



From Pastor Carl's Desk

By Pastor Carl Billings

Trembling and Bewildered

“Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.” Mark 16:8

Joy, happiness and enthusiasm are probably some of the first words we would use to describe Easter Morning. One of the last words we would use is fear. It is just not a word that we would associate with Easter, but there it is in black and white in Mark 16:8 *“Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.”* These women were afraid despite the fact that the angels tried to comfort them and had told them that Jesus had risen from the dead. According to Mark, the women's fear did not turn to joy even when they heard the message. Their fear was of the unknown. At least when Jesus was dead, they knew what to expect. The empty tomb turns their whole world upside down. They have yet to see Jesus, so they live in the fear of the in between. They live in that twilight just before dawn, *“saying nothing to anyone because they were afraid.”*

We often live in that same twilight. We've experienced the Resurrection. It has turned our world upside down. We have faith. Jesus is our friend. We pray. Yet at the same time we have our doubts. We hear and see people who scoff at the Christian faith, or we look around our world and see so much suffering and we wonder why. We struggle at times with our thoughts and attitudes and we worry about the future. We are tempted to respond like those women who saw the empty tomb. We think it might be best to just keep quiet about our faith.

The good news is that the Resurrection doesn't depend on our lack of doubts. Jesus rose from the dead not because the women or the other disciples had enough faith. They did not, that much is obvious. Jesus rose from the dead because of God's power and authority. It is the same with us. Our faith doesn't depend on banishing all doubt and fear. No, again, our faith depends on the power of God. We are God's children not because we are good enough, but rather because God adopted us. The Easter message is that there is nothing that could stop Jesus' resurrection: not evil, not cruelty, not death and certainly not our doubts.

During the Easter season, in April and May, we will be looking at the different resurrection appearances and what they mean for our faith and life in the here and now. The sermon series title is ***Resurrection Now!*** I hope you will join us!

Amen

DiscoverChurch

A Lutheran Community in Brooklyn Park



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Have an announcement for the bulletin or newsletter?

Please email Patsy Cesare,
Administrative Assistant at
Patsy.Cesare@discoverchurchnetwork.org

Bulletin Deadline:
Noon on Wednesdays
Newsletter Deadline:
Noon on the 3rd Friday



CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Discover Church

1400 81st Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

Office Phone: 763-561-5877

Email: info@discoverchurchnetwork.org

Website: discoverchurchnetwork.org

Pastoral Care Phone: 763-202-2741

Church Office hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9AM-3PM

Friday: 9AM – Noon

Staff

Pastor Carl Billings, Senior Pastor: Ext. 1002

Pastor La Andriamihaja, Associate Pastor: Ext. 1003

Pastor Jonathan Brandon, Youth Pastor: Ext. 1004

Christy Grigor, Children's Director: Ext. 1005

Joe Gerber, Worship Director: Ext. 1006

Jessica Kuhn, Business Manager: Ext. 1001

Sara Brandon, Director of Hospitality: Ext. 1007

Patsy Cesare, Administrative Assistant: Ext. 1000

Bud Larson, Custodian

Discover Church Vision Statement:

*Inviting all people to discover
their full life in Christ*

Discover Church Values

Discipleship is a Priority

Inspired by the Living Word

Spirit Charged

Culture of Forgiveness

Ordinary People Serving an

Extraordinary God

Vision for World Mission

Ethnically Diverse

Rooted in Our Communities – Reaching Out

From Pastor La's Desk

Pastor La Andriamihaja



A BIG SPRING HEAP OF THANKS:

Since Ash Wednesday (March 1st), we've embarked on a spiritual journey each Wednesday, both at the 11:30 a.m. and the 7:00 p.m. services. This Lenten season, we've addressed five forms of illnesses (Physical, Spiritual, Mental, Emotional and Societal). We sought and continue to pray for healings from the Lord. It has been a delight and a joy-filled experience for me to have gathered each Wednesday morning and evening with those who've attended. I pray it was as much of a blessing to those who came as it was for me.

