



Making Christ Known to All!

THE REPORTER

MAY 2019



Pastor's ponderings -

Once again the church around the world has participated in the liturgies of the Three Days, when we mark, honor and celebrate the saving power of Jesus passing over from death to life. In many places, celebratory "alleluias" have returned after being set aside during the Lenten season. For most of us in North America, the weather is turning warmer. New life is blooming all around us.

He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Hallelujah.

A favorite quote among interns experiencing their first leadership role in a church during the Lenten/Easter season is slightly different than the one above. It goes something like this—"Christ is Risen!" But the rest of us are dead.

It is true that the amount of self-sacrifice for Lent and Easter is more than usual. It is true that activities ramp up – choir rehearsals, bell rehearsals, interpretive reading practices, the Seder meal, the added services...and so on. It is also true that during these moving and heart aching worship opportunities that we learn to live out Christian community in the most visceral of ways – loving the one aggravating you, being patient with the one who "doesn't get it" fast enough, doing new things in new ways with a sense of wonder, not fright, putting the Other first instead of insisting on your own way.

Living the resurrected life is all about how we live it in community. It's easy to be a Christian alone – no one to challenge you, your interpretations, or your choices. Not so in community. We are always challenged to live with the mind of Christ as our guide. To let peace, patience, love, self-control, joy, kindness, goodness, faithfulness and gentleness mark the way our church moves throughout our time together and our ministries together. We are the Church of Jesus Christ who was Resurrected to new life!

We now move into the Easter season for 50 days. We continue to celebrate in community - each Sunday at worship, each bible study, each fellowship time, Mother's Day and finally, Pentecost on June 9.

New members are preparing to join us in our mission in the world – to make Christ known to All. May we be blessed in our mutual journey to grow in Christ-likeness, and to grow our church through the movement of the Holy Spirit.

Happy Easter Season!

Pastor Mary +

**15050 Central Ave.
Oak Forest, IL 60452**

708-687-2170

E-mail:

resurrectionoakforest@gmail.com

**Sunday Worship
Times: 8:30
(Traditional) &
11:00am (Praise)**



Website:

www.resurrection-oakforest.org

The Rev. Mary Appelt-Graves, Pastor

Tuesday - Thursday:

10:30a-7:30p

708-408-0457 (cell)

**Leni Shandou-Scace
Office Manager**

Monday - Thursday

09:30a - 2:30p

815-992-0198 (cell)

**Prayer & Visitation
Ministry**

Call the Church office

(708) 687-2170

Resurrection Preschool:

Tania Downen,

Preschool Director

708-687-2196

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Church Family,

Holy week and Easter Sunday are over but the impact still lingers. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services are still etched in my mind but most of all in my soul.

The Maundy Thursday service centered around repentance. The church was filled with the most wondrous music from the choir which touched and enhanced the awareness of the moment when Pastor Mary welcome everyone to come forward to acknowledge and repent their sins within themselves as she laid healing and forgiving hands on their person in prayer

Tears of remorse welled up in the eyes of many accompanied by the peace of forgiveness as the choir sang “Ubi caritas” as each person washed the hands of another. Offering to be a servant to each other as Jesus offered himself to his apostles and us by washing their feet. The service was so touching and inspiring that just reminiscing brings up the feeling of love for another which is restored through repentance and forgiveness of our sins The altar is then stripped and the church is left in darkness in anticipation of the suffering and death to come.

The church is dimly lit. The altar draped in black linen with an eternal flame flickering at the side of the altar. Good Friday service begins with silent reflection. Knowing that the Cross—the Cross of our salvation will be the center of attention. Michelle Sowa sets the stage with a touching rendition of “MY God, My God” Psalm 22. The gospel of the last moments of Jesus’s life on earth is read by three readers dressed in black. The atmosphere in the church becomes heavier with realization of the pain and suffering of Jesus to redeem our salvation.

Pastor Mary sermonizes about the three crosses on Golgotha. The one on the right full of rebellion and pride, the one on the left full of remorse and repentance and the center is the Cross of Salvation. Our hearts are conflicted with our own pain, the pain of empathy for Jesus and the relief that we have been granted salvation and eternal life with Jesus. The large cross is carried forward to the altar as the choir sings “Behold the Wood”. The vision of the cross laid upon the altar completes the image and symbolism of the weight of our sins and tears once more well up in the eyes of Christ’s disciples.

