



Easter Lutheran Church  
Eagan, Minnesota

To grow in faith and carry on the work of Jesus Christ

November 2011

• Volume XXVII Number 11 •

## Thanksgiving Worship Services

Wednesday, Nov. 23

**Easter on the Hill:** 7 p.m.

Pie Fellowship follows worship

**Easter by the Lake:** 7:15 p.m.

Following F.E.A.S.T. art fair

Thursday, Nov. 24

**Easter on the Hill:** 10 a.m.



### F.E.A.S.T.

*(Festival of Easter Art, Sound,  
and Thanksgiving)*

**Wednesday, Nov. 23, 6-8 p.m.**

**Easter by the Lake**

On Thanksgiving Eve join in a celebration of art and worship. From 6-7:15 p.m., enjoy art created by Easter members and local artists. Dessert and coffee will be served at 6 p.m. (freewill donation accepted).

At 7:15 p.m. worship with the Easter congregation and join in music led by The Messengers.

### Calling All Artists!

Contact Kent Henriksen if you are interested in displaying your art or have questions about the event (kent@easter.org). Paintings, photography, sculptures, and other works of art are welcome.



# The Big Story

**November 6:** Rev. 7:9, All Saints; Church School: David is Chosen, page 126

**November 13:** 1 Kings 3:3-15. 11:1-13 Solomon; Church School: Solomon Builds the Temple, page 136

**November 20:** 1 Kings 18:20-39, Elijah and Ahab; Church School: Elijah and the Widow, page 140

**November 27:** Isaiah 9:1-7, Isaiah; Church School: God's Peaceful World, page 172

### Dig deeper by participating in a Weekly Big Story Bible Study!

Meet with Pastor Kevin on Thursday nights from 7-8:30 p.m. at Easter by the Lake. Attend as often as your schedule permits! You can also pick up the Weekly Bible Study Guide at either location for self-study. Back issues are available at easter.org

**In a Small Group?** There are also Small Group Monthly Big Story Study Guides available. The current issue covers September through November.

## Generous God Generous People



## GENEROUS GOD GENEROUS PEOPLE

### Fall Stewardship Appeal

By now, you have received a DVD in the mail celebrating Easter's ministry in the past and in the many years to come. You have also heard stories of people whose lives have been transformed by Christ through the work of God at Easter Lutheran Church. On November 13, we will celebrate God's generosity and your generosity as we dedicate the pledges and gifts you intend to give for the coming year. **THANK YOU** for supporting the mission of Easter Lutheran Church as we, together, Grow in faith and carry on the work of Jesus Christ. You are a blessing!



# From the Pastor



Someone a lot smarter than me once said, *Life is change, growth is optional.* I've always known that phrase to be true, but most recently, my

engagement in *The Big Story* in Sunday worship has pushed me to muse even deeper on the phrase *Life is change, growth is optional.*

I hope you have been blessed, as I have, with our emphasis in worship and Bible study on *The Big Story*. Our goal, individually and collectively, is for all of us to immerse ourselves in the promises of scripture from the opening chapters with the Fall of Adam and Eve in Genesis, to the redemption story of the resurrected Christ in the Gospels and the Book of Acts.

As we are in the process of "worshipping our way" through *The Big Story*, I am struck by how the simple retelling of these Bible stories shows us how God uses change to convict our hearts to hunger for a deeper relationship with God, *and* each other.

The story of Joseph, for example, with all of its twists and turns of

intrigue and deception, older brothers selling a hated younger brother into slavery, only to have that younger brother rise to power so that he could exercise great spiritual gifts to save not only the very brothers who sold him into slavery, but an entire nation as well! And it all gets summarized as Joseph looks into the tearful eyes of his older brothers and says: *You meant it for harm, but God meant it for good!*

God turned wicked intentions and changed it for the good of everyone. And we, the people of God, read these stories and realize that Joseph's plight might not be too totally different than our own. We learn from this, and we are reminded: *Life is change, growth is optional.*

Change is a big part of the Bible. Change is also a big part of life. God is not comfortable with the people of God getting too comfortable or complacent. One of the growth lessons that can be learned from change is to make peace with it, to embrace change, and to realize that the *transition* associated with change is a welcomed discipline that is pushing us forward, rather than a wicked tyrant that is trying to hold us back.

While in attendance at the Job Transitions Group on Tuesday morning at Easter, I heard a wonderful definition concerning *change, transition,* and the *growth* that can come from it. The definition read:

*"Change occurs when something new starts or something old stops, change takes place at a particular point in time. But transition cannot be localized in time that way, since it is the gradual psychological process through which individuals and groups reorient themselves so that they can function and find meaning in a changed situation."*

The words quoted above were meant for those trying to survive life in a world of job loss, corporate shake-ups and business upheavals, but how well these words could apply to our spiritual life as well.

