

Mar/April 2024
Helping

Mar/April 2024

101 Yrs.
Old



Hands

For the South Side of Lansing

Vol. XVII, No. III © 2024 Redeemer Church and Helping Hands Christian Learning Center, Lansing, Michigan

Alleluia!

Worship With Us

Easter Sunday!

March 31, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m.

- **Worship begins at 10:00 am**

*Holy Communion Celebrated

*All are Welcome to share in God's Holy Meal

*Special Music

*Easter Breakfast, 8:45-9:45am, *Light Meal

“Easter Egg Hunt”...

Saturday, March 23rd @ 10:00 am

Join us in our front lot for a great Easter EVENT. Fun will be had by ALL and free Treats will be Shared with Everyone!!

This event is open to the entire Lansing community and ALL ARE INVITED. There will be games, candy, and a special and SAFE way for everyone to understand the Easter Story. ALSO the Easter Bunny himself.



**ALL ARE INVITED.
PLEASE BRING A FRIEND OR TWO!!**

God's Helping Hands

Redeemer Church, E.L.C.A. “...your helping hands”

A Congregation of the *NorthWest Lower Michigan
Synod of Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America*

2727 W. Holmes Road
Lansing, Michigan 48911
517-882-8000 (church voice)
517-882-8622 (child care voice)
517-882-2063 (fax for both)
517-980-6250 (emergency #)
redeemerlansing.com
hhclearningcenter.com
E-Mail: janhite@sbcglobal.net

Sunday Study Time at 9:00am
Sunday Worship begins at 10:00am
**Holy Communion is Celebrated Every Sunday and Open
To all of God's Children*

Sunday Luncheon follows worship
Wed. Adult Enrichment Hour, 7:00pm

CHURCH/SCHOOL STAFF

Jan Hite, Pastor
Tom Jones, Minister of Music
Jeanette Eastham, Guitar
Bill Hart-Davidson, Bass
Danielle Greene, Violin
Rachelle Parmelee, School Director
Sandra Walker, Council President
Vickie Crouch, School President
Various School Teachers

Church Council meetings are open to all members.
Their normal meeting time is the 3rd Sunday of
each month @ Noon.

Helping Hands Christian Learning Center Board
meetings are open to all to all members, parents and
community members. Their normal meeting time is
the 3rd Thursday of each month @ 6:00pm

Helping Hands Newsletter
is published bi-monthly
Editors: Rachelle Parmelee and Pr. Jan Hite

*Deadline for the **May 2024** edition is:
April 15, 2024

*The editors reserve the right to make changes
to all items submitted.



Redeemer Church
“Your Helping Hands Place”



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Teri Sand	March 08
Penney Shumway	March 13
Alison Sall	March 18
Harriet Salvaggio	March 25
Mary Burleson	March 26
Jan Hite	March 28

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Carol Pierce	Apr. 03
Mike Rector	Apr. 10
Grace Engle	Apr. 11
Ann Hyde	Apr. 28

We are sorry if we missed your special day.
Please let the office know of your date by
calling the office, 882-8000, emailing,
janhite@sbcglobal.net or dropping your
name and Birth date or Anniversary date in
the offering plate. **Thank You!**

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

**Both your NEW Church Council
and School Board have met and
chosen new Officers.**

Church Council:

- Sandra Walker, President;
- Harriet Salvaggio, Recorder;
- Jeanette Eastham, Treasurer;
- Chris Bilinski, Vice-President.

School Board:

- Vickie Crouch, President;
- Jeanette Eastham, Recorder;
- Gena Hyde, Treasurer;
- Carol Pierce, Vice-President.

A Big Thank You to each of you!





Please join us for these upcoming Events & Needs

“Easter Egg Hunt”...

Date: Saturday, March 23, 2024 @ 10:00 am.

Join us, at Redeemer Church, 2727 W. Holmes Rd., Lansing, 882-8000, in our Front Lot for a safe, fun event. This year’s Easter Egg Hunt will be a true Egg Hunt that will be done in a SAFE way. All who come will receive special treats that help them learn more about the Easter Story.



ALL ARE INVITED. TO ATTEND. More info can be found at: www.redeemerlansing.com

***Please bring a friend or two!!**

“Mobile Food Pantry”...

