

The STAR

A Publication of Bethlehem Lutheran Church - Aloha, OR

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN
PRESCHOOL PRESENTS

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2026

11:00AM-12:00PM

18865 SW JOHNSON ST

ALOHA, OR 97003

BEHIND THE PRESCHOOL



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Bethlehem

Lutheran Church & Preschool

Bethlehem Mission Statement

*"Building the family of God through
relationship with Jesus Christ."*

FLOWER CROSSES

Easter Sunday, we will celebrate Jesus' resurrection with flowers.

Please bring cut flowers to fill the crosses. When the crosses are full, we will put them outside and exclaim to Aloha,

"He is Risen!"



Prayer Pause

Mondays @ 7:30pm
Take a moment and join your Bethlehem family as we pray for our church and the call process.

Check your email Mondays at noon.



PRESCHOOL NEWS

WRITTEN BY LAIVA HOFFMAN, DIRECTOR

Ordered plants will arrive Friday, May 1st. May Day!

The preschool is off to a good start enrolling students for next year, but we still have room. Do you know someone with a child who is 3-4 years old? Please refer them to us! We are offering a 3-year-old class on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 12 pm. We are offering two options for our PreK 4-year-old classes: One will meet 9-12 pm Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays and the other PreK 4-year-old class will meet 9-12 pm Mondays through Fridays. To qualify, students need to be potty-trained and be 3 or 4 by September 1st.

The preschool is currently offering an early bird registration discount for next school year. If you know of anyone who is interested please tell them about us. Registration forms are available online as well as a video tour of our building. Our website is: blpaloha.org email: blc.preschool@frontier.com and phone is 971-394-4387.

The Preschool Board is holding its 4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 4th from 11am-12pm. This event has been a wonderful way for our congregation to connect to our Preschool families as well as our surrounding community so please mark your calendars and plan to come!

FOREST HILLS NEWS

Dear Association Church Partners,

We would like to share that Sarah Hoffman will be retiring from Forest Hills Lutheran Christian School at the end of this school year after many years of faithful and dedicated service. We thank God for the many ways she has served our students, families, and school community throughout her time at Forest Hills.

As we begin seeking the teacher God is calling to serve in this role, we ask for your partnership in prayer and assistance. We first seek candidates who hold a Lutheran Teacher's Diploma or have completed LCMS colloquy training. If you know of qualified candidates who may be interested in serving in a Lutheran school ministry, we would appreciate receiving their names for consideration for our Call list.

Please send any recommended names to Principal@fhcls.org.

Thank you for your continued support of the ministry of Forest Hills Lutheran Christian School and for helping us seek the person God has in mind for this position.

Blessings on your day,

Kimberly Luna

Principal



**Bethlehem Lutheran
Preschool**

971.394.4387

Blp-aloha.com

blc..preschool@frontier.com

18865 SW Johnson St
Aloha, OR 97003



**Forest Hills Lutheran
Christian School**

503.359.4853

www.fhcls.org

info@fhcls.org

4221 SW Golf Course Rd
Cornelius, OR 97113

WRITTEN BY ERIC OSWALD, DCE



Dear Bethlehem,

I am saddened Pastors Finney or Gruenwald are not our current pastor. It would be nice if the process of calling a pastor were faster. We're now two and a half years without.

There have been a variety of ideas that have spread because of this. One is that somehow we as a church would just call someone and not use the call committee. Though I understand the expediency of doing so- this idea is disrespectful to those on the call committee who have put in years of work- surveying the congregation, deciding what we as a congregation want: someone who can find joy in being our pastor as they visit shut ins, work with multiple staff, female and male church leadership, offer pastoral care, lead contemporary and traditional worship, live in the northwest, and the like. We have to have 75% of our voting members approve of this person. Without a recommendation from a call committee, I don't see how we can achieve that goal. With the call committee- we have made this happen twice in the last 13 months. That's very impressive!