Life is filled with wanderings and re-settlings, of change and transition. We see it in *The Big Story*, and we see it in our story. From Adam and Eve being cast out of the Garden; to Abraham and Sarah's going to a land they knew not; to the Children of Israel going into Egypt as honored guests, only to be brought out of Egypt as redeemed slaves, the Bible is filled with events of *change*, and the re-orientating *transition* that goes along with change; but the *growth*, is always optional; the people whom we read about in the Bible are not the only ones being changed and tempered by life. We are as well; *The Big Story* is also *Our Story!*

## Your Church Staff

10/26/11

Pastors ..... Kristen Capel, Paul Harris, Kevin Olson, Sarah Clark, Jim Borgschatz  
 Director of Music.....Kris Henry  
 Director of Music & Media ..... Kent Henriksen  
 Minister of Youth Music.....Jason Hansen  
 Director of On Purpose Ministries..... Mary Kay DuChene  
 Director of Children's Ministry..... Rachele Gill  
 Director of Administration .....Laurel Gaard  
 Director of Frontline Ministries.....Cindy Wilson  
 Wellness/Parish Nurse .....Stacy Wollmuth  
 Office Administration..... Jennifer Peloquin, Lisa Day,  
 Deanna Heise, Becky Briggs, Judy Hansen  
 Children, Youth & Families ..... Rachel Kucker  
 Coordinator of Encore! .....Judy Pascoe  
 Worship Lead Coordinator.....Debbie Finley  
 Infant/Toddler Center Lead Coordinators .....Judy Hansen, Cindy Lutz  
 Custodians.....Eric Wilson, Butch Stodolka, Rosemary Dulas  
 Easter Preschool Director..... Alicia Borman  
 Easter Preschool Teachers..... Theresa Graves, Patty Goehring,  
 Katie Ossell, Julie Fineran, Nancy Hensch, Darla Landmark

## WORSHIP TIMES

Easter on the Hill:  
 Sat. 5 p.m., Sun. 8:30 & 10 a.m.  
 Benediction: Sun. 5 p.m.  
 Easter by the Lake:  
 Sun. 9:30 and 11 a.m.

## OFFICE HOURS

Offices are at Easter on the Hill.  
 Monday-Friday..... 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
 Saturdays..... 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
 Office closed Thursday and Friday,  
 November 24 & 25

# Worship, Bible Studies and Prayer

## Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Tuesdays, 6:45-7:30 a.m.

### Easter on the Hill

- Bibles and coffee provided
- Meets every week
- Led by Pastor Paul

## Great Stories

Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-noon

### Easter on the Hill

Learn about pivotal events in the history of Christianity; led by Pastor Paul.

## The Big Story

Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m.

### Easter by the Lake

Led by Pastor Kevin. A weekly study guide is also available for pick up at either site.

## December Worship Schedule

### Choral Service - "Welcome the Child"

Saturday, Dec. 17, 5 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 18, 8:30 and 10 a.m., Easter on the Hill

### Christmas Eve Services, Saturday, December 24

#### Easter on the Hill

Family Worship - 2, 3:30, and 5 p.m.

Candlelight Worship - 6:30, 8 and 9:30 p.m.

Candlelight Worship with

Holy Communion - 11 p.m.

#### Easter by the Lake

Family Worship - 3:30 and 5 p.m.



### Christmas Day Service, Sunday, December 25

#### Easter on the Hill

Worship with Holy Communion - 10 a.m.

#### Easter by the Lake

Worship - 9:30 a.m.

## Easter Prayer Team Meeting

Saturday, Nov. 5, 9-10:30 a.m., Easter on the Hill

The Easter Prayer Team is a ministry of prayer that links participants with many others who offer prayers at Easter. It also helps us feel connected to the power of God's healing Spirit in the lives of many who are hurting or in transition. This ministry strengthens the work of the whole congregation in countless seen and unseen ways. We welcome anyone to join us the first Saturday of each month to intentionally pray for members who have specifically requested prayer. A devotional thought and fellowship is also shared to help "grow in faith and carry on the work of Jesus Christ." And oh yeah, the coffee and treats are great as well! Come one, come all!

## Christmas Stories in

### Matthew and Luke

Tuesdays, Nov. 15 & 29,

Dec. 13 & 20, 7-8:30 p.m.

### Easter on the Hill

This four-session class, led by Pastor Paul, will help us dig more deeply into the Nativity Narratives and will provide a fine way to help prepare for the coming of the Christ Child.

Bring your Bible!

In January Pastor Paul will begin a class based on Armand Nicholi's book, *The Question of God: C.S. Lewis and Sigmund Freud Debate God, Love, Sex and the Meaning of Life*. Contact Pastor Paul paulharris@aol.com for more information on either class.

## benediction



RELEVANT.  
SPIRITUAL. REACHING.

Sundays, 5 p.m.  
Easter on the Hill

Benediction is a community searching for where God is in the world. we feature new music, raw questions, and real connections. feel the love, come and check it out. Facebook group "Benediction"

## Altar Flowers

If you would like to sponsor altar flowers at worship services at either site in honor or memory of an event or loved one, please contact the church office at 651-452-3680 at least one week before the service. The cost is \$35.

## Easter Lutheran Church's Vision

"Transforming hearts and lives for Christ, making disciples and welcoming many more."

## Job Transitions Group

**Tuesday mornings, 7:30-9 a.m.,  
Easter on the Hill**

The goal of this free job transitions group is to inspire and empower community members to get hired faster, in a job that's right for them. All are welcome! There is no charge to attend.

