

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER LATE APRIL AND MAY 2024

MY LIST

REV. JOSEPH
SCHATTAUER
PAILLÉ

People occasionally ask me for recommendations on books and documentaries, so I thought it might be helpful to have the stuff I recommend most in one place.

Bible

- *bibleodyssey.org*—There's a lot of great biblical studies material online as well as an infinite amount of, well, not so great stuff. Bible Odyssey is a project of the Society for Biblical Literature that makes good scholarship easily accessible.
- *The Bible for Everyone* by NT Wright—This is a series of translations and very readable commentaries for every book in the New Testament. Does a nice job of integrating and explaining across fields.
- *Getting Involved with God* by Ellen Davis—Reflections on a variety of Hebrew Bible material including the Psalms, Moses, Song of Songs, and more.
- Other authors: Paula Gooder, Willie Jennings, Walter Brueggemann

Theology

- *Lutheran Questions, Lutheran Answers* by Martin Marty—This has answers to almost one hundred FAQ about Lutheran community and practice. If you've ever wondered what Lutherans think about xyz, it's probably in here.
- *Faith Seeking Understanding* by Daniel Migliore—A great overview of systematic theology including Black, feminist, and liberationist theology. Kind of textbook to read front to back, but good if you have a particular interest.
- *Modern Spiritual Masters* from Orbis Publishing—This is an anthology series from authors such as Dorothy Day, Howard Thurman, Oscar Romero, and more. There are helpful general and selection introductions as well.

Church History

- "From Jesus to Christ" PBS Frontline documentary—We used parts of this in adult ed classes a few years back, and it's pretty solid. Easy to find on YouTube. Be warned that the Papyrus font is used *heavily*.
- "Church History: An Essential Guide" by Justo Gonzalez—Not only does it cover two thousand years of church history in under one hundred pages, it does a pretty good job of it.

Worship

- *Central Things: Worship in Word and Sacrament* by Gordon Lathrop—Extremely readable introduction to Lutheran liturgical history and renewal, especially connection between the mission of God in worship and in the world.
- Other authors: Gail Ramshaw, Melinda Quivik, Alexander Schmemmann

Peace and courage (and happy reading and viewing)!

ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH
777 WYCKOFF AVENUE | WYCKOFF, NJ 07481
(201) 891-1031 | ADVENTLUTHERANWYCKOFF.ORG

CFA ITEM OF THE MONTH

DIANE
HAVENS

We have long been enthusiastic supporters of the Center for Food Action whose mission it is to “prevent hunger and homelessness and improve the lives of individuals and families living in poverty.” As food prices continue to be a burden on the most vulnerable, we’d like to increase our donations to this cause. To accomplish this goal, we are going to have monthly items identified by CFA to be those most regularly in need. This month we are requesting Peanut Butter, Jelly/Jam, and Shelf stable milk.

Thanks, as always, for your incredible ongoing generosity!



ONWARD AND UPWARD WITH THE ARTS

DIANE
HAVENS

To continue to nurture the arts in our community, we’d like to have a visual art and poetry showcase this spring or early summer (date TBD). The theme would be one of hope, joy, a celebration or meditation on nature. If you or someone you know has created art work or written poetry, we’d love to share it here as a special event — a combination art show and poetry reading. I would also like to include poems that are especially meaningful to you, or simply that you love, as part of the showcase. For questions and more information please write or speak to Diane Havens (d52havens@gmail.com).



SYNOD ASSEMBLY

New Jersey Synod Assembly will be held on Saturday, May 11 at Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton. We are past the early registration deadline, but I can still get you signed up if you would like to participate. More information and the bulletin of reports is available at njsynod.org/assembly



TOTAL REQUEST LIVE SERVICE

On Sunday, April 26, our hymns will be all your requests. Bulletins the two weekends prior will have a space for you to submit requests. Depending on your generation, I’ll play the role of Casey Kasem/Caron Daly and play your favorites.



THRIVENT ACTION GRANTS

If you are a Thrivent member, you are eligible for up to \$500 in grants for service projects. I would like to use one for our Godly Play meeting in May where we’ll make snack packs for the CFA. Please drop me (JSP) a line if you have one you’d be willing to use.



