback terrapin sightings to Traci Castellón, Ph.D., Florida Fish & Wildlife Research Institute, at (352)328-7052 (voice or text), or email her at Traci.Castellon@MyFWC.com.

Free Bulletin Now Available on Native Keystone Species for Brevard County

What's a keystone species? They are the 5% of Florida native plants that provide 75% of the food that drives the terrestrial food web. Insects are at the base of the terrestrial food web, and insect populations are already at dangerously low levels. At LCR we maintain a diversity of native plants in order to provide suitable habitat for butterflies, other pollinators, and many other insects which in turn provide food for local and migratory birds and wildlife. Our native bees also keep our native flowering plants reproducing. LCR has several keystone species such as the Live Oaks, Seaside Goldenrod and Black-eyed Susans. Sally Scalera, urban horticulture agent and master gardener coordinator for the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences here in Brevard, has created a 28-page bulletin titled "Native Keystone Species for Brevard County". Email Sally at sasc@ufl.edu to get your copy of this bulletin. Some of the hard to find keystone species will be grown to sell at future plant sales in the Brevard Discovery Garden's nursery at the Extension Service's office on Lake Drive in Cocoa.





APRIL 2021

CALENDAR



April Resurrection Kids & Students Schedule:

April Resurrection Kids Schedule:

Please join us Wednesday evenings from **6:30-7:30 pm** on Zoom as we learn, connect, and make crafts together. We will not be holding Children's Church on Wednesday, April 14th.

Zoom Children's Church-Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm

April 7th

April 21st

April 28th



April Resurrection Students Schedule:

Easter - youth to hand out palm crosses

Sunday, April 4th 8:30 - 10:30 am

We will have the palm crosses for Easter Sunday in baskets for the worshippers. If youth are available, please plan to be present for either the 9:00 am outside service and/or the 10:30 am indoor service to hand out palm crosses.



Confirmation

Sunday, April 11th 9:45-11:00 am

Calling all Confirmation students to please join us after the outdoor service to go over confirmation lessons.



Outdoor Youth Group plus excursion to the beach!

Sunday, April 18th 9:45 - 11:30 am

Join us under the trees after the outdoor service for in-person Youth Group and then an excursion to the beach. Please bring a bathing suit, cover-up, flip flops, towels, water, and a snack or lunch if you're hungry.



Confirmation

Sunday, April 25th 9:45-11:00 am

Calling all Confirmation students, please join us after the outdoor service to go over confirmation lessons.

Please check us out at:

<http://www.lutheranchurchoftheresurrectioncocoabeach.org/ministries/>

For your information: J-Walkers Instagram: www.instagram.com/lcryouth