



Alleluia! Lutheran Church, 4055 S. Book Rd., Naperville, IL 60564
www.alleluia!lutheran.org Phone: 630-904-3311
Our Mission: To enable all to come, connect, and commit to Jesus.

April 2023

Alleluia! News

Holy Week & Easter Schedule at Alleluia!



Palm Sunday – April 2

- Worship at 9:00 & 10:30am
- Jesus enters Jerusalem to shouts of “Hosanna!”
- First Communion Celebration



Maundy Thursday Worship – April 6

- Worship at 7:00pm
- Jesus begins the sacrament of Holy Communion
- First Communion Celebration



Good Friday – April 7

- Family Event (preK–grade school) 10-11:00am
- Tenebrae worship at 7:30pm: The “Seven Last Words of Jesus.”
- Jesus gives his life on the cross



Easter Sunday – April 9

- Worship at 9:00 & 10:30am
- He is Risen! He is Risen, indeed! Alleluia!
- Celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

Children’s Easter Egg Hunts on Easter Morning

will be held near the lower level playground at the following times:

8:45am on Sunday, April 9th (before 9:00am worship)

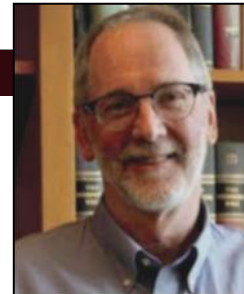
11:30am on Sunday, April 9th (after 10:30am worship)

Please bring your baskets to collect eggs!

In case of rain or wet weather we will meet in the lower level Rec Room.



From the Desk of Pastor David



“The resurrection is in part about the sheer toughness and persistence of God’s love,” writes theologian Rowan Williams. “When humans have done their worst, God remains God—and remains committed to being our God.”

When the Risen Lord appeared to the disciples, he did the same things he did before the resurrection: he shared food and offered healing, forgiveness, and hope in God’s name, and he called on his followers to continue this work. The work of the gospel goes on by those touched by the presence and voice of Jesus. “My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me” (John 10:27).

Lots of other voices invite us to listen. The sheer number of voices out there is overwhelming. We can get hundreds of channels on cable TV. There are over 1 billion websites on the Internet. Every minute, 500 hours of new video are uploaded to YouTube.

With all those voices seeking our attention, we need to make a conscious effort to stay tuned to Jesus. Here are five things we can do to keep Jesus’ voice sounding in our lives:

1. Pray daily. Put yourself each day in the presence of Jesus, to speak and listen.
2. Worship weekly. Put yourself in the company of believers who gather around word and sacrament, where Jesus promises to be present.
3. Read scripture regularly. In reading scripture we learn the vocabulary of faith and the story of God’s people, including their joys and struggles.
4. Nurture Christian friendships. We all need friends who encourage us in faith.
5. Serve at Alleluia! and beyond. In acts of service we join ourselves to the work of Jesus in the world, and his voice becomes embedded in our bodies and souls.

Jesus the Good Shepherd says that none of his followers will be snatched out his hand (John 10:29). That’s the toughness and persistence of God. So we stay close to Jesus not out of fear that he will abandon us, but because he leads us to the water of life.

Faithfully,
Pastor David

Church Council News - March 9th, 2023

On March 6th, 2023, the newly installed Church Council elected Gary Zoet as council chair, Jenn Vrba as vice chair, and Mike Raczak as secretary. The Council appointed Roger Russell as chair of the church finance committee, and designated Sean Huenecke and Dan Stolle as co-chairs of the stewardship team. Council also approved a plan to appoint a search committee for a Youth Ministry Director. Council received a report from four members of the outgoing council to help with the transition process.

Call Committee Update - March 23rd, 2023

- The Ministry Site Profile is completed and posted
- The candidate slate is being prepared by the ELCA Synod
- The Call Committee is preparing process and materials for interviewing candidates with initial interviews commencing in April



Children's Ministry



Sharing the love of God with children and families so they can come, connect, and commit to Jesus.

KidsConnect Church School News



- We will NOT have KidsConnect on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday. Please enjoy worshiping as a family.
- On April 23rd we will begin our final rotation before Summer KidsConnect begins. Can you volunteer for this rotation entitled, "Got Fruit? The Fruit of the Spirit and YOU."? [Click HERE](#) to sign up.

Good Friday Family Event - April 7th, 10:00-11:00am

We'll begin in the sanctuary with kid-friendly worship and music. Afterward we'll head to the CLC for a fun craft and snack. Enter at door #1 or #4. This event is geared toward families of preschool—5th graders, but ALL are welcome! Please [CLICK HERE](#) to register!



Easter Egg Hunts on Easter Morning will be held near the lower level playground at 8:45am and 11:30am.

Registration has begun for VBS 2023, "READY, SET, MOVE!, Coming June 12th -16th!

Join us this summer where kids will be inspired to:

- **DO** What Jesus Says
- **LOVE** Who Jesus Loves
- **BELIEVE** Who Jesus Is
- **SHARE** What Jesus Did
- **GO** Where Jesus Leads



We don't want anyone to miss out on the fun! Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and classmates to join us as we follow Jesus here, there, **and everywhere!** Contact April Blair at ablair@alleluia.church with questions.

Preschool ages 3-5 years will have a space just for them! Kindergarten-5th graders will be in mixed-age crews.

SIGN UP YOUR STUDENT HERE!

Session 1 Student: 9am-11:30am [Click HERE](#) to register

Session 2 Student: 1pm-3:30pm [Click HERE](#) to register

SIGN UP FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES HERE!

High School—Adults can join Ready, Set, Move! as a Crew Leader!

Middle School students can join Ready, Set Move! as Station Assistants!