To that end, I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to, first and foremost, Pastor Carl and our staff for allowing me the privilege of planning, designing and implementing each of our midweek Lenten services. Special thanks to Joe and Tirzah Gerber and to Pamela Billings for leading us in worship during our Lenten journey. A special thanks also to Sara Brandon for cooking and lovingly serving our "Soup Suppers" each Wednesday evening during this Lenten season. I am grateful to them all, and indeed, to our God.

In addition, I'd like to express my gratitude and offer a special word of thanks to Mary Lou Schutz for organizing and arranging our Prayer Ministers to be available at each of our midweek services. They anointed and prayed for all those who've needed prayers. We are, indeed, a praying congregation—thanks be to God.

Speaking of being a praying congregation, on the last Sunday of February, I invited our congregation members to pray for 5 families each day who are listed in our Church Directory. If you are one of those who committed to praying in this way during this Lenten season, how was that experience for you? Would you continue to pray for our members beyond this Lenten season? Did it make any difference in your life, or in the way you are a part of this Body of Christ? Please feel free to come up to me, or email me at prlha@aim.com and share how that experience was for you—I am truly eager to know and learn.

Again, thank you, ONE AND ALL, for your prayers and partnership in the ministry and gospel of Christ.

He is Risen...and Risen, indeed! Hallelujah!

Youth Ministries

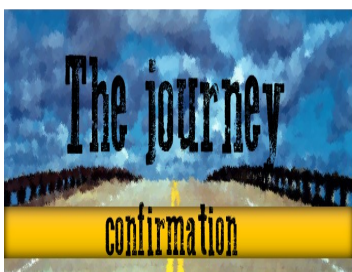
Pastor Jonathan Brandon, Director



FRIDAY NIGHTLIVE

Friday Night Live

Friday Night Live is a monthly fun and fellowship event for 7th-12th graders. FNL will be on April 7. Bring your friends! It's free!



Journey Confirmation

All 7-9 graders are invited to come to The Journey, our Confirmation program. We will meet on Sunday, April 2 from 6:30-8:00pm.

Wednesday Night Small Groups

Return April 19th

Due to the Wednesday night Lenten services, our small groups will not meet until after Easter. Join us on Wednesday, April 19 when we return. Small groups are for 7-12 grade youth on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:30pm. We have a time for fun and fellowship and then break into groups and focus on sharing life experiences, diving deeper into God's Word and a time of prayer.

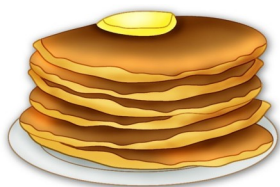
MISSION TRIP TEAM MEETING

We are having a meeting for all youth and chaperones who are going on the summer mission trip on Sunday, April 2 from 11:30-12:15 on the youth room. Please join us for team building, fundraiser info and account balance updates.

For more information about the Youth Ministry at Discover Church, contact Pastor Jonathan at jon.brandon@discoverchurchnetwork.org or (763) 561-5877.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISERS

HELP SUPPORT THE YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO WEST VIRGINIA



EASTER SUNDAY—APRIL 16 PANCAKE BREAKFAST

7:00-11:00am

free will offering
supports the youth
summer mission trip



Butter Braids are back starting in Mid-April

Support the West Virginia Youth Mission Team and place your order at the ministry desk by Sunday May 7th! Free samples are available Sundays April 23, 30 & May 7.



Children and Family Ministries

Christy Grigor, Director

Adult Offerings during the Education Hour FOR YOUR FAMILY: Each Sunday at 9:15 Discover Church has high quality, Biblical teachings for all ages including adults. On April 23rd Stephanie Rossing LMFT will talk about "Family Short Circuits" with a follow up, practical discussion on April 30th. On May 7th Dr. Melissa Mork will be discussing "Parenting Styles and Life" and on May 14th she will be discussing "Marriage Peace and Conflict." Don't miss these high quality lessons from relevant professionals. Complete class descriptions are available on page 6 of this newsletter under Adult Education Hour.

