



# Atascocita Lutheran Church

We seek to make Christ known in our community through  
reflecting Christ in our lives.



Volume 24 Issue 4.4

## Thursday Seeds

April 25, 2024

### Stuck between 'the already' and the 'not yet'

Is it really only the end of April? At times, it seems like it should be later than that. I mean, Easter was almost a month ago. Already an eighth of the baseball season is over. And the weather is warming up. Excitement is building for the end of the school year and the coming summer, but that is still over a month away. Yet plans for much of that are already in place or being worked on. Somehow, it seems like we are stuck between 'the already' and the 'not yet' of late spring and early summer life.

Maybe that's how many of us feel when we stop to think about our faith. We are stuck in the middle of 'the already,' but not there yet. We know that Jesus was raised from the dead, so our sins have been forgiven and we have been given new life. That's 'the already'. But the 'not yet' we are waiting for is the second coming – the time when all the earth will rejoice and be with God forever, when we truly enter into our heavenly reward, as we put it.

Being stuck in a time like this, knowing what has already taken place, but waiting, hoping and getting excited for the not yet can be frustrating, anxiety-producing, beyond boring, and leave us with a sense of what should we do next.

Right now in the church year we are half-way through the beautiful season of Easter. We celebrated the Resurrection with great joy and fanfare. We felt the wonder and awe of the news that, even in our day and age, brings such life and joy and hope to us. We are waiting to celebrate the day of Pentecost and celebrate the affirmation of faith of two of our adults. I think we enjoy the Easter songs and lessons, but somehow at times we wonder what is next. When will the Holy Spirit enter our lives and set us on fire in our faith? What next great thing will happen in our lives and in the congregation?

Please know that we are not alone if we feel this way. The church has been working through it since the very day of Resurrection. The good news is that Christ is here, walking through each and every day with us. And, whether we realize it or not, we are living in the 'not yet.' Through Christ, we have the chance each and every day of our lives to live anew in the coming kingdom. We can help spread the good news here on earth every time we simply share the story of God's activity in our lives, showing others the love and care that God has given to us.

Living in the already but the not yet may not seem glamorous, or at times all that exciting, but it is the call we have been given as disciples and it truly does make all the difference in the world.

God's peace,  
Pastor Brian

**Children’s Sunday School  
held during worship**

Children’s Sunday School is held DURING worship time.

- 9:30 am - Children begin worship with parents
- 9:45 am - Children move to Sunday School (room 106) after Children’s sermon
- 10:20 am - Children return to parents in pews (before Holy Communion)



We are using Spark: Activate Faith series which follows the lectionary

**Adult Forum**

Each Sunday after worship join us at 10:45 am. for a look ahead to the next week’s scripture lessons. The forum is in the large classroom on the right side of the hallway when you are leaving worship.

Pastor Brian will help guide the group through the up coming lessons to learn what they may have to say to us in worship the next Sunday and for the week ahead.



**Wednesday Bible Study**

Pastor leads a Bible study every Wednesday at 10:00 AM in his office. All are welcome!! Our current focus is the book of Ecclesiastes.



The Sunday school class spent \$562.50 to help the poor and the hungry around the world through the ELCA Good Gifts program.

Here’s what they decided to buy:

- |                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| A flock of chickens       | 1 rooster         |
| 1 goat                    | 1 pig             |
| Feed a family for a month | 1 mosquito net    |
| 1 toilet                  | 1 fruit tree farm |
| 2 Hygiene Kits            | 1 blanket         |



Many thanks to all of you who added this generous activity during Lent for our first noisy offering!

**2024 Graduates**

We want to celebrate the high school and college graduations here at ALC. Please send your graduate information to Russ Senti at 2018nowlivingthedream@gmail.com as soon as possible. High school graduates can send graduation dates, high school graduating from, college and field of study. College graduates can send graduation date with degree obtained and next steps after college.



**Basket Weavers meet Saturday, April 27 in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am**

Join our basket weavers group as we gather from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Our members are wonderful people whose skills and knowledge vary from folks who just love baskets to beginning basket weavers to more advanced basket weaving. Please join us, learn with us, and share with us!



**Confirmation class**

Middle school ages will meet for confirmation class next month on Saturday, May 4 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.



**Atascocita Lutheran Church VBS 2024**

Register your child or friends today!

Atascocita Lutheran Church invites children to Scuba VBS: Diving into friendship with God.

Scuba VBS will be from **Monday July 15 to Friday July 19 9:00 am till noon**. At Scuba, kids explore what it means to have a friendship with God! Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Bible adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of God's love, and test out sciency-fun experiments that get imagination bubbling. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with a Fin-tastic Finale that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned. Family members and friends are encouraged to join in daily for this special time at **11:30 am**.

Kids at Scuba VBS will join a missions effort to provide clean water for families in rural areas of Honduras.

ALC VBS: SCUBA is for kids from potty trained 3 years olds thru completed 5th grade.

Registration is \$20.00 per child. This includes a VBS T-SHIRT! We can take payment on Tithely when you register or cash or check would be due on the first day.

