

Inside Lisha's Kill

A publication of Lisha's Kill Reformed Church

Sunday Worship
10:00a.m.
All are welcome!

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Lisa Vander Wal

Elders:

Bill Dergosits
Bob Farquharson
Sharon Nagell
Miranda Rand
Jim Shirikian

Deacons:

Linda Brennan
Eric House
Mark Reynolds
Patty Rutland
Ray Wingle

Office Manager/KIDS HOPE

Director: Sharon Nagell

Treasurer:

Barbara Paquette

Librarian: Joan Byam

Choir Director:

JoAnne McNamara

Organist: Evelyn Gordon

Sextons:

Courtney Bloomingdale
John Rzeszuto

Lisha's Kill Christian**Preschool:**

Kristen Magil, Teacher
Marissa DiCocco, Aide

PASTOR'S PONDERING for April

Dear Friend,

I have a confession: often I skip to the end of a book to see how it turns out. I do this partly because I don't deal happily with a lot of tension; I want to make sure things turn out well and that good wins over evil. The other reason is simply that patience isn't my greatest virtue.

As we near the end of the Lenten season and anticipate the events of Palm Sunday and the Passion and death of Jesus, we know the end of the story: Jesus rises from the tomb to live again. Perhaps we know this story almost too well, and it fails to move us any longer. And maybe we are too impatient to sit awhile with the Passion narrative and the suffering of Jesus. We'd rather bring out the Easter lilies and bunnies and eggs and sing "Alleluia!"

And I must confess further that I skipped to the end of the study offered for this Lenten season, namely *Falling into Goodness*, by Chuck DeGroat. But I know Chuck (he teaches at Western Theological Seminary, where I am a member of the Board of Trustees), and I'm certain that he would say that it's important to sit in the in between time, before the glorious Easter cry, "He Lives!" And, sure enough, his last devotion, for Holy Saturday, lays this out for all of us:

"Jesus lived a life and took a journey that is now ours to take. As the sun descends beneath the horizon and darkness falls upon the earth, millions of Christians all over the world are celebrating the Resurrection-dawn at Easter Vigil services across the world. Darkness is required for a dawn. You cannot have authentic faith without it. Christianity is, in the end, no happy-clappy, health-and-wealth social club. It is about a transformed community, imaging the Son walking the pascal way, dying and rising, resisting the violent-coercive-imperialistic way of consumerist culture, and most likely paying the price for it. Humiliation is not an option — it's an inevitability.

"But the breaking dawn invites us to see that all is not doom and gloom. From darkness, the impossible is realized. With the disciples of Jesus scattered to the four winds, afraid to embrace a faith that



might require *their* participation as those transformed by truth, Jesus emerges to a world that must now reckon with a very new reality: that conflicts are not won and lost by power, intimidation, or violence.

The real battle is won through self-surrender, humiliation, turning the other cheek, loving and blessing and forgiving our neighbor...

Jesus does not save us from suffering. He saves us from ourselves, which engages us in a process of profound transformation as every part of us that resists God is chipped and stripped away. And while this journey isn't as pretty as some would like it to be, it is real — a life lived awake and alert, a life lived vulnerably, a life lived with freedom. Read the great stories of the saints and martyrs. You will not find doom and gloom, but joy."

As we gather as a community to commemorate the events of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter may we take Chuck's words to heart. May we seek to lead transformed lives that do not run from suffering, but instead embrace it as part of a life lived fully in relationship with our loving Savior. Then the words of the psalmist come to be our reality: "Weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning."

Joyfully serving with you,

Pastor Lisa



Lisha's Kill Christian Preschool is now taking registrations for the 2019-20 school year. All children are welcome at LKCP. Our preschool is designed for 3 and 4-year-old children, offers smaller class size to provide more individualized attention, a reasonable tuition rate and secure location. A Christian foundation to grow on!

A preschool assistant is needed for the 2019-20 school year, and applications are now being accepted. If you'd like more information, please contact the church office.

Do you have a story idea, article or other item to be considered for the newsletter?

Let us know! Drop your typed document in the office mailbox or

e-mail it to: Lishaskill@verizon.net.

Articles are due by the 15th of the preceding month.

Editor – Sharon Nagell

Distribution – Linda Brennan

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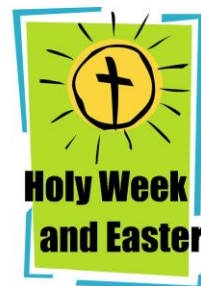
Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Services–

April 14 Palm Sunday – The service will include the distribution of palms.