Some have pointed out a recommendation from the call committee is not outlined in the bylaws nor constitution-which some take to mean we shouldn't have one. However, I've never heard anyone in the LCMS taking a call without a recommendation from a call committee. It also doesn't say in the constitution and bylaws we should worship on Sunday mornings or if we should have Sunday

School. That doesn't mean we shouldn't do those things. You're welcome to dislike the system. It is very unique. However, it would be even more difficult to have 100 people come to consensus to make a decision to hire anyone without a smaller group doing the work. This is why the call committee exists. Please pray for the Holy Spirit's continued work through the call committee, submit names of pastors you think can do the work, and ask how you might support them.

Where is the hope in all of this? Well for one last year we found the salary guidelines for the northwest district were low compared to the Midwest. We then alerted the district to the problem- and they raised the salary guidelines for the entire northwest and will continue to do so for the next three years until we are in line or greater than Midwest guidelines. Also partially because we've been without a pastor- a few folks have begun thinking about pastoral ministry. Please pray for Jeff over the coming weeks as he heads to Concordia St Louis to see if that's God's desire for him and his family's life. He will be leading us in worship on Sunday April 26th.

God is still at work within us and within you. May you see that!

God bless,

Eric Oswald DCE

801-518-9411

YOUTH & CHILDREN NEWS

Youth:

We are preparing for Easter Breakfast and Easter. Saturday April 4th from 10-11am we will be prepping breakfast and serving between 7:30-8:30am and 9:30-10:30am. You can help with the easter egg hunt on Saturday from 11am-12:30pm as well.



VBS:

Rainforest Falls VBS is coming June 22-26 9am- noon. Look for more details to come!

Registration Link: <https://vbspro.events/p/cdc9e1>



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HOLY WEEK

 <h2>Palm Sunday</h2> <p><i>Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!</i> MARCH 29, 2026 10:30AM</p>	 <h2>Maundy Thursday</h2> <p><i>Given for you!</i> APRIL 2, 2026 11:30AM 6:30PM</p>	 <h2>Good Friday</h2> <p><i>It is finished!</i> APRIL 3, 2026 12:00PM 8:00PM</p>	 <h2>Easter Sunday</h2> <p><i>He is Risen!</i> APRIL 5, 2026 6:30AM 8:30AM 11:00AM</p>
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www.BLCFamily.org



Remembrance Luncheon

April 18, 2026
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall
11:30am-2:30pm

A time to remember the losses in our lives through eating together and sharing objects of remembrance for those who have gone before.

RSVP to Heather Cammack at 720-668-1018 or hlcammack@gmail.com

LWML

Ladies gathered for a luncheon/meeting

Business:

- 1) Zone Rally will be held Sat. April 25 at Our Redeemer Lutheran in Tigard. It will start at 9:00a. Engathering-bring socks and underwear. Carpool-we plan to meet at church at 8:30a.
- 2) Oregon District Convention will be held June 26-28 at St. Paul Lutheran in Roseburg.



Lutheran Women in Mission

NEXT MEETING: April 16th @ 11:30a
Bring a salad or a dessert and join us!

LOVE INC NEWS

10TH ANNUAL GOLF EVENT

June 6, 2026

9:30 a.m. Scramble/Shotgun start

Awards and meal to follow

Meriwether National Golf Course
5200 SW Rood Bridge Rd.
Hillsboro, Oregon

For more info visit:

www.loveincgreaterhillsboro.org/golf

<p>This event benefits Love INC of Greater Hillsboro</p>  <p>Who We Are We are a partnership of local Christian churches offering a hand up to neighbors with needs in the greater Hillsboro area.</p> <p>A Hand Up We offer a hand up by taking the time to compassionately listen. Our objective is to not simply meet needs but rather to help individuals thrive and not just survive.</p> <p>You Can Help Your participation provides the funds needed to operate our connection center, provide basic needs, and offer life-changing classes.</p>	<p>Love INC Golf Event info Enjoy a day of golf AND help your neighbors with needs through Love INC of Greater Hillsboro</p> <p>Event Location Meriwether National Golf Club 5200 SW Rood Bridge Rd. Hillsboro, OR 97123</p> <p>Date & Time June 6, 2026 Scramble/shotgun start at 9:30 a.m. Awards and meal to follow</p>  <p>love in the name of Christ Greater Hillsboro office.loveinc@gmail.com PO Box 4131 loveincgreaterhillsboro.org Hillsboro, OR 97123 @hillsboro.loveinc 503.917.0205</p>	 <p>love in the name of Christ Greater Hillsboro GOLF EVENT GOLFERS</p>
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Young Adult Bible Study

