



*April 2024*

# Good News

## Mt Zion – St Luke Lutheran

- April 2024**
- 4-3** Quilters @ 10:00a.m.  
Soup Kitchen @ Noon
- 4-7** SS @ 10a.m.  
Worship Service 11:00a.m.  
*w/online option*
- 4-10** Lutheran Ladies  
Lunch @ Old Mexico-  
Noon
- 4-11** Grace Circle 11a.m.
- 4-14** S.S. 10 a.m.  
Worship 11:00 a.m. *w/*  
*online option*  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**@ NOON**
- 4-17** Singing @ The  
Oaks 10:30a.m.
- 4-21 INVITATIONAL**  
**SUNDAY**  
S.S. 10:00a.m.  
Worship Service 11:00a.m.  
*w/online option*  
**Family Day Meal**  
**Newsletter Deadline**
- 4-28** S.S. 10:00a.m.  
Worship Service 11:00a.m.  
*w/online option*

*A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." (John 20:19)*

Christ is risen. He is risen, really?

Easter can be perplexing. This was especially true for the first followers of Jesus. They had been through a lot. They had followed Jesus because they saw in him the Messiah they had long hoped for. They had come to love and trust Jesus. Their hopes were dashed, and hearts broken when he was taken from them. Jesus was humiliated and traumatized, and those who watched it, powerless to intervene were also traumatized.

You would think the empty tomb would make all this darkness and confusion vanish at once, but those who have experienced great loss know that this is not how things work. There was good news, but it was risky to believe. For weeks on end, the disciples mostly hid, locked away in houses. They wrestled with their fear, shame, disbelief, even aimlessness. Jesus did appear to them, yet it could like an empty ghost. Was this presence the same Jesus they had known? To assure them, he invited Thomas to touch his wounded side and, on another occasion, ate fish with them. Christ greeted them, "Peace be with you!" And they needed that peace.

Collectively, we have had difficulty returning to social life after the Covid-19 lock downs. It was a joy and relief to be out and about again, but still it felt strange. Many of us still can feel a sense of social disconnect, a lingering sense of loss and loneliness. We can have lingering feelings that our life together as a congregation just isn't the same. But the Risen Christ is indeed with us and bids us "Peace."

Through the entire season of Easter, the early church was transformed. The Spirit who raised Christ from the dead was also knitting them together. As they venture beyond their locked houses and gathered in Jerusalem, they learned to trust each other and the presence of Christ within them. Come Pentecost the faith of this little flock would catch fire. With the power of the Holy Spirit, these friends of Jesus became his witnesses, carrying the gospel to the farthest reaches of the world.

Today our Risen Christ is at work within us during. Even if your *alleluia* feels heavy or disconnected, you are not alone. We can trust that the Spirit is gathering us and forming us anew,

He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

Peace of Christ,

Minister James

## Serving Our Lord in April

**Altar Guild**

Mary Haigler and Max Wood

**Lectors**

Katie Felker and Tracy Choppla

**Alcolyte**

Ava Felker

**Communion Assistant**

Tommy Martin

**Ushers**

Arthur Jackson and Billy Martin

**Soup Kitchen: April 3 @ Noon – Mary Haigler**

**Family Day: April 21 -** Mary Haigler,  
Jamey & Angela Cannon & April Martin

**Coffee Hour:** 07 Wendi Martin  
14 Angela Cannon

21 NO COFFEE HOUR  
28 Mary Haigler

### **Flowers**

**4-07** Second Easter Sunday Lilies

**4-14** Mary Haigler in honor of Will and Katie.

**4-21** Jon and Karen Coogle in memory of Barbara and Bill Scovill

**4-28** Max Wood to the glory of God

## April Birthdays and Anniversaries

4-02 A. J. Collier

4-19 Renee Maddox Collier

4-03 Emma Felker

4-21 Jon & Karen Coogle

4-08 Tommy & Wendi Martin

4-23 Ava Felker

4-10 Will Haigler

4-28 Katie Gentile

4-16 Maggie Rodgers Vallotton

4-28 Sara Morgan Walton

Soup Kitchen is April 3rd. If you would like to know more about this important ministry or would like to help, contact Gail Coogle or Mary Haigler.

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### **REPORT FROM THE CALL COMMITTEE**

Since submitting the Mission Site Profile to Pastor Michael and getting some minor feedback, the Committee met and made some modifications. This was forwarded to the Church Council. We are waiting for the MSP to be sent to Pastor Michael so it can be transmitted out for possible candidates. We will keep you advised of any new developments.

In Christ Alone, Jon Coogle



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### **APRIL 2024**

April 3 @ 10a.m. - Quilters

April 3 @ Noon - Soup Kitchen

April 10 @ Noon - Lutheran Ladies Lunch @ Old Mexico Restaurant

April 11 @ 11a.m. - Grace Circle in Lingle Room

April 17 @ 10:30a.m. – Singing at The Oaks

**Mt. Zion – St. Luke Lutheran Church**

**P.O. Box 187**

**401 Randolph Street**

**Oglethorpe, Georgia 31068**



**Please help keep this prayer list current. Contact the Church Office to update the list.**

***Pray for Members:*** Franchelle Arnold, Debra Coogle & Family, Rick Coogle, Grady English & Family, Brenden Fitzgerald, Jr, Dale Godfrey, David Haigler Family, Emily Harvill, Don Joiner Family, Myrtle Joiner, Nancy & Mack McCarty & Family, Billy Martin, Sharon Martin, Tommy Martin, Zack Martin, George & Helen Smith, Angie and Heather Summer, Tony Webb, our college students, The Call Committee and for all the ministries of our church.

***For Friends and Family:*** Sylvia Bergstrom, Pam Cole, Martha Joan Smith Converse family, Marvin Duke, Carl Ethridge, Shelly Fields, Jorene Gordon, Andy Harvill, Dan Harvill, Jr., Pastor Steve and Kris Hilgeman, Adam Hobbs, Nina Hobbs, Michael Hortman, Bob Melvin, Elaine Middlebrooks & Family, Patricia Morgan, Brenda Oglesby, Don Oliver, Helen Peaster Family, Leigh Powell, Vi Roach Family, Ann Roberts, Leyon Roberts, John Simmon, Lamar Yoder, our nation, Ukraine, and the world.

**Office Hours are Monday 9:00a.m.-2:00p.m., Tuesday 9:00a.m.-Noon (By Appt); Wednesday 9:00a.m.-2:00p.m.  
The church office phone number is 478-472-6713.**