



MARK TIMES

April 8, 2018 + The Second Sunday of Easter



From Your Pastor...

I recently read a thought-provoking article on CNN.com called “**How Easter became a #MeToo moment.**” The “#MeToo movement” is the viral campaign intended to raise awareness about sexual assault and harassment against women. A key component of the stories told by the women in this movement is that in most cases, they were made to feel that their experiences were not something they should make a big deal about – that they should just “keep quiet.” This concept feeds into the patriarchal idea that women’s voices don’t count as much as men’s voices do, and therefore can be ignored. Having lived among strong and exceedingly capable women for my entire life, I am as angered as I am heartbroken by the stories told by the women in the #MeToo movement.



The CNN article showed that even Jesus’ closest friends were not immune to the effects of patriarchal attitudes. In Luke’s gospel, when the women who witnessed the empty tomb went to tell what they had seen to Jesus’ male disciples, “they did not believe

the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense” (Luke 24:11). The NRSV says that the women’s’ words seemed an “idle tale.” The Greek word is *leiros*, which my professor said is a “locker room word,” i.e., “BS.”

“...Easter is also a story about how charismatic female leaders such as Mary Magdalene... were victimized by some of the same behavior that sparked the #MeToo movement: the sexually predatory behavior of men, the intimidation of women and an orchestrated attempt to silence women who drew too much attention when they spoke up.”

Of course, this was in a culture in which the law said a woman’s testimony didn’t count in court. But we should be struck by the fact that similar disregard and disrespect for women still happens today by plenty of people who also claim to be followers of Jesus.

You can find the article at <https://www.cnn.com/2018/03/30/world/easter-metoo-jesus/index.html>

Pastor Brian

Welcome Pastor Karen!

We welcome the **Rev. Karen Scherer** (recently retired from Unity in Bel-Nor) as our guest preacher & presider this morning. Thank you for being with us!

First Communion Classes



If you have a child in Kindergarten or higher and think they may be ready to receive Holy Communion, please talk to Pastor Brian. He will lead 1st Communion classes after Sunday School on **April 15, 22, and 29**, with **First Communion on May 6**. Parent participation is **strongly encouraged!**

Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Brian is on vacation today, and will be at the Liturgical Institute in Valparaiso, Indiana **through Wednesday, April 11**. The **Rev. Mark Sidney (530-5142)** will be on call in case of pastoral emergency.



TURTLES Movie Night

Jr. & Sr. TURTLES come to Pastor & Melanie’s house **THIS Friday, April 13 at 6:00PM** for a movie night. **Bring a favorite movie and \$5** for pizza and drinks! Please RSVP to Melanie by Wednesday.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday-Wednesday		<i>Pastor at Liturgical Institute</i>
Wednesday, 4/11	11:30AM	St. Mark Table Talk led by Pr. John Lottes: <i>Resurrection Parallels</i>
Thursday	7:00PM	Bell Choir
	8:00PM	Voice Choir
Friday	6:00PM	Jr/Sr TURTLES Movie Night at PB's House
Sunday, 4/15	9:00AM	The Divine Liturgy
	10:20AM	Coffee & fellowship
		Adult Forum: "The Lost Chapter of the Acts of the Apostles," led by Pr. Brian
	10:30AM	Sunday School
	11:30AM	First Communion class—conf. room

Offerings for April 1, 2018

Sunday worship attendance:	111
General Fund Donations	\$3,585
ELCA World Hunger	\$51

Date	Offerings	Expenses	Difference
4/1-4/7	\$3,585	\$75.00	\$3,510
YTD	\$40,324.19	\$43,979.33	-\$3,655.14

Got Old Luggage to Get Rid Of?

"Heroes That Care," a group of local veterans, is collecting used luggage & backpacks in good condition to give to Children and Family Services. Foster children, have any luggage, are given two trash bags to put their stuff in. This group wants to make sure as many foster children as possible have actual luggage or backpacks. Items can be dropped off at the Belleville Khoury League (411 W. Monroe) THIS Wednesday, April 11 between 6-8PM.

105 East "D" Street, Belleville, IL 62220
 Office: 618.233.9809 Fax: 618.233.4090
 Pastor Brian's cell phone: 314.363.6784

Sunday, April 15, 2018

LESSONS:

Acts 3:12-19
 Psalm 4
 1 John 3:1-7
 Luke 24:36b-48

LOOKING AHEAD

WORSHIP SERVERS

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison
Assisting Minister: Greg Martens
Acolyte: Renee Southers
Crucifer: Rex Rothgangel
Chalice Bearer: Tom Partelow
Lector: Cheryl Newsome
Ushers: Frank Dressel & Jason Martens

Upcoming Adult Education

Today, Sunday, April 8: No Adult Forum
Wednesday, April 11: St. Mark Table Talk led by the Rev. Dr. John Lottes: *Resurrection Parallels*
Sunday, April 15: *The Lost Chapter of the Acts of the Apostles*, by Pastor Brian
Sunday, April 22: Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

This Club is the TOPS!



If you need some support and accountability, along with nutritional guidance and encouragement, consider joining TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly). TOPS meets at Trinity United Church of Christ (47 N Douglas, Belleville) on Monday nights. Weigh-in begins at 5:30p and the meeting begins at 6:30p. Come visit for free and see what it's all about!

Shell Out for the TURTLES

Starting next Sunday, April 15, grab an envelope with a \$ amount on it and "shell-out" a few bucks to help the three youth going to the Gathering make it to Houston this summer!

St. Mark Table Talk Bring a lunch and join us around the conference table at 11:30AM on Wednesday in the office building for April's Table Talk as the Rev. Dr. John Lottes explores "Resurrection Parallels."

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