Date: Various Dates Throughout March & April
****See Redeemer’s Website or the Lansing Food-bank’s Website for Locations.**

Distribution of FREE, fresh, non-perishable food items at ALL LOCATIONS

Who can participate?

- The disadvantaged and vulnerable.
- Senior citizens on fixed incomes.
- Families/individuals with limited/low income jobs.



ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BRING A VALID STATE IDENTIFICATION CARD OR DRIVER’S LICENSE

If you or someone you know must choose between buying food and filling prescriptions, please tell them about this important program. Participants should bring a box or bag to carry food, one distribution per household. For more information, call the City of Lansing Human Relations and Community Services @ 517-483-4477.

“Our Next Taco Dinner”...

Date: Thursday, April 18, 6:00-7:30pm

This will be an “in-house” sit-down event. There will be Tacos (hard and soft) rice, beans, drinks and dessert.

Suggested Donations are: *Adults: \$10, Seniors \$9, \$5 child 10 and under.*

Please join us for this fun and wonderful event. **Thank You!!**



“The Need For Blood Is GREAT”...

The American Red Cross is in dire need for Blood. The demand for blood is high and those donating blood are low.

Don’t wait — make an appointment today to give blood or platelets to help ensure people receive the care they need. Book now by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Over the last 20 years, the number of people donating blood through the Red Cross has fallen by about 40%.



Due to this serious decline, you and your gift are vital to the lives of others in need. Donating blood is SAFE!!! If you have been a regular donor, please return to donating blood. If you have never donated blood consider doing it. **Go to:**

www.redcross.com

To donate soon, you can find a blood drive or donate at the Red Cross Building on Saginaw St. Make a difference in the lives of those who need blood desperately. **It only takes 1/2 hour. Thank you.**

“Grief Recovery Support Groups”...

The need to work through Grief throughout our lives is great at different times. That is why we have different groups throughout our community to “be there” for you. If you are willing to go type into your browser on your computer:

“Grief Recovery Support Groups in Lansing Mi”

You will find various locations, times and groups you can become a part of.

God does not want you to handle your grief alone, so give yourself a chance to “climb out of the hole of sadness” and find out there is help for you.

Yes, there is “light” on the other side of your Sadness & Grief. Give yourself a chance.





Helping Hands Christian Learning Center

Our Mission: to provide nurturing care to God's children through our helping hands, offering a safe haven for holistic growth.

When You Thought I Wasn't Looking

A message for all parents, grandparent and caregivers

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator, and I immediately wanted to paint another one.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you feed a stray cat, and learned that it was good to be kind to animals.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make my favorite cake for me and I learned that the little things can be the special things in life.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make a meal and take it to a friend who was sick, and I learned we all have to help take care of each other.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I felt you kiss me good night and I felt loved and safe.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you take care of our house and everyone in it, and learned we have to take care of what we are given.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you handle your responsibilities even when you didn't feel good, and I learned that I would have to be responsible when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw tears come from your eyes and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it's all right to cry.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw that you cared, and I wanted to become everything that I could be.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I looked at you and wanted to say "Thanks for all the things I saw when you thought I wasn't looking."

Author—Anonymous

10 Steps to Positive Parenting

- Show love and affection.
- When necessary, take a cool down.
- Compliment your child.
- Set basic rules and limits.
- Develop a set of shared meanings, values, and goals.
- Introduce your child to books.
- Listen and talk to your child.
- Be the kind of person you want your child to be.
- Offer guidance.

Tell your child **"I love you"** each and every day.

What's Happening

March/April 2024

3/01-Cole Half Day
3/10-Daylight Savings Time: Spring Ahead 1 Hour
3/11-Installation of Solar Panels Begins @ Redeemer/HHCLC
3/14-Cole Half Day
3/15-LCD No School
3/17-St. Patrick's Day
3/19-Cole Half Day
3/20- Spring Begins
3/21-HHCLC Bd. Mtg., 6:00pm
3/22-LCD No School
3/23-Redeemer Easter Egg Hunt, 10am
3/24-Palm Sunday, Worship @ 10am
3/28-Maundy Thursday, Worship, 7pm
3/29-Good Friday, Worship, 7pm
3/31-Easter Sunday
-Breakfast, 8:45-9:45am
-Worship, 10am
3/25-3/29 Cole, LCD, LCA Spring Break
4/01-April Fools Day
4/15-Tax Day
4/18-Redeemer Taco Dinner, 6:00-7:30pm
4/22-Passover Begins, 22-30th
4/22-Earth Day
4/26-Cole No School

Helping Hands Christian Learning Center is a ministry of Redeemer Church and has been servicing our community for 29 years now. Here we offer love and quality care to God's children. Come in today to see what we have to offer you and your family.



Sunday Schedule

-Worship: 10:00am
-Lunch and Fellowship: 11:15am
-Wed. Adult Enrich. Class: 7:00pm

We are a church of this community and ALL are welcome.

The Emotions of Easter

The Gospel stories of the resurrection of Jesus—known as the Resurrection Narratives—are rich and diverse, describing various encounters with the risen Christ and offering us many wonderful images to ponder and pray about.

One reason I love these stories is because they help us understand that Easter is not a one-dimensional, one-size-fits-all experience of joy and enthusiasm. Rather, encounters with the risen Christ result in all kinds of human emotions, from disbelief and amazement to fear and trembling! And let's not forget those feelings of confusion, and even doubt.

The earliest of the four Gospels, the Gospel of Mark, has the shortest Resurrection Narrative and ends quite abruptly. In Mark's account (16:1-8), three women approached the tomb of Jesus, intending to anoint his body. Upon discovering the empty tomb and being told by a young man that Jesus had been raised, they *were* "**seized with trembling and bewilderment,**" and "**they were afraid.**" They fled from the tomb! Certainly joy came to these women later. But it was not their first response.

In Luke's Gospel, a group of disciples encountered a stranger on the road (24:13-35). Of course the stranger was the Risen Christ, but they did not recognize him at first. He walked with them and talked with them. When they ate together—when he broke the bread and gave it to them—they recognized him. But he immediately vanished! The moment of full presence—the moment of understanding what was happening and recognizing who they were with—was painfully fleeting.

And, of course, who could forget Thomas, whose story we read in John's Gospel (20:24-29)? When he heard that Jesus was raised, Thomas declared that he would not believe unless certain conditions were met. He wanted to see for himself. He wanted to touch the risen Christ! Who doesn't sympathize with our friend, Doubting Thomas? We've all felt the ground shift beneath our feet. **Uncertainty is part of life.**

And finally, a strange but realistic note is sounded in the Gospel of Matthew, when the disciples approached the Risen Christ on a mountain in Galilee (28:16-20). The text says that when they saw Jesus, "**they worshiped, but they doubted.**"

Worship and doubt seem like opposites, and yet here they are, coexisting in the minds, hearts, and even the bodies of those who are closest to Jesus.

Whatever mixed emotions you may be feeling as this Easter's season approaches, remember they are all natural and authentic.

As the Gospel stories remind us, you are simply an honest participant in a long tradition of being human—of encountering the divine, the mystical, the hard-to-believe, and the profoundly beautiful—in the midst of your "regular life."

However, in the end, even in the core of our worries, doubts, and fears, there is a deep-seated, quiet joy in our hearts that can never be taken away.

Why is that? Because after Jesus' life and death we received that most important message we could ever receive... "**The Lord is risen, he has risen indeed!**"

