

**Pastor for Parish Life**  
**The Rev. John H. Brock**  
**May 2023 Report for April 2023**

**Recurring Events:**

- Staff meeting
- Pastoral Care
- Production / Live Stream Prep meetings
- Live Stream Worship, In Person Sunday / Saturday
- Sunday Preach April 22/23
- Write weekly Prayers of the Church (along with Every Member Prayer list) and Pastoral Care report
- Noon prayer service/On Call weekend April 21-23
- Council (Zoom)
- Property Committee (removal of bushes in front of main building)
- Creative Worship: We debriefed Palm/Passion, Holy Week, Easter events; we also discussed the fact that December 24<sup>th</sup> falls on a Sunday this year, which also means that the Fourth Sunday of Advent is December 24<sup>th</sup> as well. We looked at past years records, and feel that the best course of action is to celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent at Saturday worship and the Sunday morning Live Stream, have NO 11AM worship at all, and then have our usual Christmas Eve services as planned (2P, 4P, 6P, 8P, & 10P). This will have to be discussed and officially decided by the Worship Team

**Additional things:**

- Palm/Passion Sunday, Holy Week & Easter stuff, specifically:
  - Assist with Easter Egg hunt
  - Palm Sunday preside Live Stream / Contemporary
  - Maundy Thursday - preach
  - Good Friday - noon to 3P goes well. My section was good. Had nice overall turnout
  - Good Friday - Tenebrae, went really well
  - Easter Vigil, preside for first half
  - Easter Day - preside Traditional (Jennifer Hope-Tringali preside contemporary)
- Funeral Planning: T. Denison
- Funerals: T. Denison
- Thursday Pastor's Bible Study: Nehemiah chapters 4-6
- Home / Hospital Visitations
- Member Contacts
- Financial Aid to several non-members
- Lead Affirmation of Baptism: *Love & Sex*
- Preside at baptism: Emilia Marx, Torryn Brown (same day) (and Pastor Horner had one that day as well)
- Youth Sunday - preside at Saturday, Contemporary
- Mutual Ministry via zoom
- Helped facilitate reception of financial gift from estate of Fay Pepperman
- Cumberland Conference meeting - Christian Aguilar from Fruitbelt Farmworkers Christian Ministry, guest speaker
- Preside at Saturday worship (29 April) with Pastor Horner's pre-recorded message (due to scheduling snafu, he had an off-site wedding on same weekend he was to

- preach)
- Talk with folks attending the LAMPa event

**Other things:**

- Many of you may not be aware that the pastoral staff are allowed two extra days off after Easter. I have been able to take one of those days so far, and visited the Franklin Institute to see *Disney 100: The Exhibition*. It was a very fun and educational exhibit, well worth the time.
- On Holy Tuesday, we had a non-member stop by, looking for information about Trinity, and the Lutheran Church in general. This individual, Mary Lou, was very disgruntled with the Roman Catholic church, saying she felt that Pope Francis is much too liberal. We had a fairly open and pleasant conversation. I did tell her, however, that I felt she would not be comfortable with the views and opinions of the ELCA in general, and some of our pastoral staff in particular. I encouraged her to visit either St. Timothy Lutheran Camp Hill (NALC), or Calvary Lutheran Mechanicsburg (LCMS), where they will probably be more aligned with her viewpoint. I tell you all this, because this is yet one of the many things that your pastors do, that rarely anyone other than staff see.

God's peace,

Pastor John Brock

Speaking of Extra time off after Easter, I would like to advocate for a small change in our policy. I noted, the pastoral staff are allowed two extra days off after Easter. Our programming staff (music and education) as well as our office staff work equally as much during Holy Week / Easter. While the office is officially closed for half a day on Good Friday, I would like to recommend that we officially close our office on the Monday after Easter as well, for all staff