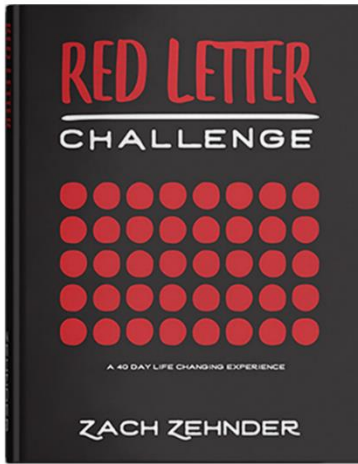


APRIL 2021



# Eastern Heights Lutheran Church *and Open Arms Preschool and Childcare*

616 Ruth St. N, St. Paul, MN  
651-735-4202 • [www.ehlc.org](http://www.ehlc.org) • [office@ehlc.org](mailto:office@ehlc.org)



Join us for a 40 day life  
changing experience.

sign up by going to  
[www.ehlc.org](http://www.ehlc.org)

Red Letter Challenge Begins April 11, 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

## Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 1	7:00 p.m.
Good Friday, April 2	7:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday, April 4	7:00, 8:30, and 10:30 a.m.



## "Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed. Alleluia!"

As baptized followers of Jesus, we believe Jesus, truly God but also truly a man, died to pay our debt of sin and rose back to life about 2,000 years ago.

*If this is YOUR faith*, the most important thing you can do in the days following our celebration of Good Friday and Easter is to get closer to Jesus and find out what it means to believe and follow Him. We do this by listening to Him and talking to Him by:

1. Reading His Word (the Bible) and;
2. Praying (talking) to Him everyday...  
*in order to GROW in peace of mind, hope for the future, and purpose in our daily lives.*

As human beings, a little structure, accountability, and discipline help us as we grow. That is what the **RED LETTER CHALLENGE** is all about. We can support and encourage each other in our Christian faith as we take up this challenge together. Starting on April 11, our Eastern Heights and Open Arms community will join Christians all over the country in reading the words of Jesus from the Bible *together* for 40 days. Get an RLC book, sign up at [www.ehlc.org](http://www.ehlc.org), and consider joining a small group (or starting your own).

Our Lord Jesus is ready to change us for the better! Let's spend a few weeks listening to HIM, together.

*Pastor Steve*

## Update From Rev. Chuck

I write this in an in-between time. In between my second Covid vaccine shot and full immunity. Will it work? I certainly hope so. I expect it did, because my body reacted to the second shot a bit more than the first: itchy injection site, a few body aches and lethargy. Some of you may have known the same. Karen is due for her second shot soon.

On reflection, this in-between time is like Holy Saturday. We know what is to come on the first glorious Easter morning. The disciples did not. The disciples knew many troubling emotions and a question: "Now what do we do?" We have the same question.

So now what do we do? We do not know what it will be like as Covid herd immunity takes hold of the nation. Some will be fearful of a relapse or bad variant. There is always no end to doom scenarios. Some will feel otherwise, with a pent-up desire to gather mask-less and go about their business unrestricted.

So now what do we do? "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." (*Ephesians 4:32*) Bear each other's burdens. And get vaccinated if it is appropriate for you to do so. And don't spread rumors about vaccination. If you have questions, consult a health care professional.

Be kind to one another; we are in an in-between time, and we share an imperishable hope for tomorrow. For Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

*Rev. Chuck*

# Red Letter Challenge

Starting Monday, April 12, we will be starting a Congregation-wide Bible study! We will be going through a series called “The Red Letter Challenge”! We want to spend time focusing on what God’s Word says and means, and how to live it out in our own lives and show others what it really means to be a Christian. Please go to [ehlc.org](http://ehlc.org) and sign up for one of our group Bible Studies, or you can go through it with the readings listed in this Newsletter.

There are still books and wristbands available for free! Though we are providing the books to you at no cost, donations are welcomed; \$10 covers the purchase of one book. Feel free to sponsor a family member, friend, or congregation member for a book if you are willing! We can mail the book to you if you cannot pick it up from church.

The Bible Study options for this congregation-wide study are:

- Thursdays @ 10:30 a.m. in person with Tim
- Thursdays @ 10:30 a.m. via Zoom with Don Lewandowski
- Thursdays @ 7:00 p.m. via Zoom with Pastor Steve
- *Young adults*: Thursdays @ 8:15 p.m. via Zoom with Bradley
- *Youth*: Sundays @ 11:45 a.m. via Zoom with Bradley
- Kids’ activity bags with Facebook videos

## Red Letter Sponsors

Could you give a special gift in order to make it possible for everyone to get a book for the series? Contact DCE Bradley ([bradley@ehlc.org](mailto:bradley@ehlc.org)) or DCE Tim ([tim@ehlc.org](mailto:tim@ehlc.org)).

