
†† The Messenger



March and April 2023

A Joint Publication of
Mount Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church
and
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Upper Northfield, Nova Scotia
Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia

Council Chair at Mount Calvary:

James Varner- jvarn88@hotmail.com

Council Chair at St. John's:

Tara Maguire-tmaguire@chester.ca

Church Office at St. John's:

Phone - (902) 624-9660

Email - stjohismahonebay@gmail.com

Pastor Brooklynn:

Phone - (902) 298-7931

Email – pastorbrooklynn@gmail.com

JOINT SHARED MINISTRY INFORMATION

+March and April Greetings

My lips will shout for joy
when I sing praise to you—
I whom you have delivered.

Psalm 71:23

During my work trip to Budapest, as my meetings focussed on worship, I was reminded of the importance of music and song to the Lutheran tradition. Martin Luther was a large advocate for music and song in the church and in life. Here are some quotes from Martin Luther illustrating his passion for music:

I have no use for cranks who despise music, because it is a gift of God. Music drives away the Devil and makes people joyful; they forget thereby all wrath, unchastity, arrogance, and the like. Next

after theology, I give to music the highest place and the greatest honor. -Martin Luther

A person who does not regard music as a marvelous creation of God, must be a clodhopper indeed and does not deserve to be called a human being; he should be permitted to hear nothing but the braying of asses and the grunting of hogs. -Martin Luther

Music is the art of the prophets and the gift of God. -Martin Luther

We use music every Sunday to praise God, to lament, to pray, to allow song to speak for us when we have no words. Music fills us with the word of God, touches our souls, and refreshes us to go out and fulfill God's calling. It also connects us to our ancestors and the prophets before us as we sing the songs they did. Music connects us to Lutherans and Christians around the world as we

join in singing the same music. Praying and praising God through song.

One of the ways I see music and song working in my life is the way it gives me a voice and words to pray or speak when I am overwhelmed by something or do not know what to say. For example, there is a South African hymn, Senzeni Na, which has a mournful nature to it. It is an anti-apartheid folk song and it translates to English as what have we done? When something horrible happens in the world at the hands of human, I often find myself prayerfully lamenting through this song.

This month, I invite you to reflect on two questions and share your reflections with me.

-What does music and song mean to you and your faith?

-What's your favourite hymn and why?

Your companion in faith,

Pastor Brooklynn

+ Mid-Week Lenten Worship

Midweek Services will be held on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm throughout the Lenten Season (March 1- March 29). Join us for a service of reflection, prayer, song and mediation as we explore the theme, Bless the Lent We Actually Have.

+ Time Change

Daylight savings time begins on Sunday, March 12, 2023. Please remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday evening, March 11, 2023.

+Shared Ministry Sundays

In January, both councils, decided to try something new! Shared Ministry Sundays: an opportunity to uplift our shared ministry, strengthen our working relationship in Christ, and have an opportunity to worship God together. For the fifth Sunday in the month, we will have one joint worship service together. For 2023, there are four fifth Sundays in the month. We will take turns worshipping at each other's church. When we are at Mount Calvary, we will

worship at 9:00 am, Mount Calvary's regular time and when we are at St. John's, we will worship at 11:00 am, St. John's regular time.

April 30, 2023-One joint service at Mount Calvary 9:00 am. No service at St. John's.

July 30, 2023- One Joint service at St. John's at **11:00 am**. No service at Mount Calvary.

October 29, 2023- One joint service at Mount Calvary 9:00 am. No service at St. John's. Please note, this is Reformation Sunday. A possible joint Lunenburg County reformation schedule could change this service. More information will be announced when known.

December 31, 2023- One Joint service at St. John's at 11:00 am. No service at Mount Calvary.

The schedule is as followed:

