

April 2023

# THE GROVE

## Easter

at Farmington  
Lutheran



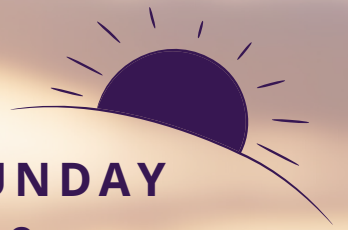
### PALM SUNDAY

April 2

Livestream will be  
available at the 10:30am

8:30am

10:30am



### EASTER SUNDAY

April 9

Sunrise Matins  
& Devotions in the  
Education Wing

6:30am



### MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 6

Livestream will be  
available for each of the  
following services

5:30pm

7:00pm

### Easter Sunday Worship

Livestream will be available for  
each of the following services

8:00 am

9:30 am

11:00 am



### GOOD FRIDAY

Livestream  
available

April 7

7:00pm

In a letter to the Jesus followers living in the city of Ephesus, the writer gives glory to God “who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.” (Ephesians 3:20) It’s about as big and bold of a claim as one could make, and nowhere is it proven more true than at the empty tomb that first Easter morning. Jesus was well and truly dead—killed at the hands of the mighty Roman empire. And then he wasn’t. All the power of all the empires in all the world was nothing compared to the power of God’s love. Death itself was defeated. Life won, and always will.

The message of Easter is one of ultimate hope, a declaration that redemption and resurrection and abundant life aren’t just possible, but promised. They happen, and will happen.

But do we believe this? As Christians, of course, we believe that Christ rose from the dead, and that through our baptism we are joined to him in his death and resurrection. Most of us understand that this has something to do with what happens after we die. But do we believe that redemption is possible on this side of heaven? Do we read the news and interact with our neighbors in the confident hope that life wins?

Being hopeful is hard sometimes. It doesn’t take much looking around to begin to doubt that death has actually been defeated. Many of us easily slip into something called “functional atheism”: we say we believe in God and God’s power, but don’t really live like it. The season of Easter gives us a gift in confronting us with the

wild, audacious hope at the center of our faith. This is who your God is,” Easter says to us. Our God is the One who can do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.

How will our days and our hearts look different because of this? What will change when we live as though we actually believe in resurrection and new life? How much more will we ask for, how much will our imagination for what’s possible expand? We look forward to exploring this with you, this Easter season and beyond, and to bearing witness together to our God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.

In Easter hope,

Pastor Kristen



# CLOSE THE GAP

Last week you should have received information in the mail on FLC's "Close the Gap" Special Appeal. This appeal will strengthen the work of Farmington Lutheran by addressing this year's anticipated budget gap of \$70,000. It will also help "close the gap" in the community: for every \$10,000 received, we will give \$1000 to a community partner helping meet the needs of our neighbors. You will have the chance to help choose these recipients: stay tuned!

One way to describe the ministry of Jesus is: "Closing the Gap."

- Jesus is at work to close the gap between those who feel disconnected and the community they need.
- Jesus is at work to close the gap between generations as we serve, connect and worship together.
- Jesus is at work to close the gap between faith and everyday life as we are sent out to join in God's mission each week.
- Jesus is at work to close the gap between divided people as we are called to live a different way, guided by the fruits of the Spirit.

Jesus is at work through the ministries of Farmington Lutheran to close these gaps and more. Will you partner in these efforts by giving to the "Close the Gap" Special Appeal?

Our goal is to close the gap by raising \$70,000 by October 31st. Here are the milestones that we can hit with your partnership:

- \$20,000 by April 30th
- \$40,000 by June 30th
- \$55,000 by August 31st
- \$70,000 by October 31st

Scan & give to the  
**CLOSE THE GAP** fund.



Thank you! Together we can "Close the Gap!"

# Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who donated time, money, food, prepped meals, set up, took down and everything in between for our 2023 Lenten Meals. We are so excited to share that over \$2450 was raised to support Farmington Lutheran Youth in their summer adventures!

In addition to Lenten Meals, thank you to those who purchased Butter Braids! We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful and supportive congregation. The monetary donations will be going to those who worked the Lenten meals.





# Holy Week Special Music

PALM SUNDAY: APRIL 2  
8:30am Special Music Solo  
10:30am Sanctuary Choir

MAUNDY THURSDAY: APRIL 6  
5:30pm Vocal Quartet  
7:00pm Vocal Quartet

GOOD FRIDAY: APRIL 7  
7:00pm Violin Solo, Sanctuary Choir

EASTER: APRIL 9  
8:00am Brass Ensemble, Violin Solo,  
Joyful Ringers, Sanctuary Choir

9:30am Brass Ensemble, Violin Solo,  
Joyful Ringers, Sanctuary Choir

11:00am Brass Ensemble, Saxophone Solo,  
Vocal Solos

## 5th Grade First Communion

The 5th graders were invited to attend the first communion orientation or workshop on March 4 or March 11 to learn more about communion. We went through the David Erlander book on communion and learned more about the Lutheran sacraments. We also took time to go through the different parts of worship and learn why we do it. The youth and families were invited to sign up to help serve in church.