# Small group leaders NEEDED

The Red Letter Challenge will be most helpful if we can do it together, in small groups—maybe your family or extended family. Maybe a few friends. Even your Christian (or interested) neighbors, co-workers, etc. You could gather at home or another convenient place, OR meet electronically on Zoom, Facebook messenger, whatever. If you would like to be in a group but can't form one yourself, let us know and we will try to get you connected. Even just 2 or 3 people together is better than alone. Contact us if you need books or assistance in getting started on a forty-day adventure with Jesus (and a brother or sister or two).

## Red Letter Challenge Bible Readings

### Introduction

Day 0 (April 12): Psalm 23 (Pages 6–17 from Red letter book)

### The Five Principles

Day 1 (April 13): Psalm 46:10

Day 2 (April 14): Ephesians 2:8-9

Day 3 (April 15): Ephesians 2:10, 2 Kings 4:1-7

Day 4 (April 16): John 3:16

Day 5 (April 17): Matthew 28:19-20

### Week of Being—Matthew 11:28

Day 6 (April 18): John 8:31-32, Ezekiel 3:3, 2 Timothy 3:16-17,  
Ezekiel 2:7-3:4

Day 7 (April 19): Matthew 9:38, Luke 18:1-8

Day 8 (April 20): Luke 4:8, Romans 12:1, Psalm 91:1-13

Day 9 (April 21): Mark 6:31, Luke 14:25-33

Day 10 (April 22): Matthew 6:16-18

Day 11 (April 23): Luke 15:23, John 10:10, Revelation 19:9,  
Psalm 98:1-9

Day 12 (April 24): Mark 2:25-3:6, Romans 14:5-6

## **Week of Forgiving—Ephesians 4:32**

Day 13 (April 25): Mark 1:15, Romans 3:10, Acts 9:4-9, 15-19

Day 14 (April 26): John 7:53-8:11a, John 3:17

Day 15 (April 27): Matthew 7:1-5

Day 16 (April 28): Luke 6:36, Matthew 18:21-35

Day 17 (April 29): Matthew 6:12, John 21:15-19

Day 18 (April 30): Matthew 5:44, Acts 7:54-60

Day 19 (May 1): John 8:11, Luke 19:1-10

## **Week of Serving—Ephesians 2:10**

Day 20 (May 2): John 14:15, Matthew 22:36-39, John 13:35,  
Luke 5:4-11

Day 21 (May 3): Mark 9:35, Philippians 2:5-11, John 3:22-30

Day 22 (May 4): Luke 14:12-14, Romans 5:8, John 13:6-17

Day 23 (May 5): Matthew 22:39, Luke 10:25-37

Day 24 (May 6): Matthew 19:14, Luke 18:9-14

Day 25 (May 7): Matthew 25:35, Mark 2:1-12

Day 26 (May 8): Matthew 5:13-16, Exodus 19:3-6, 1 Peter 2:9-12

## **Week of Giving—Acts 20:35**

Day 27 (May 9): Luke 6:35, Acts 16:11-15

Day 28 (May 10): Mark 6:37, 1 Corinthians 3:10, Matthew 14:13-21

Day 29 (May 11): Matthew 25:35, 2 Kings 4:1-7

Day 30 (May 12): Matthew 25:36, Matthew 6:19-21, 24-34

Day 31 (May 13): Matthew 23:23, Malachi 3:6-12

Day 32 (May 14): Mark 10:21, Mark 10:17-27

Day 33 (May 15): Acts 20:35, 2 Corinthians 8:1-10

## **Week of Going—Matthew 28:19a**

Day 34 (May 16): Luke 8:39, Luke 8:27-33, 37b-39

Day 35 (May 17): Matthew 25:35, Matthew 9:9-13

Day 36 (May 18): Acts 1:8, Exodus 4:10-12

Day 37 (May 19): Luke 9:60, Matthew 4:17, Acts 28:23-31

Day 38 (May 20): Mark 16:15, Ezekiel 37:1-10

Day 39 (May 21): John 15:16, Jeremiah 1:4-10

Day 40 (May 22): Matthew 28:19, Luke 5:27-32

# In-Person Worship Updates

We have been able to come back and worship together because we put a plan into place to meet the CDC guidelines. Below are a couple of reminders as well as places we can still use your help.