April 30, 2023-Mount Calvary 9:00am

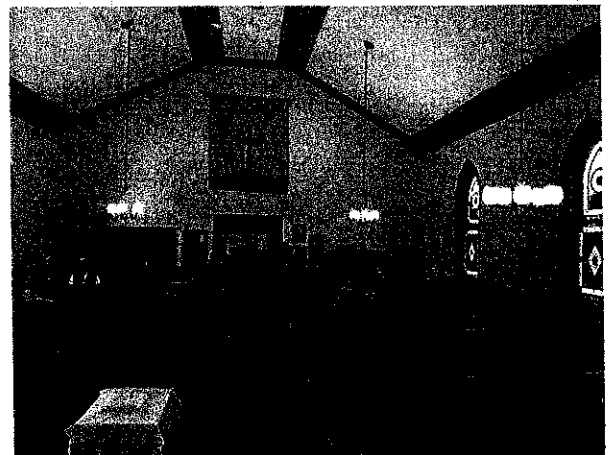
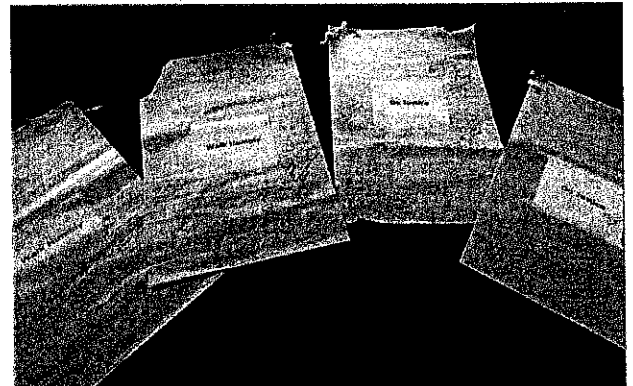
July 30, 2023-St. John's 11:00am

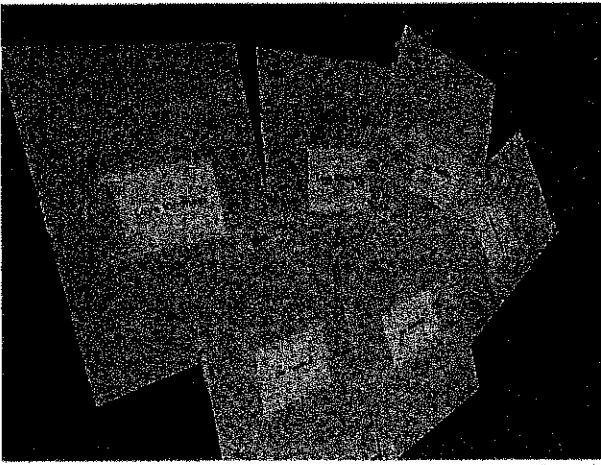
October 29, 2023- Mount Calvary 9:00am

December 31, 2023-St. John's 11:00am

+Service in January

Pictures from our interactive services at Mount Calvary and St. John's where we illustrated what it means to love kindness, do justice and walk humbly.





+Racial Justice Advisory Committee

Who and what is the Racial Justice Advisory Committee?

In accordance with Motion 1.4 – Confronting and Dismantling Racism during the 2018 Eastern Synod Assembly the Racial Justice Advisory Committee was established to address issues of racism, racial justice and discrimination within its member congregations.

We are a committee of 14 members from across the Eastern Synod, both lay people and clergy, who come from different backgrounds and contexts. We acknowledge that we each have different experiences of privilege and that in different settings, some of us experience more privilege and some experience less. Every person is created in the image of God, and as such is valuable and beloved. We believe in God's vision for community, where all voices are heard and we recognize that we, in the Eastern Synod, have not yet lived into God's vision. Together, we aim to:

- To encourage the Eastern Synod to live into God's kingdom values where all are heard and valued – within congregations, ministry areas, committees and all of our Synod structures
- To provide spaces in the Eastern Synod where racialized and marginalized persons' voices are heard
- To encourage all of our members to a better understanding of racial injustice and white privilege, especially those who come from a place of privilege

- To empower the Eastern Synod and its congregations to work toward racial justice within the church and in the world
- To be a resource for the Synod on issues of racial justice
- To be salt, sandpaper, and yeast

We are working towards being a more open and welcoming presence within the Eastern Synod for those who are or feel marginalized because of their race, colour or ethnicity.

In April, the RJAC committee is training a group of people on anti-racism in the church over six days. Christian Maguire and Pastor Brooklynn will partake in these meetings and will go to Missaugua, Ontario for the in person training, while attending the rest of training online.

+Synod Council Meeting

The Eastern Synod Council meets approximately two times a year. In April, Pastor Brooklynn will participate in synod council meetings online for three days.

+Death and Dying Educational Series

In January and February, over twenty people from both Mount Calvary and St. John's gathered to discuss death and dying! We looked at hospice and palliative care, bringing in Dr. Debbie Gowan and Shelley Mann from South Shore Hospice Palliative Care Society. We also heard from Bob Morris at Mahone Bay Funeral Home and then we looked at liturgically planning your funeral. Thanks to everyone who came out for this educational series.