Children's Offerings during the Education Hour

- Nursery (6 wks to Age 3) A warm, caring environment with experienced teachers who play with and encourage your child.
- 3's Class: Foundational Bible stories are taught, children enjoy a puppet show and get age appropriate play with other children their age. Taught by the same teachers every week with familiar helpers.
- Age 4-Kindergarten: Foundational Bible stories, age appropriate object lessons, activities and crafts. Taught by very qualified, caring, fun teachers who understand the joy of being a child!
- Girl's 1st & 2nd Grade: Age appropriate relational Bible lessons, crafts and object lessons taught in a caring, safe and loving environment. Taught by the same caring teacher each week.
- Boy's 1st & 2nd Grade: Boys learn the "Heroes of the Faith" and have a time of active play and object lessons. They have opportunities to be mentored by two weekly teachers that build confidence in problem solving and expressing their faith.
- Combined 3rd & 4th Grade: Bible lessons that gear toward practical expressions of their faith are taught. Object lessons, crafts and time to play with age mates from our church are a weekly goal.
- Boys' 5th & 6th grade: In depth Bible lessons are taught by veteran teachers who relate very well with boys of this age.
- Girls' 5th & 6th grade: Relational Bible lessons with practical elements on how faith expresses itself in today's world is taught by 2 veteran teachers who relate very well with our girls!

Great Salvation Institute (GSI) for Grades 1 through 6: The GSI prize cart will always be out on the 3rd Sundays of the month! Your child should be receiving weekly updates telling them how many points they have to spend toward prizes. If you are not aware, there are sermon questions made available at the "Busy Bag Buffet" located in the foyer. Each week children have the chance to answer 5 questions about the sermon that will earn them up to 5 points a week.

Palm Sunday and Easter Services: The children will be waving palms and shouting "Hosanna!" at both services on Palm Sunday, April 9. Children ages 3 to 6th grade will need to arrive at 8:20am. We will feed them breakfast and keep them busy until they sing in the 2nd service. Easter Services will be at 8:00am, 9:30am & 11:00am and we invite our kids to join us! There will be no childcare during the 8:00am service, but there will be childcare for ages 5 and under available during the 9:30am and 11:00am services. This is a PERFECT day to invite friends and family! All children will receive special bags full of things to keep them busy, and to take home as gifts from Discover.

Vacation Bible School: We have set the date for VBS! It will be held August 14-18 from 9 am to Noon. This is available for Children age 4 through 6th Grade. Cost and further information will be available soon. Please contact Christy Grigor if you would be able to help with VBS.

10:30 Family Service Childcare: Each Sunday during the Family Service we have around 10-15 children who are checked into childcare. Please consider serving as a helper for this MINISTRY! Children simply play and need supervision. There are no lessons! Contact Christy Grigor to sign up as a once a month helper. **Jesus DID call us to serve one another!!!**

Upcoming Events:

- Girl's 5th and 6th Grade Overnight: April 8
- Advanced Rider Bike Ride: Saturday, May 20
- Gaga Ball Tournaments: June 14, July 19, August 16th
- Wild Mountain Water Park: Friday, July 14
- VBS: August 14-18
- Children's Ministry Fall Retreat: September 29 through October 1

For more information about Children's Ministry contact Christy Grigor in the church office at 763-561-5877 or by email at Christy.Grigor@discoverchurchnetwork.org

LEARN AND GROW

9:15am ADULT EDUCATION HOUR

Jerusalem CSI
Sundays through April 9
Taught by Pastor Carl

Take a look at the crucifixion and resurrection through the objective lens of a cold case detective. The series is based on the book *Cold-Case Christianity* by J. Warner Wallace and is a great opportunity to invite your "skeptical" friends as we make a case for Jesus.

Easter Sunday, April 16
No Education Hour for children or adults

Family Short Circuits
Sunday, April 23
Taught by Stephanie Rossing

Tired of the triggers that fire off inside of you and between family members? Stephanie Rossing, LMFT will help us understand how every brain becomes "wired" with lies--about ourselves and God--that yield pain and steal joy in our relationships. Learn what this looks like in daily family life and how to experience an internal "re-wire" that will bring hope on your insides and new life-giving interactions to ANY relationship!