- Please use hand sanitizer when entering the building.
- Please make sure to sit on cushions in the pews or where the usher directs.
- Continue to maintain social distancing when near people.
- We need volunteers who are willing to help sanitize after the services, which usually takes 10 minutes.
- Our new communion process can also use your talents.
- If you like to greet people, your talents can be used checking people in or seating them.

I would like to thank you all for keeping your masks on while in the building as well, following the one-way directions as well as adapting to the new communion process. Our Eastern Heights Lutheran Church COVID Preparedness Plan is available at [www.ehlc.org](http://www.ehlc.org) or the church office. Please contact the church office if you would like to volunteer to help with in-person worship:

[tim@ehlc.org](mailto:tim@ehlc.org)

651-735-4202

## TurboBridge

*Listen to the Sunday worship service on your phone!*

You can use your telephone and dial in to hear and follow along with our worship services. Here's how:

1. Dial 612-808-6338
2. When connected, enter in 990-6073-#
3. You may hear music until the service begins
4. When done, simply hang up

**Sunday services can be heard at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. every Sunday.**

# Ministry Partner Opportunities

- Be a telephone caller for our Caring Ministry.
- Be a Ministry Partner as we continue in-person worship under social distancing protocols. We especially need ushers and tech workers.
- Use your musical gifts to enhance our worship! Singers and instrumentalists needed.

Contact the church office to volunteer:  
**office@ehlc.org** or **651-735-4202**

## Telephone Ministry

Phone calling can be a ministry. We have a team of callers, which includes Betty Oppenheimer, Rosanna Wunrow, Donna Ewalt, Pam Hoppe, Kim and Don Lewandowski, and our coordinator, Geneva Laatsch. Our team:

1. Calls one of our Eastern Heights family members,
2. Asks how they are doing (and then listens),
3. Asks if they need any help/assistance or prayer requests (to be forwarded on to our pastors),
4. Offers to say the Lord's Prayer (or another simple prayer) together, out loud, over the phone,
5. Then offers to call them again next week.

## Become a Telephone Caller

If you are willing to call one (or more) people each week, please join our team: email **office@ehlc.org** or call **651-735-4202**



# Special Music for Lent and Easter

During this difficult time, Concordia University, St. Paul has supplied several choral recordings for use during our services. Concordia and the Christus Chorus are offering these recordings as a gift, for which I am eternally grateful. We have made use of some of these recordings for special music during Lent, allowing us to have a rich musical aspect of worship without the need for our own singers to rehearse and sing together in person.

Huge thanks to Dr. Mennicke and the Christus Chorus for providing these resources. The Christus Chorus welcomes gifts to help cover production costs and to support its musical ministry. Checks made out to "Concordia University, St. Paul" with "Christus Chorus Offering 1-31300-57375" in the memo line may be sent to:

Dr. David Mennicke  
Concordia University  
1282 Concordia Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 55104

During the Easter season, we will occasionally make use of more of these recordings, but I am also looking for people from the congregation to help with special music! Contact me at [josiah@ehlc.org](mailto:josiah@ehlc.org) if you would like to contribute.

## Private Music Lessons 🎵

---

***New Student Special: 25% off first month of lessons!***

*Contact Josiah for details.*

---

Want to help with music but can't play an instrument (yet)? Already know the basics but want to learn more? Contact our music director, Josiah Bode, at [josiah@ehlc.org](mailto:josiah@ehlc.org) for information about private lessons! Instruments that can be taught include piano, saxophone, clarinet, bass guitar, and handbells.

# Parts of Our Church and Worship

Last month, we focused on the *Chancel*. We are now going to talk about the *Narthex* as well as the *Baptismal Font*. From Ruth Street, the main glass doors at the true front of the church lead into the *Narthex*. The origin of the *Narthex* was as a gathering place before entering the church where all were welcome—a place to get into the mindset of worship before stepping foot into the sanctuary. It is also interesting to point out that traditionally, the *Narthex* was at the west end of the church, thus entering the sanctuary going east. Isaiah 24:14-15 talks about how God’s people raise their voices in praise from the west and in the east give glory to God. Matthew 24:27 talks about how the Son of Man will come back and be visible like lightning in the east is seen in the west.

