

APRIL  
2022

# United in Faith News



april

*Why are we  
Here?  
We are to  
be God's  
hands,  
feet and  
voice  
in the  
world.*



From the desk of . . .

*Pastor Carla*



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

"Council meetings are boring." "Church councils never do anything interesting." "Why would I want to serve on council anyway?" I've heard all these statements before (in varied places). Sometimes the work of a congregational council (like our "board of directors") feels unglamorous and dry. I know that's the case. But recently, I've been experiencing our council's work as inspired and inspiring. Challenging, at times. Complex, at times. Difficult, at times. But filled with godly encouragement and leading along the way.

At the March 2022 council meeting, just after the state and city lifted mask mandates on public gatherings, United in Faith's council faced a renewed decision about whether to require or request masks. This kind of conversation can be very anxiety-producing to pastors and leaders, because there are differences of opinion and masking has become such a political hot button topic. I was impressed with United in Faith's council civil and measured discussion about this topic. We used CDC recommendations, Metropolitan Chicago synod suggested guidelines, scientific understandings, and personal reflections.

We sought to "include all in God's work" and "meet people where they are" (two of congregation's guiding principles). We wanted to make a value statement (that masks can assist us in caring for ourselves and our neighbors) while also acknowledging the difficulties that mask-wearing can cause (and the lower transmission rates in our area at this time). We also wanted to expand how we expressed our congregational welcome to all. Council members discussed all sorts of possible language and decided that our new UIF mask policy would be: "Masks Encouraged." You will see this change reflected in signage and publicity materials at UIF. There may still be settings in which we ask you to wear masks – in certain circumstances or if/when COVID mitigation measures in state or city change.

Also at March's meeting, I led United in Faith's council in a devotion using a Living Lutheran magazine article about ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response and their international work in Ukraine and neighboring countries (see link further below). As of the council meeting date (March 15), our denomination, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, had already given \$1.3 million. According to the Living Lutheran article, "more than 2 million people are seeking refuge in neighboring countries, including Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Romania and Moldova. There are major humanitarian concerns for both internally displaced people and refugees."

(OVER)-->

At  
United in Faith,  
The Guiding  
Principles are:

+

Jesus is  
Lord and  
*Savior*

+

Reflect  
God's *Love*

+

Pray and  
*listen* for God's  
guidance

+

Continue to  
strengthen  
*faith*

+

Include *All*  
in God's  
*work*

+

Meet people  
*where they  
are*

## FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR CARLA, CONTINUED..

Our United in Faith council was inspired by the generosity of the ELCA so far and decided to match donations from UIF members/friends to Lutheran Disaster Response. We were led by the Holy Spirit to “pray and listen for God’s guidance” and to “reflect God’s love,” as we agreed to match disaster response donations for Ukraine from UIF friends and members. We are called to be God’s hands, feet, and voice in this world, and we take that call very seriously. This is just one of the many ways we are living out our call in the world.

This means that your \$50 donation will become a \$100 donation to help the people in and around Ukraine impacted by the war and related displacement. Your gift must be given to/through UIF (check written to “United in Faith Lutheran Church”) so that we know how much to match (place in the white bucket with a Ukrainian flag on it – or send a check with memo line labeled “Ukraine disaster fund”).

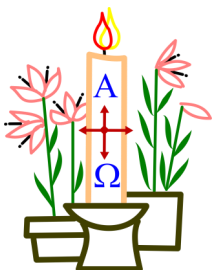
“Through the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), LDR is supporting member churches including the German Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine, the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland, the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovakia, the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Romania and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Romania. These churches are distributing basic necessities such as food, water and toiletries, as well as providing pastoral and psychological care and assisting members of Roma communities and foreign nationals.”

Full article at: <https://www.livinglutheran.org/2022/03/accompaniment-in-a-time-of-crisis/>

Yes, UIF’s council is inspiring and inspired. (Yes, this sounds like a commercial for serving on UIF’s council...) If you feel inspired as well, continue to encourage our leaders, give generously so that we can continue our work (including Ukraine disaster response efforts), and invite others to worship with us.

We hope that you will invite at least 3 other people to join you for our Palm Sunday worship service on April 10<sup>th</sup>, at 10am (in person or livestreamed). We will have a procession with palms at the beginning of worship and hear about the beginning of the Holy Week story. We can do all sorts of official publicity, but without a personal invitation, many people will never choose to visit. You might even offer to pick your guest up at their house – or to meet them in the parking lot and enter together. As St. Paul reminds us in Romans 10:14-15 “...how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

*Pastor Carla*



*Easter Blessings to all!*

# Our Clothing, the Environment and Our Health

We have all heard about ways to reduce, reuse, repurpose and recycle our clothing. Don't become a victim of Fast Fashion (cheap and low quality clothing produced quickly to meet fashion trends that are soon replaced by the next trend) by buying quality, more classic clothing. Take the wearables you no longer need to a resale shop for a second life. Shop that resale store yourself. Repair clothes you have instead of discarding and buying new - replace zippers, patch holes, sew split seams, replace buttons, mend socks. Find ways to repurpose the cloth in clothes you no longer wear - make new clothing items, towels, a quilt, rags for cleaning, a tote bag. Receive and give Hand Me Downs.

