



The View

April 2025

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As we journey deeper into the season of Lent, we continue to reflect on themes of repentance, reflection, and renewal. Lent invites us into a space of honesty—about ourselves, our world, and our need for God. Sometimes that honesty can feel heavy. We look around and see conflict, injustice, and hardship. It can be hard to hold on to hope when the burdens of the world seem overwhelming.



But even in the heart of Lent, we know that Easter is coming. The good news of the resurrection is real. The story doesn't end in darkness; it ends in light. The tomb is empty. Death does not have the final word. And because of that, we can trust that God is still at work in the world, bringing life where there seems to be only death, offering hope where despair feels strongest.

This is the power of the resurrection—it breaks into our everyday lives. Even in seasons of struggle, God continues to plant seeds of new life. Even when circumstances seem bleak, God offers glimpses of renewal and hope. God shows up in the "in-between" moments of our lives—between sorrow and joy, between doubt and faith, between Lent's somber reflection and Easter's triumphant celebration. In those spaces, God quietly works, reminding us that new life is always possible.

The resurrection reminds us that God refuses to give up on the world. Instead, God keeps showing up, whispering words of grace, calling us to embody love, and inviting us to be bearers of good news ourselves.

So as we continue our Lenten journey, may we remember that Easter is on its way. May we trust that even in the midst of hardship, God is still speaking life and hope. And may we be people who carry that hope into a world that desperately needs it.

Blessings,
Pastor Mandy

Joys/Concerns

Our thoughts and prayers go out to:

Our World

- For our elected officials to truly represent the needs of the people.
- For the administration to act with mercy and compassion.
- For all of those dealing with the aftermath of natural disasters.
- For all of those affected by gun violence.
- For **Jews, Muslims, and Arabs** across the world facing persecution and violence.
- For a permanent ceasefire and the return of all **Israeli** and **Palestinian** hostages.
- For the people of **Ukraine** and **Russia** as the ongoing conflict continues to disrupt lives

Our Community

- For those who are living in fear of deportation.
- For our LGBTQ community.
- For the local agencies working on food insecurity.
- For our unhoused neighbors that may be struggling with the cold.
- For those suffering from mental health issues and addiction.

Our Church

- For Carl Donovan, who is recovering from surgery.
- For Kathy Asich, who is having health issues.
- For Barb Kakalecik, who is having eye issues..

Lydia Group

Lydia Group would like to thank the congregation for its support of the St. Pat's Dinner and Silent Auction. The event raised \$1966.00!

Save the Date! The Rummage Sale will be held on June 28th. They will begin storing small items after Memorial Day. Larger items may be brought in during the week of the sale.



Lydia Group will be meeting on April 17 at 1:30pm.

Holy Week Events

- **April 13 Psalm Sunday** - Regular Service at 10:15am
- **April 17 Maundy Thursday worship service at 6:00 pm** (with a meal included). If you are interested in being a reader for this service please let Pastor Mandy know.
- **April 18 Good Friday** - there will be a prayer service at 7:00pm
- **April 20 Easter!** Breakfast at 9:00 (bring your favorite breakfast dish to share). Worship at 10:15. Easter Egg hunt following Worship.



Financial Corner

I would like to know the NEW way to use my retirement to support the church and my heirs. To find out more ask our endowment and trust chair, Randy Knowles

Easter Candy Collection

Donations for Candy for the Easter Egg Hunt are now being accepted in the Fellowship Hall.

Candy must be wrapped.

Family Promise SOC HOP

The Family Promise SOC HOP is on Saturday, May 3rd from 5-10 p.m. at The Elk's Lodge in downtown Great Falls. Tickets are \$50/single or 2 tickets for \$80. They will be featuring a roast beef dinner with a baked potato bar, a silent auction, dessert auction, and dancing to hits from the 70's-90's. Come dressed in your favorite decade's attire and have a chance to win our best dressed competition. Any questions, please call (406) 564-5267. Tickets available in their office.



Wishing a very **Happy April Birthday** to our members celebrating soon:

- 2 Rachel Buley
- 4 Shelly Fagenstrom
- 4 Andy McKerrow

- 4 Lydia Comstock
- 22 Brandee Nieman

April Calendar

- 6 Board Meeting
- 13 **Palm Sunday**
- 17 **Maundy Thursday Service**
- 17 Lydia Group Meeting
- 18 **Good Friday Prayer Service**
- 20 **Easter**
- 20 Easter Egg Hunt

For entire church calendar go to: [Church Calendar](#)



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