We will be celebrating first communion on Thursday, April 6 and on Sunday, April 16.



During Lent we asked ourselves, “What feeds us?” and, “How are we sent to feed others?” Over the Fed & Sent theme, we considered Food, Community, Information, Money, and Jesus. From conversations and guest speakers came food for thought and opportunities to serve our neighbors. Mel McCormick from Loaves & Fishes invited us to consider hosting meals at Farmington Lutheran Church. Joy Lauterbach from Farmington Health Services encouraged us

to consider hosting meals at Farmington Lutheran Church. Joy Lauterbach from Farmington Health Services encouraged us to continue to be community with the residents and staff of the Trinity Campuses. Rachel Harmon offered insights into social media and our youth, and ways for parents to be involved. Josh Malwitz from Thrivent offered faithful ways of thinking about stewarding money. And Pastor Kristen grounded us in Jesus, and provided specific ways to consider our callings as rooted in our Savior.

Resources from all of our speakers are still available in the church office. If any of these opportunities strike you as a place you feel called, or if any of them spark further thought or conversation for you, please contact church staff. We're eager to imagine with you how we are Fed & Sent together for the sake of our community.

# Mom's

## GROUP & GET TOGETHER

APRIL 1 at 10:00am



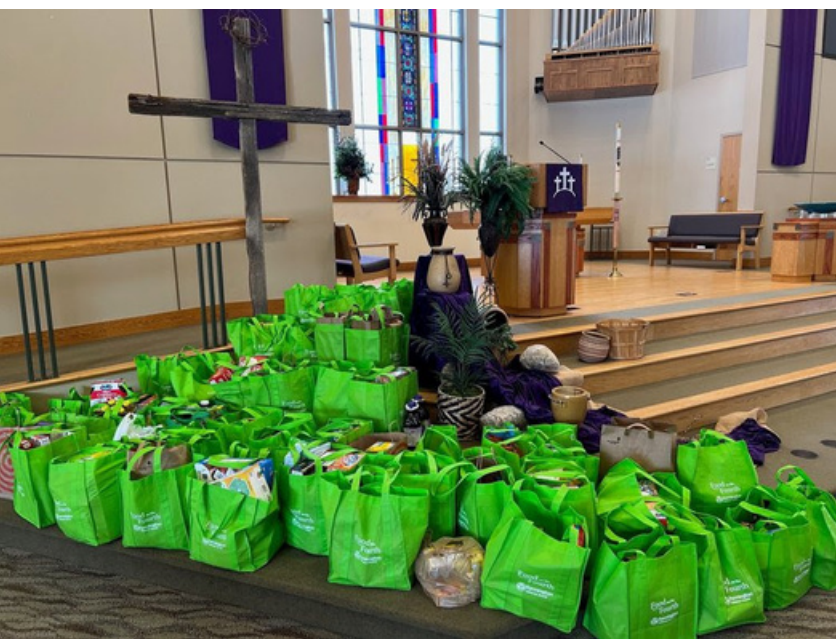
Are you a mom? Come check out Moms' Group! Whether you've been to a gathering before or not, you're always welcome. We'll meet for devotions and conversation between worship services (around 9:30) on Sunday, April 23, in the Fireside Room at FLC. Grab a snack and a cup of coffee from the Fellowship Window, and feel free to bring little ones.

Need a change of scenery? Want some time to connect with other moms? Join Pastor Kristen and her kids at FLC on Saturday, April 1, from 10:00 am – noon. Feel free to bring your kids, their bikes/trikes/stroller/favorite toys, and a lunch! We'll have some toys and craft supplies available and will play from 10:00-11:30 or so, and then have an indoor picnic.

If you'd like to get Moms' Group emails, have an idea for an outing, or have questions, please let Pastor Kristen know! [kristen@farmingtonlutheran.com](mailto:kristen@farmingtonlutheran.com)

## FOOD ON THE 4th - 965 lbs!

Thanks to all who contributed to Food on the 4th this month! Our donations weighed in at 965 lbs, plus financial gifts. The MN FoodShare March Campaign will consider this when allocating matching gifts to the food shelf. Thank you!



## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

While grief is a reality in all our lives, sometimes it becomes a burden that's especially hard to carry. If the weight of your grief is overwhelming you, find some help and comfort with Farmington Lutheran's Grief Support Group. The next round of the Grief Support Group will begin meeting on Sunday, April 16, after the second worship service (around 11:30.) We'll plan to meet for six consecutive Sundays, all at 11:30, for about an hour each time. You are welcome to participate whether you can make all six sessions or not, and whether you've been a part of a Grief Support Group before or not. Please let Pastor Kristen know if you plan to attend or if you have questions: [kristen@farmingtonlutheran.com](mailto:kristen@farmingtonlutheran.com)



