



PASTOR'S LETTER

Two years ago in March, we decided to halt worshipping in-person because of virus called COVID-19. We all thought that it would just be temporary, and that we would be back in worship by Easter or shortly after. Pastors discussed that if we couldn't be back in worship until a couple of Sundays after Easter, then we would celebrate Easter that Sunday. No one expected what happened.

We learned to pivot and started to worship online. Last year we celebrated Easter by worshipping outside. We changed our tradition of the altar guild making an arrangement of flowers on the cross to inviting everyone to bring flowers to put on the cross, and made a unique and beautiful cross together. I was so beautiful and fun, that we will continue that practice again this year. We even thought about worshipping outside again this year, but decided to leave that for another year. Everyone wanted to celebrate Easter in the sanctuary this year.

When we began worshipping online, we adapted the service to something that seemed to work better for the situation at the time. When we began hybrid worship (in-person and online), we adapted again. For example, we tried to keep the services shortened to keep our time in a large gathering down. Over time, we have added liturgical elements back into the service. But I am very happy to say that for Easter, our service will be restored to a new normal.

I say "new normal" because we will continue to be a hybrid service, and some things just work better in the new way. And then there are still health concerns, so we will not share the peace amongst ourselves yet. But, we will stand to sing again (but because of my back I will need to sit, as others will also) and we will have communion hymns again as well.

I thought Easter would be a good time to make this change since it is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection which began a new normal for him and his followers. As part of that new normal, I encourage anyone who has not received their vaccine to do so, and to remember that if there is a new surge in cases, we may ask people to wear their masks again since we are considered a large gathering. (But I hope and pray we do not have to.) And, you may always choose to wear a mask.

So, come and celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.

*Blessings,  
Pastor Sandra*

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**LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE**

Palm Sunday	April 10	10:00 am
Maundy Thursday Service	April 14	7:00 pm
Good Friday Service	April 15	Noon
Easter Sunday	April 17	10:00 am

Easter Egg Hunt                      After worship  
**Children are invited to bring their own basket**

**FLOWERS  
FOR THE CROSS ON EASTER**

On Easter morning, you are invited to bring a flower(s) to decorate the Easter Cross. Flowers can be real or artificial, any kind, any color.

**LILIES: ORDER DEADLINE IS APRIL 10**

The Altar Guild adorns the narthex and altar with lilies at Easter. You may order plants and pick them up after the 10:00 a.m. service on Easter Sunday (April 17, 2022). To order, order forms on the piano can be placed in the collection plate along with the payment., OR, you can order on Tithely by submitting the payment and choosing "Easter/Christmas Flowers" as the fund. In the notes section, type the names of the people that the flowers are dedicated to.

*Our sympathies go out to the family of DeWitt Atkinson, who passed away March 26th. The service will be Friday, April 8 at 10:30 am at House of Prayer. Please keep Frieda, Lisa, Lonna, Laura and his entire family in your prayers.*

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Frieda Atkinson, Pat Barham, Scott Dittloff, Don Leonard, Peter Georgiev, Edna Hacker, Donald Leonard Jr, Alice Little, Harry Miller, Faye Randow, Marion Schroeder, Lupe Udiales, Marta Yanez, Jess Young, and Our Military, particularly Christian Alaniz, Ozzie Alaniz, Jordan Bielfeldt, Michael Foglio, & all our veterans.

**COUNCIL ADVICE REGARDING COVID:** The San Antonio positivity rate is below 10%, so masks are optional.

**APRIL  
CELEBRATIONS**



**Birthdays:**

- Peter Georgiev, 4/4
- Don Leonard, 4/5
- Paige Vetter, 4/12
- Paul Westerberg, 4/23
- Emmie Lou Schwarzer, 4/29

**Anniversaries:**

- Dave and Linda Johnson,  
4/3
- Don and Margaret Leonard,  
4/16



**VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE: Thank you for all you do! You are much appreciated!**

	Readers	PowerPoint	Tellers	Altar Guild
APR 3	Celeste Fernandez	Kirsten Mangin	Karen Forse & Roberta Hanes	<p><b>April 3</b>--Kirsten Mangin PURPLE/LENT 5 Hang Palm Sunday Banner</p> <p><b>April 8</b>—Peggy Thackston Pick up Teepee Palms</p> <p><b>April 10</b>—Peggy Thackston PURPLE/PALM SUNDAY</p> <p><b>April 14</b>—All members MAUNDY THURSDAY Strip Altar during service</p> <p><b>April 15</b>—Peggy Thackston/GOOD FRIDAY</p> <p><b>Saturday/ April 16</b> --All prepare for Easter—Pick up flowers. Change paraments to WHITE/EASTER. Put White drape on cross Behind Altar. Put palms in stands and place behind Altar. Put Easter lilies on stand in Narthex. Put Styrofoam CROSS on the standing wood cross stand. Move it to front of church near organ. Hang Easter Banner.</p> <p><b>April 17</b>--Ray and Margret WHITE/EASTER Take down palms/palm stands; 10 am Communion Throw palms in dumpster.</p> <p><b>Later in week</b> --Peggy Thackston—take Easter flowers from decorated cross on stand.</p> <p><b>April 24</b>—Ray and Margret WHITE/EASTER 2</p>
APR 10	Daphne Winter	Katie Winter	Karen Long & Jenifer Larson	
APR 17	Dick Thackston		Linda Johnson & Roger Mathre	
APR 24	Dave Johnson	Julie Rowe	Paige Vetter & Julie Rowe	
<p><b>This Month's Communion Assistant is</b> Dave Johnson</p>				
<p><b>This month's usher is</b> Paul Piper</p>				



**A MESSAGE FROM LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE**

We are accompanying our companion churches in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as the Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis in Ukraine.