### Upcoming Presentations:

For additional information, check the group's webpage at [www.easter.org/CareerConnections](http://www.easter.org/CareerConnections)

**Nov. 1:** "Get a Game Plan - Get a Job!" presented by Catherine Byers Breet. Job hunting got you down? Join us to get the lift you need. The toughest (and most critical!) part of a job search is not writing a resume, networking or even interviewing. It's facing those hours alone, wondering what to do next. Stop guessing! Join us to learn how to take control, and get the job you want, faster and easier.

**Nov. 8 & 15:** Breakout Bonanza

**Nov. 22:** Potluck Breakfast - bring something to share and enjoy a morning meal and fellowship! No set agenda for the day other than visiting together. Sign-ups will be available at the November meetings.

**Nov. 29:** "The Spirituality of Managing Transition!" presented by Dr. Timothy Mullner. In the transition of job-hunting there is a fine line between getting by, surviving, and thriving. How do we maintain faith, hope, and inner peace in this challenging process?

### Are you LinkedIn?

Our group is called Easter Job Transitions Group. Find it and click on "Join this Group" and you'll be approved within 48 hours. Neighbors and friends are welcome as well. In these difficult economic times, our Job Transitions Group is especially appreciative of opportunities for networking.

## Ways to Connect

### Yogadevotion Fall Class

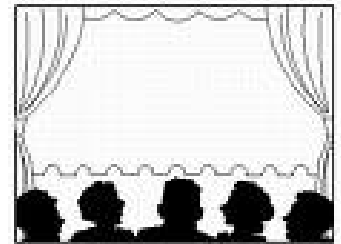
**Tuesdays, Nov. 1 - Dec. 20, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Easter by the Lake**

Invest in your physical wellbeing and spiritual life by attending this class. Instructor Marie Baker leads class members through yoga poses and movement, and ends with a devotion. The instructor offers options that allow full participation by all, whether beginners or longtime practitioners. Wear clothing that allows movement, and bring a yoga mat or large beach towel. Please register by sending your form and check for \$55, payable to Easter Lutheran Church, to the church office. For more information and a registration form, go to [easter.org](http://easter.org) (Connect/Recreational Groups) or visit the Yogadevotion website at [www.yogadevotion.com](http://www.yogadevotion.com).



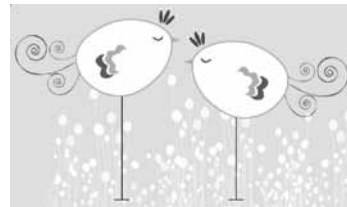
### Easter is Putting on a Musical!!

We're looking for volunteers to be on the creative team to put together a musical this spring. We need people to build and design sets, direct and organize volunteers, create publicity – everything from production to behind the scenes. Please contact Jason Hansen at 651-452-3680 or [jason@easter.org](mailto:jason@easter.org) if you are interested in helping make this a BIG show.



### Women's Retreat – Women Save the Date!

The second annual Easter women's retreat will be February 4 and 5 at Villa Maria retreat center in Frontenac, MN. Come enjoy fellowship and reflection as we explore the topic "What on Earth am I Doing Here?" Cost for this overnight retreat (including 3 meals) will be about \$120 (\$45 if not staying overnight).



### Women of all Ages

#### Welcome at Chick Talk!

**Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m., Easter on the Hill, and  
Thursdays, 9:30-11 a.m., Easter by the Lake**

Currently in Chick Talk we're exploring a DVD Bible Study series called "If You Want to Walk on Water You've Got to Get out of the Boat." This John

Ortberg study explores stepping out in faith to do God's will for us. Please join us! Chick Talk is for women of ALL ages. It's offered 2 times per week: Monday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. and Thursday mornings from 9:30-11 a.m. (child care provided). Drop in when you can! No need to register. To see the full schedule for the year, check out [easter.org](http://easter.org) (Connect/Chick Talk).

### Depression Support Coalition

The Depression Support Coalition has developed a program of monthly informational talks by leading healthcare professionals and clergy educated about and experienced with depression and related diseases.

Monday, November 7, 7-8:30 p.m.

"Depression and Spirituality" with Rev. Jerry R. Storm  
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church  
12650 Johnny Cake Ridge Rd, Apple Valley, MN 55124  
Contact: Julie Opheim, 952-432-6351



# Ways to Connect



## Men's Breakfast

**Saturday, Nov. 12, 8-9 a.m.**  
**Easter on the Hill**

Gather with other men in an inviting fellowship of breakfast and Bible study (bad jokes and bad puns leading to excessive laughter and eye rolling are also welcomed!)

Our Bible study is taken from "The Big Story" worship texts that will be discussed in worship that weekend.

## Iringa Fall Festival

**Saturday, November 5, 9-11:30 a.m.**  
**Gustavus Adolphus Church**

All who are interested in the tremendous partnership between the Iringa Lutheran Diocese and our St. Paul Area Synod and its churches are encouraged to attend this excellent annual event for information and inspiration. Pastors Msigwa and Gavile from Iringa will be updating us on developments in Iringa. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. For more information contact Pastor Paul at paulharris@aol.com or 651-587-1999.