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

There are a rich variety of worship opportunities throughout Holy Week. You are invited to make use of these services as a means of preparing your heart for the joy of Easter.

Passion Cantata - April 2, 6:30pm, St. John's

Inspired by Jesus' earliest followers who gathered to mark the hours between his death and resurrection, our 2023 Passion Cantata, *Tenebrae: Jesus, Light of the World*, invites us into a time of sacred reflection and prayer.

Maundy Thursday - April 6, 2023, 6:30 pm, St. John's

Gathered in a candlelit sanctuary, we will recall our Saviour's final moments through the ancient washing of hands, breaking of bread, and stripping of the altar.

Good Friday - April 7 2023, 10am - Trinity United Church

Good Friday unites us into one community as we gather for an ecumenical worship service at Trinity United Church. Hear again our Saviour's words from the cross, and enter prayerfully into the mystery of faith.

Easter Sunday - April 9, 2023

6:30am (TBC)-Westhaver's Beach

Easter Sunrise service will be at Westhaver's Beach. Bring your lawn chair or beach blanket and gather for a 20 minute service to celebrate the resurrection of Christ as the sun comes up.

9:00am-Mount Calvary

We gather in stillness, as we await to hear the joyful proclamation that our Lord has risen! Rich music, ancient story, and sacred liturgy guides us from the font to the table as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

11am-St. John's

We gather in stillness, as we await to hear the joyful proclamation that our Lord has risen! Rich music, ancient story, and sacred liturgy guides us from the font to the table as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

All Are Welcome!

MOUNT CALVARY INFORMATION

+ 2023 Council Members

Our council members for 2023 are:

James Varner *Chairperson*
Brooke Varner
Donna Penney
Walter Joudrey
Judy Joudrey
Gail Joudrey

+ Fed and Nourished

Thank you to everyone who helped in many different ways with Fed and Nourished in January and February. In March, the monthly meal will be mac and cheese on Thursday, March 30, 2023.

+Food Bank Sunday

The third Sunday of the month is food bank Sunday. Please consider donating a non-perishable food item. All donations go to New Germany and Area Foodbank.

Foodbanks Sunday

Sunday, March 19, 2023

Sunday, April 16, 2023

+Council Meeting

March Council meeting will be Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 7:00 pm at Mount Calvary.

April council meeting tentatively will be on Thursday April 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm at Mount Calvary.

Council Minutes will be posted at the back of the church each month on the bulletin board.

ST. JOHN'S INFORMATION

+ 2023 Council Members

Our current council members are as follows:

Tara Maguire *Chairperson*
Sara Whynt *Vice-Chair*
Hamilton Maguire *Secretary*
Abby Maguire *Youth Member*
David Eisnor
Joanne Zimmer
Jason Mailman

Lynn Slack
Melinda Kerwin
Trudi Inglis

+News from Church Council

Thank you to all those who attended our Annual General Meeting and potluck. We had a great turnout with some great discussion and conversation. We heard updates on all the happenings over the past year, some plans for next year and some thoughtful reflection and discussion on our future ministry. We also welcome Melinda Kerwin to the Council team, and look forward to all the work we will be undertaking together in the upcoming year.

After the long break for nearly three years, we have restarted our monthly socials on the third Sunday of the month. I encourage everyone to join us for this wonderful opportunity for fellowship and for celebrations. We are always happy to have new volunteers to work with us, not only a great way to make friends, but it also provides a format to express our love with the gift of giving and sharing.

We are also going to be reinitiating the Common table dinners. Our first common table dinner will be held March 8, 2023. Please stay tuned for more details, including the time. These dinners are free, and we invite you to share a freewill donation. Bring your family, friends or neighbors and join us for a relaxed evening.

Finally, a HUGE thanks goes out to all those who helped with the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, by either serving, preparing, cooking, cleaning or by attending and enjoying the yummy pancakes and sausages.

-Tara Maguire

+ Fellowship Sunday's

Fellowship Sundays are back! Join us after service on the third Sunday of the month for fellowship and a light snack/refreshments. If you are interested in bringing snacks/sandwiches please talk to Arlene Parks as she will be organizing the fellowship snack schedule.

