

The Community Church
P.O. Box 14
Boulder Junction, WI-54512-0014
Phone 715-385-2146

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Community Church News

April 2019

Christ
the Lord
Is Risen
Today!



Come Worship With Us

<p>Community Church of Boulder Jct. 10445 Main St P O Box 14 Boulder Jct., WI 54512-0014</p> <p>Telephone: 715-385-2146</p> <p>E-mail: commchbj@centurytel.net Website: www.commchbj.org</p> <p>Service: Sundays at 9:30am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Church Staff</p> <p>Organist Lorine Walters Telephone: 715-686-2725</p> <p>Choir Director Glen Wildenberg E-mail: choirdirector@commchbj.org</p> <p>Treasurer Bruce Greenhill E-mail: treasurer@commchbj.org</p> <p>Council Chair Betty Clough Telephone: 715-385-9215</p> <p>Christian Ed Coordinator: Jamie Zogata</p> <p>Youth Director: Adam Zogata Telephone: 715-385-0255</p> <p>Custodian Cindy Wildenberg Telephone 920-323-2728</p> <p>Grounds Ryan Adams Telephone 414-539-1591</p>	<p>Office Manager Rhonda Sybeldon</p> <p>Tues 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Wed 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Thu 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Fri 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.</p> <p>Pastor Scott Jorgenson</p> <p>Mon 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Tues 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Wed 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Thu 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. <i>other by Appointment</i></p>
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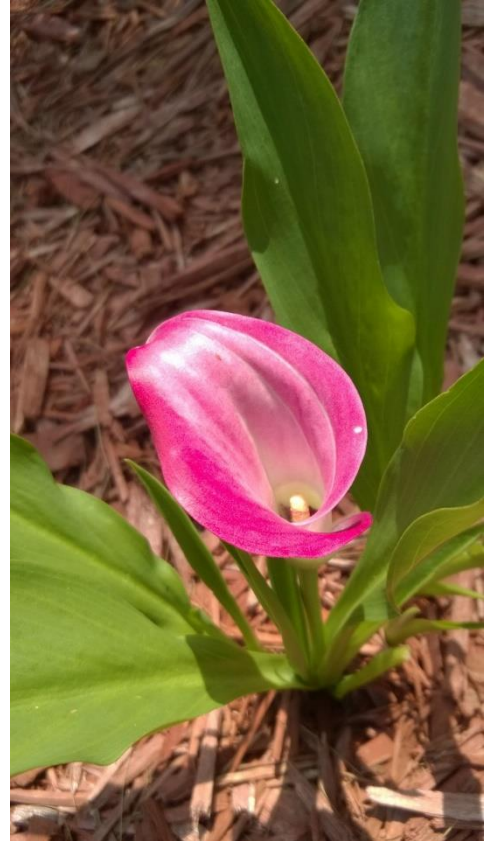


Pastor Scott's Issue: Spring!

Ah, Spring! We Northerners truly know the meaning of anticipation, especially when it comes to the seasons. And with a winter like this one: COME ON, SPRING! Yes, this “snow loving” pastor of yours is now eagerly anticipating the arrival of temperatures above freezing, tapping of Maple trees, enjoying the early beauty of crocuses in the yards, bloodroot blooming the woods, the showy lady slippers right out the backdoor of the parsonage, digging out the lawn chairs, and firing up the BBQ. Oh, yeah!

The Vernal Equinox is a significant milestone in our theatre of seasons: we have now reached the time of year where day and night are both exactly twelve hours, the time of year when the sun rises directly in the east and sets directly in the west (much to the chagrin of drivers on east/west commutes), the time of year when cabin fever subsides, and the time of year where “the sun is directly above” the equator. What an interesting phrase, “the sun is directly above.” Almost poetic...almost Biblical...weak one letter and we have...

THE SON IS DIRECTLY ABOVE!



John 3:31 The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth, and speaks as one from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all.

Jesus not only physically ascended but He is also spiritually and relationally “above all.”

In relation to creation all things were made through Him ...

John 1:3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made

and all things are subject to Him...

Ephesians 1:22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church

During this season of Easter, consider those things that keep you in spiritual winter; those things you would prefer not to have the Light of Christ shine upon. Consider those things that hinder the Light of Christ shining in your life. Consider those things that hinder the Light of Christ shining in the lives of others.