In the front, before going up to the chancel, on the left is the *Baptismal Font*. Above the *Baptismal Font* is a statue dedicated by a member of our congregation in memory of a loved one. This statue has Jesus with kids in his arms and around Him, reminding us of Mark 10:13-16 where Jesus told the disciples to “let the little children come to me.” The *Baptismal Font* is where we baptize people by gently dipping a shallow metal shell and pouring it onto the person 3 times with the words, “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”



# DCE Bradley-Led Studies

*(for students in grades 5–12 and young adults)*

**Confirmation** will have an in-person option in the Chapel, in addition to the Zoom option, starting Wednesday, March 3. Our next Wednesday Night Youth Events will be the last Wednesday of each month from 7–9 p.m., so on those Wednesdays we will NOT have Confirmation. Please keep on completing your Bible Accounts and Catechism sections!

**Meeting ID: 928 8723 9614**

**Meeting Password: 55119**

**Sunday School** is still happening every Sunday from 11:45–12:45 for all those still interested and wanting a Sunday School Class for students in 5th–12th grades. We will be looking into some Biblical films and talking about them after watching. We will be moving into watching *Joseph: King of Dreams* after reading the Genesis account of Joseph.

**Meeting ID: 976 3890 7781**

**Meeting Password: 55119**

**Young Adult Bible Study** will now happen Thursday nights from 8:15 to 9:15 p.m. You are welcome to join any time! No need to worry if you missed a week; we still want you with us!

**Meeting ID: 998 5881 6519**

**Meeting Password: 55119**

*DCE Bradley Asmus*

For us to better minister to you, we like to know where you live as well as your birthdate, wedding anniversary (if married), baptism, confirmation dates and more. Can you help us confirm the information for you? There are two ways that you can do that. First would be to complete the enclosed form with all the information and mail back in the enclosed envelope. Or you can go to **ehlc.org** and click on the link, fill out the information, and hit the submit button, and it will come right to me and I will be able to get the information updated. We also are in need of current contact information for several members (listed on the back of the enclosed form). If you can help me with at least their address, that would be greatly appreciated.

*DCE Tim Germain*

## Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Center

### Seasoning Time!

Open Arms will again be selling Starla's Seasonings for our Spring Fundraiser. The Fundraiser will run April 1 through 12. Please contact MaryEllen at **maryellen@ehlc.org** or **651-735-4202 (ext. 1)** for more information, an order form or to place an order. Don't forget to stock up on the slushy mix for the summer!

### Week of the Young Child

April 12–16 is Week of the young Child! We invite you to follow our Facebook page to see the fun events we will be participating in during the week! Be sure to celebrate a young child in your life!

# Mission & Vision

***“At Eastern Heights Lutheran Church,  
our mission is to connect people to God  
through faith in Jesus Christ.”***

# Vision

This will happen through worship, Christian education and service to people of all nations and generations.

## Under the blessing of Almighty God . . .

- We will continue and expand our outreach to **older adults**, (*retired, “Empty nest”, age 50+*) by providing large print materials, providing recorded services, and building a team to visit, call, and provide transportation as well as other caring opportunities.
- We will redesign our outreach to **families with children** (*Infant–Grade 4*) through Open Arms, Jesus Central, and VBS, and establish a new ministry to support parents to raise their child with faith.
- We will renew our outreach to **families with students** (*Grades 5–12*) through creating new worship services, continue Bible and Catechism classes, and identify and fulfill new volunteer service opportunities.
- We will Begin outreach to **Singles and starters** (*age 18–40*) in our community through identifying new residents and delivering “Welcome Bags.”
- We will maintain and improve our physical property and begin long-range planning, interior upgrades (Worship Center, Student Ministry and overall space) and our “curb-appeal,” outside maintenance.



## The Faithfully Departed 2021

Ron Larson – 01/03/21 – Funeral 01/09/21

Lyle Fuhr – 01/11/21 – Funeral 01/15/21

Tim Moore – 01/12/21 – Funeral 01/23/21

Irv Wiese – 02/03/21 – Internment 02/12/21

*Celebration of life to be announced*

Jody Ihrke – 02/13/21 – Funeral 02/19/21

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stohlmann – 02/15/21 – Funeral 02/19/21

*Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.*

*Yes, says the Spirit, they will rest from their labors.*

Revelation 14:13

### **Deferred Memorial Services:**

Lois Raatz – 04/16/2020 – Memorial service 04/10/2021

Walter Proft – 03/30/2020 – Memorial service 07/02/2021

**Note:** We will send out announcements when any other deferred memorial services are scheduled.

*Did You Know...*

## **You Can Receive a Weekly Mailing?**

If you would like to receive a printed copy of our Sunday worship service, hymns, and sermon every week, simply contact the church office and request to get on the weekly mailing list. You can write to **Eastern Heights Lutheran Church, 616 Ruth Street N, Saint Paul, MN 55119** or call **651-735-4202**.