+Common Table

Join us on Wednesday March 8, 2023 from 5:30pm-6:30pm for Common Table. We will have two delicious soups for supper. All are welcome to come!

+Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

During the week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we worshipped with the churches of Mahone Bay. It was well attended with twenty to thirty people at each service. During the service we hosted, we moved to the United Church due to oil smell in our church. Thanks to Trinity for hosting us! Big thanks to the wonderful ladies who prepared soup and grilled cheese for everyone who attended the service!

+Winter Storm Policy

Our cancellation policy states that in the event of inclement weather, the chairpersons of council in consultation with Pastor Brooklynn, will make a determination by 9:30am. An announcement will be made on *CKBW*, and on our *Facebook* page.

+ Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes are now available for 2023. If you would like to make arrangements for pick up, please call the church office at 902 624 9660.

+ Easter Memorials

Anyone wishing to place a memorial in memory of a loved one for Easter is asked to contact the Church Office as soon as possible. Flowers placed in the sanctuary are later delivered to members of our community and congregation.

+Endowment Update-March 2023

Our funds have recovered some of their value since the beginning of the year. The value of the Ernst/Burgoyne account was 217,882.89 on December 30, 2022 and it is currently 218,182.25 and we have taken 18,000 out of it. The value of the ESG fund was 90,101.78 on Dec 30 the and it is currently at 95,689.70. I am pleased with the gains thus far this year. Please remember, as you do your estate planning, to think of the church. Leaving money to the church can help decrease estate

taxes. Any amount is very much appreciated and can be put to good use. If you have any questions at any time please do not hesitate to ask me.

-Melinda

+Choir Update

Our St. John's Choir continues to meet on Thursdays at 6:30 pm. We are a dedicated group of singers who are always happy to welcome new members. We will be continuing to participate in our Sunday morning worship services as well as our Holy Week services. On Palm Sunday we will be presenting a cantata entitled "No Stone Could Hold Him" at 6:30 pm. We would love to see you there! Please feel free to invite family and friends. On Easter Sunday we will be participating at our Sunrise Service as well as our 11 am service. We will not be having rehearsals on April 20 and 27 but will resume meeting in May with our final practice for the season being May 18. Thank you all for your ongoing support!

March 5 and 12 there will be Cantata practice from 12:00pm-1:00 pm at the church.

-Rebecca

+Bells Update

The Bell Choir at St John's continues to rehearse every Thursday night. We are working on some new pieces for Lent and Easter. Our next performance in church will be March 12 when we will play two well-known Lenten Hymns:
O Sacred Head, Now Wounded and Were You There

We will play these before the service.

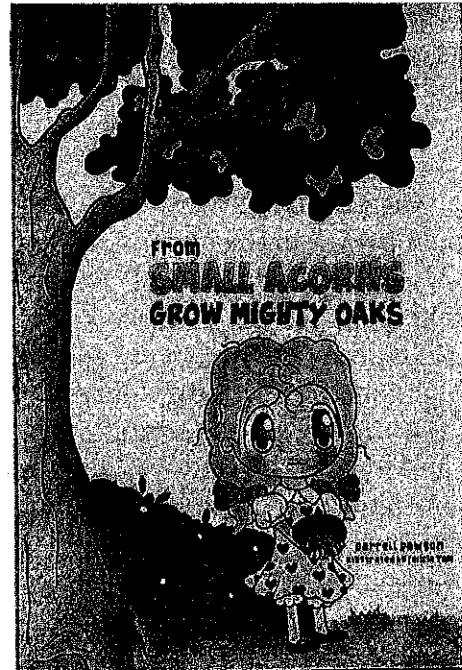
-Gale

+Gift Card Fundraiser

Anyone interested in buying gift cards is asked to see David Eisnor before April 30, 2023. Gift cards will be available for pick-up on Sunday, May 14, 2023. Thank you for your continued support of this program.

+Book Launch

Join us Saturday, March 25, 2023, at 2:00 pm at St. John's for the book launch, *From Small Acorns Grow Mighty Oaks*, by our very own, Darrell Dawson. After the book reading, light treats and refreshments will be shared.



+Yard Sale and Christmas Sale

As we all start to look at decluttering our homes, don't forget the church can use your items at our fall yard sale or our Christmas sale. If you can get together one or two boxes you would be surprised how quickly this can give us items to sell at our sale. Household items are all appreciated, but if you are donating electronic items please check them to make sure they are working. Also, no clothes as they are hard to sell. I thank everyone in advance for looking around your home to see if you have any items to donate.