## Grief In Community

**Sunday, November 6, 3-4:30 p.m.**  
**Easter on the Hill**

Have you lost someone significant in your life? Lighten your grief by surrounding yourself with others who understand what you're experiencing. Easter's Grief in Community group gathers periodically to share stories and move beyond grief through re-creating life without this significant person in it. All are welcome! Please join us! If you have questions, please contact Rebecca Boland at raboland@charter.net

## Small Group Corner

*Connecting the hearts of people with others and God*

Stephen Ministries in St. Louis has done a lot of research regarding church small groups. One of the big questions they tried to address was: "What do these folks really need?" In a blog posting by Dan Lentz last year, he outlined their findings:

- Spirituality -- helping people experience Jesus and His saving power in their lives
- Community -- helping people experience Jesus in one another, giving them the sense that they are connected to a "body," a loving community, as well as to the Creator and Sustainer of all things
- Care -- helping people experience Jesus in their pain and suffering. When many people are most clearly in need of the gospel and most open to God's presence and the healing, saving power of Jesus
- Service -- helping people experience meaning, purpose, and significance by participating in Jesus' mission in the world and being involved in something that is not only bigger than themselves, but also life-transforming and enduring



The Small Group Ministry Team at Easter Church strives to make small groups accessible, interesting, and meaningful to everyone. We want to build on these four core tenants, and would love an opportunity to connect you with others on the same journey. Please contact Deanna Heise in the church office at 651-452-3680 for more information on small groups and/or to sign up. All are welcome!

Small Group team: Mary Kay DuChene, marykay@easter.org; Jack and Steph Esser, jackandsteph@comcast.net, Deanna Heise, deannaheise@comcast.net, or Chris Nechanicky, nechanicky@comcast.net; or call the church office at 651-452-3680.

## Telemark Family Retreat

**Friday-Sunday, January 6-8, 2012, Telemark, Wisconsin**

**Cost: \$60 per adult, \$30 per child**

Pastor Paul is leading a Family Retreat at the Sponsel Telemark Chalet. For those interested in energetic skiing there may be the 24 Hours of Telemark relay race or some other event that weekend. For others who want to get outdoors, there will be cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and hiking opportunities. For everyone there will be good fellowship, Bible study, and much munching. Reservations are made by leaving a check (made out to Easter) in Pastor Paul's mailbox. Contact Pastor Paul at paulharris@aol.com or 651-587-1999 with questions.

## Telemark Men's Retreat

**Friday-Sunday, March 23-25, 2012, Telemark, Wisconsin, Cost: \$60**

Men's Retreats are a great way for men to meet other men and develop sustaining relationships and to grow in the faith. Easter's minibus will leave Easter on the Hill at 6 p.m. Friday and men will return refreshed and strengthened Sunday by 5 p.m. There's room for fifteen men; reservations are made by leaving a check (made out to Easter) in Pastor's Paul's mailbox. For more information, contact Pastor Paul at paulharris@aol.com or 651-587-1999.

Providing opportunities for adults to serve, learn and gather throughout all seasons of life

## Gather

### **Plymouth Playhouse: A Mighty Fortress is Our Basement**

2705 Annapolis Lane N., Plymouth (I-494 & Hwy 55)

Sunday, Nov. 20, 2 p.m. performance

Expect more crazy antics, more great new songs, and more lessons reluctantly learned! Meet the Encore! group at the Plymouth Playhouse or carpool from Easter on the Hill (be at the parking lot at 12:30 p.m.). We have a limited number of tickets; reservations must be received by Sunday, Oct. 30. (we may be able to add a few folks after that date, so please call as soon as possible if you are interested). Cost is \$26; make your check payable to Easter Lutheran Church with Plymouth Playhouse on the memo line. Optional: dinner at Green Mill Restaurant (above the theater) following the performance. Contact Judy Pascoe at 651-454-8540 or [jpascoe@easter.org](mailto:jpascoe@easter.org).

### **Older Wiser Lutherans (OWLs)**

Thursday, November 10 starting at 9 a.m., Easter on the Hill

Meet at Easter on the Hill to bake cookies, and have a potluck fellowship.

Bring your own cookie dough and dish for the potluck. Once the cookies are baked, we will head out to visit shut-ins and deliver cookies.

### **Encore! Presents:**

#### **Christmas Daze**

Save the Date!

Saturday, Dec. 10, 6-9 p.m.

Easter by the Lake

(Details to follow)

Encore! participants  
enjoying a cruise on the  
St. Croix River



If you would like to receive email bulletins about Encore! events, please send an email to [jpascoe@easter.org](mailto:jpascoe@easter.org) and request "Encore! Updates."

For additional details, see the Encore! brochure or [www.easter.org](http://www.easter.org) (Connect/Encore!)

## Serve

### **Feed My Starving Children**

Wednesday, Nov. 9, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

990 Lone Oak Road, Suite 160

Hand-pack meals specifically formulated for malnourished children. The meals are shipped to nearly 70 countries around the world. To sign up for one or more of the above dates, call Rita Tester at 651-452-7342.