Family Short Circuits Discussion Continues
Sunday, April 30

Taught by Pastor Carl and Children and Family Ministry Director Christy Grigor
Pastor Carl and Christy will continue the discussion from the previous week on family short circuits.

Parenting Styles and Life
Sunday, May 7
Taught by Dr. Melissa Mork

This session will investigate four basic parenting styles. How did our parents use them? How did we respond to them as children? How did we adopt or adapt those styles with our own kids? Finally, we will discuss how we interpret the parenting style of God.

Marriage Peace and Conflict
Sunday, May 14
Taught by Dr. Melissa Mork

This session will discuss our personal conflict-management styles. Dr. John Gottman calls them the "Four Horsemen of the Marriage Apocalypse." We will discuss how our conflict-management styles affect other areas of our life, as well.

SACRED STRETCHES EXERCISE CLASS

Pamela Billings is leading a Sacred Stretches exercise class on Tuesday nights from 7-8pm. This class combines breathing techniques, Scripture meditation, stretches and postures. It is the intentional practice of connecting our entire being, body, mind and spirit with God. Bring an exercise mat if you have one. No experience needed. You need to sign a waiver to participate. A free will offering will be taken. For more information contact Pamela at 763-360-4792.



Join us for a Bible Study series on the book of Matthew led by Pastor Carl on Wednesday mornings at 9:30am in the foyer. Everyone is welcome!

All Church Prayer

Saturday, April 1
at 9:00am
Every first Saturday
of the month



Lent And Easter Season

Lenten Season Schedule

Wednesday Night Soup Suppers

April 5 at 6:00pm
Free will offering

Weekly Wednesday Lenten Services

11:30am & 7:00pm
Child Care Available at 7:00pm services
Weekly themes on healing with a time of prayer & communion
April 5: Societal Healing

Wednesday Lenten Offerings

Offerings from the Wednesday services will be designated to Open Doors Women and Children's Advancement Fund. For more than 60 years, Open Doors has supported the persecuted Church through their presence, prayers and provision of practical care in cultures and countries that seek to stop followers of Jesus Christ.

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 9 - 8:00am & 10:30am
Worship and distribution of palms

Maundy Thursday Service with 1st Communion

Thursday, April 13 at 7:00pm
Child Care Available

Good Friday

Friday, April 14 at 7:00pm
Child Care Available

Easter Decorating

Saturday, April 15, 9:00am - Noon

Easter Sunday Worship with Communion

Sunday, April 16
8:00am, 9:30am & 11:00am
No Education Hour for children or adults

Easter Sunday Pancake Breakfast

7:30am – 11:00am in Faith Hall
Free will offering for the youth mission trip to West Virginia

Church Office Closed

Monday, April 17

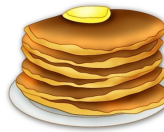
Easter Flower Orders

Order your Easter flowers by April 2nd! Order forms are available in the bulletin and church office. Contact Sara Brandon for more information at sara.brandon@discoverchurchnetwork.org



EASTER SUNDAY—APRIL 16 PANCAKE BREAKFAST

7:00-11:00am



free will offering
supports the youth
summer mission



Help Decorate Discover Church For Easter

Help decorate the church for Easter on Saturday, April 15th at 9am! Come join in the fun of transforming Discover Church into a beautiful Easter Garden! Goodies and coffee will be provided. No experience is necessary, the more the merrier. Come for the whole time, or just a little while. Kids are welcome. Contact Hospitality Director, Sara Brandon in the church office for more info.

EASTER CHOIR

Join the Easter Choir! Rehearsals are Mondays, April 3 & 10, from 7:00-8:30pm. We will sing on Easter, April 16 at all three services at 8:00am, 9:30am & 11:00am. Sign up on the ministry desk or contact Tirzah Gerber for more info.



Wednesday Night Soup Suppers

Join us at 6:00pm on Wednesday nights before the mid week Lenten services for a time of food and fellowship. We are serving soup, salad and bread. A free will offering will be taken. This is a great opportunity to connect with your Discover family over a meal. Contact Sara Brandon in the church office for more information.

