CROSSWORDS

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Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

 Grace and Peace to you in the Name of our Lord and risen Savior Jesus Christ,

 We do indeed shout Alleluia at the news of the resurrection of our Lord. The message of the Church is that we preach Christ and Him crucified. That is the good news of the Gospel. Christ has been crucified for us!

 During the season of Easter we focus on the Resurrection of Christ and what it means for us. What we learn is that the resurrection of Christ us a promise to us. It is a promise that the sacrifice of Christ has been accepted. It is a promise that sins have been paid for once and for all. It is a promise that just as Christ rose from the dead, we too will one day rise. It is also a promise that just as Christ kept His promise about His resurrection; He will also keep His promise to us to return.

 The promise we remember today is the promise that we too will one day rise. In popular culture, the idea of life after death is that you get your angel wings and you are in Heaven forever. As Christians we know we don’t become angels (nor guardian angels) and we know that Heaven isn’t our final destination. We will rise just like Christ. When we confess in the creeds that we look for the resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come, these aren’t throw away lines. This is what Christ has come to bring us…..new life!

 The world was broken when sin entered the world. Christ has come to fix what was broken and restore creation to how it was meant to be. Just as the body and soul were never meant to separate, Christ comes to fix our lives destroyed by sin and will one day restore body and soul to how they were meant to be; sinless, blameless and eternal!

 So this is our joy! Christ makes us whole. For this we shout Alleluia, Christ is Risen! I wish you a very blessed rest of your Easter.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Brian

 **NEWS AND NOTES:**

* **OUR GIVING:** Needed each week: $2,574. Received: 3/26 $1,833; 4/2 $2,836; 4/9 $2,483; 4/16 $5,209; 4/23 $1,958. As of 4/23 we are -$2,056.
* Plan to attend the **PANCAKE BREAKFAST** on Sunday, May 7th, after worship. The proceeds from the freewill offering will be put into our general fund
* On Sunday, June 4th, a **FUNDRAISING BRUNCH WILL BE HELD FOR NAOMI BYTNER** (granddaughter of Ron & Judy Seibert). The monies collected will be given to the family to help pay the many financial challenges facing them.
* Don’t forget **SCRIP** cards during the coming weeks. This is a great way to buy gas, groceries, fast food, gifts, etc. and benefit our Building Program at the same time. Orders are due the last Sunday of each month. Also, don’t forget to save your **TIMERS** **RECEIPTS**. Shawn Voss has generously offered to pay 5% to Chapel (just like Scrip). An envelope marked “Timers Receipts” is on Pastor’s desk by the Scrip orders bin.
* When you make a purchase on **Amazon.com**, pick Lutheran Chapel of the Cross as your charity and 0.5% of your purchase will be donated to church. **The web address is: smile.amazon.com.** Check Lutheran Chapel of the Cross, Mt. Pleasant, as your charity and continue on as usual placing your order.
* **HANGING BASKET AND GERANIUM SALE** to benefit our Relay for Life Team will run from May 7-21. Flowers will be here at church for pickup on May 26th. Checks for plants are to be made out to Eunice Matter. Order forms are on a table just outside the church doors.

Items for the June Crosswords need to be submitted by May 21st.