



Keeping Easter Richelle Thompson

What are you giving up for Easter? Or, are you taking on something new instead during Eastertide?

What? Hadn't thought about that? No plans for keeping Easter? Join the club.

I grew up in a faith tradition that didn't spend a lot of time on Lent as a time of penitence and preparation, so I've been learning about the Episcopal traditions of keeping Lent. But I wonder: with all that time and energy leading up to Easter, do we run out of steam when it comes to honoring the 50 days after the resurrection of our Lord?

I suspect our Easter-keeping fades faster than Easter lilies. We don our Easter Sunday best, bellow glorious strains of "He is Risen," give an extra umph to our Alleluias, eat deviled eggs and chocolate bunnies, and then move on to the next holiday: baseball's Opening Day.

I challenge us to keep Easter with the same devotion as we keep Lent but with a different focus. Easter is not about self-denial and introspection. It is celebration, the actual incarnation of sacred mystery, the ultimate triumph of life over death. Surely it deserves more than one day.

Richelle Thompson wrote from the Diocese of Southern Ohio where she served as director of communications for many years. She is a clergy spouse and mother of two grown children.

April 2024

Sundays

- 8:00a.m. H.E. Rite I
- 9:15a.m. Adult Christian Education
- 10:30a.m. H.E. Rite II

Wednesdays

- 10:30a.m. Healing Service

Coming Up

- April 1 St. Elizabeth's Guild 12:00pm
- April 6 Men's Club 8:00am
- April 9 Book Club 10:00am
- April 9 Lion's Club 6:30pm
- April 20 TRCC 3-5:00pm
- April 23 Townes Homeowners 4:30pm
- April 23 Lion's Club 6:30pm
- April 27 Quarter Auction 5:15pm



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WELCOME, HAPPY MORNING!

“I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore. Amen; and I have the keys of hell and of death.” (Revelation 1:18)

“Welcome, happy morning!”
Age to age shall say:
Hell today is vanquished,
Heaven is won today!
Lo! the dead is living,
God forevermore!
Him, their true Creator,
All His works adore!

A hymn which praises Jesus Christ as the one who was dead but is now alive for evermore and has the keys of Hades and death “Welcome Happy Morning!” The text was written by a Latin poet and hymnographer in the Merovingian Court, and a bishop of the Early Church who has been venerated since the Middle Ages named Venantius Honorius Clementianus Fortunatus, who was born circa 530/540 at Ceneda (or Duplavilis), near Treviso in Veneto, Italy. At an early age, he was converted to Christianity at Aquieia. He grew up during the Roman reconquest of Italy.

Sometime in the 550s or 60s, Fortunatus travelled to Ravenna to study. While there, he was given a classical education, in the Roman style. His later work shows familiarity with not only classical Latin poets such as Virgil, Horace, and Ovid, but also Christian poets, and bears their influence. In addition, Fortunatus likely had some knowledge of the Greek language and the classical Greek writers and philosophers. While a student at Ravenna, he became almost blind, but recovered his sight, as he believed miraculously, by anointing his eyes with oil taken from a lamp that burned before the altar of St. Martin of Tours. His recovery induced him to make a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Martin at Tours, in 565. He remained in Gaul the rest of his life.

In circa 590, he wrote a poem, Salve, festa dies, from which this hymn is taken. Fortunatus was ordained sometime around 576 and around the year 599-600, became bishop of Poitiers before his own death in c. 600/609 at Poitiers, France. The Latin text was translated to English in 1868 by John Ellerton (1826–1893). The tune (Fortunatus) was composed for this text by Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842–1900). The song was first published in the Hymnary edited by Joseph Barnby in 1872.



Sunday School

Images above show off the start of Children’s Chapel. We proceed into the Parish Hall carrying a cross and two candles while singing the Doxology. Each child has a special job; from processing in, to lighting the candles, extinguishing the candles, and everything in between. Thank you to Lora Pons who puts so much work and effort into our Children’s Chapel!

Images below are of the youth helping to make up food pantry bags.



Congratulations to our newest acolytes: Jack Lea and Megan Renck!



LENTEN
SUPPERS



2024



Lenten Noon Lunch March 20, 2024



The cherry blossoms are in bloom!


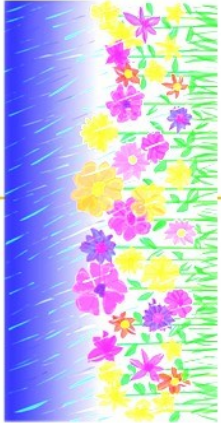
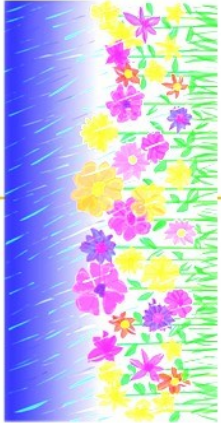
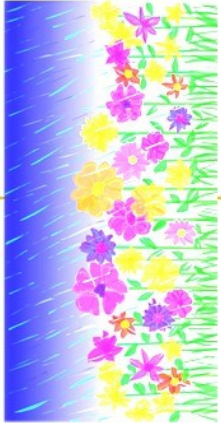

Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy. - Psalm 96:12





APRIL 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 St. Elizabeth's Guild 12:00pm TRAC 6-9:30pm	2 Food Pantry 9-11am	3 Food Pantry 9-10:30am Healing Service 10:30am	4 Food Pantry 9-11am TRCC 5-6:30pm	5	6 Men's Club Breakfast 8:00am
7 8:00am HE Rite I 9:15am Adult CE 10:30am HE Rite II 11:30am Fundraiser Meeting Rev. Pat Grace	8 TRAC 6-9:30pm	9 Food Pantry 9-11am Book Club 10:00am	10 Food Pantry 9-10:30am Healing Service 10:30am	11 Food Pantry 9-11am TRCC 5-6:30pm	12	13 
14 8:00am HE Rite 1 9:15am Adult CE 10:30am HE Rite II Reve. Adele Hatfield	15 TRAC 6-9:30pm	16 Food Pantry 9-11am Finance Meeting 6:00pm Lion's Club 6:30pm	17 Food Pantry 9-10:30am Healing Service 10:30am Vestry 6:00pm	18 Food Pantry 9-11am 10:00am—Meals on Wheels TRCC 5-6:30pm	19	20 TRCC 3-5pm
21 8:00am HE Rite 1 9:15am Adult CE 10:30am HE Rite II 11:30am Pack food pantry bags Rev. Adele Hatfield	22 TRAC 6-9:30pm	23 Food Pantry 9-11am Townes Homeowners 4:30pm	24 Food Pantry 9-10:30am Healing Service 10:30am	25 Food Pantry 9-11am TRCC 5-6:30pm	26	27 Quarter Auction 5:15pm Dinner 6pm Auction
28 8:00am HE Rite 1 9:15am Adult CE 10:30am HE Rite II Rev. Adele Hatfield	29 TRAC 6-9:30pm	30 Food Pantry 9-11am Lion's Club 6:30pm				



APRIL 2024

LAY/LEM READERS

April 7
8:00 Albert Corinth
Tim Knapp

10:30 Linda Hutcheson
Sandy Suggs

April 14
8:00 George Earp
Ramona Orzell

10:30 Sarah Dial
Jeanie Armstrong
Elizabeth Pope

April 21
8:00 Tim Knapp
Tim Knapp

10:30 Sandy Suggs
Marth Lamm

April 28
8:00 George Earp
Ramona Orzell

10:30 Brad Earle
Linda Hutcheson
Martha Lamm



ACOLYTES

April 7
Walker Wells and Jack Lea

April 14
Lauren and Megan Renck

April 21
The Mericle Family

April 28
Landon Newcomb



ELEMENTS

April 7
Strandberg Family

April 14
Pons Family

April 21
Keeter Family

April 28
Rollings Family



“Praise be to the God and Father
of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his
great mercy he has given us new
birth into a living hope through
the resurrection of Jesus Christ
from the dead.”

-1 Peter: 1-3

USHERS

April 7
Linda Hutcheson
Jan Arnold

April 14
Dan Melnyk
Don Mucci

April 21
Angela Reid
Jim Royal

April 28
Billy Suggs
Steve Thurkill

GREETERS

Tommy Parker

Kitchen Clean Up

Angela Reid
Martha Lamm

Pantry Distributors

Tuesday—Patty Kennedy
Wednesday—Tommy Parker
Thursday—Elizabeth Hunter

Pantry Volunteers

Mary Ann Crawford
Diane Dunstan
Marie Inscore

Opportunities to Help

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ. -Galatians 6:2

During this time when we are without a rector, one of the hardest area to cover is pastoral care. Ramona Orzell and her team are working hard to make necessary visits and phone call but they need help. Please take a moment and stop by the committee room where we have posted our parishioners who could use a card, phone call, or visit and select someone to follow up with. I know that person will appreciate it and I think you would feel good about it too.



So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. -Galatians 6:10



Most of you are familiar with the health struggles that our friends Bill and Kitty Hudgins have experienced over the past few years. St. Andrew's wants to take steps to help them ease some of their financial burdens by conducting a series of fund raisers in support of the family. We will be meeting on Sunday, April 7 at the conclusion of the 10:30 service in the conference room to discuss some options for our fund-raising efforts. Any person interested in helping is invited to join us on the 7th. If you have questions, please contact the Sr. Warden.





Quarters In! Paddles Up!

St. Andrew's School Quarter Auction

Date: Saturday, April 27, 2024 - door opens at 5:15 p.m. for dinner and auction begins at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner includes grilled chicken, green beans, potatoes, bread, and dessert.

Tickets are only \$15 (includes dinner and auction paddle)

How it works: Bid on items with 1-4 quarters, depending on the item's retail value. Once all bids are placed, a randomly chosen number is called. If the person with that number placed a bid, he/she wins the item. Numbers will continue to be drawn until there is a winner. You could win a GREAT item for ONE QUARTER!! There will also be items for sale as a "regular" auction, highest bidder wins the prize.

Bring quarters with you, but additional quarters will be available for purchase that night!

Let us know how many tickets we can get for your family and friends, only 100 are available. Adults only please.

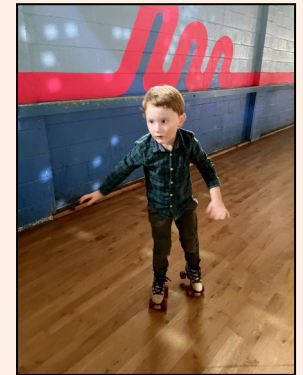
We are accepting (and would greatly appreciate) new auction items/services as well! All donations are tax deductible. I will give you a form to use for those purposes.

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT ST. ANDREW'S PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

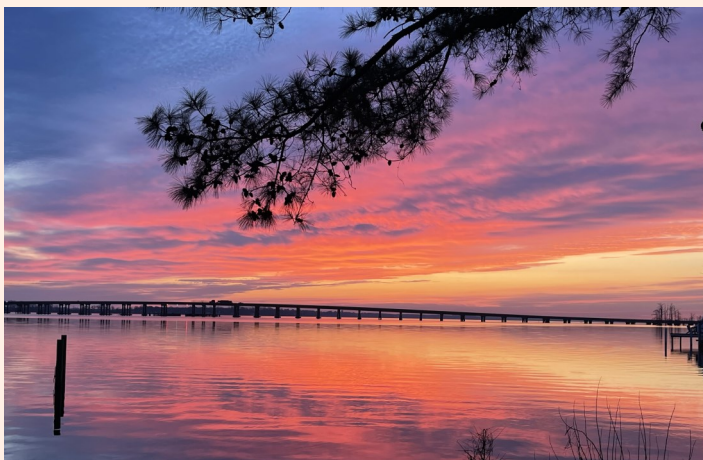


EYC

St. Andrew's EYC enjoyed a fun filled afternoon at Sky-Vue skating rink. Even the younger kids in our church got to join in on the fun!

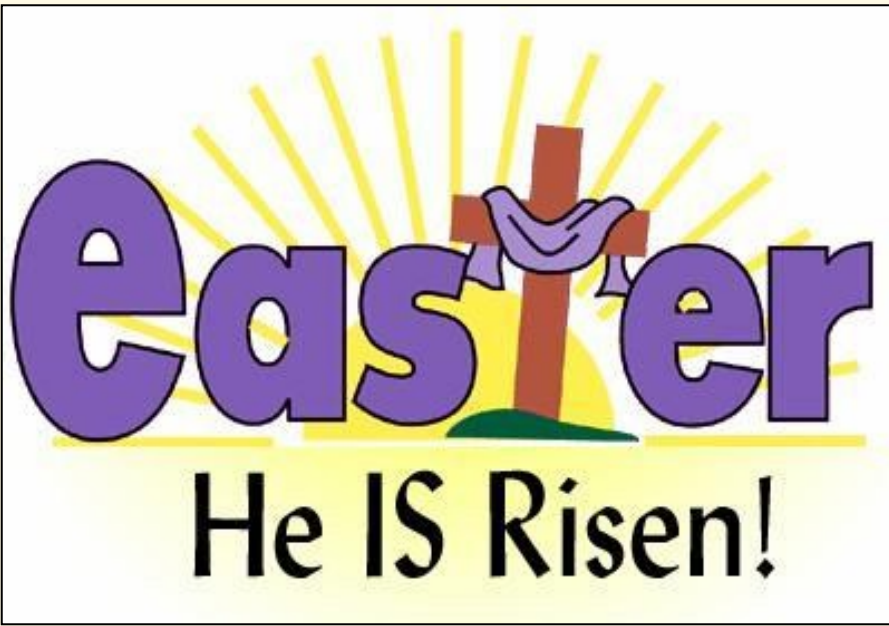


Family fun at the Rivah!



