



Malta Ridge Methodist News

A Publication of Malta Ridge Methodist Church
729 Malta Avenue Ext., Malta, NY 12020

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Pastor's Message

Greetings in the Mighty Name of Jesus.



As I sit on my beautiful porch this sunny and warm day I think of the flowers that will soon be



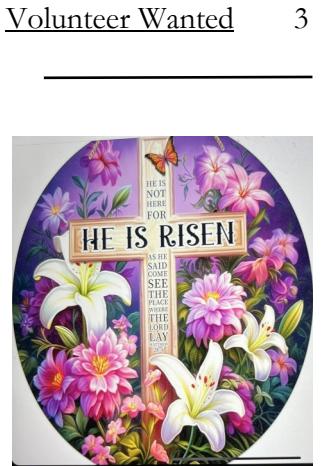
blooming, the grass that will need to be mowed, and all that comes with spring. Yes, we are gathered here in April when all things become new again.

This month we will participate in Holy week: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and then Easter Sunday. Before we get to the end of the week let us remember the beginning days of holy week and what Jesus did those days. We begin with Palm Sunday: Matthew 21:6-9, Monday: 21:12-13, Tuesday: Matthew 24:42-44. Wednesday: Luke 22:2-6, Thursday (Maundy): Mark 14:22-26, Good Friday: Mark 15:25-26, 37-39, Saturday: Luke 23:55-56 and Sunday (Easter): Mark 16:2-6.



Let us take a few minutes to reflect on these Scriptures and what Jesus really did and endured for us that week! As we read together John 3:16-17 “¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

Blessings, *Pastor Patti*



SPECIAL MEETINGS IN APRIL

4/8 — 6:15p Congregational Meeting (All are welcome)

4/9 — 6:30p Trustees Meeting

EASTER WEEK SCHEDULE:

4/17 — 6:00p Maundy Thursday Service

4/18 — 6:00p Good Friday Service

4/20 EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP:

7:30a Sunrise Service (location to be announced)

8:30a Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

10:30a Easter Sunday Worship



4/9 Sandy Masten

4/12 David Molik

4/16 Nicole Rifenbary

THUR
FEB 9
2023

LIGHT FROM A CROSS

READ John 8:12-19

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

— John 8:12 (NIV)

On Christmas Day, 2020, I was sitting in my friend's living room in Tønsberg, Norway, looking at the old watchtower on top of Fortress Hill. Churches were closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. I had not seen my children and grandchildren since March, and I felt lonely and sorry for myself — in spite of being with my friend.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY
The light of Christ is stronger than my loneliness.

large cross spread its light over all the town. I sensed new feelings within me, as if my gloomy thoughts and self-pity must yield to the light from the cross.

Jesus told us he is the light of the world. And in that moment it was as if Jesus was assuring me, "You are never alone as long as I am with you, and I have not and will never forsake you. Darkness will give way to dawn. Wait and see." I rested my eyes on the cross that shined light not only over the town but in my heart as well — and I was comforted.

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for your light in the world and in our lives. Thank you for your love that never leaves us alone. Amen.

Øystein Brinch (Oslo, Norway) — See back cover.

Prayer Focus: THOSE ISOLATED FROM FAMILY
AND FRIENDS

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From the *UPPER ROOM*



Carole's Son Lyle
Rick Dickinson and his son Brent
Nancy Lawson
Sandy & Gary Masten
Mary Suits and her son Ron
Unspoken Requests of All

April Fools' Day Weather Surprises

April comes from the Latin word aperio, "to open" (bud), because plants begin to grow during this month.

April Fools' Day is fairly close to Spring; a time of the year when weather is known to play tricks on us with unpredictable changes to the weather, including:

- In 1923 temperatures reached -34°F in Bergland, Michigan.
- In 1960, up to 10" of heavy snow fell in eastern South Dakota causing havoc.
- In 1997, a blizzard from Maryland to Maine resulted in power outages and impassable road. East Jewett NY recorded 37" and 25.4" fell in Boston, Mass.

(source: *The Old Farmer's Almanac 2024*)

AWAKENINGS AT MRMC!