The Son is directly above! Let the light shine and may the power of the light overcome the darkness of this world! May a spiritual vernal equinox enter your heart this year, may Jesus SPRING into your life!

Peace,
Pastor Scott



APRIL 2019

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1st Jen Beda
- 2nd **Nelson & Ruth VanDeursen**
- 3rd **Mike & Allyson Duwe**
- 4th Helen Townsend
Julia Malicki
- 6th Arnie Bolin
Terry Simeone
- 8th Jay Christgau
Ken Perry
- 9th **Peter & Ruth Johnson**
- 11th Hannah Loew
- 12th Carrie Spencer
- 15th Andy Kerecman
Ken Carlson
- 16th **Gary Buchert**
Wiley Miller
- 18th Ron Winter
- 20th Joni Hensley
- 21st **Easter Sunday**



- 28th Paul Kulas
Don & Lois Osborn
- 29th **Ty & Becky Prigge**

GREETERS SCHEDULE

- April 7th **Darrell and Betty Clough**
Mary Congdon
Mary Anderson
- April 14th **Glen and Cindy Wildenberg**
Mindy Poisson
Sarah Poisson
- April 21st **Harold and Joanne Eick**
Bruce and Shirley Meriwether
- April 28th **Roger and Penny Samuelson**
Wendi Neupert
Kathy McMyler



- April 7th **Pete Johnson**
- April 14th **Maggie Wolf**
- April 21st **Betty Clough**
- April 28th **Ellie Orbison**

From the Church Office . . .

COMMUNION

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be observed at the worship service April 7, 2019.

COUNCIL MEETING

Church Council meets Tuesday April 8th, at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room. Prior to the Council meeting, the Elders meet at 6 p.m. Watch the Sunday bulletin for announcements of when other departments or committees meet.

PADDLING THROUGH LENT: A LENTEN JOURNEY

Join us on Wednesdays during Lent for Simple Suppers at 5:30 PM and Worship at 6:30 PM. Invite a neighbor for a casual meal and informal worship as we explore lessons learned on the water. Paddles are not required. Simple Supper and Worship will not be held on April 17th.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Service on Maundy Thursday (April 18th) will be at 7 p.m. There will be no Good Friday Service however the sanctuary will be available all day for prayer.

EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Sunday schedule on April 21st, will be:

Sunrise service at Boulder Lake Boat Landing
6:00 a.m.

Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
7:30 a.m.

Easter Worship Service
9:30 a.m.

FOOD PANTRY

The Community Food Pantry looks for donations from area churches each month for distribution to its patrons. This month it's the Community Church's turn. In April we are "warming up" for personal supplies. Items requested are deodorant, hand cream, feminine hygiene products, Q-tips, tooth brushes, tooth paste, floss, lip protectant and mouth wash.

Place your items in the wooden box in the back coat room sometime during the month of April. Thanks for helping us care for our neighbors.

TREASURER'S REPORT

	Income	Expense
February	\$ 11,076.46	\$ 20,411.81
Fiscal Year to Date	\$287,954.40	\$172,172.07

CHURCH PROPERTIES

THANK YOU to the great crew who did snow removal from the church roof on February 28. Matt Mauer, Pastor Scott, Ryan Adams, Ray Ondracek, Ken Carlson, Bob Zahn, Mike Sybeldon. We are now thinking Spring!



Bob Zahn



Ken Carlson



Mike Sybeldon



Pastor Scott & Ryan Adams



Ray Ondracek & Ken Carlson



One Third Finished!

Christian Education / Youth

Looks like April will be a good time to share a few more thoughts regarding Love that I started in February. I left off with a few challenging questions about the first and greatest commandment...

Matthew 22 (NLT) ³⁶ *“Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?”*

³⁷ *Jesus replied, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’* ³⁸

Have you pondered those questions? –

Is He really that important to me? Does my existence really revolve around my relationship with Christ? Am I really loving Him with everything I have...my heart, my soul, and my mind? Are there areas of my life that I haven't completely surrendered to the Lord?

I pray you've had a reflective time to consider this! Have you really grown closer to Him in your time of prayer and reflection?

This month I'm moving on to our love toward each other...Jesus' continued responding to the Pharisee...

