



The Mountain Top Echo

Mt. Moriah Lutheran Church, Byron MN

Reaching Out ... Sharing Christ

April 2024

What is Important?

What is Important...is a question that strikes in the life and heart of everyone, especially when planning trips. So, on our recent trip to San Antonio and Apache Junction we needed to go over the lists of what to bring for our trip. We went through what each of us thought was important; necessary clothes, hiking gear, food, drink, space for items we were carrying for Karen's sister and her family, and of course those much-needed reservations in motels and campgrounds. We also needed to make sure that both the camper and truck were ready to go on a long trip.

What is Important...is that having the knowledge that sometimes well-placed plans can change at any time in one's life. The weather has a way of changing one's thinking and travel plans. I am sure that all or most of you can relate to that. You need a backup plan or should we say, plan B. That came into play when the weather did not cooperate with our plans and we needed to stay in a motel a second night, it would have been too cold, even with the heat cranked up. So our plan B became important to us on our way south.

What is Important....is to be ready for change at any moment. I say that because as we were planning our way home, I made a BIG mistake. As we were planning the route, I took to searching our campgrounds. So I made reservations to Lordsburg, NM, Van Horne, TX, Sweetwater, TX, Paul's Valley, OK, everything seemed fine, except that in my rush to get our campground reservations, I got a KOA campground reservation in Sweetwater, TN, not Sweetwater, TX, oops. Quickly I changed that little mistake to the rightful Sweetwater. It is very important to know what one is doing.

What is Important...is to be aware of the trail one is traveling on so one won't lose one's way in life. We did a lot of hiking on our trip, whether it was hiking in White Sands National Park or hiking up Silly Mountain, there were markers that showed us the way so we wouldn't get lost. White Sands national park was very interesting with hill and valley being very white sand in which one could easily get distracted and lose the way. As we live our lives as Christians, believers in the Lord Jesus Christ can get easily distracted and lose our way. We are in need of something very important.

What IS important...to not only know what one is planning for vacations and trips, but more importantly is about one's spiritual welfare. Our physical lives are fragile and in need of constant care and nourishment to survive. Yet, there is something that is more fragile than our physical bodies, which is our spiritual or better put, faith lives, that believe in Jesus as Redeemer, Savior. The Apostle Peter informs us of how fragile those faith lives are when he writes, ***"Be sober-minded, be watchful Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."*** (1 Peter 5:8) Our faith lives are very important and are in need of guidance, nourishment, and strength which is given to us through personal Bible reading and being in Church to support and encourage one another in life. That is what is really important in our lives. As we join together in Church, we not only hear God's Word which strengthens us, we also are there to encourage and strengthen one another as we travel life's path.

In Christ's Peace,

Pastor Scott Fiege





The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship Newsletter Article – April 2024



Whose Is It Anyway?

If you have ever bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a “title search.” Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you’ll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, “That’s mine: I had it first.”

You can’t understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Your neighbor’s possessions are his: you don’t have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership to you? Paul says, “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price” (1 Cor. 6:19–20).

If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God’s leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since you belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.



Electronic Giving: Our church invites you to consider our electronic giving program as a way to automate your regular weekly offerings. Electronic giving is convenient for you and provides much needed consistency for our church. If you are interested in participating in this program, speak with financial secretary, Tammy Vosberg. You may also contact Tammy with any questions at 507- 289-2850 or via email at dtvosberg@gmail.com



The next **LWML meeting** will be Saturday, April 6, 9:00 a.m. at Mount Moriah.



Prayer Chain: Ardi Gibbs is our Prayer Chain Leader. Please contact Ardi with your prayer requests or if you would like to join the prayer chain team. (507) 254-6564 / ardig775@gmail.com

We'd like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Mt. Moriah community for hosting the funeral service for Marleen. Your support, compassion, and assistance during this difficult time were deeply appreciated. The funeral service was beautifully conducted, and every aspect handled with care and reverence. The warmth and compassion demonstrated by the Mt. Moriah community helped ease our grief.

We extend our deepest appreciation to Pastor Fiege, staff, volunteers, and members who contributed their time, expertise, and compassion to make the funeral service a meaningful and memorable tribute.

Thank you, once again, for your unwavering support, compassion, and dedication. Your kindness and generosity during this difficult time have touched our hearts, and we are forever grateful for your role in honoring the memory of Marleen.

Sincerely,
The Wachholz Family



Thank you for your Easter Flower donations this year ---

from Mount Moriah Altar Guild

Name

Flowers are Given:

Bruce & Shelley Arett

In Memory of: Budd & Darlane Chilson
Merv & Jeanne Arett

Ardi Gibbs

In Memory of: Jim; Parents & Brothers

Dennis & Margaret Karst

To The Glory of God

Brant & Darla Klepel

In Memory of: Fathers; David Klepel
Eugene Keller

Julie Lillestol

To the Glory of God

Ralph & Karen Meyer

To the Glory of God

Laraine Ritchie

In Memory of: Bob Ritchie

LaVern Thron

In Memory of: Sylvia Thron

Don & Tammy Vosberg

In Memory of: Earl Vosberg

Charles Wachholz

In Memory of: Marleen Wachholz

Bob & Lois Walbruch

To the Glory of God

Dave & Karen Welch

In Memory of : Parents & Daughter





Partial Solar Eclipse



MINNEAPOLIS — Better start digging for those 2017 eclipse glasses, Minnesotans. You are going to need them!

On **April 8**, stand outside and look up (WITH THOSE SPECIAL GLASSES!) around 1 p.m., and you'll have the pleasure of watching the moon's shadow partially envelop the sun. Even though Minnesota isn't on the path of totality, a partial solar eclipse is still a sight to be seen. Here's what you need to know to make the most of your astral viewing experience.

In the Twin Cities, scientists expect the partial eclipse to begin at 12:50 p.m. and peak around 2:02 p.m. Times vary slightly in different parts of the state. You don't have to be an astronomy buff to appreciate a total, or partial, solar eclipse. As the process begins, some will remember the darkening sky and cooling temperatures. As darkness falls, viewers will be able to see the sun's corona — or its outer atmosphere — which is usually covered by the blinding face of the sun. ---- **KARE 11+**

APRIL Birthdays

- Kimberly Amundson April 2
- Ralph Meyer April 21
- William Naatz (Willie) April 24
- Justin Klepel April 27
- Gerald (Jerry) Kruse April 27
- Heather Appel April 28

APRIL Anniversaries

- Dennis & Margaret Karst April 9
- Brant & Darla Klepel April 15



Worship Assistant Schedule for April 2024	Altar Guild for Month of April / Judy Coleman
4/7/2024– 2nd Sunday of Easter Worship w/Communion - 10:45 a.m. Pastor Fiege	Elder – Brant Klepel Reader – Shelley Arett Music – Margaret Karst
4/14/2024 –3rd Sunday of Easter Worship – 10:45 a.m. Pastor Fiege	Elder - Shane Amundson Reader - Shelley Arett Music – Margaret Karst
4/21/2024 – 4th Sunday of Easter Worship w/Communion – 10:45 a.m. Pastor Fiege	Elder – Brant Klepel (change) Reader – Dave Welsh Music – Ruth Benning
4/28/2024 – 5th Sunday of Easter Worship – 10:45 a.m. Pastor Fiege	Elder - Shane Amundson (change) Reader – Dave Welsh Music – Dave Welsh

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

APRIL 1st

Y	L	L	I	S	B	E	L	Z	O	B	M	A	B
E	B	E	W	I	L	D	E	R	C	A	P	E	Q
E	A	S	H	E	N	A	R	I	G	A	N	S	P
F	A	R	E	S	I	R	P	U	S	E	O	D	E
A	R	E	T	O	N	D	U	P	E	H	U	F	E
C	U	S	I	M	S	C	L	M	F	D	O	R	L
E	L	E	O	I	F	D	P	E	N	S	I	Y	A
A	E	J	N	I	D	O	I	U	T	C	T	Y	L
E	D	E	R	U	P	H	O	E	K	I	H	C	X
F	S	S	F	R	C	F	R	L	V	T	R	A	A
S	T	E	A	S	B	O	D	E	E	A	P	M	O
E	B	N	I	M	U	A	L	R	L	R	A	D	H
Y	K	M	U	S	E	Y	P	A	O	B	Y	O	R
R	R	D	T	C	O	U	M	I	T	E	S	U	B
E	Y	E	K	N	O	M	K	N	I	W	D	O	I

APRIL
BAMBOOZLE
BEFUDDLE
BEMUSE
BEWILDER
CAPER
DELUDE
DUMBFOUND
DUPE
FARCE

FIRST
HOAX
HOODWINK
JEST
JOKES
LAUGHTER
LEVITY
MALARKEY
MISCHIEF
MONKEY

BUSINESS
PRANK
PREPOSTEROUS
SHENANIGANS
SILLY
SURPRISE
TOMFOOLERY
TRICK
WACKY

Spring Word Search

Find the spring words in the flower puzzle below.

- green
- March
- grow
- rainbow
- April
- Easter
- sunshine
- basket
- butterfly
- sprout
- umbrella
- hatch
- grass
- rabbit
- flower
- bloom
- eggs



April's Whisper

April's whisper in the breeze,
Speaks of life among the trees.
A gentle thaw, a soft rebirth,
Colors break through the softening earth.

Laughter echoes, children play,
In longer light, at end of day.
April's song, both mild and mirth,
Welcomes life's renewal on Earth.

Happy
SPRING!



Mount Moriah Lutheran Church

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Web Site: www.mtmoriahluth.org

www.facebook.com/mtmoriahluth