As each person touches the cross and exits, the meaning of Good Friday-the Cross- has been written on their souls.

The Holy week services were completed and left their mark in our hearts and souls, so that the fill impact of Easter Sunday service celebration of a new life can begin!

Celebrate the New Life in Christ

Susan Centner

MINISTRIES

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY LIFE

Welcome to Spring! Lent is over, now we can work towards renewal. The craft fair was a success, with food, bakery goods, basket raffles and what would it be without the crafters. Please do not forget Oak Fest it starts July 2-7 there is always fun and food.

Yours in Christ,

Jean Bowser

Minister of Community Life

P.S. please remember if using the kitchen to clean up after yourself. Thank you

BREAKFAST

LADIES BREAKFAST

All ladies of LCR are invited to attend the next breakfast outing at LUMES on 159th just east of Lagrange Road, on May 16th at 9:00am.

Please join us for good food, fun and fellowship.

PSALMS

The prayer shawl group at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection has a name....

We are **PSALMs : Prayers, Shawls, And Loving Ministry.**

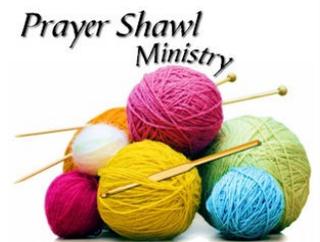
Do you know someone who would take comfort in knowing they are being prayed for? Someone who might need a physical reminder of His loving embrace? We invite you to bring them one of our Prayer Shawls or Prayer Cloths.

PSALMs would like to express our appreciation to those who have generously shared yarn, money and prayers to keep our ministry as vibrant as the shawls we create!

We welcome you to contribute to our Prayer Shawl Ministry in any of the following ways: One is by crocheting or knitting prayer shawls and/or prayer squares. Patterns are available if you need some project ideas. If you don't already know how to knit or crochet, come to a meeting and we will help you learn. The second way is to offer prayers for those who make the shawls and for those receiving them. And if you would like to keep those ladies' hands busy, consider donating a few skeins of acrylic yarn. It takes about three skeins of yarn to make one shawl. Brands like Red Heart and Caron work well, but if in doubt, we welcome gift cards to Wal-Mart, Michael's, Hobby Lobby or JoAnn's.

We usually meet the first Saturday of each month at **9:30 am** in the conference room. Our next meeting is **Saturday, May 4th.**

Please consider attending and sharing your handiwork, fellowship and prayers.



FELLOWSHIP



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS - Please pick a Sunday to bring refreshments for between services. If you have never hosted before please check with Jean Bowser for any information you may need. We have the coffee all you need to supply are the goodies. For those Sundays that are open we can use donations of non-perishable food items to have on hand. Coffee and flavored creamers are always welcome!

MINISTRY OF DISCIPLESHIP

"WWW - WORKING WOMEN'S WORSHIP- BIBLE STUDY"

"Working Women's Worship- Bible Study"

Studying "Women of the Word" by Jen Wilkins Book and the Gospel of Matthew in the Bible.

Next meeting is May 11 at 3:00pm

All are welcome!

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Spring education schedule:

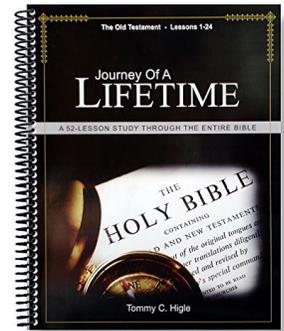
Join us on Sundays between services or Tuesdays at 6pm for our continuing study series, **The Journey of a Lifetime**, an overview of the entire Bible.

We enter into the history writing of the Old Testament –

The wisdom books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes.

We take time to look at and understand the road map toward the promised Messiah, the one we call Jesus.

Join us on Sundays or Tuesdays!



NEW MEMBER INQUIRY CLASSES

Pastor is inviting all who have been worshipping with the LCR family of faith to explore becoming members of the congregation. Three sessions are offered (**May 26, June 2 & 8**) with the Affirmation of Baptism made at a Sunday worship service on Pentecost Sunday – **June 9th**.