³⁹ *A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’* ⁴⁰ *The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”*

I know we know this, right? I'm supposed to love God and love my neighbor as myself. Without getting into a study about what was meant by “neighbor,” I know we can easily agree that our neighbor can be considered anyone, but especially those in need. Yes, that means those in our world who have nothing, needing the basics of food, clean water, clothing, and shelter. Those are “my neighbors.” What about those in our own country, or even our own town? Surely there are some struggling because their basic needs are not met, or are in volatile situations and their homes are anything but healthy? Yes, those are “my neighbors” too. Still, beyond the physical needs, we encounter so many with spiritual and emotional needs as well. They hardly have the strength to carry on as the weight of the world and the toils of life seem to continually suppress them. Are those “my neighbors”? Yes, and they are yours too.

Jesus clearly tells us to love our neighbors, taking compassionate action towards those in need. He later tells the parable of the Good Samaritan, giving us an example of what that looks like. We all know the story but please refer to **Luke 10:25-37** for details. The parable clearly tells us a few life lessons about the Good Samaritan.

- He did not avoid the man in need, rather he embraced him.
- He had compassion or love for the man in need, recognizing that if he didn't help him, who would?
- He did everything possible to “take care of him” including the cost of his well-being.
- Jesus declared for us to be the neighbor, showing mercy, and having compassion (love) for those in need.

If we are not careful, our sinful nature will cause us to act like the priest or Levite in the story of the Good Samaritan. Without even thinking, we could accidentally miss the opportunity to help someone in need. I know I should pray more diligently to be better aware and intentionally help those in need. How about you?

I also wonder if there are times when we aren't exactly the good and loving neighbors that Jesus calls us to be. Are there people with physical, spiritual, or emotional needs that I turn away from, purposely avoiding them, because we don't want to be burdened or inconvenienced? Are there others who may not necessarily have needs, but I avoid them because I don't really want to love them or have compassion on them because of who they are or what they might have done? Yeah, I'm sorry...these

are hard questions. The human part of me would say, of course not...I'm a church-going Christian! But the Spirit led, humble, and honest side of me admits my faults, asks forgiveness, and continually prays for the Lord to heal all wounds between me and anyone else.

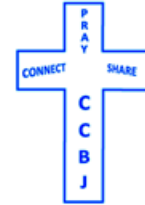
I pray this Easter season, that we are continually reminded of the greatest act of love known to man. Celebrating how our Creator became our Savior, was crucified, died, and buried but then rose again so that through Him we have the hope of eternal life! So go ahead...obey the Lord and love. Love the Lord with everything you have! Love your neighbor and everyone you meet with all that is in you! Love and have compassion on ALL mankind in ways greater than you've ever done before! Love willingly...Love unconditionally...Love abundantly!

Likely to be continued...

Upcoming C.E. events – Please watch bulletin for additional details

- ✓ **April 14** – Palm Sunday Kids Presentation

Love and Abundant Blessings to each and every one of you!!!



Notes from Worship & Music

Organist Position - We are extremely pleased to announce that Lorine Walters has been hired to fill the Organist Position vacancy. In addition to being very proficient on the keyboard Lorine exhibits a dedication to the mission of the Community Church serving on various committees including the Pastoral Search Committee, Board of Elders, Council Chairperson, etc., etc., etc. Lorine enjoys a variety of musical styles and is a pleasure to work with. Please congratulate Lorine and say “thank you” for accepting this important responsibility.

Sound System Attendant - The Worship & Music Committee is asking for volunteers to monitor the sound system and record our Sunday Morning Worship Services. If you have an interest in electronics and/or technology and are will to serve on our worship team please contact a member of the Worship & Music Committee or call Rhonda, our Administrative Assistant.

Sanctuary Storage Closet - Thank you to Debbie and Steve Halverson for building and installing hanging storage for our banners in the sanctuary closet. The banners are now easy to find, remove and replace. This is a sorely needed improvement.

Praying Through the Bible 2019
April
A Weekly Devotion and Prayer Guide

1. Week of April 7

Esther

Esther 8:5,6

“If it pleases the king,” she said, “and if he regards me with favor and thinks it the right thing to do, and if he is pleased with me, let an order be written overruling the dispatches that Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, devised and wrote to destroy the Jews in all the king’s provinces. For how can I bear to see disaster fall on my people? How can I bear to see the destruction of my family?”

