



April 2024

BROADCASTER



www.egeic.org



Table of Contents

3

Council Briefs
Eyes to See

4

A Word to the Women
Thank You

5

Attendance
Pastoral Reports
Mission Opportunities

6

Holy Week
Encouragement

7

Friday Fish Supper

8

Birthdays

Contact

515-448-3697
egelc@goldfield
access.net
www.egelc.org
615 SW 2nd St.
Eagle Grove, IA 50533
M-F 9 a.m.-12 p.m.



Pastor Cooper

FROM HIS MIND TO YOURS

Holy Week Chronology

It seems every year someone asks me a question or comments about the chronology of Holy Week.

"Pastor, I was reading my devotions, and the Bible passages describing Holy Week. The timeline didn't exactly line up. Jesus wasn't in the tomb three days and three nights - what's the deal?"

Or "I watched the History channel, and they pointed out Jesus might not have died on a Friday."

First, let me say, I love it when someone tells me they were reading their Bible!! Second, always consider the source and the intentions of Biblical criticisms.

Now ... it makes me chuckle as these conversations begin, because I know there are variations in the Gospel accounts. Also, I usually know if I'm talking to someone who is more literal in their view of scripture or lax. Either way, my usual response is not to set out to address the chronology of Holy Week but rather to discuss our human frailty.

If I ask you what you did a week ago, you'd probably hit the highlights -

had a Dr. appointment, went out to supper and maybe a kids' event. If I, then asked you to chronologically detail your week (without looking at your phone or pocket calendar) you might struggle. "Um yeah, I had the Dr. appointment on Monday ... or was it Tuesday?" "I know we went to Unkies, but it couldn't have been Saturday 'cause they're crazy busy then."

You see, people in Jesus' day didn't have personal calendars to keep track of events. The Gospel writers (not likely eyewitnesses of Holy Week) wrote decades after the events they record. Imagine if I asked you to tell me what you did the week you graduated high school or the week of your wedding. I bet you'd leave out details and would appreciate being able to "phone a friend". Hopefully you're getting the point I'm trying to make. 😊

Another point worth considering is the fluctuating date of Easter. Christians all know that the date moves, but the average disciple has a hard time explaining why. It's simple; Easter is the first Sunday after the full Moon after the spring equinox. But, if the full Moon falls on a Sunday then Easter is

EAGLE GROVE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

COUNCIL

the next Sunday. (Do you know not all Christians always celebrate Easter on the same day?)

When it comes to dates and chronology in the Bible, keeping in mind what happened is more important than exactly when it happened. Holy Week - Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Resurrection Sunday are days the Church recognizes not because of the exact details of the 24-hour daily events, but because together they tell the message of salvation in Christ. They remind us that Christ came not to be

served but to serve. That Jesus mandates we love one another. That Christ died for sinners. That He rose victorious over sin and death. That by grace through faith in Him we receive an eternal blessing we don't deserve.

I pray you had a wonderful Holy Week and Easter!

<><

Pastor Jason Cooper

March Council Briefs

The Church Council did not meet in March. We had a number of members who were out of town and also did not have anything that needed to be

discussed at this time, so it was decided to cancel the meeting for this month.

Eyes to See

Amy Boucher Pye | Our Daily Bread | April 10, 2024

Today's Scripture & Insight : Isaiah 42:5-9

Genevieve had to be the "eyes" for her three children, each born with congenital cataracts. Whenever she took them into their village in the Republic of Benin of western Africa, she strapped the baby onto her back and held on to the arm and hand of her older two, always looking for danger. In a culture where blindness was thought to be caused by witchcraft, Genevieve despaired and cried out to God for help.

Then a man from her village told her about Mercy Ships, a ministry that provides vital surgeries to honor Jesus' model of bringing hope and healing to the poor. Uncertain if they could help, she

approached them. When the children woke up after their surgeries, they could see!

God's story has always been about coming alongside those shrouded in darkness and bringing His light. The prophet Isaiah declared that God would be "a light for the Gentiles" ([Isaiah 42:6](#)). He would "open eyes that are blind" (v. 7), restoring not only physical sight but spiritual vision as well. And He promised to "take hold" of His people's hand (v. 6). He restored sight to the blind and brought light to those living in the darkness.