-Melinda

+ Joy Journal

Birthday greetings are extended to the following:

March 1

Linda Veinot

March 2

Melinda Kerwin

Aaden Mason

March 3	Rhonda Joudrey Jayme Keddy Nathaniel Snook Kasey Winchcombe
March 5	Lamechien Barry Susan Fralick
March 7	Tim Aulenback
March 8	Reena Joudrey
March 11	Pat Joudrey Nathan Whynot
March 12	Margaret Capone
March 15	Gail Nauss
March 16	Rebecca Rock
March 17	Arlene Parks
March 19	Jonathan Wawin Charlene Mailman Kelsey Doucette Brayden Barron
March 20	Leeann Dolimount
March 21	Krista McDow
March 22	Andrew Wentzell
March 23	Doug Barry
March 24	Heather Daurie Owen Wamboldt Anna (Wentzell) Bellows Shirley Richardson
March 26	Alex Achenbach
March 27	Lillian Boyd
March 31	Ethel Joudrey Arthur Hamm
April 1	Melanie Nauss
April 3	Joel Martell
April 6	Azelyn MacAdam Luke Aulenback
April 8	Greg Inglis Pastor Brooklynn
April 10	Angela Zinck
April 11	Heather Hirtle Joshua Wawin
April 13	Jocelyn Wentzell
April 15	Juliana Barry
April 16	Wilfred Wentzell
April 17	Lance Knickle Jason Winchcombe
April 18	Lillian Temple
April 22	Ken Knickle
April 25	Logan Norman Trudi Inglis
April 27	Justin Oickle-Demone
April 28	Colin Ernst

April 29	Spencer Achenbach
April 30	Megan Demone Terry Naugler

If your birthday is missing and you would like it added to the Joy Journal please let Kelly know.

+ Stay Connected!

Are you a member of the Atlantic Ministry Area - Lutheran ELCIC Facebook page? (@atlanticlutherans) This page posts events offered by Lutheran churches across the Atlantic Ministry Area. The posted events are your invitation to attend.

WIDER CHURCH INFORMATION

+"Of Pilgrimage, Freedom and Belonging - A Global Achtliederbuch 2024" LEIPZIG, 24-27.11.2022

Ritual, Word and Sound
in the Context of International Lutheranism

On earth as it is in heaven! For Martin Luther, the earthly sounds of nature and popular song were equal partners in the proclamation of the Christian faith as well as the transcendent, heavenly sounds of the elaborate vocal polyphony of his time. His own songs were inspired by the Gregorian tradition, which surrounded him and became dear to him, as well as by the popular musical trends of his time. Musically proficient, Luther based his hymns on both sacred and catchy popular melodies, thus creating the foundation of the Protestant hymnal as a means of empowerment to sing Christian faith in one's own voice and in comprehensible words. At the same time, he opened the doors of the church wide to the transformation of these melodies into the ornate, theologically-inspired sonic architecture of Johann Sebastian Bach. Therefore Luther was establishing not only the hymnal, but also the essential building blocks of sacred music which have lasted to the present day.

The Global Achtliederbuch 2024 will be published on the 500th anniversary of the first Lutheran hymnal of 1524, following the historical development in the spirit of Luther, as a collection of essential hymns from lively congregations, not as a completed work, but as a sounding mirror of the

diversity of Christian faith in the Lutheran tradition, and as an aid in everyday faith practice.

Of Pilgrimage, Freedom and Belonging is compiled by musicians and theologians from all seven regions of the Lutheran World Federation as well as an eighth group, comprised of people working in the field of ecumenical faith relations from a global perspective. Accompanying meetings, online sessions and the Lutheran World Federation Global Assembly in Krakow in 2023 flank the curation process.


Not least the COVID pandemic and the ongoing wars on all continents with their global consequences show us how interconnected the world is, and how important it is for us as Christians to hear and listen to each other in order to be alive as corpus christi. In order to listen to each other and to find a common sound for the Global Achtliederbuch 2024, we are exploring possibilities for the shape and sound of the Songbook 2024 with invited guests and as many as possible from the group of curators, based on the diverse experiences and expertise of each individual.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the support of the international team of the LWF, the inspiring and substantial cooperation with the DNK/LWF Germany, and the Evangelische Akademie Sachsen-Anhalt e. V., which will also host our final conference in June 2024 for this exciting joint endeavor.