Saturday, June 29th
10am-3pm
Swim, paddle board, sail,
boating
Bring a change of clothes and
side dishes/snacks!
Drinks, hot dogs, and
hamburgers provided!
Please call or email the church
office to sign -up!





Bible Brain Teasers **Jesus Dies and Rises Up**

Jesus Rises Up
(John 20)

After Jesus died on the cross, His body was put inside a tomb. A heavy stone was placed in front of the opening. When Mary Magdalene went to His tomb, she saw that the stone had been rolled away. Jesus was not there!
Find the path that takes Mary to the tomb.

#7100 Bible Brain Teasers 138 ©Teacher Created Resources, Inc.

The Case of the Empty Tomb

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.
John 20:1 (NIV)

ACROSS

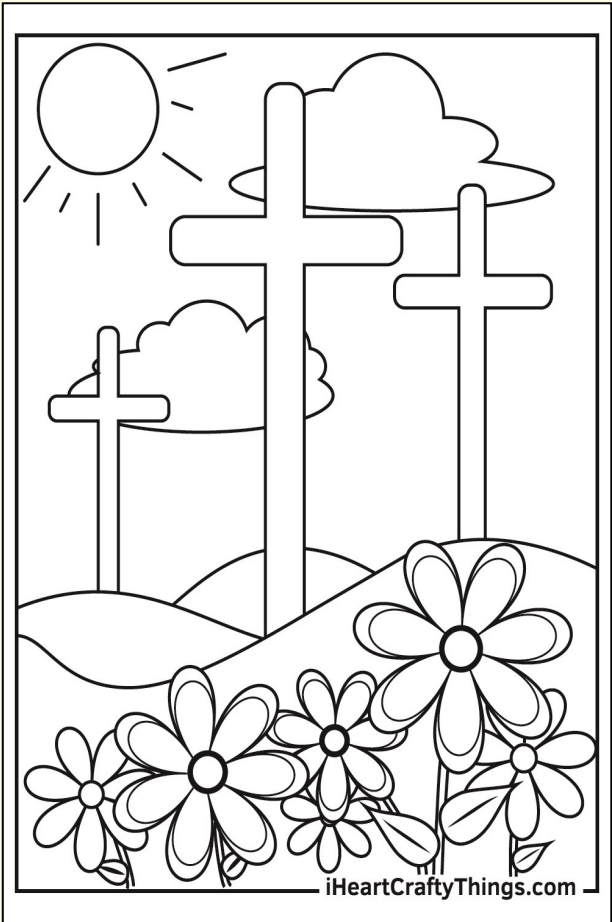
4. A piece of fabric made by weaving cotton, wool, or other fibers
6. Not dead
7. The day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection
8. To have nothing inside
9. What was used to cover the entrance to Jesus' tomb

DOWN

1. Messengers from heaven
2. The color of snow; the opposite of black
3. The woman who found the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb
4. To produce tears; to weep
5. A grave or a room where someone is buried

EMPTY	ANGELS	EASTER	CLOTH	WHITE
STONE	ALIVE	TOMB	CRY	MARY

The Lord is risen indeed!
Halleluiah!





ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 301 Circle Drive • Rocky Mount, NC 27804

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Our Parish Family



The birth of a child is a joyous thing!

Liam Joseph Stoner
 March 14, 2024

*Parents JoEllen and Jason Stoner
 Grandparents Helen and Joe Galligan*

Mark Your Calendars

Please join us in the conference room following the 10:30am service on Sunday, April 7th to discuss fundraiser options for the Hudgins Family.

Quarters In! Paddles Up!

St. Andrew's School Quarter Auction

Saturday, April 27, 2024—door opens at 5:15pm for dinner and auction begins at 6:00pm.

Tickets are only \$15—only 100 available

Please let the office how many tickets you want.

All proceeds benefit St. Andrew's Preschool and Kindergarten

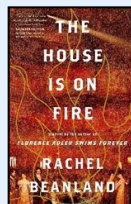
Adults Only Please

St Elizabeth's Guild meets on Monday, April 1st at 12pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring a bag lunch. Dessert and beverage provided.



The Men's Club is meeting Saturday, April 6th at 8am.

Every Sunday after services, we will be packing food bags for the students at Winstead Elementary. We will pack food pantry bags on April 21st after 10:30am services.



St. Andrew's book club will meet on Tuesday, April 9th at 10 am in the Church parlor. We will be discussing The House is On Fire by Rachel Beanland.

Family fun at the Rivah!

Saturday, June 29th

10am-3pm

Swim, paddle board, sail, boating

Please call or email the church office to sign –up!