Now let's take a look at the fabrics themselves. Many fabrics contain harmful chemicals. Some water and stain resistant materials contain PFAS, a class of about 9,000 compounds called "forever chemicals" because they don't naturally break down and are found in our soil, water and air. They are linked to cancer, reduced immunity, liver disease, kidney problems, birth defects and others. More than 60% of our clothes are made with synthetic textiles derived from oil — textiles like acrylic, nylon and polyester. Producing these synthetic fibers has a profound impact on our climate. It is a source of global warming. In addition, BPA, another harmful chemical, is found in these plastic textiles and can be absorbed through our skin. Consider non cotton socks worn for hours at a time and those cozy fleece items we loved to wear during the pandemic. BPA is also shed during laundering and enters our water systems.

So what can we do as consumers? Look for and purchase items that are PFAS free (read the tags) and that use natural fabrics. Natural fabrics, derived from plants and animals, include cotton, wool, silk, linen, hemp, cashmere, denim, leather, jute, ramie, camel hair, and mohair. As advocates for our health and environment, hold both the oil and gas sector and their downstream customers in the apparel sector accountable for putting the health of all of our children and our planet at risk. Keep the petroleum in the ground and the petrochemicals out of our homes.

*Pam Marino*

## **HELP US "FILL THE DRAWER" DURING LENT:**

The Central Conference of the Metro Chicago Synod will be gathering donations of new pairs of men's, women's and children's socks and underwear for local homeless shelters or domestic violence shelters or other agencies who can distribute them. The items are the most needed - and sometimes the least donated. We are collecting the items until April 17th (in this round of donations). This was originally imagined as a partner service project with the ELCA Youth Gathering (which is no longer happening this year).

We do not know exactly where these will be donated to in our conference, but in the meantime, please bring donations of new pairs of men's, women's and children's socks and underwear to start our "Fill The Drawer" donations. Add donations to the drawer in the narthex area. Thank you!

# Holy Week 2022 Worship Schedule

*Palm/Passion Sunday, April 10th:*

10:00 am in person worship & on line

*Maundy Thursday, April 14th:*

10:00 am in person worship

7:00 pm in person and on line

*Good Friday, April 15th:*

11:00 am in person worship

7:00 pm in person and on line

*Easter Sunday, April 17th:*

10:00 am in person Easter worship service and on line



## FOCUS ON HUNGER & DISASTER RELIEF: IN WHAT WAYS WILL YOU SERVE?

**ELCA World Hunger**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



Your Gifts to ELCA World Hunger help our church creatively and courageously find solutions to **Hunger** and **Poverty** in over 60 countries and the United States. Together, we work towards a just world where all are fed.

When the dust settles & headlines change, we - as Lutheran Christians through *Lutheran Disaster Response* and with our trusted partners - stay to provide *ongoing assistance & hope* to those in need of continuing aid.



Will you help with your gift today?

GIVE online at [elca.org/Donate](http://elca.org/Donate)

GIVE by phone at 800-638-3522

Learn ways to ADVOCATE

at [elca.org/advocacy](http://elca.org/advocacy)

GIVE by mail with a stamp to:

Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
ELCA Gift Processing Center  
P.O. Box 1809  
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

***Welcome and Congratulations to  
Your UIF Council Members and Officers!***

**President** – Kim Childress

**Vice President** – Jeff Jewell

**Secretary** – Gretchen Quillin

**Treasurer** – Peter Herberg

**Ministry Director Representative** – Gretchen Quillin

**Elisabeth Wittman** – Member

**Julie Lozich** – Member

**Harold Edmonson** – Member

**Mary Haas** - Member

**Financial Secretary** – George Schultz

**Pastor Carla Thompson Powell**

## FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS planned for April: No age requirement (talk to Pastor Carla if you are uncertain whether it's the "right" time for your child to start taking communion).

Saturday, April 2nd, 9th, and 16th at 9am, Pastor Carla will be meeting with kids who are preparing to take communion for the first time on Easter Sunday (April 17th).

Let Pastor Carla know if you are interested in this class (or if your child is ready for a future class but you can't make it this time).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	Communion Set up	Door Greeter	Usher(s)	Assisting Minister
Sunday, April 3 - 10:00 am				Pete Herberg
Sunday, April 10 - 10:00 am				Denise Boyer
Thurs. April 14 - 11:00 am				Dian Hoyem
Thurs. April 14 - 7:00 pm	xxxxxx			
Friday April 15 - 11:00 am	xxxxxx			Pete Herberg
Friday April 15 - 7:00 pm	xxxxxx			
Sunday, April 17 - 10:00 am				Dian Hoyem
Sunday, April 24 - 10:00 am				