If you feel overcome by darkness, cling to hope as you embrace the promises of our loving Father while asking for His light to bring illumination.

ELCW

A Word to the Women

Our ELCW meeting was Thursday, March 7 at 1:30. Following devotions we did some discussion on programs – there were just 3 of us there and we feel it is not fair to have a speaker come in and talk when only 3-4 ladies show up. If we start having a bigger number of ladies come, we will consider getting a speaker.

We also discussed setting a date for the salad luncheon. We set the date for Thursday June 20 at noon. We will make further plans for it at the April 4 meeting. Please plan to join us and help make plans.

Rotary Senior Living North has been asking the churches in Eagle Grove to come and spend some social time with the residents. We have been going the 2nd Thursdays every other month. We will go out on April 11 at 3:00. Our plans are to make Root Beer Floats for the residents. We did it before and

they all loved it. Consider joining us for 1 hour as we treat the residents and get to visit with them. It means so much to them to have guests in their home!

Do any of you ladies enjoy sewing? There is a lot of fabric that need to be put together for Lutheran World Relief for quilt tops. If interested in helping, please contact Susan Erickson or Linda in the office and we will get you the information on the sizes. If you are interested helping to tie the quilts or in learning to tie quilts, please talk to Susan Erickson. All quilts to LWR need to be tied and Susan can always use some help. It would be a good way to learn a project, help make some quilts and have some great fellowship with others! Susan's number is 515-448-4981.

Linda Spangler, President

“You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die.

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

JOHN 12:13

Thank You!

THANK YOU - to everyone who helped with the All You Can Eat Fish Fry Supper. Thanks to the workers, the donations made, Corrie Mork for making the cole slaw. And a huge thank you to all who came and enjoyed the supper.



Church Attendance Report

Our *monthly* Operating budget for 2024 is \$16,375.33 (*\$3,779 per week*)
 Our *yearly* Mission budget for 2024 is \$14,000 (*\$269 per week*)

Date	Attend.	General	Benev.
Mar. 3	76	\$1,720	\$45
Mar. 6-Lenten	16		\$51
Mar. 10	79	\$2,279	\$78
Mar. 13-Lenten	31		\$55
Mar. 17	76	\$2,004	\$139
Mar. 20-Lenten	36		\$275
Mar. 24	77	\$5,339	\$25
Mar. 28-Maundy Thu.	52	N/A	N/A
Mar. 31-Easter	N/A	N/A	N/A

Food Pantry

They can always use your help with volunteers and also with food. This time of year, they get hit especially hard. Feel free to bring food and put in the cart at church - their volunteers are willing to come and pick it up!! And if you are interested in volunteering a couple hours a week to help at the pantry, **contact Marcella Johnson at 515-448-3743.**

Pastoral Acts

Baptisms: 0 Confirm.: 0

Weddings: 0 Funerals: 0

Missions of the Month

LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

www.lcmc.net

NALC (North American Lutheran Church)

thenalc.org

Place donations in the wooden box in the sanctuary.

\$ Camperships \$
are available through
WELCA & Amy Cooper
Memorial Fund

Holy Week Encouragement

Rev. Dr. Daniel W. Selbo | March 2024

Dear NALC Clergy,

Greetings in the name of our crucified and risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel and for your faithfulness in proclaiming the Easter message of the life, hope, assurance, and salvation won for us in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

As much as the world today has changed dramatically from the world in which our Lord Jesus lived, the basic needs of people have not changed. Our sin separates us eternally from God. The fallen nature and brokenness of our world and our lives leads, inevitably, to the death of everyone who has ever lived. Whether people today acknowledge and believe what happened on the cross and in the empty tomb of Jesus does not change the reality of what God accomplished for His world through those same events in Christ.

As a result, do not be afraid nor hesitant to speak about the importance of what God has done for us in Jesus, as well as about the urgency of taking that message to heart and allowing it to guide and shape our lives.

The central doctrine of Christianity is the truth and the promise that we are justified before God through our faith in Jesus. Jesus took our sin to the cross. His death put to death all of our sin. His

resurrection from the dead gave to us the promise of life eternal in God's kingdom.

What a Great Exchange it was. Jesus took our sin. He gave us His righteousness. This promise is not wishful thinking on our part, but a certain and concrete assurance based upon historic facts and events.

Many people today base their hope in a God who they believe is good and loving and, as a result, go through life thinking they have no need for Jesus and for what He did upon the cross. His resurrection might have been nice but not essential to their salvation, or so they think.

What they need to hear is what the Bible proclaims to be the truth. "If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless...If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins" (1 Cor. 15: 14, 17). It's empty of content. It's a human wish and nothing more. Such folks have substituted their own thinking and ideas for the saving act and actions of God. And they have not thought very deeply into the human predicament we all face apart from Christ.

The resurrection of Jesus is not peripheral in our belief. It is central. It is at the heart. It is the basis and foundation of our faith. All other truths come together in the events of Easter. Who is Christ? Who are we as humans? What is sin? Why did

Jesus have to die? Where is this all heading? It all comes together in Jesus. It is all brought together and makes sense in the death and resurrection of Christ.

Easter is as relevant today as it has ever been. The good news of our Lord's death and resurrection frees us. We're liberated. The chains of our sin that bind us have been released. Nothing now enslaves us other than the gracious and beneficent rule of God. That is freedom in its truest and deepest sense. All other words associated with the Easter proclamation—joy, peace, hope, love, power—they all are connected and given to us in Christ.

Easter offers us what the rest of the world cannot. Why would one choose to go through life without it? Signs of death are all around us—in society, in our nations, in the world. Often framed in glittering lights and with the outward appearance of success. Nonetheless, they can offer and give no lasting hope.

Only the promise of Easter offers us life in its deepest and truest sense. Everything and everyone else come up short. In dying we live. In giving ourselves away we gain. In committing our lives to God, in and through Christ, He gives us in return what nothing and no one else can.

The bottom line to Easter, or maybe even the headline, is the promise of a life eternal with God. We do not worship a God who created a beautiful world, gave us life in it, allowed us a taste of such joyous things as love and friendship and peace, only to take it away after a few short years.

No, we worship a God who has given and secured for us life now and forever. It was His plan from the very start. He conceived of it from before the foundation of the world. He carried it out in the life, death, and resurrection of His Son. And He will see it to its completion on that Great Day when our Lord will return.

God did not create us for a time, but for eternity. That was His original purpose, and His purpose will not be thwarted. Every other rule and authority and power will be destroyed "The last enemy to be destroyed is death" (1 Cor. 15:26).

Take it heart. Hear the promise anew. Preach it as the truth and message it is, nothing more important or urgent. And then trust, as God has promised, that His words will not return empty.

As you move into this most Holy Week, know that my prayers are with you as you carry out your calling. Know that my heart is with you as you speak the name of the One alone who can save. More importantly, know that God is with you and has promised to speak through your words, as they lift up and proclaim the name of Christ.

May God bless you and your proclamation of His Word as you speak with boldness and clarity of what God has accomplished for us in Jesus.

It remains a joy and an honor to serve our Lord with you.

In Christ Jesus,

Bishop Dan, NALC





Mark your calendars!

Birthdays

3 – Merry Conaway, Alan Linn, Craig Voss
4 – Connor Christopher, Jacob Grandgeorge,
Tom Kist
5 – Darla Tweeten
6 – Karen Riggs
8 – Kathy Lehman
10 – Rick Dawson
11 – Greer Mingus
12 – HannahJo Gustafson, Karen Butler, Scott Smith
14 – Terry Lerdal, Kale Christiansen

15 – Shelby Fisher
18 – Roger Thompson
21 – Rachael Smith
22 – Brooklynn Comstock
23 – Corbin Pinkele
24 – Alan Jensen
27- Nichole Jergens
29 – Lindsay Haugland
28 – Michael Ryerson
30 – Linda Bickford, Lynn Fevold



Listen live on the radio!

KOVC 95.7



**Eagle Grove Evangelical
Lutheran Church
PO Box 68
Eagle Grove, IA 50533**