

Ripples

Stillwater Free Lutheran Church

“Sharing Jesus Christ with Our Neighbors”

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April

“Shout with joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of His name; make His praise glorious!”

NIV Psalm 66:1-2

From the Pastors Desk

As I was preparing my April newsletter article, I came across this story, and felt it really personified the Easter season. And since we celebrate the Resurrection year-round, (after all, that's why we gather for worship on Sunday, the first day of the week) we can be encouraged by this example.

Edith Burns: Do You Believe in Easter?

Edith Burns was a wonderful Christian who lived in San Antonio, Texas. She was the patient of a doctor by the name of Will Phillips. Dr. Phillips was a gentle doctor who saw patients as people. His favorite patient was Edith Burns.

One morning he went to his office with a heavy heart and it was because of Edith Burns. When he walked into that waiting room, there sat Edith with her big black Bible in her lap. She was earnestly talking to a young mother sitting beside her.

Dr. Phillips knew why Edith was there and what she was doing. You see, Edith Burns had a habit of introducing herself in this way: "Hello, my name is Edith Burns. Do you believe in Easter?" Then she would explain the meaning of Easter, and many times people would be saved.

Dr. Phillips walked into the office and there he saw the head nurse Beverly. Beverly had first met Edith when she was taking her blood pressure. Edith began by saying, "My name is Edith Burns. Do you believe in Easter?"

Beverly said, "Why yes I do." Edith said, "Well, what do you believe about Easter?" Beverly said, "Well, it's all about egg hunts, going to church, and dressing up."

Well, Edith kept pressing her about the real meaning of Easter, and finally led her to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Dr. Phillips said, "Beverly, don't call Edith into the office quite yet. I believe there is another delivery taking place in the waiting room."

Later, after being called back in the doctor's office, Edith sat down and when she took a look at the doctor she said, "Dr. Will, why are you so sad? Are you reading your Bible? Are you praying?"

Dr. Phillips said, "Now Edith, I'm the doctor and you're the patient." With a heavy heart he said, "Your lab report came back and it says you have cancer, and Edith, you're not going to live very long."

Edith said, "Why Will Phillips, shame on you. Why are you so sad? Do you think God makes mistakes? You have just told me I'm going to see my precious Lord Jesus, my husband, and my friends. You have just told me that I am going to celebrate Easter forever, and here you are having difficulty giving me my ticket!"

Dr. Phillips thought to himself, "What a magnificent woman this Edith Burns is!"

Edith continued coming to Dr. Phillips every day. Christmas came and the office was closed through January 3rd. On the day the office opened, Edith did not show up. Later that afternoon, Edith called Dr. Phillips and said she would have to be moving her story to the hospital and said, "Will, I'm very near home, so would you make sure that they put women in here next to me in my room who need to know about Easter."

Well, they did just that and women began to come in and share that room with Edith. Many women were gloriously saved. Everybody on that floor from staff to patients were so excited about Edith, that they started calling her Edith Easter; everyone except Phyllis Cross, the head nurse.

She made it plain that she wanted nothing to do with Edith because she was a "religious nut". She had been a nurse in an army hospital. She had seen it all and heard it all. She was the original G.I. Jane. She had been married three times, she was hard, cold, and did everything by the book.

Well, one morning the two nurses who were to attend to Edith were sick.

Edith had the flu and Phyllis Cross had to go in and give her a shot. When she walked in, Edith had a big smile on her face and said, "Phyllis, God loves you and I love you, and I have been praying for you."

Phyllis Cross said, "Well, you can quit praying for me, you religious nut, it won't work. I'm not interested."

Edith said, "Well, I will pray and I have asked God not to let me go home until you come into the family." Phyllis Cross said, "Then you will never die because that will never happen." She walked out of the room.

Every day Phyllis Cross would walk into that room and Edith would say, "God loves you Phyllis and I love you, and I'm praying for you."

One day Phyllis Cross said she was literally drawn to Edith's room like a magnet would draw iron. She sat down on the bed and Edith said, "I'm so glad you have come, because God told me that today is your special day."

Phyllis Cross said, "Edith, you have asked everybody here the question, 'Do you believe in Easter?' but you have never asked me." Edith said, "Phyllis, I wanted to many times, but God told me to wait until you asked, and now that you have asked . . ."

Edith Burns took her Bible and shared with Phyllis Cross the Easter story of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Edith said, "Phyllis, do you believe in Easter? Do you believe that Jesus Christ is alive and that He wants to live in your heart?"

Phyllis Cross said, "Oh I want to believe that with all of my heart, and I do want Jesus in my life." Right there, Phyllis Cross prayed and invited Jesus Christ into her heart. For the first time Phyllis Cross did not walk out of a hospital room, she was carried out on the wings of angels.

Two days later, Phyllis Cross came in and Edith said, "Do you know what day it is?" Phyllis Cross said, "Why Edith, it's Good Friday." Edith said, "Oh, no, for you every day is Easter. Happy Easter Phyllis!"

Well, two days later, on Easter Sunday, Phyllis Cross came into work, did some of her duties and then went down to the flower shop and got some Easter lilies because she wanted to go up to see Edith and give her some Easter lilies and wish her a Happy Easter. When she walked into Edith's room, Edith was in bed. That big black Bible was on her lap. Her hands were in that Bible. There was a sweet smile on her face.

When Phyllis Cross went to pick up Edith's hand, she realized Edith was dead. Her left hand was on John 14: "In my Father's house are many mansions. I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also."

Her right hand was on Revelation 21:4, " And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying; and there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

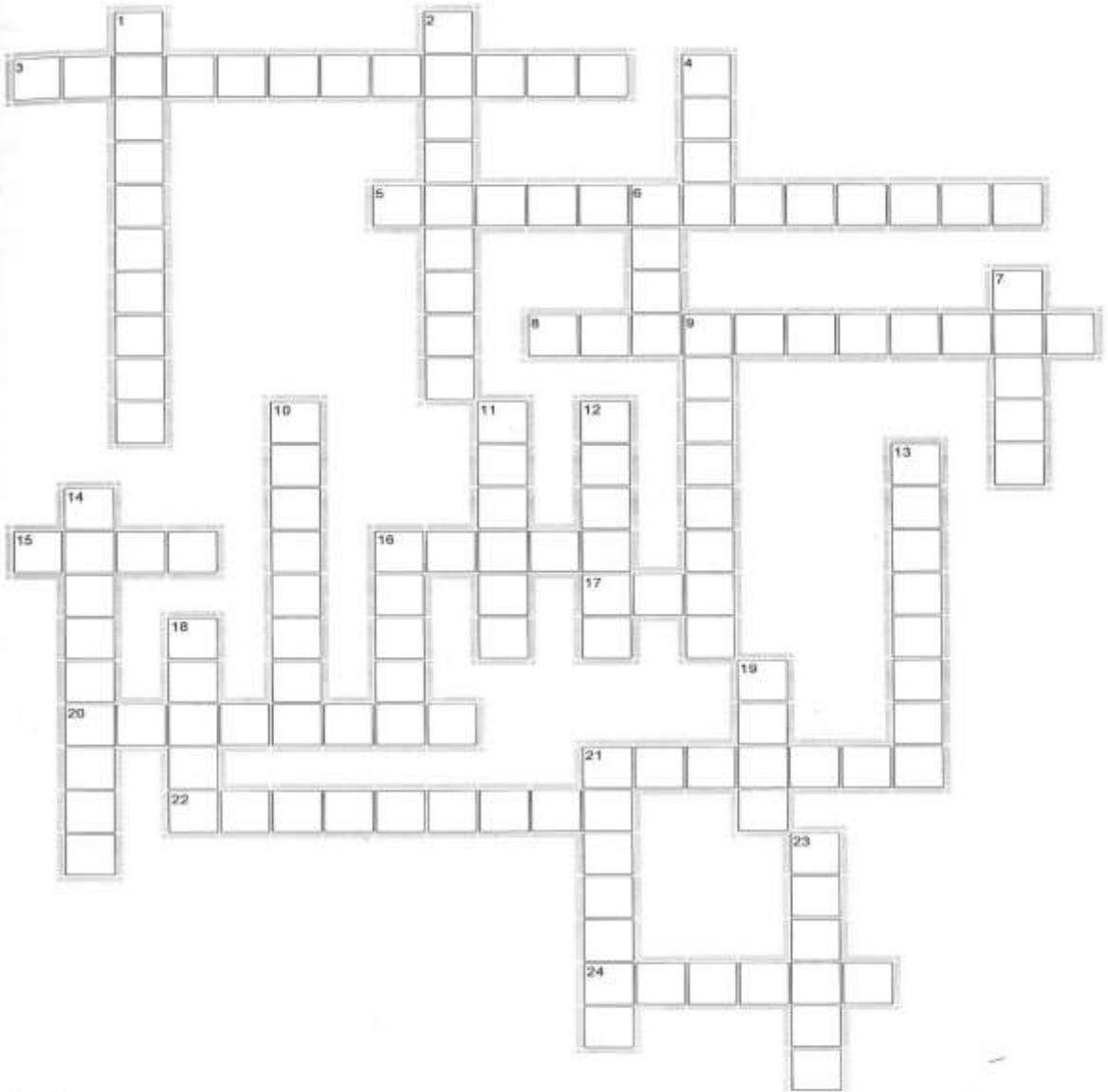
Phyllis Cross took one look at that dead body, and then lifted her face toward heaven, and with tears streaming down here cheeks, said, "Happy Easter, Edith – Happy Easter!"