April 4  
April 6  
April 8

April 10  
April 11  
April 18

April 20  
April 22

April 22  
April 23

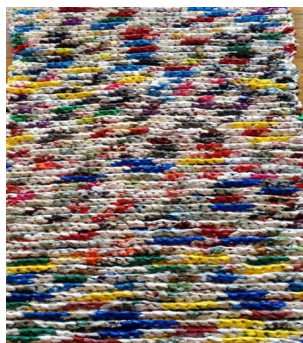
Linda Smith  
Mickey Bligh  
Myrna & John  
Powrozek Anniversary  
Fred Clauson  
Terrie Miller Wilk  
Julie & Matt  
Lozich Anniversary  
Meghan Kosner  
John & Tricia  
Dombroski Anniversary  
Denise Boyer  
Daniel Barsaloux



Hello everyone! Well we are about done with cookie season this year. If you feel like it didn't really start, you are not alone. The dreaded supply chain difficulties also hit Girl Scout Cookies this year. That means our troops can get on with other things! Right now the Cadettes, Seniors,

and Ambassador (jr high and high school girls) are planning their camp trip to Juniper Knoll in Wisconsin in early April. We are inviting the Junior troop to come with us. We are hopeful for some good weather and fun times as we have not been camping since the Fall of '19! That is much too long to be away from camping! The older girls are working on Mental Health Awareness, and some crafts and one of the girls is working on her Gold Award before she graduates this spring. The Juniors have been working on art badges and the Brownies and Daisys have been bouncing along. Hope we all get to enjoy springtime weather soon!

*Janeen*



**Next New Life for Old Bags** workday on  
April 2nd at 11:00 am - 12:30 pm  
is drop off or pick up only



# April 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 6:30 PM AA	<b>2</b> 9:00 AM First Communion Class - in person 9:30 AM AI-Anon 11:00 AM NLOB 4:00 PM Survivors of Incest Anonymous
<b>3</b> 9:00 AM Coffee Hour 9:00 AM Older Kids Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>4</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry 1:00 PM Ladies Discussion Group	<b>5</b> 10:00 AM Rebels Bingo 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	<b>6</b> 11:00 AM MID WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP in person 7:00 PM MID WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP in person & on-line	<b>7</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry 10:00 AM Rebels Bingo 6:00 PM Brownies/Daisy	<b>8</b> 6:30 PM AA	<b>9</b> 9:00 AM First Communion Class - in person 9:30 AM AI-Anon 4:00 PM Survivors of Incest Anonymous
<b>10</b> PALM/PASSION SUNDAY 9:00 AM Coffee Hour 9:00 AM Older Kids Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>11</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry 1:00 PM Ladies Discussion Group 7:00 PM Monthly Service Unit Meeting (Unit 286)	<b>12</b> 10:00 AM Rebels Bingo 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	<b>13</b>	<b>14 MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry 10:00 AM Rebels Bingo 11:00 AM Worship Service - in person 6:00 PM Brownies/Daisy 7:00 PM Worship Service - in person and online 7:30 PM Troop 81 Meeting	<b>15 GOOD FRIDAY</b> 11:00 AM Worship Service - in person 6:30 PM AA 7:00 PM Worship Service - in person and online	<b>16</b> 9:00 AM First Communion Class - in person 9:30 AM AI-Anon 4:00 PM Survivors of Incest Anonymous
<b>17</b> EASTER SUNDAY 9:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>18</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry 1:00 PM Ladies Discussion Group	<b>19</b> 10:00 AM Rebels Bingo 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting - Choir Room 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry 10:00 AM Golden Rebels Bingo 6:00 PM Brownies/Daisy	<b>22</b> 6:30 PM AA	<b>23</b> 9:30 AM AI-Anon 4:00 PM Survivors of Incest Anonymous
<b>24</b> 9:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM Worship in person and livestreamed	<b>25</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry	<b>26</b> 10:00 AM Rebels Bingo 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9:00 AM Food Pantry 10:00 AM Golden Rebels Bingo 6:00 PM Brownies/Daisy	<b>29</b> 6:30 PM AA	<b>30</b> 9:30 AM AI-Anon 4:00 PM Survivors of Incest Anonymous

**THIS CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**  
Please check the website at [www.unitedinfaith.org](http://www.unitedinfaith.org)  
for up to date information.

# APRIL WORSHIP AT UNITED IN FAITH

<b>APRIL 3</b> Lent 5	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am	Coffee Hour Older Kids Sunday School Worship Service in person and on line
<b>APRIL 6</b> Mid week service	11:00 am 7:00 pm	Worship Service in person Worship Service in person and on line
<b>APRIL 10</b> Palm/Passion Sunday	9:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am	Coffee Hour Older Kids Sunday School Worship Service in person and on line
<b>APRIL 14</b> Maundy Thursday	11:00 am 7:00 pm	Worship Service in person Worship Service in person and on line
<b>APRIL 15</b> Good Friday	11:00 am 7:00 pm	Worship Service in person Worship Service in person and on line
<b>APRIL 17</b> Easter Sunday	9:00 am 10:00 am	Coffee Hour Worship Service in person and on line
<b>APRIL 24</b> Easter 2	9:00 am 10:00 am	Coffee Hour Worship Service in person and on line

UNITED IN FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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Pastor

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