These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water and hygiene kits. Your gifts will support Ukrainians and others. Gifts to “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries. You can control+click this link to reach the donation site.

<https://community.elca.org/eastern-europe-crisis-response?erid=6944821b-9a5f-4501-a0ef-cae339cb25ac&trid=6944821b-9a5f-4501-a0ef-cae339cb25ac>

**FULL-TIME JOB OPENING WITH THE LUTHERAN FOUNDATION**

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest has a full-time position opening for an associate gift planner for the Southwestern Texas Synod. The associate gift planner will be responsible for cultivating legacy gifts and presenting opportunities for long-term ministry investments in the LFSW Multi Asset Fund and ELCA Ministry Growth Fund. The associate gift planner will report to Deacon John Dellis, director of legacy planning and senior gift planner for the synod, and will be expected to reside in the territory of the synod. For more information contact Deacon Dellis at (830) 305-2758 or [jdellis@lfsw.org](mailto:jdellis@lfsw.org).



### MEDICAL EQUIPMENT DRIVE

If you have medical equipment lying around or in storage that you don't need, please bring it to church and we will have it picked up by Project Mend. Project Mend takes your used medical equipment, refurbishes it, and then gives it to someone in need. If you are donating a power chair or hospital bed, please contact the church office at 210-696-1194 to make special arrangements first.)

ART GROUP ON HIATUS: Due to the increase in COVID, the art group will not meet until further notice.

### CAM DONATIONS FOR APRIL: Peanut Butter and Jelly



**cam**  
christian  
assistance  
ministry

## A MESSAGE FROM

### CAM NEEDS YOUR HELP

We were hit with some unexpected occurrences this week...

This past Monday, tons of South American refugees were dropped off on CAM's campus. San Antonio is expecting 4,000 more refugees to be dropped off and thankfully, the City has developed a plan to get them to where they need to be. In the meantime, thankfully CAM provided services these people needed, to include showers, food, clothing, etc.

That said, because this was an unexpected occurrence, many of our resources were depleted, including men's jeans and men's shoes. We are in desperate need to fill our shelves again with men's jeans sizes 28-34 as well as men's shoes sizes 8, 9, and 10.

If you have it in your hearts, here's how you can help us:  
Share this message with everyone you know so we can spread the word  
Go through your closets and consider donating men's jeans and/or men's shoes  
Consider purchasing men's jeans and/or men's shoes for CAM  
Donate to CAM online by clicking the blue button below

Bring your donations to the church to be taken to CAM

**Control+click on this link to get to cam's donation page**

**<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E4345&id=7>**

## FREE CONCERT

Primsight, our Emmaus friends from Helotes Hills, invites you to relax and enjoy a night of music to celebrate Easter. Please click on the link for more details and to let us know you will be attending - that helps with seating.

*Primsight, Road to Redemption* concert, Saturday April 2, 2022, 6 pm, University UMC, 5185 DeZavala, Youth Worship Center. The concert is a gift from Primsight

For more information and tickets, follow this link:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d44abad2ba2ff2-primsight>



## CIELO GARDEN AND MINISTRIES NEWS

On April 23, the day after Earth Day, there will be a blessing of the garden.  
The Burundi Choir will sing, and a shared meal will be served.

### APRIL 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	QUILTERS in the quilting room at 8:00 a.m.	ADULT BIBLE STUDY in the quilting room 8:00 a.m.				
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>PALM SUNDAY</b>  10:00 a.m. WORSHIP in-person and on Facebook  11:00 a.m. - Adult Class - Handbell Choir Practice	QUILTERS in the quilting room at 8:00 a.m.	ADULT BIBLE STUDY in the quilting room at 8:00 a.m.		MAUNDY THURS.  7 PM SERVICE	GOOD FRIDAY  NOON SERVICE	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<b>EASTER</b>  10:00 a.m. WORSHIP in-person and on Facebook  11:00 a.m. - <b>EASTER EGG HUNT</b>	QUILTERS in the quilting room at 8:00 a.m.	ADULT BIBLE STUDY in the quilting room at 8:00 a.m.				CIELO GARDEN BLESSING EVENT (SEE ABOVE)
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:00 a.m. WORSHIP in-person and on Facebook  11:00 a.m. - Adult Class - Handbell Choir Practice	QUILTERS in the quilting room at 8:00 a.m.	ADULT BIBLE STUDY in the quilting room at 8:00 a.m.				



**HOUSE OF PRAYER**

[houseofprayerlutheranchurch@gmail.com](mailto:houseofprayerlutheranchurch@gmail.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/hoplcsa/>

[www.hoplcsa.org](http://www.hoplcsa.org)

(210) 696-1194

Reverend Sandra Leifeste  
Mandy Winter, Congregation President  
Marcus Trejo, Vice President  
Scott Dittloff, Treasurer  
Shirley Vasquez, Member @ Large  
Personnel, Dave Johnson  
Worship Team, TBA  
Emmie Lou Schwarzer, Ministry Team  
Eva Poblano, Fellowship  
Roberta Hanes, Stewardship  
Lisa Moutria, Property  
Jennifer Alaniz, CIELO Ministries



SACRD.org has a new  
Mental Healthcare Services  
portal. Visit

<https://www.sacrd.org/MentalHealth/>  
to find services to meet your needs.

HOUSE OF PRAYER LUTHERAN CHURCH  
10226 IRONSIDE  
SAN ANTONIO TX 78230

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY