



A Publication of The Evangelical Covenant Church

# The Covenant Chronicle

April 2025

**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

**For many years, I have watched a video which depicts Jesus' last 18 hours, leading up to his death. With scientific and medical detail, scientists and doctors explain much of what Jesus suffered and endured for our sake. They describe the anguish that he must have gone through to sweat drops of blood. They depict the bitter brutality of the flogging given by the Roman soldiers and the severe agony Jesus must have felt when they placed the crown of thorns upon his head. Most of all, they explain the excruciating pain of the nails being driven through the nerves of Jesus' hands and feet and the slow agonizing death of suffocation he endured on the cross.**

**For many of us, being so far removed from this kind of brutality, it is easy not to fully value what Jesus endured for us. It is important that we take time and remember how much Jesus suffered for our sins so we can better appreciate the immensity of God's love, forgiveness and grace. Before we rush to the celebration of the Resurrection, let us reflect deeply on the sacrifice that was made for us, whether it be attending a Good Friday Service, walking the Stations of the Cross, reading through the gospel stories of Jesus' arrest, trial, and crucifixion or watching a video depicting Jesus' passion.**

**Remember what it says in Isaiah 53:5:**

**But he was pierced for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
and with his wounds we are healed.**

**As Easter draws near, I pray that the love of God will bring you joy, hope, and peace.**

**Blessings,**

**Pastor Keith**

## April Ministry Volunteers

### Scripture Readers

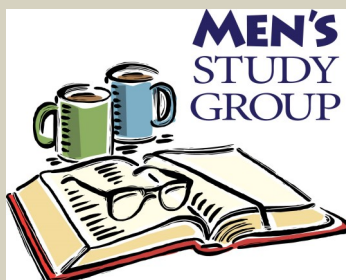
6 Janet Loschen  
13 Lauren Sawyer  
20 Willow Jones  
27 Tanner Jones

### Ushers

6 Roger Gustafson, Jeff Shaffer  
13 Glen Foss, Melanie Harms  
20 Jesse Balk, Ahlden Harms  
27 Matt & Amy Jones, Diane Gustafson

### Sermon texts for April

April 6 Luke 16:19-31  
April 13 Luke 19:28-40  
April 20 Acts 10:34-43 & Luke 24:1-12  
April 27 John 20:19-31



The Men's Study Group will meet Saturday mornings at 8am in the Fellowship Hall. We will begin with the book of Ephesians.



Vacation Bible School will be hosted at ECC on Sunday evenings from 6-8pm beginning June 1 and ending June 29. More information to come!



Lenten Family Nights will continue Wednesday, April 2 and Wednesday, April 9 from 6-7:30pm. There will be a meal at 6pm followed by a study for the adults.

Children's activities are available for preK-6th grade of those attending with a parent or guardian. Be sure to check the narthex for items needed for the meals.

### *Mission Statement*

*We, the Evangelical Covenant Church of Paxton, Illinois, will seek to bring the people of our community and throughout the world to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ because God calls us to do so. In all we do we will serve Christ through individual talents working together to nurture each other in the faith and in Christian love.*



**April 18** - PAMA Good Friday  
Service at Federated Church at  
7pm

**April 20** - Easter Sunrise service  
at 7am  
Sunrise Breakfast at 8am  
Sunday School at 9:30am  
Worship at 10:45am



CE Board is hosting a Family  
Game night in the Fellowship Hall  
on Sunday, April 6 from 4-7pm.  
Bring your favorite dish/snack and  
your favorite game to share!



**Remember  
Our Homebound Members**

Rantoul  
Hollybrook:  
Tom Harrison


Fairfield  
Aperion:  
Pat Nelson



**2 Tonya Durham**  
**3 Randy Surey**  
**4 Payton Mills**  
**4 Paisley Mills**  
**8 Lisa Brocato**  
**14 Colten Maulding**  
**15 Derek Busboom**  
**19 Becky Burklund**  
**20 Diane Gustafson**  
Amanda Toohill  
Becca Reuther  
**22 Tom Harrison**  
Kyler Burnett  
Lindsey Alred  
**27 Kathy Haack**  
**29 Jane Johnson**  
Teri Siddall

**3 David & Tonya Durham**  
**16 Jeff & Darlos Shaffer**  
**20 Mike & Stephanie Johnson**  
**22 Ken & Kathy Mutchmore**  
**26 Darrell & Barb Busboom**

Evangelical Covenant Church  
260 S Union  
Paxton, IL 60957



Jesus  
Lives!