### **Dakota Woodlands**

Monday, Nov. 14, 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Prepare and serve lunch for the residents at Dakota Woodlands, transitional housing for homeless women. All ingredients are provided, just plan to prepare and serve. Contact Judy Pascoe at 651-454-8540 or [jpascoe@easter.org](mailto:jpascoe@easter.org) to volunteer.

## Learn

### **1 Corinthians: A Bible Study**

Thursdays, Oct. 27 & Nov. 3 & 10

7-8:30 p.m., Easter on the Hill

This study led by Rev. Richard Jensen will dig deeper into 1 Corinthians. Dr. Jensen is a member of Easter Church and a retired pastor, author and professor of homiletics.

## Did you know...Lutheran Social Service has Individual and Family Counseling?

**Couples:** Counseling services for couples dealing with stress, anxiety and communication issues within their unique relationship.

**Children:** Specialized counseling, including play therapy, to help identify problems and establish guidelines geared toward issue resolution that improve the child's or adolescent's well-being.

**Financial:** LSS offers budget, debt management and bankruptcy counseling so that people can regain control of their finances. Call 1-888-881-8261 or check out [www.lssmn.org](http://www.lssmn.org)

## DeAnne Parks Art Exhibit

October 27 - December 21

**Easter on the Hill**

Easter welcomes an exhibit of the colorful and inspiring contemporary Christian paintings of Minnesota artist DeAnne Parks. Plan to stop by and enjoy the show, meet some friends or treat yourself to some relaxation.

# From a Council Member

Presented by Dean Hoffrogge at the October 18 council meeting



Dean is Treasurer of the Church Council and serves on the Easter Foundation Committee. He and his wife Deb have two children.

2011 is not yet finished, but from a meteorological standpoint, it has already proven to be a truly unusual and record-breaking year. Not only here in the Midwest but across the country.

Through it all, I am truly amazed by the weather tracking and forecasting technology that we have today. River flooding peaks are predicted to within the inch and the hour. Doppler radar screens of summer thunderstorms have more distinct areas of green, orange, red and purple than I can color by hand.

However, I am perhaps most mesmerized by the amazingly accurate predictions of the path of hurricanes and tropical depressions. People living in the predicted path usually have sufficient time to prepare and brace themselves and their belongings for the approaching storm.

On the other end of the spectrum, tornadoes strike quickly and often with little advance warning, leaving

precious little time to protect life or property. Storms definitely come at many different times and in many different ways. This is true whether we are talking about meteorological storms ----- or the storms in our life.

What storms am I referring to?

I am sure you can make your own list but here are some of the ones on mine: illness or injury, loss of a loved one, loss of a job or a failed business, divorce and other broken or strained relationships to name just a few. Depending on the circumstances, these life-storms can be mild or severe. Even times of change and transition in our lives can be mild storms as our anxiety increases if the future appears more uncertain than usual.

Some of these life-storms come out of nowhere while others appear gradually. If not seemingly so at the time, then certainly more so in retrospect. Perhaps you find yourself in a life-storm as you read this. Or maybe you have recently been through a life-storm. In any event, when we sense that the life-storm clouds are starting to gather, we can remember the story from the Bible where Jesus calmed the seas (Mark 4:35-41) with these key takeaways:

- Jesus is with us always, even as and especially when we enter a life-storm. Indeed, Jesus knows when and how these storms will

happen, how long they will last and the eventual outcome. He will be with us through it all. Knowing that, we can pray to Him for strength and guidance along the way.

- Jesus can calm the external storm and the storm within. Oftentimes, the severity of life-storms can hinge greatly on our response to the external forces. We rarely have any control on those forces but we can pray for peace, understanding and acceptance for ourselves and others as we deal with the storm at hand.
- When Jesus says "Let us go over to the other side" it is not just a suggestion or a possibility – it is a guarantee. I can tell you from personal experience that Jesus will bring you through a life-storm without even asking Him for help. Knowing that, we can find greater comfort trusting in Him completely. Jesus is indeed always with us and will take us to the other side of any life-storm, especially our last one.

*Let us pray: Dear Jesus, we thank you for always being with us, but especially during our most troubled times. We also thank you for knowing what we need without us even asking. Strengthen us in our faith so that we when find ourselves in the midst of any storm we are not overcome by worry or fear. In your holy name we pray. Amen*

## Justice and Advocacy Reading Group

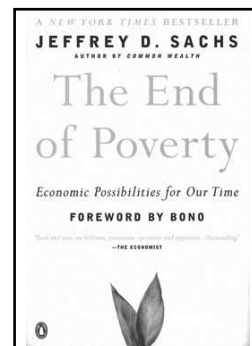
**Sunday, January 8, 7-8:30 p.m., Easter on the Hill**

**Copies of the book are available in the church office and church library**

If you are interested in poverty alleviation, development economics, environmental sustainability, global politics, foreign aid, feeding the world, education, health care, .... there is a place for you in the Justice and Advocacy Reading Groups.

We will talk in small groups about "The End of Poverty" by Jeffrey Sachs. Subsequent books will be chosen based on group interest. There is no long-term commitment to a small group. Join to read just one book or join for the long haul. You will have the chance to change small groups each time we meet, based on finding or inviting people with shared interest.