For more information, please call Pastor Brian Deckinger at 281-852-7333. (Since everything is hands-on, kids might get a little messy. Be sure to send them in play clothes and safe shoes.) **Atascocita Lutheran Church July 15- July 19, 2024 9:00 am- 12:00 pm (Noon)**

How to register: [www.alutheranchurch.org](http://www.alutheranchurch.org) log on and follow link to register and pay. [https://vbspro.events/p\\_early/a1dcaf](https://vbspro.events/p_early/a1dcaf)

# We remember in Prayer

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”— Philipians 4:6*



Jose Alfaro  
Dee Allison  
Gayle Arnson  
Sharon Bailey  
Ned Balek  
Emma Bonanno  
Miguel Carlos  
Frances Carnes  
Floyd Chavers  
Mike Christensen  
Jim Clark  
Tim & Amy Coogan  
Family & friends of  
Annie Delling  
Dean Dourke  
Jim Ely  
Carolyn Gardella  
Justin Gardella  
Melissa Greenwood  
Bobby & Mary Hall  
Vernon Harris

Chase Henscey  
David Hinman  
Pres Holcomb  
Jean John  
Judy Johnson  
Lyle Johnson  
Thomas Kelling  
Charlie & Chloe Kitts  
Patricia Kitt  
Patrick Konikoff  
Marilyn Konikoff  
Darrell Kresta  
Lori Kresta  
Carla Lazor  
Fevé Martinez  
Laurie McDonald  
Tom McDonald  
Kelly McQueen  
Bill Mudge  
Sue Murtaugh  
Donna Nice

Gene Nice  
Ed Pickert  
Billy & Barbara Phillips  
Tony Pierce  
Gerrie Randall  
Wendy Reeves  
Kaye Rendon  
Bret & Vanesa Roe  
Cy Roger  
Rhonda Salt-White  
Joy Sisler  
Sam Sledge  
Sharon Sledge  
Tonya Sprouts-Deamon  
Tanya Stuart  
James Weston Swoboda  
Gabriel Walton  
John Wilkerson  
Verlyn Williams  
People in Middle East  
People in Ukraine

**Please keep those who are in active duty with  
the U.S. Military in your prayers, especially  
Caleb Gomez & Brady Mikesell.**

*If you or someone you requested prayer for has  
recovered or can be removed from the list, please let us know.*



4/1 - Diane Trautman  
 4/4 - Brandy Harris  
 4/5 - Brian Townsend  
 4/7 - Tanya Sorensen  
 4/10 - Pam Augustowski  
 4/20 - Logan Tieman  
 4/21 - Cheryl Howard  
 4/24 - Judy Johnson  
 4/27 - Ruth Schumacher  
 4/28 - Christine Townsend  
 4/28 - Charles Konikoff  
 4/30 - Kylie Main

4/10 - Allen & Cathy DeWoody  
 4/22 - Ted & Kacey Vuong

5/3 - Sid Nice  
 5/5 - Fred Swavely

5/3 - Paul & Pam Augustowski

**April Worship Team**

	<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Counter</b>	<b>Usher</b>
<b>April 7</b>	<b>Laurie &amp; Tom McDonald</b>	<b>Nancy Garcia</b>	<b>Sue Murtaugh</b>	<b>Tim &amp; Tres Garcia</b>
<b>April 14</b>	<b>Judy Johnson &amp; Robin Crizer</b>	<b>Martha Deckinger</b>	<b>Sharon Sledge</b>	<b>Tim &amp; Tres Garcia</b>
<b>April 21</b>	<b>The Beyer Family</b>	<b>Chris Beyer</b>	<b>Joy Berthold</b>	<b>Tim &amp; Tres Garcia</b>
<b>April 28</b>	<b>Donna &amp; Sid Nice</b>	<b>Nancy Garcia</b>	<b>Robin Crizer</b>	

**ATASCOCITA LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 7927 FM 1960 East  
 Humble, Texas 77346 (281) 852-7333  
 Worship Sundays at 9:30 am  
[www.alutheranchurch.org](http://www.alutheranchurch.org)

**ALC Staff**

<b>Brian Deckinger</b>	<b>Pastor</b>	<b>b.deckinger@alutheranchurch.org</b>
<b>Dan Wright</b>	<b>Director Of Music</b>	<b>713-503-7323</b>
<b>Russ &amp; Susan Senti</b>	<b>Thursday Seeds volunteers</b>	<b>ALC.Humble@hotmail.com</b>

# April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 10:00 am Adult Bible Study	4	5	6 9:00 am Confirmation Class
	ALC hosts Family Promise guests					
7 9:30 am Worship 9:45 am Children's SCS 10:45 am Adult Forum	8 7:00 pm Book Club	9	10 10:00 am Adult Bible Study	11	12	13
14 9:30 am Worship 9:45 am Children's SCS 10:45 am Adult Forum	15	16 6 pm Peace By Piecing Quilt Guild	17 10:00 am Adult Bible Study	18 6:00 pm Diners Group	19	20 6:00 pm Bunco
21 9:30 am Worship 9:45 am Children's SCS 10:45 am Adult Forum	22	23	24 10:00 am Adult Bible Study	25	26	27 9:00 am Basket weaving
28 9:30 am Worship 9:45 am Children's SCS 10:45 am Adult Forum	29	30	May 1 10:00 am Adult Bible Study	2	3	4 9:00 am Confirmation Class