If you are interested, please contact Pastor at soulfull1.mag@gmail.com or leave a message at 708-408-0457.



CONFIRMATION

May 1: weekly class period at Zion 6:30-8

May 8: final weekly class period @ Zion

May 19: Sunday School Final Day. Confirmation students will participate in worship as readers that day. Please plan accordingly.

June (TBA): A day of remembering our baptismal covenant (Indiana Dunes or other watery venue)

July (TBA): A day of service/mission outreach

August: No plans

September (TBA): Field Trip to “Vertical Endeavors” to talk about faith, rock climb and begin working on your “Faith Statement” (which will be published at the time of your confirmation)

October (TBA): Take the “Spiritual Gifts Inventory” and decide how you are gifted by God to serve the church and continue growing in faith as a confirmed, voting member of the church.

Confirmation Day: Sunday, October 27, 2019
@ 10:30am worship service.

Parents, please let me know your vacation plans so we can schedule the summer get-togethers when everyone will be in town...

Look forward to being together again on May 1 & May 8.



YOUTH

NO REPORT GIVEN

PRESCHOOL - GRADE SCHOOL

Children's church has started again. All children age 3 through the 5th grade are welcome to attend. Teachers lead the children in activities that correspond with the Gospel lesson.

We meet in the conference room for fun, snacks, crafts, games and a story based on the day's Gospel lesson and return to the sanctuary for communion.



SARAH CIRCLE

SARAH CIRCLE meets at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 2nd.

The hostess for this meeting is Pat Leslie.

Everyone is asked to bring a little something to share.

The study prepared by Anna McCoy is on the book "Jesus Calling."

Ruth Mills will lead the study.

All ladies are welcome to join in at Sarah Circle.



OAK FEST 2019

VOLUNTEERS NEED!

We have received our Oak Fest shifts!

This neighborhood festival runs from

Tuesday, July 2nd (setup) through

Sunday, July 7th.

They ask non-profit organizations from Oak Forest to work shifts at the fest and the final profit is distributed to each group as payment per hour worked.

THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE TO LCR BY DONATING YOUR TIME.

Our shifts are posted on the Narthex bulletin board. We will provide you with a free parking pass to be used on the day you work. None of the jobs are difficult and you get to enjoy the fest while you are there. You will be helping the community and Resurrection at the same time! If you are at the festival and not signed up to work you can go to the personnel booth and ask if you can volunteer for

Group #1 Resurrection! For any questions please call Patti Tregoning 708-945-4712.



MINISTRY OF TRUSTEES

STEWARDSHIP

Brother Steward

It is the Church's Birthday!

So the story goes: The Abbot called the Brothers together to celebrate Pentecost, which is the birthday of the church. He asked each of them what gifts they had brought.

The first Brother said his gift was prayer and that he would pray for loved ones, and the less fortunate. The second Brother said his gift was a talent to make things such as meals for the hungry. The third Brother said his gift was a small coin, which he gave to the Monastery's building fund.



The Abbot was pleased and said let us sing in praise of the Holy Spirit. Now there were Brothers each with his own language from Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England; but when they began to sing, the Latin words of Veni, Sancte, Spiritus (Come Holy Spirit Come) came out from each, unifying the group in one joyous voice to the amazement of all. The Lord sure works in mysterious ways, the Abbot said and joined in the celebration.



What's The Worry?

Jesus knows our nature. He knows we're prone to worry. Perhaps that's why he warned:

"Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?" (Matthew 6:25-27)

In spite of these words of both admonition and assurance, Christians still tend to worry. Sometimes worry about the ability to provide for our families takes over our lives to such an extent that it guides our thoughts and actions. We put off giving to the Lord through our church – "temporarily," we say – until we feel secure in our financial situations. Life, as you know, seems to throw one crisis after another at us, and, often, that financial security never comes.

We have the same worry when it comes to serving. We complain that we just don't have time. We work long hours, and then we have commitments to our families. How can we go to meetings or make meals for a family whose mom is sick?