All are invited. No need to register in advance, and you can attend one or all classes, as your schedule permits. Consider this a possible Life Group activity. Read the book or just join for conversation, as long as you want to "see the naked" and put compassion into action! If you have questions, contact Dan Coyle, Robin Sicoli or Terolle Turnham.



# Ways to Serve Generously

## Thanksgiving Meal for B. Robert Lewis House

Make this Thanksgiving happier for women and their children at the B. Robert Lewis House (a shelter for battered women).



Monetary donations may be given to help buy fresh food or to supplement other needs of the families at the Lewis House. Persons interested in shopping for the fresh grocery items and delivering the food on Monday, Nov. 21, please contact Robin Kieffer at 651-216-3611. We will meet at Easter on the Hill at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and to shop for groceries.

## Feed My Starving Children

*Tuesday, Nov. 8, 6-7:30 p.m.*  
*(990 Lone Oak Road, Suite 160, Eagan)*

Bring your family, neighbors, Life Group, or book club to experience the mission and ministry of FMSC.



For online sign-up instructions, go to [www.easter.org](http://www.easter.org) (search Hunger Ministries) or contact Rita Tester at 651-452-7342 or [fmsc@easter.org](mailto:fmsc@easter.org) with questions.

## Food Drive for Eagan Resource Center

*Nov. 12 and 13, both sites*

Please bring food donations when you come to worship! Summer has depleted the shelves at the Food Pantry. Please help to refill them!



## Giving Tree

You are invited to participate in this opportunity to bless and support local families in need at Christmas. Pick an ornament from the decorated Giving Tree at either site, purchase and deliver the suggested item by Thursday, Dec. 8. If you choose to purchase a retail gift card, please leave it in the church office at the Hill or in the offering at worship. All items will be delivered to the Eagan Resource Center, where families will receive these gifts. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help in some way, please contact Karen Raasch at [karenraasch@q.com](mailto:karenraasch@q.com) or 651-457-4443.



## Welcome Team Ministry

Have you seen the new Welcome Team hanging around before worship? Research shows that a warm welcome (and good-bye) are two strong forms of evangelism—a significant way to encourage people to join us at Easter! Participation in the Welcome Team requires no more than 15 minutes before and after a worship service (monthly) with a warm and outgoing spirit. The rewards for you personally—and Easter as a whole—could be HUGE. If you might be interested or have questions, contact Joy Korte: [kortes2@q.com](mailto:kortes2@q.com).

## Sunday Audio/Video Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to commit approximately 2 hours a month to help out with audio and video at the Sunday services. High School students who like to work with technology are welcome! Please contact Deb Finley at [dfinley@easter.org](mailto:dfinley@easter.org) or 651-452-3680.

## Fleece Donations Needed!

The middle school and confirmation youth will make fleece blankets this fall to donate to families in need. Our goal is to make 150 blankets, which requires a lot of fleece! Your donation is greatly appreciated. Each blanket requires two 1 ½ yard pieces of fleece material (as it comes off the bolt).

Large Tupperware bins will be located at both sites for donation drop off. Please deliver the fleece by Friday, Nov. 11!



## Saturday Ushers Needed

*5 p.m. worship, Easter on the Hill*

Are you or your family looking for a fun way to participate in the life of the church? Serving as an usher involves greeting, distributing bulletins and/or announcements, receiving the offering, and directing worshippers during communion. Training is provided. Confirmation students – earn service hours when you usher with your family. Questions? Contact Deb Finley at [dfinley@easter.org](mailto:dfinley@easter.org) or 651-452-3680.

# Ways to Serve Generously

## Web Team Expanding!

We are looking for a few people who would like to participate on the Easter Web Team! The website is a WordPress framework and easy to update. Commitments would range from 1-2 hours a month at specific times or a more in-depth commitment to help maintain certain sections of the website. If you are interested, please contact Cindy Wilson at [cwilson@easter.org](mailto:cwilson@easter.org) or 651-452-3680.

## Staff Position Available:

### Lead Infant Toddler Center (ITC)

A part-time paid lead position is available in the Infant/Toddler Center (ITC). Responsibilities include scheduling ITC staff and working in the ITC some weekends and holidays. If you love children, working with parents, adult and youth volunteers, then this may be the right opportunity for you. If you are interested in being a part of this exciting ministry please contact Rachelle at [rgill@easter.org](mailto:rgill@easter.org) or 651-452-3680.

*Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,  
serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.*

*-1 Peter 4:10*

## 2012 Tanzania Mission

If you want to explore going to Africa on an Easter Mission trip in 2012 or some other year, please come to one of the meetings planned:

*Sunday, Nov. 6, 12:20-1:10 p.m., Easter on the Hill*

*Tuesday, Nov. 8, 6-6:55 p.m., Easter on the Hill*

Pastor Paul plans to leave for Tanzania on April 9, 2012. He will again be teaching at Tumaini University in Iringa and will continue working on Microfinance and serving as Advisor for Radio Furaha. Sally will be joining him around May 16. She will be helping with the legal writing program at Tumaini and other projects.