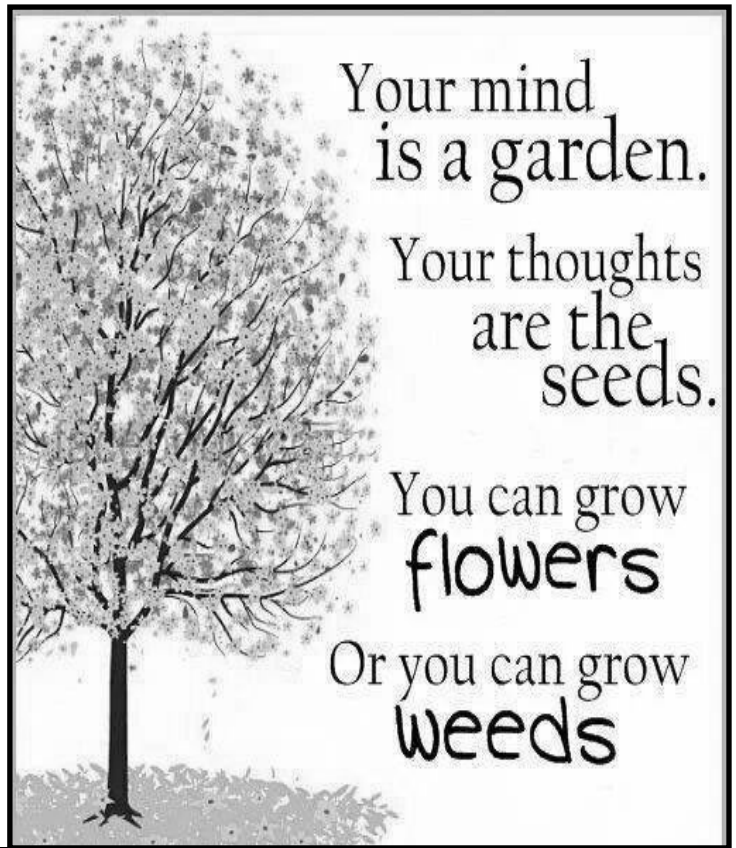


†
JESUS
IS RISEN!

Happy Birthday To You...

March/April

Layla P.	3/10	Ms. Giselle	4/01
Nevaeh D.	3/13	Abel P.	4/01
Nevaeh G.	3/14	Ms. Carol	4/03
Nova R.	3/19	Ms. Serita	4/08
Ms. Harriet	3/25	Grace E.	4/11
Lucy G.	3/26	Logan S.	4/12
Pastor Jan	3/28	Naz'er H.	4/13
Dominick H.	3/28	Ariq B.	4/13
		Legend W.	4/14
		Adalynn W.	4/21
		Ms. Amy	4/28



Summer Will Be Here Soon...

Place your Child in a Safe, Healthy Environment where they can have Fun and Learn.....and in return you will receive "Peace of mind." Remember we have care for infants, toddlers, Pre-Schoolers, Pre-K, a full time Summer Program (ages 5-12) and a Before & After School Program when school is enrolled.

*All programs Include breakfast, lunch and various snacks. Meals are prepared by our licensed chef with an emphasis on "healthy living and eating" and the cost is included in your child's tuition.

**Also we have a bus that transports your child to and from school each day.

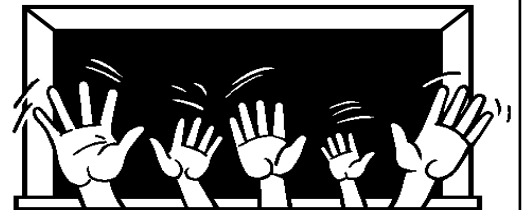
2727 W. Holmes Rd., Lansing—517-882-8622
Call (517) 882-8622 for more info

The need is great. Can we count on you? **Helping Hands** is supported by donations from individuals throughout our community committed to blessing and serving our children/families in need with the love of Jesus.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Business/Church/Org.: _____
Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

To Give a Gift in honor or memory of someone, please give the name, reason for gift, and the name and address where we may send an acknowledgement of your gift.

**Helping Hands Christian Learning Center of Redeemer Church is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. All contributions are completely tax-deductible.*

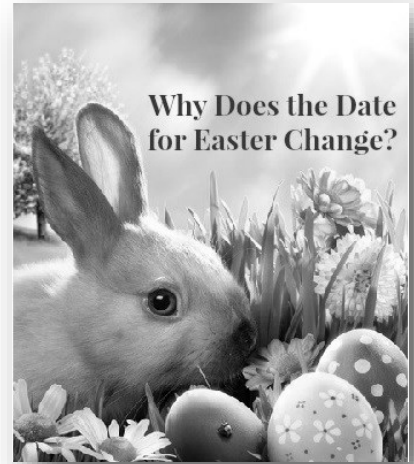


You can go to: www.hhclearningcenter.com
and donate your gift from there if you wish.
Thank You!!

Why Does Easter Change Dates?

With the annual change from April to March and back again, it's not always easy to keep track of the Easter date. Unlike Christmas and Valentine's Day, the date of Easter changes every year. It can be as early as March 22 or as late as April 25. It comes early this year, falling on the last Sunday of the month, March 31. This is 10 days earlier than last year's April 9 date. Next year, Easter is back to the month of April, falling much later than the past two years on April 20, 2025. Of course, this also means that the beginning of Lent and Ash Wednesday change dates every year, too.

You may find yourself wondering why exactly the date of Easter changes annually like Thanksgiving Day, instead of being set in stone like other holidays. After all, the Fourth of July is always on July 4, and Halloween always comes on October 31, too. Most Christians know Ash Wednesday's date depends on Easter, but wouldn't it be much simpler (and easier to remember) if Jesus Christ's resurrection were celebrated on a set day, the way other holidays like Christmas and Valentine's Day are observed? But it's not, and here's a look at why that's the case.



Ash Wednesday 2024

Ash Wednesday signals the 40-day period leading up to Easter, called Lent, when observants typically "give up" some earthly pleasure (wine, chocolate, sugar) as a form of penance. But what does Ash Wednesday mean? The holiday stems from the Old Testament book of Daniel that associated fasting with ashes, according to priest and Duke Divinity School assistant professor Lauren F. Winner. Its main ritual involves a priest invoking Genesis 3:19 ("...for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.") while anointing congregants' foreheads with ashes from Palm Sunday—itsself derived from the story of Christ's route to Jerusalem being padded by palm fronds—and sometimes oil. Lent is an acknowledgment of the 40 days the Bible says Christ spent in the wilderness.

Because Ash Wednesday kicks off the Lenten season, its date is always exactly 46 days before Easter (40 days of Lent, plus six, as each Sunday is skipped) and thus is affected directly by what date Easter falls on that year. This year, Ash Wednesday fell on Wednesday, February 14.

Easter 2024

Which brings us to our central question: Why is Easter on a different date each year? And why is it on March 31, 2024, this year, which is earlier than last year and the year before? The holiday, which celebrates Christ's resurrection from the grave following his crucifixion, can occur any Sunday between March 22 and April 25. (That's a pretty wide range!)

Easter's exact date varies so much because it actually depends on the moon. The holiday is set to coincide with the first Sunday after the Paschal Full Moon, **the first full moon after the vernal equinox—that moment in the spring when the Sun is exactly above the Equator and day and night are of equal length. This happens about March 21 or 22.** Though the equinox's exact date can vary each year according to the Old Farmer's Almanac, the church always recognizes the vernal equinox as March 21.

So why does Easter come after the Paschal Full Moon? Early Christians wanted Easter to coincide with Passover, because Christ's death and resurrection happened right after the Jewish holiday. Because the Jewish calendar is tied to solar and lunar cycles, the dates of Passover and Easter fluctuate each year.

So to keep it simple...Easter is **the first Sunday after the full Moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox**. If the full Moon falls on a Sunday then Easter is the following Sunday.

**Ash Wednesday is exactly 46 days before Easter Sunday, a moveable feast based on the cycles of the moon. The earliest date Ash Wednesday can occur is 4 February (which is only possible during a common year with Easter Sunday on 22 March), which happened in 1598, 1693, 1761, and 1818 and will next occur in 2285.*

Redeemer Church, E.L.C.A.
“...your Helping Hands”
Helping Hands Christian Learning Center
2727 West Holmes Road
Lansing, Michigan 48911
www.redeemerlansing.com

NON-PROFIT
U.S.
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Permit No. 149
LANSING, MI

Address Service Requested

**TIME-VALUED
MAIL**

Please deliver by:
March 11th

Celebrate!
**JESUS
IS ALIVE!**



TACO DINNER

Thursday, April 18, 2024
6:00-7:30pm

Includes: Tacos, Beans, Rice, Chips, Drinks, Ice Cream
*Guacamole & All the Fixings

Suggested Cost: Adults \$10/ Seniors \$9 (ages 65 and up)

Children \$5 (age 10 and under)

All are invited to attend. Bring your family, friends and neighbors.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE...

Palm Saturday

Saturday, March 23rd

Community Easter Egg Hunt,

10 am. *All Invited

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24th, 10:00am

Procession w/Palms & The “Passion Story”

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 28th

Worship w/ Communion @ 7:00pm,

Good Friday

Tenebrae Worship (Service of Lights)

Friday, March 29th, 7:00pm

Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 31st

Easter Breakfast, 8:45-9:45am

Holy Worship, 10:00am

****All Invited to be part these Events**

**Worship is available in-Person and Live on
our website.**

