Volume 25 Issue 3 March 2024



#### **More Than Colored Eggs And Bunnies**

**By: Pastor John Motz** 

The month of March closes this year with the most important day of the entire year, Easter Sunday. Throughout the year we recognize many significant days; birthdays, anniversaries, holidays like the 4th of July or days that ought to be holidays like baseball's Opening Day, but no day holds a candle compared to the life altering significance of Easter. This is the day of the Resurrection and without the resurrection of Jesus, the Bible writers acknowledge that our lives and faith would be meaningless.

In 1 Corinthians chapter 15 Paul says that "IF" there were no resurrection "our preaching is useless" (v14). IF there were no resurrection "your faith is futile; you are still in your sins." (v.17). IF there were no resurrection even those who had died in the faith would be "lost" (v.18) and "we are of all people most to be pitied" (v.19). If not for Easter we would have no purpose and no hope. "BUT" he concludes, "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead" (v.20). Yay!

(continue to next page)

(cont. Pastor John)

So with Easter approaching, now is the time to begin getting ready. It is a great time to select a daily devotional reading and start each day getting our heart and direction set. Maybe pull out your Bible and commit to reading through the Gospel of Mark, if you read 15-20 verses each day (a chapter every other day) you'll complete it by Easter. Dedicate each Sunday of March to attend worship. Take part in the Easter choir and make the Saturday morning practice a priority. Put the Passover Seder meal on your calendar and invite a friend to join you for that beautiful evening of food and celebrating God's grace to us.

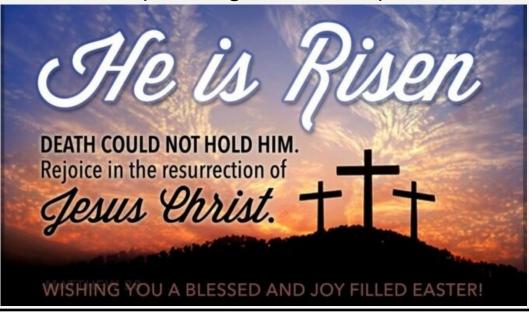
Spring is coming and it's easy to be distracted, but this is too important to be missed. Let's get ready together for an amazing Easter!

#### **Special Services for Easter Sunday (March 31, 2024)**

Atwater Community Easter Sunrise service at the AHS Football stadium (6:30am)

Easter special service (combined ABC/NLCC) at 10:00am – Sanctuary

Easter Egg hunt "Eggstravaganza" for the kids (following church-11'sh)



### **EGGSTRAVAGANZA**

It is time to gather eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt held immediately after the Easter Sunday Service. We are accepting donations of plastic eggs with WRAPPED candy inside. They can be left in the Church office or in the Narthex where a box is located labeled EASTER EGGS. (WRAPPED CANDY ONLY IN THE EGGS).



# WOMENS' SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON

April 27th 11:00 am

Rooms 7 and 8

Watch for a sign up

sheet on the NLCC

table in the

Narthex.

# EASTER CHOIR FOR EASTER DAY

Part of our special (10:00)
Easter morning worship service
will be a combined Easter choir.
Singers from both the Atwater
Baptist and New Life will gather
for three practice sessions on
the 3 Saturdays prior (March
16, 23, & 30 at 10am) to prepare
a new song "May the Peoples
Praise You" to be sung on
Easter morning! It will be a
great part of our joyous
celebration that day, come and
join in on the fun!

### **COMING SOON**

Ladies' Morning
Bible Study
beginning in May.
More information to
come.





#### Passover Seder

Each month as we celebrate communion we are reminded of the Last Supper and the words Jesus spoke to the disciples. But what was the Last Supper? It was Passover, one of the festivals commanded by God to His people to observe each year to remember His redemptive work in

bringing His people out of slavery. During he dinner, the Exodus is recounted and the blessings of God remembered.

On Wednesday, March 27 from 6-8 PM we will observe a Passover dinner with a Messianic view. There will be a retelling of the salvation and exodus of the Jewish people as they were freed from Egyptian slavery and dinner. The retelling is not a passive event, but involves the participation of everyone as we partake of various elements.

In addition to attending the dinner, there are several ways for you to participate. We will need readers for the passages in the retelling, a young child to ask questions, and children to help hunt for the hidden afikomen. We also need people to help set up the tables and arrange all the elements, prep and cook dinner, and of course, clean up. Look for the sign up sheet in the Narthex or see Scott and Sue Campbell.

#### **We Are Family!**

Help celebrate these special occasions!



### MARCH Birthdays

3/4 Jennifer Neil

3/7 Maggie Trieweiler 3/08 Liana Madrid

3/9 Amy Peacock

3/10 Gloria Ballesil

3/10 Kadence Stephens

3/11 Debbie Fultz

3/14 Jeremy Farmer

3/15 Lori McClain

3/20 Patrick Bailey

3/21 Michael Conour

3/22 Val-Pierre Dai'Re

3/24 Elisa Hale

3/24 Nathan Gonzales Jr.

3/30 LeAnn Shaw 3/31 Katie Trieweiler

#### MARCH Anniversaries

3/20 Jim & Dee Walsh 3/25 John & Julie Coate





# MARCH



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 "D" Street Shelter 5:30pm	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	11
HS Youth	Grief Share	MS Youth 6pm	Men's Study 7am	Women's		
5-6:30 pm	6-7:30 pm		Potluck/Study 6 pm	Virtual		
				Devotion every		
				Thursday 6:45 am		
115 1/2 -1		10	10			16
10 HS Youth	11	12	13	14	15	16
5-6:30 pm	Grief Share	MS Youth 6 pm	Men's Study 7am			Choir Practice
SPRING	6-7:30 pm		Potluck/Study 6 pm			10 am
17	18	19	20	21	21	23
HS Youth 👭	Grief Share	MS Youth 6 pm	Men's Study 7am	Board Meeting		Choir Practice
5-6:30 pm	6-7:30 pm			6:30 pm??		10 am
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Val & Youth will lead	Grief Share	MS Youth 6 pm	Men's Study 7am			Choir Practice
service	6-7:30 pm		Passover Seder			10 am
HS Youth 5-6:30 pm			Dinner 6-8:00 pm			

31 Easter
Service
Combined
Worship 10 am

Coming soon to NLCC... a comedy show featuring Brad Stine Friday, April 26th @ 7 pm (Check him out on YouTube)