---

### **WE WANT TO HELP**

*If you or someone you know is sick, has lost a loved one, or has any prayer need, let us know: **office@ehlc.org** or call **651-735-4202***

**Pastor Chuck Fenton**

chuck@ehlc.org

651-735-4202

**Pastor Steve Benson**

steve@ehlc.org

651-734-3787

**DCE Bradley Asmus**

bradley@ehlc.org

651-735-4202

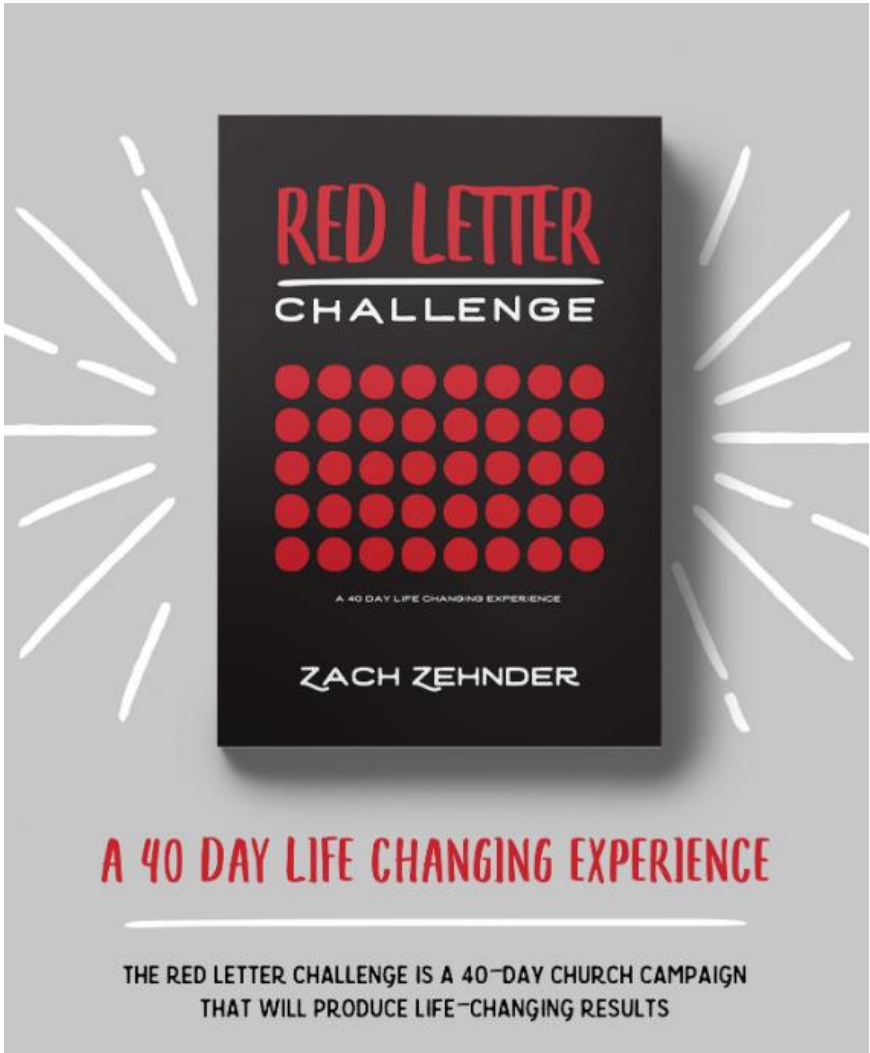
**DCE Tim Germain**

tim@ehlc.org

651-295-9962

---

***Our pastors and staff will NEVER contact you by phone, email, Facebook Messenger, etc. to ask for any gift cards or cash. This is a scam from anonymous criminals—not our staff. Please beware and contact the church office to let us know of any suspicious requests.***



## A 40 DAY LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCE

---

THE RED LETTER CHALLENGE IS A 40-DAY CHURCH CAMPAIGN  
THAT WILL PRODUCE LIFE-CHANGING RESULTS

Starts April 11, 2021

Get your book, bracelet, and bookmark

Signup for a discussion group at

[www.ehlc.org](http://www.ehlc.org)