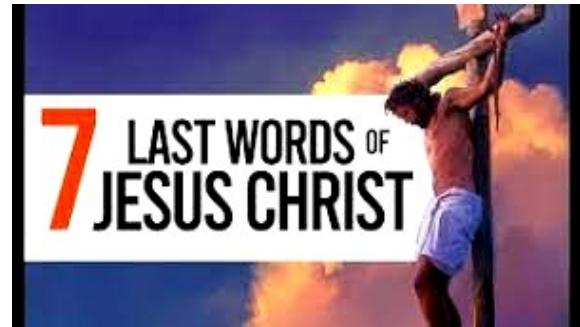
DOES THIS PICTURE
SPEAK TO YOU?????



Then YOU might just be the person we need. We're looking for a volunteer to help with our technology on Sunday mornings.

So if you enjoy technology, and can be available to be scheduled some Sunday mornings... please contact Pastor Patti. We have a special seat for you!

THANK YOU!!!



LENTEN BIBLE STUDY (via Zoom)

Monday April 7th & 14th
6:30-7:30p

“The Seven Last Words of Jesus”

Zoom invitations will be sent out. Be sure to reach out to Pastor Patti and let her know you are interested in attending.



Our Altar on Ash Wednesday



YOU TOOK MY PARKING SPACE AT CHURCH

Author Unknown — Contributed by Diane Chase

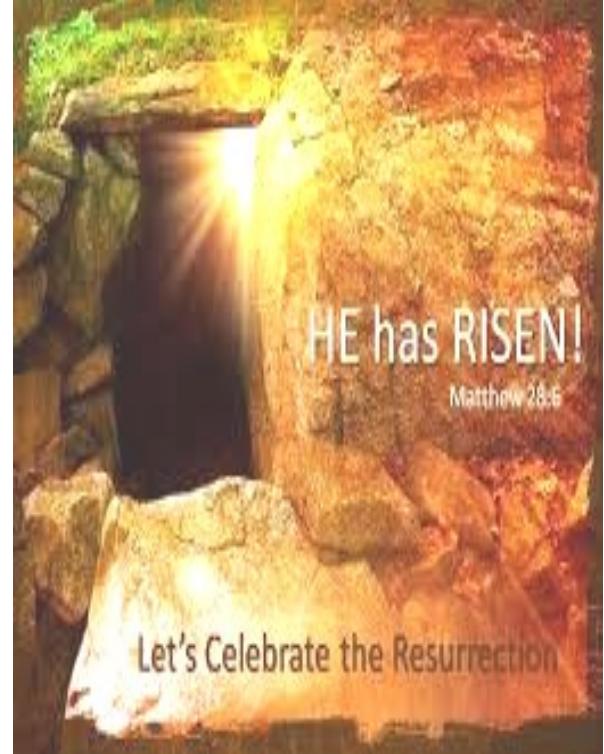
You Took My Parking Space at Church

One day, a man went to visit a Church. He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up near the driver got out and said, 'I always park there! You took my place!'

The visitor went inside for Sunday school, found an empty seat and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, 'That's my seat! You took my place!' The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing.

After Sunday school, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, 'That's where I always sit! You took my place!'

The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still He said nothing. Later as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and his appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his sandaled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, 'What happened to you?' The visitor replied, as his hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from his eye, 'I took your place.'



MISSION PROJECT—ADOPT A SOLDIER

With spring here, let's hope the wintery mix of weather has gone away. We're back on track for collecting items for the mission Adopt A Soldier. April's list is below.