**LATE APRIL
AND MAY
AT A GLANCE**

Saturday, Apr. 13	5 PM	Worship
Sunday, Apr. 14	9:30 AM	Worship
Monday, Apr. 15	1 PM	Book Group
Thursday, Apr. 17	10 AM	The Gospels for Everyone/Bible study
Saturday, Apr. 20	5 PM	Worship
Sunday, Apr. 21	9:30 AM 10:45 AM	Worship Godly Play
Wednesday, Apr. 24	6 PM	Grief Support
Thursday, Apr. 25	10 AM	The Gospels for Everyone/Bible study
Saturday, Apr. 27	5 PM	Worship
Sunday, Apr. 28	9:30 AM	Worship (All Requests Service)
Sunday, Apr. 31	9:30 AM	Worship
Thursday, May 1	10 AM	The Gospels for Everyone/Bible study
Saturday, May 4	5 PM	Worship
Sunday, May 5	9:30 AM	Worship
Thursday, May 8	10 AM	The Gospels for Everyone/Bible study
Saturday, May 11	Synod Assembly in Hamilton 5 PM	Worship
Sunday, May 12	9:30 AM	Worship
Wednesday, May 14	7:30 PM	Hope and Healing Meeting
Thursday, May 15	10 AM	The Gospels for Everyone/Bible study
Saturday, May 18	5 PM	Worship
Sunday, May 19	9:30 AM 10:45 AM	Worship Godly Play
Monday, May 20	1 PM	Book Group
Thursday, May 23	10 AM	The Gospels for Everyone/Bible study
Saturday, May 25	5 PM	Worship
Sunday, May 26	9:30 AM	Worship
Monday, May 27	10 AM	Town Memorial Day commemoration
Wednesday, May 29	6 PM	Grief Support
Thursday, May 30	10 AM	The Gospels for Everyone/Bible study

**FROM THE
PRESIDING
BISHOP**
REV.
ELIZABETH
EATON

“So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone for they were afraid.” That’s where the Gospel of Mark originally ended. And it just seems so odd to me. It’s so abrupt. I mean, the women had seen the angel. He’d announced that Jesus was raised from the dead, and then he tells them all this good news and wants them to go on their way. And they just are not going to say a single word.

There are three words in that passage that really stand out for me, especially in the Greek. One is fear—*phobos*. We get phobia from that. The other one is amazement—*ekstasis*. We get ecstasy from that. And the other one has to do with being seized. It actually means “being possessed.” So we take a look at these women, and they’ve had this miraculous appearance by an angel. They’ve heard the good news that Jesus has raised from the dead, and they’re too afraid to do anything about it, and they just are going to be silent. It seems that nothing changed. They came to take care of Jesus’ dead body because on the Sabbath they could not work. But on the first day of the week, they were there. They have this announcement, and then it’s all the same.

Sometimes I think we feel like nothing’s changed. Sometimes I think that the events in our country, in our church, around the world are just so terrifying and so overwhelming that it seems like the resurrection really didn’t make a difference. But these three words really say something about the women, and I think about us and, most especially, about Easter. When they said that they were filled with amazement—this is this ecstasy, *ekstasis*—they were really standing. It means literally standing in a different place. So though they were still in the tomb and they hadn’t reacted yet, nevertheless, everything had changed.

And because of the resurrection, we, all of us, are standing in a different place. The whole of creation is standing in a different place. And the word for fear, *phobos*, phobia we get from that. But it’s really a sense of trembling in the presence of God, of awe that they were actually filled with awe—not paralyzed by fear but filled with awe. And I hope this Eastertide and all year round, we have a sense of the presence of God that fills us with awe.

And it also says that they were seized with fear. Well, the word means “possessed.” And yes, we believe that in baptism because of the resurrection, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit and we now are all Spirit-possessed.

When things seem to be staying the same, when things seem to be happening and coming at us so quickly, I think it’s very important to take time to be a little amazed, to be standing in a different place, to have a sense of this awe and trembling before the Lord, and to allow ourselves to be possessed by the Spirit, who will give us power and courage in these times.

My favorite hymn is “Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song.” It’s *ELW* 808. And the last verse goes like this: “I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey; but courage will come with the sound of his steps by my side. And with all of the family Jesus saved by his love, we’ll sing to his dawn at the end of our journey.” Be well, dear church. Happy Easter.