# SUMMER at FLC

## CAMP EMMAUS- REGISTER HERE

Dates: June 2 – June 3, 2023

Grades: Current 2nd and 3rd Graders

Time: 7:00pm – 11:00am

Location: FLC

## VBS: STELLAR- REGISTER HERE

Dates: July 17-20, 2023 \*No programming Friday

Grades: Pre-K\* – entering 4th

\*Pre-K class – 3 years old and toilet trained

Time: 9 am – 12 pm

Location: FLC

## KIC ROCKS- REGISTER HERE

Dates: July 17-20, 2023 \*No programming Friday

Grades: Entering 5th and 6th

Time: 9 am – 12 pm

Location: FLC (other locations TBD)

## SEEDS WEEKEND AT WAPO- REGISTER HERE

Dates: June 23-25, 2023

Grades: Completed grades 1 – 3

## CAMP WAPO WEEK LONG- REGISTER HERE

Dates: June 25- June 30, 2023

Grades: Completed grades 4 – 9

Have you noticed the tree in the Gathering Area with all the HANDS? We have put together ways to help get youth to camp, help purchase items, and so much more. Stop by and check it out.



## OUTLAW RANCH

Dates: July 22 – 28, 2023

Completed Grades 8 – 12

Custer, South Dakota

What: Outlaw Ranch offers a beautiful and intimate environment ideal for a spiritual retreat, personal growth workshops, horseback riding, and more.

Where: Outlaw Ranch is located on 200 acres of private Black Hills Forest, near Custer, South Dakota and provides a setting conducive for learning, relaxation, and time apart.

Registration is due April 12th. DON'T MISS OUT! Only 20 spots available.

## QUICK REMINDERS

**No Sunday FLC TIME on Sunday, April 2 or Sunday, April 9**

**No Wednesday FLC TIME on Wednesday, April 5 or Wednesday, April 12**

**First and Second Graders have their special milestones on PRAYER on Sunday, April 16. [Register Here.](#)**

**Current Second Graders (incoming Third Graders) are invited to attend a New Bible milestone on Sunday, May 14. [Register Here.](#)**



# FLY UPDATES

## FLY LENTEN MEAL

Thank you FLY families for picking up the Pizza Man tab so our FLC family could enjoy a pizza night together. Thank you FLY students for taking the time to serve everyone and thank you to all of those who helped support out students that are going on a FLY Summer Adventure Trip.



## FLY 8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION MENTORING

8th grade Confirmation students have been meeting with their chosen mentor during Lent. There have been a lot of those meetings happening here at FLC and it's been fun to watch these meaningful conversations take place. Thank you to all that are taking the time to invest in these students by mentoring them.

## KOIN MARTIN LUTHER MOVIE & STUDY

Students in KOIN enjoyed watching Paul the Apostle to Christ. It helped give them a visual of what's happening in the book of Acts. We enjoyed that so much that we as group decided to do it again, but this time we are watching a movie about the life and ministry of Martin Luther. We have enjoyed this movie as are getting a better understanding of who we are and what we believe.



# upcoming fundraiser events

## FARMINGTON LANES: FRIDAY, MARCH 31

On Friday, March 31st FLY invites you to come bowl and have dinner at Farmington Lanes from 5pm to 7:30pm. This will be a fun night for Farmington Lutheran Church people to have a fun night of fellowship and support our youth who are participating in a FLY summer adventure Trip. Farmington Lanes will give FLY 50 percent of the proceeds towards those going on a summer trip.

## PIZZA RANCH: MONDAY, MAY 8

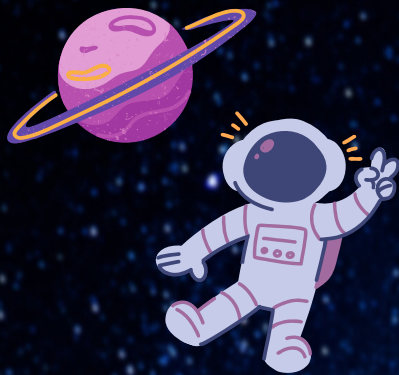
Come support our youth who are participating in one of FLY's summer adventure trips by enjoying dinner with your family at Pizza Ranch in Lakeville. Our youth will be bussing tables to help offset their cost for the trip that they will participate in. This event will be happening on Wednesday, May 8th from 4pm-8pm. Please grab a Pizza Ranch Flyer at the blue youth table in our welcome area and present it to the Pizza Ranch employee at the register. We will get 10 percent of the proceeds that evening.

## BACHMAN'S ANNUAL & PERENNIAL FUNDRAISING

Students that are fundraising towards their FLY summer adventure trip have the option of selling annuals, perennials, and vegetable from Bachman's. Any student who is interested in raising money though this fundraiser can pick up a packet at church in the welcome area. Plant sales begin now and will end on Wednesday, May 5th. Please see Nick if you have any questions.



CAMP



Are you a creative, crafty person? It's that time of year again where we reach out to our congregation to help us create decorations for VBS!

VBS this year has an Out of This World theme and we are looking to SHINE JESUS' LIGHT.

We need some awesome props and backgrounds made for the entire church building.

Here are some ideas, but feel free to come up with your own as well!

Contact Dawn with any questions.



## WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Morning Worship  
8:30am and 10:30am  
Livestreaming at 10:30am



[www.farmingtonlutheran.com](http://www.farmingtonlutheran.com)

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