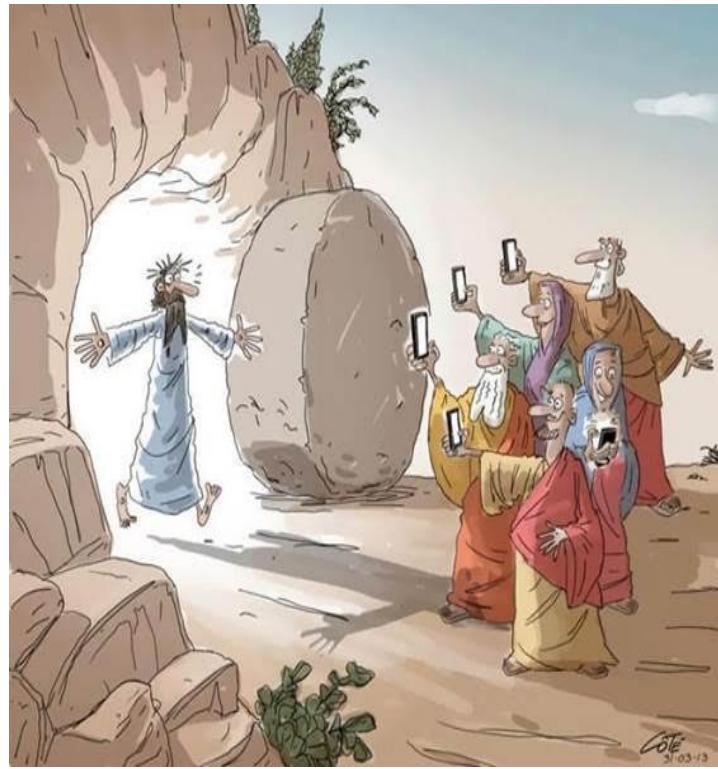
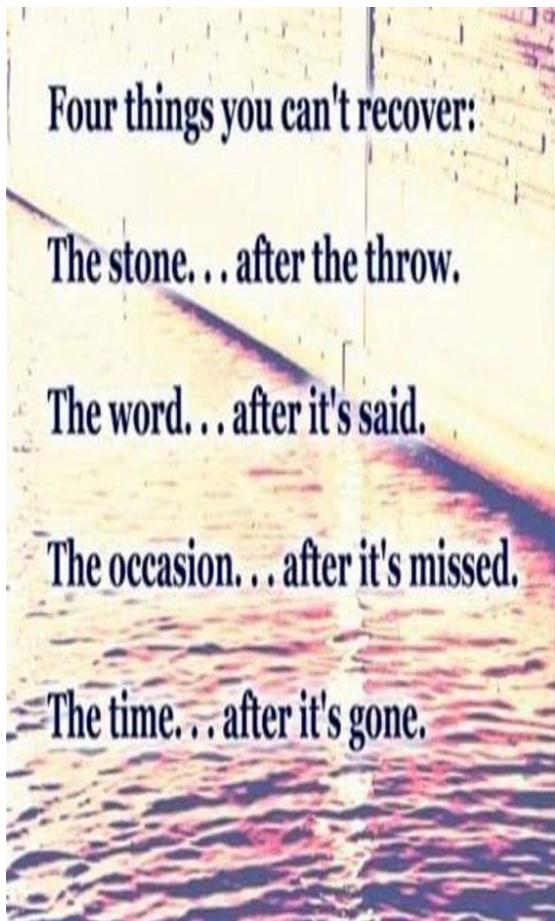
Monetary donations are always appreciated; see Judy if you wish to donate. Other ways are available to help this worthy Mission. Visit the website: www.operationadoptasoldier.org/

Thank you all once again for your past participation in our collections for **Operation Adopt a Soldier**.



APRIL LIST

- Band-Aids
- Sun Screen
- AA & AAA batteries
- Dried fruits/nuts
- Single Roll Toilet Tissue





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**Next Newsletter
Deadline April 20th**



Events and Calendar Dates to Note

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

**9:30-10:15a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Service with Communion
11:45a—Fellowship (see special Easter week worship schedule below & Page 1)**

4/5	Men's Breakfast	1st Saturday—9a at the Church
Monday 4/7 and 4/14	6:30-7:30p Lenten Bible Study via Zoom "The Seven Last Words of Jesus" Link will be sent out as study gets closer	
4/4	Lunch Bunch—confirm with Roy Arnold if you plan to attend.	11:30a Hideaway Restaurant at Saratoga Lake Golf Course 35 Grace Moore Road, Saratoga Springs
4/8	Congregational Meeting	6:15 p.m. All are invited
4/9	Trustees Meeting	6:30 p.m. at Church
4/12	Soup and Sandwich Outreach	2nd Saturday — 11:30a-1:00p Delivery to two motels and in-house for the community
4/17	6 P.M. MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE	
4/18	6 P.M. Good Friday Service	
4/19	NO Women's Breakfast due to Easter Schedule	
4/20 EASTER	7:30 A.M. SUNRISE SERVICE (LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED)	
	8:30 A.M. BREAKFAST IN FELLOWSHIP HALL	
	10:30 A.M. EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE	