

# Mountain Lutheran Church

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Ralph B. Herman and Ginger DuMars, Pastors

[www.mountainlutheranchurch.com](http://www.mountainlutheranchurch.com)

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*From Pastor Ralph*

## THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

On April 12<sup>th</sup> (Easter Day) this year millions of Christians throughout the world will share the same Easter greeting. Worship leaders announce, "Christ is risen!" Parishioners affirm, "He is risen indeed!" Sadly, for many worshipers this joyous proclamation has become so commonplace that its life-changing power is reduced to rote recitation of a couple of lines printed in the church bulletin. There is little enthusiasm. With eyes fixed on bulletins, many respond properly and then shuffle through the pages to find what comes next.

So, what comes next? In Mark 16 we note that while the women were still asleep, God rolled back the stone. While the women approached the tomb carrying the burdens of defeat, God had already declared victory. "He has been raised ... he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him" (Mark 16:7). Jesus *is* alive, going ahead of each of us into our own homes and neighborhoods. There we will see Jesus and tell the others we meet. Jesus, the victorious Christ, has been raised. He is living; he will be with us forever! Let's hear all Christians shout

with joy, "Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!"

### *Easter Worship*

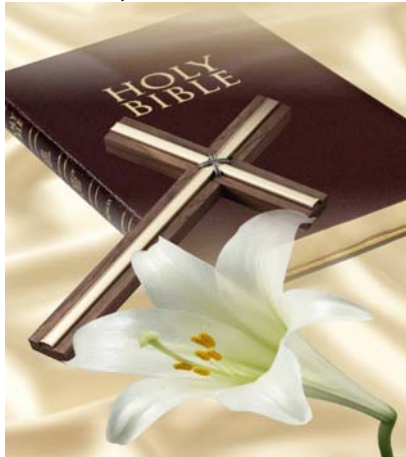
We will host the 7:00 a.m. Community Worship service. Our festive Easter worship with Holy Communion will be at 10:00 a.m. with special refreshments following worship. Pastor Ralph's sermon theme will be "God's Special Delivery" using 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 as the text. Invite your unchurched friends to worship with you.



Christ is Risen!!  
He is Risen indeed!

Alleluia!

**Pastor Ginger's  
Thoughts for the Easter  
Season, 2009**



**Our 2009 Lenten Journeys are almost finished!** Our emphasis this year has been *focusing on the Cross of Christ & lifting our eyes to look for crosses around us – in our daily lives.* We are developing spiritually healthy habits of seeing crosses in a variety of places & sensing God's presence & message for us through those crosses. I love hearing about where you've seen the Cross of Christ this Lent & what the cross means to you.

*In most of our Sunday Gospel lessons for this Lenten Season, Jesus predicts his death (on a cross) & his resurrection – preparing us for Easter & Eternal life!* From Mark 8:31 on March 8 – “Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after 3 days RISE again.” On March 15 we heard about

Jesus cleaning out the temple and telling the Jewish leaders there (according to John 2:19, 22), “Destroy this temple (his body), and in 3 days I will raise it up.” ... After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.” On March 22 we heard Jesus say (according to John 3:14-16), “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up (on a cross), that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” And, on March 29 (from John 12:32-33) we hear Jesus say, “When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.



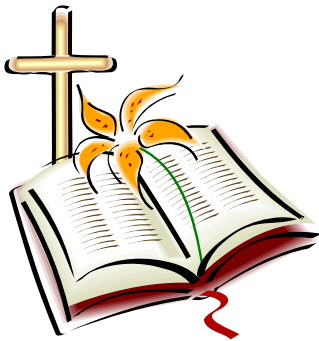
**Jesus has prepared us for his death**, according to our Lenten Gospel Lessons. Will you honor his death on the cross on **Good Friday, April 10?** ***NOON Services are at Evangelical Free Church, 19172 Ferretti Road, on April***

**10. 6:00 Eve. Vespers** (on April 10) **are at the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church, 19585 Elder Lane.** We will honor Maundy Thurs. during our prayer time at 1:00 before Bible Study on April 9 at Mountain Lutheran. (Bible Study has been postponed from the 1<sup>st</sup> Thurs. 'til the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday.)



**And, Jesus has prepared us for his Resurrection – celebrated on EASTER Sunday, April 12** (this year), & on ALL Sundays! Jesus being raised from the dead & promising all believers Eternal life – by the Love & Power & Grace of God Almighty are what makes Christianity unique! Jesus rising from the dead is proof & confirmation of the validity of God's promise given in John 3:16. The seal of that promise is marked on our foreheads at Baptism – when we are sealed & marked with the Cross of Christ forever! And, we are reminded of that eternal seal & of our human frailty & mortality on Ash Wed. – when we are marked again with the Cross of Christ

on our foreheads with ashes!  
 The ashes & earthly life are temporary – but the seal of the cross & life with Christ are for eternity! The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the beginning of fulfillment & affirmation of God’s Easter promises for us – for eternity! Almost 2000 years ago Jesus was raised from the dead.



**Christ is Risen! He has Risen, indeed!** Are you ready to celebrate? **Come & Worship & Celebrate on Easter Sunday, April 12!** The Community’s Easter Sunrise Service at **7:00 a.m.** is being hosted by & held at Mountain Lutheran Church! **Our Traditional, Festive Worship (with Holy Communion) is at 10:00 a.m.!** Refreshments are being planned for Fellowship Time after both services. Remember to invite your family & friends, neighbors & even strangers! And remember, we celebrate Easter every Sunday – just not with quite the elaborate festivities as EASTER/RESURRECTION SUNDAY!

**We’ll start Holy Week with a Festive Palm SATURDAY Celebration** which will also



include God moving us from Mission Status to Full Congregational Status on our **Organizational Day, SATURDAY, April 4.**

Worship begins at 10:00 with a very brief, official Vote with **Bishop Mark Holmerud presiding** & then a festive processional & worship! A Lunch Reception will follow worship. Members, remember to bring your favorite salad or dessert & to invite your friends. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is providing sandwich ingredients.

**EVERYONE is WELCOME!** We encourage you to attend other area Christian Churches on Palm Sunday, since there will be **NO services at Mountain Lutheran on Sunday, April 5.**

Our church members will be presented as a new “full status” congregation at our **Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly in Fresno, May 28 – 30.** We hope many of you

can participate in that presentation. More details will follow when they are available. Tom Carman is our official Voting Member/ Delegate. I (Pr. Ginger) am hoping that it will be my turn to be a Voting “Retired” Clergy Member/ Delegate. I will attend in any case.

**THANK YOU**

To Brooks & Trish & Mark Herman for hosting a Delightful Birthday Party for Pr. Ralph & Pat!

To All the Wonderful Cooks who made Delicious Soups for our Tues. Lenten Soup Suppers: Judy Basey, Mary Bruederle, Shirley Carman, Dorothy Parker, Mary Bruha, Virginia Rayment, Margot Willian, Anna Bramhall, Bob DuMars, Judi Wilkinson, Jean Cox, Audrey Fiance & Dorine Smith.



To our Music Leaders for Lenten Eve. Prayer Services – Tom Carman & Erma Cherry. Thanks also to Erma for playing for our 7 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service & for playing for our Ash Wed. service. Your music is inspiring!

To Judi & David Wilkinson for assisting me with our beautiful Organizational/ Palm Saturday printed

Invitations. We handed out (& mailed some) 100 Invitations.

To Bob & Judi Wilksinson for organizing the Property Clean Up Work Parties & for providing lunch & working too. Thanks to all the workers: Harold Basey, Elden Bruha, Bob DuMars, Dick Parker, Bob Smith. Thanks to Bob W. for arranging for recent roof repairs with Ray's Roofing! Thanks to Dick & Dorothy Parker for planting the daffodils – a lovely & welcoming sign of Spring!

To Mountain Lutheran Volunteers at the Sees Candy Booth – raising funds for Groveland Area Sr. projects with some matching funds from Thrivent!

To Judy Basey for organizing our Celebration Lunches

To all our Council Officers & Members for your faithful service to MLC & to our Lord!

**Our New Mission**

**Statement** ( adopted through Voting during the month of February) is:

**SPREADING THE WORD OF GOD THROUGH FAITH, FAMILY & FELLOWSHIP!**

*God Bless Your Faith Journey – especially during Holy Week & the Easter Season!*

With Christian Faith & Hope, Love & Appreciation for All of You,

*Pr. Ginger*

*Thank You*

This is a thank you for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mile Giving we did in Jan. for the Groveland Breakfast Program. Jerry sent a beautiful card with this message:

“Thank you so much, the money came at just the right time. We were broke, however trust in God and he will always come through. God Bless you All.”

Jerry Rose

Donations of time (at the breakfasts) or money, or pancake mix are always welcomed.

Contact Dorothy Parker for

more info. 962-6248

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*“Jesus is an investment that never loses interest”*

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**WEBSITE**

Check out our website: [www.mountainlutheranchurch.com](http://www.mountainlutheranchurch.com) to see pictures of our activities. Thank you Tom Carman, our webmaster.



**Church Council Members:**

President	Stan Bruederle
Vice President	David Wilkinson
Secretary	Mary Bruha
Treasurer	Elden Bruha
Financial Secretary	Tom Carman
Member at Large	Jean Cox
	Dorine Smith
Pastors	Ralph Herman
	Ginger DuMars

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Our Volunteer chairpersons for this year are:

Web Master	Tom Carman
Altar Guild	Delores Van Brocklin
Publicity	Dorothy Parker
Flea Market	Shirley Carman
Prayer Chain	Judy Basey
Newsletter Editor	Mary Bruederle
Refreshments	Judy Basey
Music & Worship	Tom Carman
Property Manager	Bob Wilkinson

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