Session 1 Volunteer: 9am-11:30am [Click HERE](#) to register

Session 2 Volunteer: 1pm-3:30pm [Click HERE](#) to register

Do you like to decorate? Do you like to plan? Do you like to work on the computer? We have a job for you! Contact April Blair at ablair@alleluia.church if you are interested in helping with behind-the-scenes VBS details! The support we receive each year from our Alleluia! Family is AMAZING! We couldn't do it without your generous support. Please be on the lookout for a donation list for our VBS supplies. Thank you!

Please view photos from Children and Youth events on the following page.



First Communion



Students who will receive their First Communion during worship on April 2nd & 6th created personal banners which will hang in the sanctuary on Palm Sunday. Congratulations to our twenty First Communicants!



H2H hosted a fun night of Bunco for students and their parents!

If you have a Middle School aged student, we would love for them to join us at H2H! Please contact April Blair at ablair@alleluia.church for more info.



Congrats Class of 2023!



Sunday, May 7th
12 noon in the CLC

Please RSVP by April 16th
to April Blair at ablair@alleluia.church
with the number of family members
that will be attending.



Music News

Lots of “Egg’citing” Things Going on in ALLELUIA! MUSIC MINISTRY!

But...FIRST...

- Do you enjoy technology?
- Do you like adjusting knobs and buttons?
- Do you ever have something “run” through your head that won’t stop?
- Do you enjoy listening to music?
- Want to meet some new people and learn about Jesus through a different format?
- Did you do *anything* in music when you were younger?

If you answered “YES” to even ONE of these questions...please contact Michele Nelson, Music & Worship Director, at mnelson@alleluia.church. She would love to meet you!

There’s something for ALL ages here –

- > Private Lessons — email Michele to inquire about lessons or if you’re interested in TEACHING at Alleluia!
- > Children’s Choir (ages 4 yrs—5th grade) on Wednesdays (5:00-5:45pm) in the lower level Music Room.
- > Handbells (8th grade—99 yrs, no music reading required), Wednesdays 7-8pm in the lower level Music Room.
- > Praise Band (vocalists and instrumentalists, ages high school—adults), Thursdays 6-7pm in the sanctuary.
- > Instrumental groups/solos.
- > “S.O.S.” Singers (Sing On Sunday).

Please contact Michele Nelson, Music & Worship Director, at mnelson@alleluia.church for information on ANY of the items above.

Alleluia! “Jams” – THIRD THURSDAY EVENING of each month. Anyone high school through adults is welcome to meet in the sanctuary for music, a small devotional, fellowship, and snacks (of course). Please contact Michele at mnelson@alleluia.church for more information, or [click HERE](#) to let us know you’re coming!

Seasonal Events –

- **Good Friday** (small commitment) to sing with a group of singers about this most AMAZING gift from Jesus. Rehearsing on Sundays in between services. **REHEASALS HAVE BEGUN FOR APRIL 7th. Please join us!**
- **Handbells** – Rehearsing on Wednesdays (7-8) to prepare anthems for Good Friday and Easter.
- **Drummer Encore** takes place in The Underground right AFTER the 9 AM service! It’s a time to learn about how to play the drum set. Please contact Michele at mnelson@alleluia.church for more information.

Nursery Update

Alleluia! is happy to welcome Sherry Yaeger in the upcoming months to provide nursery child care for ages 0 to 3 years of age during both worship services. You may recognize Sherry as she works part time in the kitchen for Little Blessings. Sherry brings a wealth of experience with her. She most recently worked as a Nursery Attendant at Grace United Methodist Church for four years and at Celebrations (Our Saviour's) prior to that. A Naperville resident,

Sherry is very familiar with Alleluia! and we are happy to welcome her to our church home. Stay tuned for the announcement regarding the date for the nursery opening.





Spring FESTIVAL & potluck!



Good food - Good fun - Good friends & fellowship! Thanks to all! We are Alleluia!



Please join us on Saturday, April 8th as we clean up the entryways and “spring up” the flower pots! Bring your favorite gardening tools and meet outside upper level door #4. Contact Elaine Bynum at elaine.bynum@gmail.com with any questions.

You are invited to purchase a lily to adorn the altar for our Easter worship services in honor or memory of a loved one. You are welcome to pick up your plant after the 10:30 Easter service. Each plant is \$20. Please [Click HERE](#) to order through April 2nd and pay online. Paper forms are available at the Welcome Center if you wish to pay by check.



**BLESSING
BAGS**

**Women's Ministry
Service Event**

The Women's Ministry Blessing Bags event was a huge success! More than 130 bags were packed with essential toiletries and snacks to be passed out to people in need. Thanks to everyone who donated items and to those who came to pack! Alleluia!

Saturday, April 22nd, 9am—10pm. Scrapbookers, crafters, or anyone with a project is invited to join us for 13 hours of uninterrupted crafting time! Your registration includes a 6-foot table for your project, a pizza and salad dinner with dessert, as well as a gift and snack. Bring your own lunch, snacks, and beverages. [Click HERE](#) to register through April 17th.



The Alleluia! Church Council members may be contacted via council@alleluia.church

Laura Bowler (Term Exp 2/26)
lbowler@alleluia.church

Ryan Glassman (Term Exp 2/25)
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Michael Raczak (Term Exp 2/25)
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Sara White (Term Exp 2/25)
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Kelly Cunningham (Term Exp 2/24)
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Darcy Jasien (Term Exp 2/26)
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Jenn Vrba (Term Exp 2/24)
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Gary Zoet (Term Exp 2/24)
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**4055 S. Book Rd.
Naperville, IL 60564**



Worship Schedule

**We invite you to worship
with us!**

**Sunday Morning
In-Person Worship
at
9:00am & 10:30am
All are welcome!**