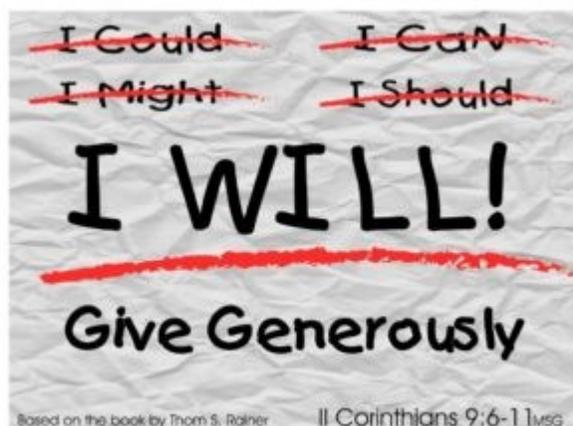
Later, we tell God and even ourselves. Later, when the college tuitions are paid and the kids are out of the house. Then we'll have time and money. But then, after all that hard work, don't I deserve to get away and take a nice, long cruise?

We reap what we sow, we read in 2 Corinthians 9:6. What are you sowing? Proverbs 11:18 reads,

"He who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward." Matthew 6:19-21 records Jesus' words, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on Earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where you treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Is it forgetfulness of God's promises or lack of faith that keeps us stuck in this pattern of giving all for our physical, temporal lives instead of storing up treasures in Heaven.

Take God at his Word: give generously, serve without reward, take time to help others, and watch him satisfy your every need.



MINISTRY OF PROCLAMATION

We are rejoicing in this season of Easter. Jesus is risen! He is risen indeed!
What wonderful words to hear and to live.

God is good! Tom Stefan was able to work his schedule so that he was able to practice the choir and bell ringers for services on Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday. Thank you Tom and thank you choir and bell ringers for practicing so that we were able to Celebrate Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Sunday with the melodious voices of our choir and the joyful sound of the bells!! You were all amazing. And let's not forget our "praise team". They practiced and performed each week during Lent at our One Service Sundays and they were outstanding!!! Thank you one and all!!!

Since we have returned to our 2 services on Sunday, our Worship Assistant schedule has returned to its original schedule. We are still looking for Communion Assistants, Readers and Ushers. Please prayerfully consider signing up to serve at one of the services.

We will begin the interview process for the Music Minister position and hope to have that filled soon.

I invite you to attend our Worship and Music meeting. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. I hope to see you there.

God's Blessings for a Joyful Easter Season

Donna Flanagan

Minister of Proclamation

ALTAR GUILD

FLOWER CHART OPENINGS: May 5 – two; May 12 – one; May 19 – one; May 25 – one; June 2 – two; June 9 – two; June 16 – two; June 23 – one; June 30 – one; July 7 – two; July 14 – two; July 21 – one.

Please select a few dates to honor your loved ones on their special day. There are two bouquets each week at \$20 per bouquet. Please take your flowers home after the 11 a.m. service.

THANK YOU

To Bob Harling for the changeover from Lent to Holy Week to Easter, to those who ordered Easter plants to beautify the church for Easter, and to Kathleen Domzalski, Marietta Sullivan and Joan Tobbe for the arrangement of the plants. There were 25 plants ordered this year.

EVANGELISM

NO REPORT GIVEN

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL ACTION

PLEASE SAVE CAPS AND LIDS from prescription bottles, water bottles, hairspray, yogurt lids, etc. for Jaci Meade's nephew's school project. The school plans on using the materials to build a bench. You can place the clean materials outside Pastor's office in the polka dot box. A list of accepted items is available. See Linda Jurinek for more information.

Linda Jurinek

Minister of Social Action

**SOCIAL
ACTION
TEAM**



LOVE SUNDAY

Please remember to support St. Stephen's food pantry on LOVE SUNDAY

(FIRST Sunday of the month).

Please consider donating **NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS**, especially proteins. Leave your generous donation in the corridor and it will be delivered to St. Stephen's Lutheran church once a month.