Pastor Paul and Sally are looking forward to welcoming Easter Ambassadors to Tanzania at the Dar Airport on June 14. (The group will leave MSP June 13 and will fly back on June 30, arriving at MSP on July 1; 19 days total, 3 weekends)

You may contact Pastor Paul at [paulharris@aol.com](mailto:paulharris@aol.com) or 651-587-1999 for more information. If one of the times/dates above doesn't work, another time to meet will be arranged.

**What is the purpose of the Mission Trip?** To develop significant and enduring relationships and to transform lives. The trip will help deepen relationships with our Companion Congregation, Nyanzwa, and other partners in Iringa. It will provide excellent first-hand experience of human and animal life in Tanzania, as well as develop informed, impassioned advocates and interpreters of global missions and development work.

### What will be visited?

- The capital, Dar es Salaam (over 6 million people)
- Iringa Town, provincial center of the Southern Highlands
- Tumaini University and Radio Furaha in Iringa
- Village and church life in Nyanzwa – staying with families
- Ruaha National Park – the largest and perhaps the best game park in the world. Elephants, buffalo, hippos, giraffes, kudus, leopards and lions--but no tigers.

**What difference will it make?** No one will come back the same person. Coming to know the lives of Lutheran Christians in Tanzania is a transforming, energizing experience. Good memories and new relationships will bring great blessings.

**How much will it cost?** The cost is slated to be about \$4000.



# Children, Youth & Family

## Faith Formation

### The Christmas Pageant – “Welcome the Child!”

**Sunday, December 11, 4:30 and 6:30 p.m., Easter by the Lake**

Join us as we retell the Christmas story and sing carols of joy at the Church School Christmas Pageants. We look forward to celebrating Jesus’ birthday with you at the following program times:

- 4:30 p.m. for kids who attend church school on Sundays at the Hill and all Wednesday church school classes
- 6:30 p.m. for kids who attend church school on Sundays at the Lake

### Church School Christmas Pageant Rehearsals- Cast Members only Grades 5 & 6 Special Parts Practices, Easter by the Lake:

Sunday, November 6: 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday, November 13: 3:30 - 5 p.m.  
Sunday, November 20: 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday, December 4: 3 - 7:30 p.m.

### All Church School Kids, All Grades! The Tradition continues...

Please come to the rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant. Find out where and when you will be singing. This pageant rehearsal will not be complete without you! – see below for specific times

Sun. Dec. 5, Easter by the Lake

- 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday Hill 8:30 & 10 Church School participants and  
all Wednesday 4:30 & 6 p.m. Church School participants
- 6:30 p.m.  
Sunday Lake 9:30 & 11 Church School participants

### Youth Choir and Youth Band

This year the Christmas Pageant will include selections by the youth choir, as well as the rockin’ sound of the youth band. Get ready to hear some great music by some great musicians throughout the evening!

### Youth Choir will make their official debut at the Christmas Pageant!

Don’t miss this cool opportunity to see Easter’s middle and high school youth perform. Look for many more performances this spring!

## Church School: The Big Story

Church School registration forms are available for 2011-12 church school at both church sites and [www.easter.org](http://www.easter.org) (Learn/Elementary)

### Calendar

No Church School - Fall Break  
Wednesday, Nov. 25



### Advent-ure! Family Craft

**Saturday, Nov. 19, 9:30 a.m.**

#### Easter on the Hill

Begin a new family tradition by making an Advent craft to enjoy!

All supplies will be provided.

Join us before the season begins so you and your family will be ready to reflect on the true meaning of the season. Donations accepted to cover supply cost.

### It’s warm and dry in the Great Room! Let your kids RUN!

**Pray-n-Play (Open gym time  
for ages 0 – 5 years old)**

**Fridays, through May 11  
9:30-11 a.m.**

**(We follow ISD 196 schedule)  
Easter by the Lake**

Come Play! There are balls, scooters and toys for the kids to have fun and be loud! Come as often and as long as you can! No registration required! Bring your friends, it’s FREE!

*There will not be Pray n Play on  
November 4, November 25  
and December 2.*

### Special Night for 4th Graders and their Families!

**Family Faith Night with Pastor Paul!  
Sat. Nov. 12, Easter on the Hill**

Join us at 5 p.m. Family Worship, 6 p.m., Enjoy pizza with 4th grade families, then at 6:20 p.m. 4th graders and their parents/guardians come together and dissect a treat! Come find out what it is! Childcare is provided for siblings. The cost for pizza is \$5/person the night of the event (age 3 and under are free). Please RSVP to Rachelle Gill at [rgill@easter.org](mailto:rgill@easter.org) if you will be coming for pizza and if sibling care is needed. Invite another 4th grade family too!

# Children, Youth & Family

## Faith Formation

There will be no Youth Band rehearsal on Nov. 23.

### High School Youth Group!

**Sundays, 6 p.m., Easter on the Hill**

All high school youth are invited to join us on Sunday nights. We have been making food, doing fun projects, and chatting through the night. We meet on Sundays at the Hill after Benediction. Invite your friends and meet some new ones!