Opportunities To Serve

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Can you give a little of your time
to help the ministry of Discover Church?
Here are several ministries
that are in need of more volunteers.
Where is God calling you to serve?**

10:30am Nursery:

URGENT NEED. Help in the nursery just once a month during the 10:30am family service and help families experience the love of Jesus while we lovingly take care of their little ones. Contact Christy Grigor for more information at Christy.grigor@discoverchurchnetwork.org.

Tech Crew:

We need some more volunteers to run the media slides at the 10:30am service. No experience is needed and training is provided. Contact Kim Saastamoinen at kimsaas@gmail.com.

Ushers:

We are looking for more ushers at both services. This is an important ministry that helps guests & members alike feel welcome. Serve just once a month. Contact Patsy Cesare for more information at patsy.cesare@discoverchurchnetwork.org

Welcome Desk & Greeters:

Help make Discover Church a welcoming place. Serve just once a month and welcome people as they come to church. Spots are available at the 8:00am & 10:30am service and the 9:15am education hour. Contact Patsy Cesare at patsy.cesare@discoverchurchnetwork.org for more information.

Serve Refreshments:

Help every other month at the hospitality counter serving coffee and refreshments just a month. Contact Sara Brandon for more info at sara.brandon@discoverchurchnetwork.org

Meal Ministry:

Help us bless our members with meals in the event of a new baby, illness or death in the family. It doesn't really matter if you cook or buy a meal, because when you provide a meal for a family, you are showing them Christ's love. If you are willing to be contacted when a need arises, contact Sara Brandon at sara.brandon@discoverchurchnetwork.org

Amazing Grays

Brunch Bunch: Join us for brunch on Sun, April 2nd at 9:30am at the HyVee in Brooklyn Park.

Spring Flower Show: We are going to the Spring Flower Show at Como Park on Monday, April 10. Meet at church to carpool at 9:30am. Lunch to follow.

Feed My Starving Children: April 19 at 9:15am, help pack meals with FMSC and then have lunch at Bakers Square.

For more information contact Elaine Sorensen at 763-515-6178 or Carol Pahl at 763-323-8233.

Women's Ministry

Women's Bible Study: Join us on Thursday nights at 7:00pm for an 8 week study called "Waiting for God." It will focus on pressing into a deeper walk with the Lord. For more information contact Jean Hansen at 763-561-2998.

Women's Fall Retreat: Save the date for the Women's Fall Retreat, Sept 29-Oct 1 at Mt. Carmel in Alexandria. To register please go to mtcarmelministries.com or call 320-846-2744. For more info contact Barb Victorson at 763-560-2420 or barbvictorson@aol.com.

Men's Ministry

Men's Softball Team: The men's softball team is now forming. Games begin in May on Monday nights. We need more players to fill out the team! Please contact Mark Stock at 651-238-8580 for more information or to sign up.

Thursday Night Bible Study: All men are invited to join us on Thursday nights at 7:00pm for a Bible study, prayer and fellowship. For more info contact Chad Murray at 763-242-3470 or chadderinmn@gmail.com.

Weekly Prayer Meeting: Every Saturday morning at 9:00am. All men are invited.

Community Care Groups

Life After Loss: This grief group meets on the last Sunday of each month in the Conference Room at 10:30am and deals with all kinds of loss, including illness, divorce, and job loss to name a few. Call Nancy at 763-783-8367 or Bob at 612-804-7568 with questions. **Next Meeting: April 30**

Prayer Shawls: Know of someone who is having surgery or has other physical or spiritual needs and would appreciate a prayer shawl? These shawls are made with loving care and prayed over for the recipients. Contact Barbara Horn at 651-483-3063 or contact the church office for more information.

Business and Financials

Financial Report through March 26, 2017

2016 Annual Budget	909,947
Year-to-Date Budget	227,487
Year-to-Date Offerings	201,285
Year-to-Date Actual Spending	215,850
Year-to-Date Actual Cash Over / (Shortage)	(14,565)

ELIJAH HOUSE SALE UPDATE

The church council voted to accept an offer on the Elijah House at the March meeting. The final details and timing of the sale are still being worked out. We will share more information as it becomes available. Decisions about how to use the proceeds will be made by the council when the sale is complete. Please contact Brian Saastamoinen from the council or Business Manager, Jessica Kuhn for more information.