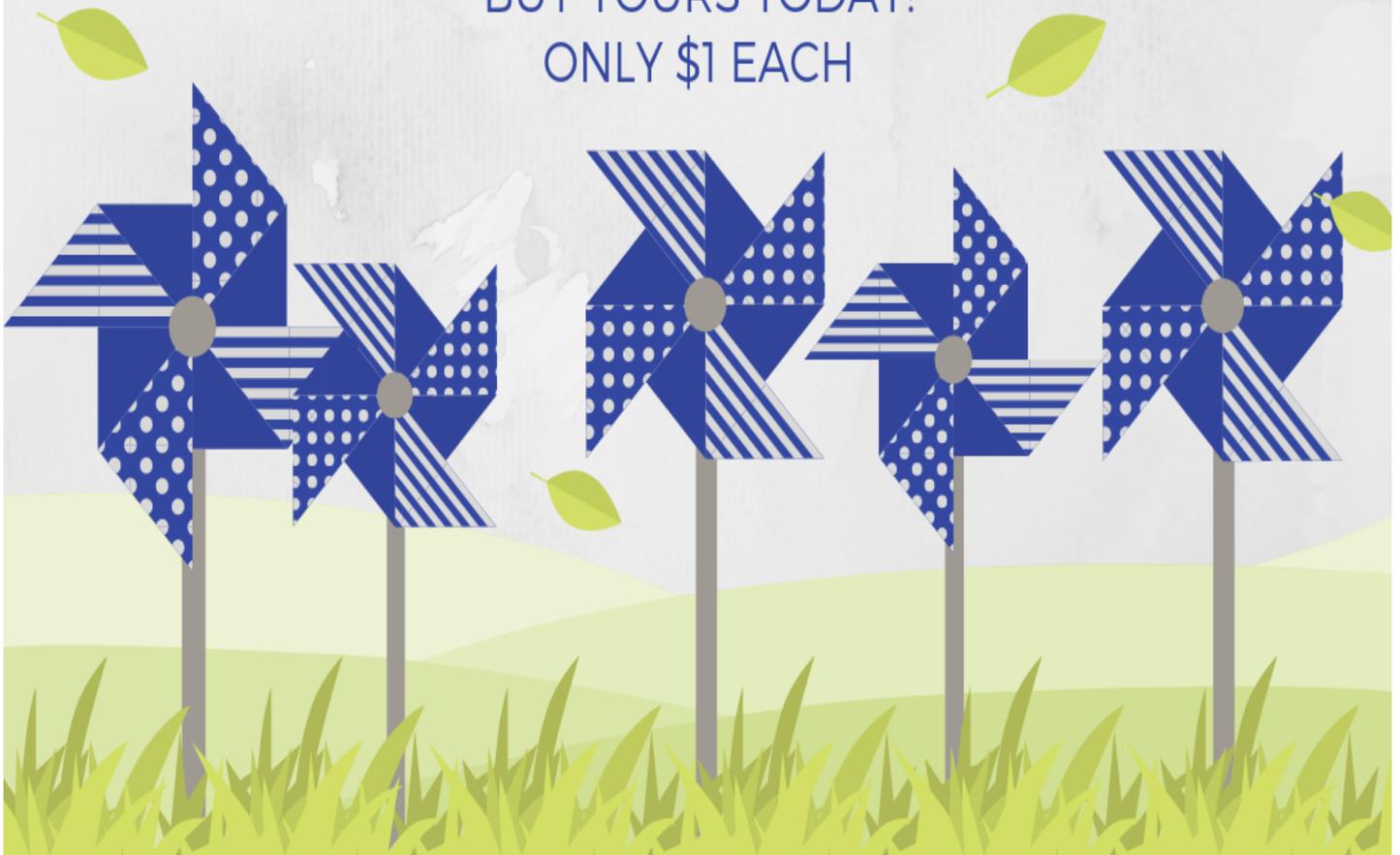
Thank you

PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION

APRIL 2019

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

HELP US CREATE OUR
PINWHEEL GARDEN
BUY YOURS TODAY!
ONLY \$1 EACH



PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION

PINWHEELS are the national symbol for child abuse and neglect prevention. The pinwheel represents our hope that every child will be raised in a healthy, safe and nurturing environment. It is also a call to action, encouraging people everywhere to recognize that children are our future and that we all have a role to play in keeping them safe.

All children deserve great childhoods.

Since 1983, when April was designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month, communities across the country have used this month-long observance to increase awareness of child abuse and its prevention. It is a time when individuals, schools, businesses, hospitals, religious organizations, and social service agencies join together to raise awareness of child abuse and neglect.

For a second year,
LCR will be planting several pinwheels together to
make a "garden".