Esther’s plea to the king brings to mind God’s love for us. Esther could not bear to see disaster fall on her people. God cannot bear to see disaster fall on us. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8) He could not bear to see our destruction by sin and death. Consequently, He gave Himself for us: that is the Easter message; God’s decree of salvation for His people.

It is through this love for us that God asks us to love one another. How can we bear to see disaster fall on those around us? May we serve the Lord by serving others. How can we bear to see the destruction of families? May we serve the Lord by serving our own families as well as our neighbors. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself’ (Mark 12:30,31).

Prayer

Lord, we give you thanks for your love for us. We give you thanks and praise for your act of love that provides forgiveness from sin and deliverance from death through your son, Jesus Christ. Instill in us the compassion for one another. Let us not turn a blind eye to disaster and injustice in the lives of those around us. Give us the strength to stand with our families, with our neighbors, with all of your people in the face of hardship and adversity. Give us the courage of Esther to respond in Your name and in Your power for the sake of your people. Amen.

2. Week of April 14

Job

Job 42: 1-6

Then Job replied to the LORD: “I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted. You asked, ‘Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?’ Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know. “You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.’ My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.”

Through all the suffering that Job endured he stood firm in his faith and his relationship with God. Instead of cursing God, he turned to God, he kept the dialogue going ... even in the midst of all his suffering. And then we hear these humble, penitent words of Job, “my ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.” Wow! What a powerful reminder to not take our faith for granted. What a powerful call to humble ourselves before whom all things were created. What a powerful warning to remember that it is God that is in control, not us.

My personal faith journey began with the realization that I had heard of God, but I did not “see” God. Job reminds me to renew that faith journey of “seeing” God again and again and again, humbly coming before Him, my Lord and my God.

Prayer

Lord, may we not take our relationship with you for granted. As the One who can do all things, Lord you have a plan for us. Who are we to question your plans? Forgive us when we attempt to alter what you have designed. Forgive us when we attempt to control what is not ours to control. May we listen for your voice in our lives so that your plans can be completed in our lives.

Amen.

3. Week of April 21 Psalms

Psalm 27: 4

One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:
to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

This is one of my most favorite passages in all of scripture. It speaks of our ability to come before the Lord of all creation with our petitions. Simply our ability to “ask God” is amazing to me. It also speaks of our need to seek: not to be content but to continue to grow in His knowledge and grace. It speaks of life: to live in the house of the Lord, today, and everyday thereafter. It speaks of His unbounded beauty. And lastly it speaks of our ability to “inquire”. In the midst of suffering we sometimes voice our frustration and fear in the words, “I have a few questions of God when I get to heaven.” Psalm 27 invites us not to wait until then. God invites us to his temple to ask those difficult questions TODAY. And it is OK to be honest with God. He knows our heart. Ask away! We are always welcome in His beautiful presence.

Prayer

Beautiful Savior! May we take the time to see your beauty. May that beauty wash away the grime of our sin. May that beauty cleanse us from all unrighteousness. May that beauty adorn us as we live for you. May we earnestly seek to live with you. May we earnestly walk in your ways. May we earnestly put aside our desire for things of this world and instead seek things in the heavenly realm. May we ask and inquire, confident of your grace and mercy when we come before you reverently. Amen.

4. Week of April 28 Proverbs

Proverbs 15:8, 9

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, but the prayer of the upright is his delight. The way of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, but he loves the one who pursues righteousness. We read here that we cannot “appease” God with sacrifices when we willingly disobey His law (wickedness). Our actions cannot atone for our sins. However, He takes delight in the prayers of the upright. This is quite an invitation from God to pray. Our prayers bring Him delight. Would you like to make God happy? Pray! Not just a “I hope this makes you happy” prayer but an “I am seeking your way, Lord” prayer. In this He takes delight!

Similarly, He loves those that pursue righteousness. Pursue: seek, long for, earnestly desire, work hard for...righteousness. And we know where to look: in the person of Jesus. He lived the upright life. He attained righteousness. And when we pray and seek to live as Jesus lived, God takes delight in us.

Prayer

Lord, forgive us for trying to make amends. Forgive us for trying to appease you instead of seeking to please you. And thank you for loving us so much that you gave us your only Son to appease on our behalf. And by that grace through Your Son, Jesus, we offer ourselves in prayer and in pursuit of living as Jesus lived: righteous and upright in Your eyes. Amen.