### Summer 2012 Mission Trip Announcement

**Sunday, Nov. 13, 6:15 p.m., Easter on the Hill**

Interested in how you can do God's work in the world? Come and find out how to get involved in a mission trip! Bring a friend (from Easter or not) and go on a trip together to help our neighbors in the world. To reserve a spot on a mission trip you must turn in a registration form (available at the meeting) with a \$100 deposit. We are also looking for many adult leaders! If you'd like more information, contact Pastor Sarah at [pastorsarah@easter.org](mailto:pastorsarah@easter.org) or Jason Hansen at [jason@easter.org](mailto:jason@easter.org) or call 651-452-3680.

### Affirmation of Baptism

Seventy two young people in the 10th grade will affirm their baptismal covenant during confirmation services on October 30, November 5 & 6. God bless these baptized children of God. As John Ylvisaker writes in *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*, "I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold." We celebrate with these young people as their faith journey continues.

Jule Raymond Andersen	Lauren Taylor Harrod	Thomas Robert Muck
Brian Alfred Anderson	Erik John Hillesheim	Daniel William Muckenhirn
Jackson Bradley Anderson	Tucker Michael Anthony Hoffman	Lee Gardner Mueller
Nicholas Isaac Anderson-Glass	Ryan Andrew Hoffrogge	Kai Erik Nerhus
Jacob Mark Backman	Andrew Hans Holtan	Joseph Edward Olsen
Hailey Lauren Bloom	Kevin Edward Inman	Marie Mae Olson
Jacob Paul Braun	Benjamin Walter Iverson	Jacob Andrew Quigley Orner
Alexander Samuel Broberg	Lauren Rebecca Jackson	Zachary William Orr
Thomas Andrew Burgess	Margaret Caroline Jackson	Kyle David Osterhues
Samuel Ernest Clay Burrows	Tyler Gregg Johnson	Nicholas Carl Pakan-Klemp
Matthew Steven Cady	Andrew Robert Kalina	Olivia Clare Prestrud
Elizabeth Bel Fay Cardinal	Taylor Rex Karel	Todd Matthew Price
Adam William David Christenson	Erik William King	James Edwin Schiroo
Nicole Christine Cobb	Kayla Nicole Knipping	Matthew Gerald Schiroo
Lauren Augusta Czarnetzki	Elijah Stanley Kranz	Thomas Wilbur Schiroo
Kyra Rose Dahl	Allison Elizabeth Kruchten	Tara Lynn Selig
Andrew John DeBaker	Logan Layne Lavandowska	Sarah Dorsey Streed
Mark Searle Dwyer	Jordyn Brenna Lee	Kayla Marie Tesch
Rachel Adele Eaton	Ellen Marie Lemke	Alex Jennings Tester
Emily Elizabeth Feil	Connor Daniel Lund	Krystal Jane Underdahl
Katherine Ann Forsha	Reid Conner Lundgren	Walter Jason Ward
Megan Jean Frisvold	Claire Marie Lyons	Luke William West
Sara Ann Funkhouser	Sophia Justine Lyseng	Sydney Renae Wochnick
Bryce Jackson Goodsell	Abigail Marie McCartney	Nickolas Lloyd Wolff

A big **THANK YOU** and God's richest blessings to the following 10th grade confirmation mentors for all of the fine work they've done. Their time, effort and heart are so greatly appreciated!

William Andersen	Debra Hoffrogge	John Orner
Mark Backman	Lori Holtan	Jennifer Prestrud
Connie Cobb	John Lemke	Kathy Price
Lynda Czarnetzki	Brenda Lyseng	James Pugh
Mary Kay DuChene	Anna Martin	Scott Selig
Lisa Cardinal	Timothy Nerhus	Cris Town
Bruce Harrod	Linda Olson	Jerry Ward

**Easter Lutheran Church**  
**4200 Pilot Knob Road**  
**Eagan, MN 55122-1822**  
**www.easter.org**

“to grow in faith and carry on the work of Jesus Christ”

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit # 5207  
Twin Cities, MN 55101

Dated Material



### **A Thank You from Pastor Jim and Janet Borgschatz**

Thank you! Janet and I experienced an outpouring of love and appreciation that has been unmatched in our ministry at Easter! We say "THANK YOU" to the hundreds of people who came out to celebrate the ministry we have shared over the 38 years and our personal connections.

We say "THANK YOU" to the wonderful group of leaders who organized this wonderful celebration led by Gary and Sherrie Ehret. "THANKS" to my colleagues for their support, encouragement and kind words.

But most of all, we say "THANK YOU" to God who has blessed us and Easter Church for so many years. God is truly a great God!



Janet and I are on a retreat remembering, savoring and celebrating with gratitude. -- Pastor Jim and Janet Borgschatz

### **Christmas Tea**

***Monday, December 5, 7-9 p.m.***  
***Easter by the Lake***

Enjoy an evening of holiday fun, music, and fellowship. Each table will be set with Christmas finery and desserts will be served. A keynote speaker and musicians will be featured. Hostesses are needed for each table: Please consider decorating a table with your own Christmas dishes and/or providing a favorite dessert for the guests at your table. Invite a friend to be a hostess with you!

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children and will be on sale between services beginning November 6.

If you are interested in hosting a table by decorating it with your own Christmas finery and/or providing a dessert, or if you have any questions about the Tea, please contact Marti Guetzlaff at 612-991-5445 or [mguetzlaff@comcast.net](mailto:mguetzlaff@comcast.net).