2nd & 4th Mondays

6:30p | Youth Room

For those in the 18-29 age range.



Men's Bible Study

1st & 3rd Mondays

6:30p | The Inn

The Creeds

I Believe - Ich Glaube - Credo - Πιστεύω

Sundays | 9:45a

Led by Eli Plopper

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:00pm MK Harp Class (Dbl Clsrm)	2 MAUNDY THURSDAY 10:30am Maundy Thursday Morning Service 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Evening Service	3 GOOD FRIDAY 12:00pm Good Friday Noon Service 7:00pm AA Meeting (Sonrise) 8:00pm Good Friday Tenebrae Service	4 11:00am Preschool Easter Egg Hunt
			5 EASTER SUNDAY 6:30am Easter Sonrise Service w/ Communion 8:30am Easter Festival Service w/ Communion 11:00am Easter Morning Song Service w/Communion 4:30pm Serene & Clean NA Group (Sonrise)	6 OFFICE CLOSED 9:30am Quilting 3:00pm TOPS Meeting (Inn) 5:00pm AA Group (Sonrise) 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Inn)	7 7:00pm Elder's Mtg (Inn) 7:00pm Guide Dogs (CC) 7:00pm Men's AA (Sonrise)	8 6:00pm MK Harp Class (Dbl Clsrm)
12 "Mite Box" Sunday 8:30am Traditional Worship Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Morning Song Worship Service w/Communion 4:30pm Serene & Clean NA Group (Sonrise) 5:30pm Youth Night!	13 9:30am Quilting 3:00pm TOPS Meeting (Inn) 5:00pm AA Group (Sonrise) 6:00pm Preschool Board Meeting 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study (Yth Rm) 7:00pm Women's Bible Study (CC)	14 7:00pm Admin Council (Inn) 7:00pm Guide Dogs (CC) 7:00pm Men's AA (Sonrise)	15 6:00pm MK Harp Class (Dbl Clsrm)	16 11:30am LWML Meeting (Sonrise) 6:30pm Adult Choir (Inn)	17 7:00pm AA Meeting (Sonrise)	18 10:00am Remembrance Luncheon (FH)
19 8:30am Traditional Worship Service w/Communion 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Morning Song Worship Service 4:30pm Serene & Clean NA Group (Sonrise) 5:30pm Youth Night!	20 9:30am Quilting 3:00pm TOPS Meeting (Inn) 5:00pm AA Group (Sonrise) 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Inn)	21 7:00pm Guide Dogs (CC) 7:00pm Men's AA (Sonrise) 7:00pm Trustees Meeting (Inn)	22 6:00pm MK Harp Class (Dbl Clsrm)	23 12:30pm Book Club (Inn) 6:30pm Adult Choir (Inn)	24 10:00am Comforts of Home 7:00pm AA Meeting (Sonrise)	25 2:00pm Private Event
26 8:30am Traditional Worship Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Morning Song Worship Service w/Communion 4:30pm Serene & Clean NA Group (Sonrise) 5:30pm Youth Night!	27 9:30am Quilting 3:00pm TOPS Meeting (Inn) 5:00pm AA Group (Sonrise) 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study (Yth Rm) 7:00pm Women's Bible Study (CC)	28 7:00pm Guide Dogs (CC) 7:00pm Men's AA (Sonrise)	29 6:00pm MK Harp Class (Dbl Clsrm)	30 6:30pm Adult Choir (Inn)		



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

SERVICE ROSTER FOR APRIL 2026



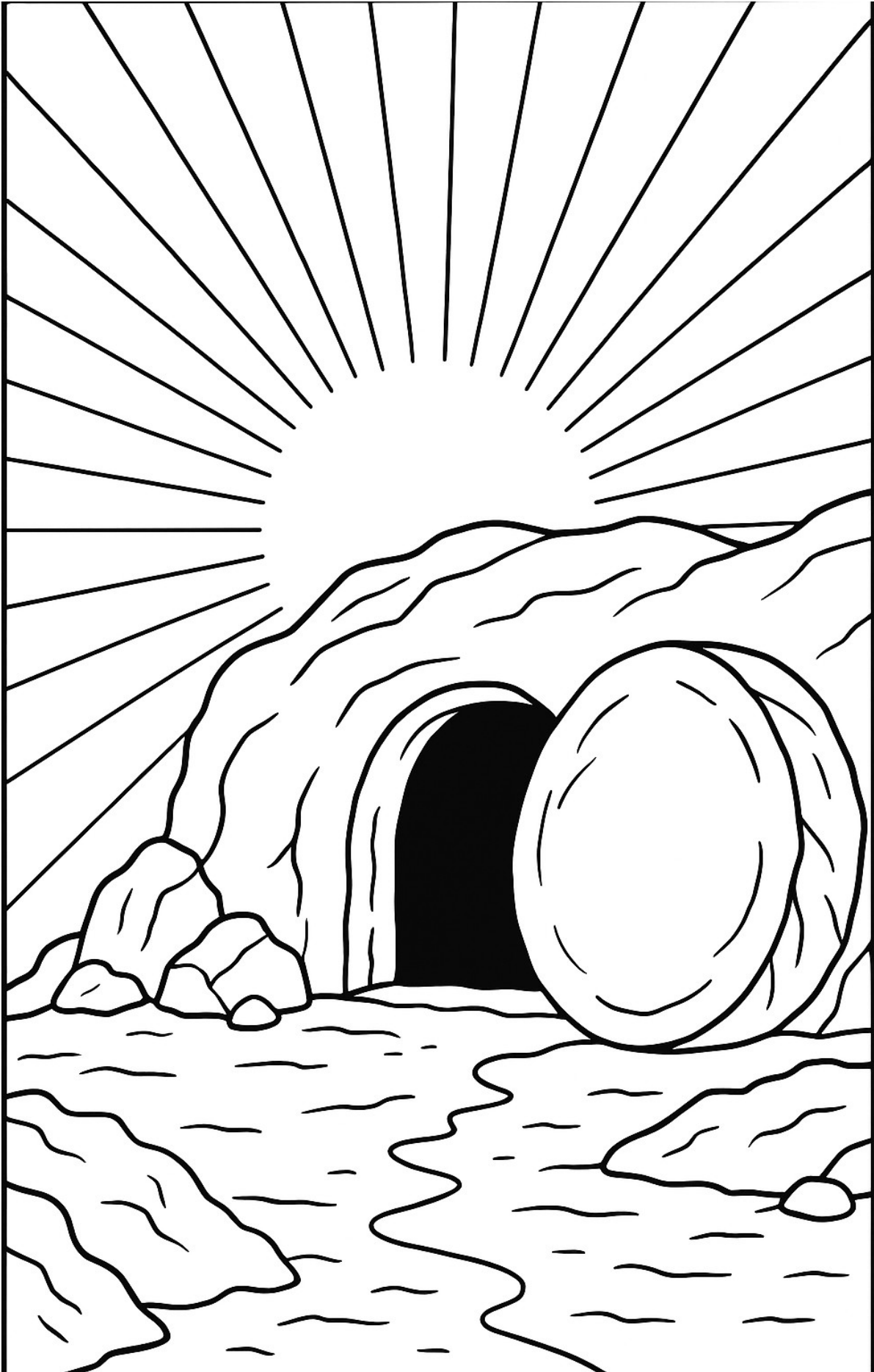
	Apr 5	Apr 12	Apr 19	Apr 26
Eternal Candle	Sponsored this month by LaVonne Hovland.			
Altar Flowers	Easter-Staff	Roger & Marilyn Lindquist	Eric & Becky Oswald	Wayne & Ellen Moses
Elder on Duty 8:30 11:00	Joel Prusi Matt Boelter	Joel Prusi Dennis Fredrick	John Loseke Ivan Weichbrodt	Terry Beale Bob Baker
Acolytes 8:30 11:00	Spike Van Altvorst Anna Van Altvorst Anna Hoffman Erik Agard	Clara Plopper Jillian Davis Erik Agard	Spike Van Altvorst Anna Van Altvorst Anna Hoffman	Clara Plopper Jillian Davis Erik Agard
Lay Reader 8:30 11:00	Heather Cammack Eric Oswald	Greg Geist Mark Leinhos	Dave Cook Becky Oswald	Eli Plopper Jeff Hoffman
Ushers 8:30 11:00	Gayna Flake Darrell Hagen Rick Refsland JoAnna Refsland	Gayna Flake Darrell Hagen Trevor Hoffman Lorna Zimbrick	Lee Kauth Hank Modro Charles Finster Lorna Zimbrick	Gayna Flake Greg Starts Charles Finster Ken Feldhaus
Communion Servers 8:30 11:00	Mark Leinhos Bob Baker	 Mark Leinhos	Greg Starts	 Dennis Fredrick
Altar Guild Set Up Clean Up	Lisa Siewert Heather Cammack	Kay Starts Sharon Werner	Nan Dubberke Lee Kauth	Kathryn Plopper Lorna Zimbrick
Organist @ 8:30	Phyllis Murken	Dwight Siewert	Phyllis Murken	Dwight Siewert
	Easter Sunday	2nd Sunday Of Easter	3rd Sunday Of Easter	4th Sunday Of Easter

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE April 5th @ 6:30am

Elder on Duty: Terry Beale
Organist: Dwight Siewert

Acolyte:
Communion: Greg Starts

Ushers: Dave Dubberke | Hank Modro
Altar Guild: Lisa Siewert | M. Browning



ANNIVERSARIES



Apr 7 Dwight and Julie Siewert (42)

Apr 8 Keith and Lil Harn (54)

Apr 11 Ken and Pam Reid (34)

Apr 14 Roger and Marilyn Lindquist (64)

Apr 23 Jim and Shelly Allen (42)

BIRTHDAYS

Apr 1 Deborah Ruiz

Apr 3 Layla Browning

Apr 3 Michael Cox

Apr 3 Kathryn Plopper

Apr 7 Angela Larson

Apr 8 Leelah Pfanner

Apr 10 Isaac Krantz

Apr 14 Brad Loseke

Apr 15 John Werner

Apr 15 Adelynn Williams

Apr 17 Dena Johnson

Apr 17 Clarence Twenhafel

Apr 22 Kevin Harding

Apr 23 Paige Jenkins

Apr 23 Sam Perkins

Apr 24 Ellen Moses

Apr 25 Sofia Schmidt

Apr 27 Marnie Autio-Lee

Apr 27Carolynn Harding



Bethlehem Lutheran
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18865 SW Johnson St.
Aloha, OR 97003-3164
www.blcfamily.org



April


We Worship

Live-Streamed & In-Person
Sundays 8:30am & 11:00am
www.BLCfamily.org/bethlehem-online

The STAR

APRIL 2026, VOL. 16 NO. 4

Bethlehem Lutheran
Church & Preschool

 "O death,
where is your victory?
O death,
where is your sting?"

-1 Corinthians 15:54-
ESV

Youth & Children
Worship Coord.
Preschool Dir.

Eric Oswald
Joel Hoffman
Laiva Hoffman

Phone: 503.649.3380
BLCfamily.org
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