Do you shop on Amazon?

Discover Church is now a member of the Amazon Smile program, which earns us a small percentage on the purchases you are already making with no additional cost to you. To participate go to www.smile.amazon.com. Select Brooklyn Park Lutheran as your charity of choice. Then make your purchases as usual. Contact Jessica Kuhn for more information.

Electronic Giving Program

The Simply Giving® Program is an auto-withdrawal program. You determine what amount and how often you want to give and your contribution will be automatically transferred from your account to Discover Church. Go to discoverchurchnetwork.org and click on "give" to set this up, or call the church office for more help.

Reflections

From The Cross To The Throne *By Jean Hansen*

*From the cross to the throne
Jesus now in his Heavenly Home
Seated at the right hand of his Father
Full of glory as no other
Interceding for us - his sisters and brothers*

*Saved by grace
Every nation and race
Jesus took our sins away
On the cross that Good Friday*

*Lift Him up, give Him praise
He is with you every day
The Holy Spirit lives within
To lead and guide - Follow Him!*



MARCH DEVOTIONAL

Beloved Saints

"Thou has turned my mourning into dancing." Psalm 30:11. Have you heard the phrase, "God danced the day you were born?" Did God do a jig? Polka? Two step? No Matter. God loved us and wanted us! He chose us to be born at the right time and gave us the parents we had. He gave them His love to overcome all their failings and rejoice in what was good. God's love can give us great joy.

May I be aflame with love for You Lord and the glow be visible to those I meet. I can picture You dancing for joy for each one of us.

Zephaniah 3:17 says "The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

I love you Lord.

Holy hugs,
Nancy Brown

April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00am All Church Prayer 9:00am Elijah House Work Day
2 8:00am Traditional 9:15am Ed. Hour 9:30am AG Brunch 10:30am Contemp. 11:30am 1st Com. Class 11:45am Ministry Heads Mtg 6:30pm Journey	3 9:00am Quilters 6:30pm Choir	4 7:00pm Sacred Stretches	5 9:30am Bible Study 11:30am Worship 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Worship	6 7:00pm Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Women's Bible Study	7 Sutterer Funeral 10am Visitation 11am Funeral 12am luncheon 7:00pm Youth Fri Night Live	8 9:00am Men's Prayer Mtg 6:00pm Girls 56er overnight
9 PALM SUNDAY 8:00am Trad. 9:15am Ed. Hour 10:30am Cont.	10 9:30am Amazing Grays Flower Show 6:30pm Choir	11 7:00pm Sacred Stretches	12 9:30am Bible Study	13 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00pm Maundy Thursday worship & 1st communion	14 GOOD FRIDAY 7:00pm Good Friday worship	15 9:00am Men's Prayer Mtg 9:00am Easter Decorating
16 EASTER SUNDAY 7:00am-11:00am Pancake Brkfst 8:00am Worship 9:30am Worship 11:00am Worship	17 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 9:00am Quilters	18 6:00pm Stewardship Committee 7:00pm Church Council 7:00pm Sacred Stretches	19 9:15am Amazing Grays at FMSC 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Small Groups	20 7:00pm Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Women's Bible Study	21	22 9:00 Men's Prayer Mtg
23 8:00am Trad. 9:15am Ed. Hour 10:30am Cont. 11:30am Small Group Captains		25 7:00pm Sacred Stretches	26 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Small Groups	27 7:00pm Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Women's Bible Study	28	29 9:00 Men's Prayer Mtg
30 8:00am Trad. 9:15am Ed. Hour 10:30am Cont. 10:30 Life After Loss 11:30 Small Group Leaders FMF Arrives	LONG RANGE DATES: April 30-May 7: Families Moving Forward May 20: Family Bike Ride May 21: Confirmation July 8-16: Youth Mission Trip July 14: Wild Mountain Water Park Family Event Aug 14-18: VBS Sept 10: Rally Day Sept 24-Oct 1: Families Moving Forward					