The pinwheels are **one dollar a piece** and all proceeds will go toward
Prevent Child Abuse Illinois.

Buy a pinwheel for our church "garden" and for your home too!

**Help bring "Pinwheels for Prevention"
to our church and our community!**



Preschool Corner



Preschool is heading for the home stretch! We are having an Open House for new and prospective students was on Tuesday, **April 30th** from 5 - 7:30 PM. We will begin accepting registration from the public then. If you know of any one looking for a preschool, please tell them about our Open House. We had a wonderful field trip to Oak Forest Bowl, and are looking forward to our Easter Party! We have also begun practicing for the upcoming Graduation in May. This will be a very busy month!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR MAY FRIENDS!

Manny Gelfo	May 3
Anthony Sneed	May 4
Elsie Burk	May 5
Fran Hofbauer	May 8
Marie Grossman	May 8
Claris Okon	May 12
David Rodriguez	May 12
Taina Collins	May 12
Patti Tregoning	May 14
Scott Mickow	May 14
Cathy Mullins	May 27
Brendan Sullivan	May 29
Gunner Sullivan	May 31
Anna McCoy	May 31



MEDIA TEAM

OUR MEDIA TEAM is looking for help on Sunday mornings!

Take a minute and talk with Stan Sowa and see how you might be able to help out with:

- ◆ Sound Board & microphones
- ◆ Computer Visuals (development)
- ◆ Screen/Worship projection



BARTER BOARD

Check out the Barter Board for items that people are in search of, and looking to sell. A simple way to bring your treasures to others.



- Do you need something that you really can't afford new?
- Do you want to downsize and have items you'd like to see someone else use?

Cards are on the Barter Board (over the water Fountains)

S E R V A N T S I N C H R I S T

MONTHLY LAY READERS ROTATION

Sundays	8:30	11:00
1st	Kathleen Domzalski	Open
2nd	Karen Baeder	Jean Bowser
3rd	Ruth Millis	Sue Centner
4th	Elsie Burk	Donna Flanagan
5th (ONE Service)	Donna Flanagan	

MONTHLY COMMUNION ASSISTANTS LIST

Sundays	8:30	11:00
1st	Kathleen Domzalski	Paul Scott
2nd	Donna Aggen	Open
3rd	Elsie Burk	Open
4th	Elsie Burk	Donna Flanagan
5th (ONE Service)	Kathleen Domzalski	

MONTHLY USHERS ROTATION LIST

Sundays	8:30	11:00
1st	Donna Aggen	Open
2nd	Open	Open
3rd	Donna Aggen	Open
4th	Rich Shellberg	Open
5th (ONE Service)	Open	

ALTAR GUILD

- MAY 5 Claris Okon
- MAY 12 Claris Okon Lora & Michaela Tryon
- MAY 19 Ruth Millis & Joan Tobbe
- MAY 26 Marietta Sullivan and Joan Tobbe

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

MAY 5	Open
MAY 15	Open
MAY 19	Open
MAY 26	Open

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR MAY

- MAY 5** Both bouquets open
- MAY 12** One bouquet from Linda Jurinek & Scott Mickow in memory of Violet Mickow
One bouquet open
- MAY 19** One bouquet from Carol Lampe in memory of her mother E. Klazura
One bouquet open
- MAY 26** One bouquet from Marietta Sullivan in honor of Brendan's & Gunner's birthdays
One bouquet open

MAY COUNTERS:

Sue Centner, Dan Tregoning

If you are scheduled to serve as a reader or communion assistant and you cannot make your commitment, please try to find a replacement for your Sunday and let Elsie Burk know. Thank you.

LCR PRAISE TEAM

Song leader: Michelle Sowa
Praise band: Scott Mickow, Diana Mickow
Accompanist: Tom Stefan

**Lutheran Church of the
Resurrection**

15050 Central Ave.
Oak Forest, Il 60452



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Oak Forest, Il 60452
708.687.2170**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP: 08:30a Traditional &
11:00a Praise Service**

Children's Church during 11:00a Service (September—May)

BIBLE STUDY: Sundays @ 9:45a & Tuesdays @ 6:00p

**WOMEN'S STUDY: First Thursday of each month @ 09:30a
Second Saturday of each month @ 3:00p**

"Working Women's Worship- Bible Study"