April 18 Maundy Thursday – 6:30p.m. Light Supper followed by worship with communion at 7:00p.m.
"The Lord is My Shepherd"

April 19 Good Friday – 12noon Worship
"A Service of Stones"

April 21 Easter Sunday Service – 10:00a.m.



Food donations are brought to the SiCM Food Pantry. Your weekly donations help Schenectady County families who are having difficulty meeting their family's food needs. Items in special need: canned tuna, peanut butter and spaghetti sauce.

*Thank you for your weekly donations! **45 Bags in March***

GUIDING EYES FOR THE BLIND By John Carr



If you've ever stopped by Lisha's Kill Reformed Church on a Monday or Tuesday evening, you may have encountered a gathering of Labrador retriever puppies of varying ages assembled in training classes held at LKRC. For those who may not be aware, these dogs are part of Guiding Eyes for the Blind's Capitol Region *Puppy Raising Program*. Guiding Eyes for the Blind (GEB) is a provider of world-class guide dogs to visually impaired individuals from throughout North America and the world. Fully trained guide dogs are provided to GEB clients at no charge. It is estimated that GEB invests in excess of \$50,000.00 in total expenses for each graduate guide dog it provides its clientele. Founded in 1954 and headquartered in Yorktown Heights, NY (Westchester County), Guiding Eyes for the Blind is a nonprofit organization and exists solely through the generosity of donors and accepts no government funding of any kind to fulfill its mission.

Guiding Eyes for the Blind relies on volunteer puppy raising families and individuals who open their hearts and their homes to raise a GEB puppy. Puppy raisers receive their puppies at about eight weeks of age and spend the next 14+ months building a relationship with their puppy while teaching them everything from basic house manners and commands to more structured socialization and training techniques. These life skills serve as the foundation for the formal harness training the dogs will receive upon returning to the GEB training school. Puppy raisers spend countless hours and near limitless patience caring for, loving and building a relationship with their puppies in teaching them the ways of the world. They do so knowing full well the day will come when they will say goodbye to their pup, as the dog returns to GEB for formal harness training. *(Editor's note: this article will be continued in the May newsletter.)*

Additional information about Guiding Eyes for the Blind can be found at www.guidingeyes.org.



Upcoming puppy classes – held on Monday evenings - at LKRC on April 15th and 29th and May 13th.

For more information about the Capitol Region GEB *Puppy Raising Program*, or to make arrangements to visit a class, please contact Dianne Martin at capitalregion@guidingeyes.net or at: (518) 469-3996.

Upcoming Events for your calendar:

APRIL N.E.A.T. (Not Eating Alone Tonight) Dinner

Thursday, April 25 at 4:30p.m. Come and enjoy dinner with friends both old and new! Couples, singles – everyone is welcome. On the menu: Spaghetti and Meatballs! A freewill offering will be taken to offset the cost of the dinner.

Reservations appreciated by April 22.

Creative Ministries – Crafters are getting together to work on their projects April 19-20. Bring along your scrapbooking, rubberstamping or whatever craft you're working on and join them! It's a time of creativity, fun and laughter!

Mother/Daughter Banquet – May 3 at 6:00p.m.

The CIRCUS is coming to town! Ladies, you'll have lots of fun as you play games and enjoy delicious fare. On the menu: corn dogs, mac & cheese, BBQ chicken, baked beans, coleslaw, dessert and beverages. Cost is \$8.00 (girls 6 years & under free). Call the church office to purchase your ticket(s).

Lisha's Kill Reformed Church
2131 Central Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12304

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Hello! Here is your
April 2019 edition
of *Inside Lisha's Kill!*



**Lisha's Kill Reformed Church is a family of believers
committed to touching lives for Jesus Christ in today's world.**

Sunday Morning Worship	_____	10:00a.m.
Sunday School (for children)	_____	11:20a.m.
Sunday School (for adults)	_____	9:00 & 11:30a.m.
Women's Evening Bible Study	_____	Tuesday 7:30p.m.
Morning Bible Study	_____	Wednesday 9:30a.m.
AA Meeting	_____	Wednesday 7:00p.m.
Choir Rehearsal	_____	Wednesday 7:30p.m.
Club 55	_____	2 nd Wednesday 11:00a.m.
N.E.A.T. Dinner	_____	4 th Thursday 4:30p.m.
Fellowship Events	_____	As Announced
Creative Ministries	_____	As Announced