May our senses awaken to everything earthly, heavenly, and the exciting resonant spaces in between.

Dr. Uwe Steinmetz
Initiator and director of the Global Achtliederbuch Project,
Liturgical Institute of the United Evangelical-Lutheran Church of Germany
at the University of Leipzig

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 <i>Lent 2</i> Worship (Service of the Word) 9 am-MC 11am - SJ	6	7 9am-2pm - Office SJ	8 5:30pm Common Table 6:30pm - Mid-Week Lenten Service @SJ	9 9am-2pm - Office SJ 6:30pm - Choir Practice SJ 7:45pm-Handbell Practice SJ 7:00pm-Council Mtg. MC	11 9am-2pm - Office SJ	11
12 <i>Lent 3</i> Worship (Communion) 9 am-MC 11am - SJ	13	14 9am-2pm - Office SJ	15 6:30pm - Mid-Week Lenten Service @SJ 7:00pm - Endowment Mtg. at SJ	16 9am-2pm - Office SJ 6:30pm - Choir Practice SJ 7:00pm-Mt. Calvary Council Mtg. 7:45pm-Handbell Practice SJ	18 9am-2pm - Office SJ	18
19 <i>Lent 4</i> Worship (Service of the Word) 9 am-MC 11am - SJ <i>Fellowship Sunday SJ</i> <i>Food Bank Sunday MC</i>	20 <i>1st Day of Spring</i> 	21 Office Closed SJ 7pm - St. John's Council Mtg.	22 6:30pm - Mid-Week Lenten Service @SJ	23 9am-2pm - Office SJ 6:30pm - Choir Practice SJ 7:45pm-Handbell Practice SJ	25 9am-2pm - Office SJ	25 2:00pm-Book Launch
26 <i>Lent 5</i> Worship (Communion) 9 am-MC 11am - SJ	27	28 9am-2pm - Office SJ	29 6:30pm - Mid-Week Lenten Service @SJ	30 9am-2pm - Office SJ 6:30pm - Choir Practice SJ 7:45pm-Handbell Practice SJ 4:30-6:00 pm-Fed and Nourished	31 9am-2pm - Office SJ	

April 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Palm Sunday Worship (Communion) 9 am-MC 11am - SJ 6:30pm - Passion Cantata SJ	3	4 9am-2pm - Office SJ	5	6 9am-2pm - Office SJ 6:30pm-Maundy Thursday Service SJ	7 10am-Good Friday Service @ Trinity United Office Closed	1/8
9 Easter Sunday Worship (Service of the Word) 6:30am (TBG) - Sunrise Service 9 am-MC 11am - SJ	10 Easter Monday	11 9am-2pm - Office SJ	12	13 9am-2pm - Office SJ 6:30pm - Choir Practice SJ 7:45pm-Handbell Practice SJ	14 9am-2pm - Office SJ	15
16 Easter 2 Worship (Communion) 9 am-MC 11am - SJ 12:15 pm-Fellowship Sunday SJ Foodbank Sunday MC	17	18 9am-2pm - Office SJ 7pm-St. John's Council Mtg.	19	20 9am-2pm - Office SJ *Choir Canceled SJ 7:00pm-Council Mtg. MC 7:45pm-Handbell Practice SJ Pastor Brooklyn Online Synod Council Mtg.	21 9am-2pm - Office SJ Pastor Brooklyn Online Synod Council Mtg.	22 Pastor Brooklyn Online Synod Council Mtg.
23 Easter 3 Worship (Communion) 9 am-MC 11am - SJ	24	25 9am-2pm - Office SJ	26	27 9am-2pm - Office SJ *Choir Canceled SJ 7:45pm-Handbell Practice SJ	28 9am-2pm - Office SJ Pastor Brooklyn Away for RIAC	29 Pastor Brooklyn Away for RIAC
30 Easter 4 Shared Ministry Sunday 9 am-JN 11am - No Service @SJ Pastor Brooklyn Away for RIAC	<p><i>Updates to the March/April Calendar will be announced in our weekly church bulletin.</i></p> <p><i>Please contact the church office with any questions or for additional information about these notices.</i></p> <p><i>Announcements for the May/June newsletter are due to the church office by April 20, 2023.</i></p>					