Well, Phyllis Cross left Edith's body, walked out of the room, and over to a table where two student nurses were sitting. She said, "My name is Phyllis Cross. Do you believe in Easter?"

--- story by Russell Kelfer

Pastor Craig

Proverbs 5



EclipseCrossword.com

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Proverbs 5

Across

- I was almost in all evil in the midst of the _____ and assembly (5:14)
- My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my _____ (5:1)
- He shall die without _____; and in the greatness of his folly (5:23)
- For the ways of man are before the eyes of the _____, and he pondereth all his goings (5:21)
- And say, How have I _____ instruction, and my heart despised reproof (5:12)
- nor inclined mine _____ to them that instructed me! (5:13)
- Hear me now therefore, O ye _____ (5:7)
- Let thy fountain be blessed: and _____ with the wife of thy youth (5:18)
- That thou mayest regard discretion, and that thy lips may keep _____ (5:2)
- Lest thou give thine honour unto _____, and thy years unto the cruel (5:9)

Down

- His own _____ shall take the wicked himself (5:22)
- Lest _____ be filled with thy wealth; and thy labours be in the house of a stranger (5:10)
- Her _____ go down to death; her steps take hold on hell (5:5)
- he shall be holden with the cords of his _____ (5:22)
- Hear me now therefore, O ye children, and depart not from the words of my _____ (5:7)
- And have not obeyed the voice of my _____ (5:13)
- And thou mourn at the last, when thy flesh and thy body are _____ (5:11)
- But her end is _____ as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword (5:4)
- Lest thou shouldest _____ the path of life, her ways are moveable, that thou canst not know them (5:6)
- ponder the path of life, her ways are _____ (5:6)
- For the lips of a strange woman drop as an _____, and her mouth is smoother than oil (5:3)
- Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her _____ (5:8)
- _____ waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well (5:15)
- her ways are moveable, that thou canst not _____ them (5:6)
- and my heart despised _____ (5:12)
- in the greatness of his folly he shall go _____ (5:23)

Free Flyers Youth Group

The Free Flyers are committed to serve the community through our strength in Jesus Christ.



Spring Youth Calendar



April 4th (Wed.) - Youth group 6-7:30

April 11th (Wed.) - Youth group 6-7:30

April 18th (Wed.) - Youth group 6-7:30

April 25th (Wed.) - Youth group 6-7:30

Please note the time changes this month. We also we be combined jr. and sr. high. I will be sending out a letter with possible youth group night changes starting in the fall. Once you all have the information, please get back to me with comments and thoughts.

This summer we have some dates to remember. July 23rd-27th will be our VBS. If you can help out that week, please let me know! Thanks

FLY Beyond is a week-long retreat in Osceola, WI. It is a leadership training camp that starts July 16th and ends the 20th, more info to come.

Questions or concerns please contact Danny @ 261-8004

Please pray for the Abel Family for the month of April!



Mark Your Calendar!

Community Fair June 9th, 2018

Yard Sale, Bake Sale, Games, Food, Prizes, Petting Zoo, Fun For All!!



March 15th

Bonnie opened with devotions from Ephesians 2:4-5 and with prayer. Our mission's donations this month will go to World Missions. Linda McGrew gave the treasurer's report and we have \$111.00 in the bank.

June 8th & 9th we will be holding our yard sale. The 9th will also be a bake sale and Community Fair with games, food and a petting zoo.

The church janitor sheet is out. Please sign up to clean the church once a week for as many weeks as you would like.

May 6th is Confirmation Sunday.

Linda Lund led us through our Bible study titled "Our Only Hope." Thank you, Linda.

Our next meeting will be at Hattie Stahlberg's house on April 19th at 10:00 a.m. Julie Hanson will lead the Bible study titled "A Living Hope: An Eternal Perspective." Hattie will do devotions.

We had seven ladies present. A delicious lunch was served.

~ Elaine Lessor, Secretary

MOVIE NIGHT! SUNDAY APRIL 29th, WATCH YOUR BULLETINS FOR WHICH MOVIE WE WILL WATCH. PLEASE BRING A SNACK TO SHARE, COFFEE AND WATER WILL BE PROVIDED.

Building Committee Report

Recently there have been suggestions and inputs that we should consider constructing a metal (steel) building instead of a wood frame structure. If you have ideas, or inputs on this subject please contact Ed Van Scoten; email: edvs@juno.com, or cellphone (503) 351-8523. We will include this matter in our agenda for the Saturday April 21 meeting.

Our architect Ted Clarke will be here to present his latest floor plan, dated March 16, 2018. Miles Erickson and Jeff Timlick will give us an update on the new well connection plan and our civil engineer Stephanie Reynolds will give us an update on the COSA process.

-Ed

*Christ
is
Risen!*

He is

Risen

Indeed!

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