

# ***The Marin Lutheran Bridge***



***A Reconciling in Christ Congregation***

***April 2011***

I encourage you to worship often this month: confess your sins, renew your spirit, offer your thanks to God. Consider reading a passage before worship to prepare your heart and mind.

**April 3: The Fourth Sunday in Lent – Gospel Reading: John 9: 1-41**

Word for the Day: ***Healing***

In this gospel reading, the man who is born blind is healed by Christ. God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved sons and daughters.

**April 6: Wednesday Evening Soup Supper, Study & Communion (6:15 – 7:30 p.m.)**

Reading: Ezekiel 37: 1-14

"Can these bones live?" Oh Lord, only you know. This reading is Ezekiel's vision of a valley of dry bones. It's symbolic for God's promise that *new life* will come to the people of Israel.

**April 10: The Fifth Sunday in Lent – Gospel Reading : John 11:1-45**

Words for the Day: ***New Life***

In the gospel, Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In our holy baptism, we die with Christ so that we might also be raised with him to new life.

**April 13: Wednesday Evening Soup Supper, Study & Communion (6:15 – 7:30 p.m.)**

Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-9a

The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been beaten. The servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus.

**April 17: Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday – Gospel Readings: Matthew 21:1-11  
/Matthew 27: 11-54**

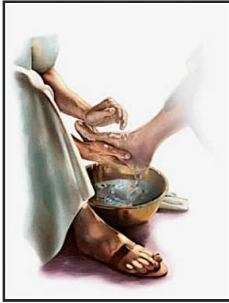
Word for the Day: ***Mystery***

This day begins with "Hosannas!" as Jesus is led into Jerusalem and ends with the people crying "Crucify him!" On this day, we celebrate the mystery of the passion of Christ – how the infinite love of Christ was offered to the whole world.

## THE TRIDIUM (Holy Three Days)

**April 21: Maundy Thursday (7:00 p.m.) – Gospel Reading: John 13: 1-7, 31b – 35**

Word for the Day: *Serve*



“Kneels at the feet of his friends,  
silently washes their feet,  
Master who pours out himself for them.  
Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.”

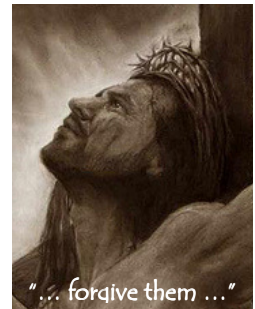
In the ritual of footwashing, we are invited to do what Christ did:  
allowing himself to be served by another and then serving others.  
Those who wish may come forward to have their feet washed.

We act out with our bodies the commandment of Jesus to love and serve  
one another.

**April 22: Good Friday (8:00 p.m.) – Gospel Reading: John 18: 1-19:42**

Word for the Day: *Forgive*

On this solemn night, we are all aware of the pain and suffering  
which Jesus endured. But we also know that we gather not as  
mourners, but as God’s children who celebrate Christ’s life-giving  
passion. We find strength and hope from the forgiveness of God.



**April 24: Resurrection of our Lord – Easter Day: Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:1-10**

*Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen, Indeed! ALLELUIA!*



On this grand festival day, we celebrate that God transforms the  
darkness into light! We sing our ALLELUIAS, finally, after  
holding them back for the forty days of Lent.

*“Thine is the glory, risen conqu’ring Son;  
endless is the vict’ry, thou o’er death hast won!”*

Sisters & Brothers in Christ! Come! Let us worship our God!

In Christ’s Love,

*Pastor Kathryn*

### Council Highlights: March 15, 2011 – Susan Morrow

- Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly will be held in Burlingame, May 13-15. We need two lay voting members (one male, one female) to attend. If you are interested in attending please let us know.
- To satisfy a requirement of our insurance coverage, all individuals working with children under 18 years of age will need to be fingerprinted. A formal policy is being developed for this.
- Discussion was held reviewing the first two completed Town Hall meetings. Planning begins for a series of small group gatherings to be held over a period of 2-3 weeks. Topics at these small groups will include the future vision of the church along with the current budgeting process.

## Adult Education

Our Sunday morning Adult Education classes during the month of April begin (4/3), with our final **Town Hall Meeting**. This will be held in our worship space from 10:15 to 10:50. Again, this is a vital gathering in the life of our congregation. Come and listen to our challenges and our dreams. Come and share your ideas and your visions for the ministry and mission of Marin Lutheran Church.

### Marin Interfaith Street Chaplaincy

On Sunday, **April 10<sup>th</sup>** we will have a very special guest lead an adult forum—**The Rev. Paul Gaffney—the sole chaplain of the Marin Interfaith Street Chaplaincy**. (Paul will also preach at both services on the 10<sup>th</sup>.)

The **Marin Interfaith Homeless Chaplaincy** (MIHC) began in 1992 and was founded to be a spiritual presence on the streets of Marin County. At first, this mission manifested as a ministry of presence; meeting people where they are, being an open ear and open heart through which people living with less could process their experiences. As the organization grew, the concept of spiritual presence expanded to include a vehicle for creative expression.

In 2005, the organization was renamed the Marin Interfaith Street Chaplaincy, and program's activities were taken under the umbrella of Community Action Marin (CAM). Under CAM, MISC has returned to a ministry wholly concerned with presence, allowing the Chaplain to focus on direct street-level interaction with the population in need. In 2007, MISC moved from its association with CAM to the fiscal sponsorship of the Marin Interfaith Council.

**The Rev. Paul Gaffney** was born and raised in western PA, the son of a minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Paul received his BA from Hiram College, where he majored in Sociology, minored in Music, and met his wife, Annie. After their wedding in August of 1998, Paul and Annie spent two years in Cleveland, OH before moving to San Anselmo, CA where Paul attended San Francisco Theological Seminary. During his third year at SFTS, Paul began working with the Marin Interfaith Homeless Chaplaincy (now the Marin Interfaith Street Chaplaincy). In 2004, he graduated from SFTS with a Master of Divinity degree, and in 2005, Paul became the sole chaplain of the Street Chaplaincy, providing emotional and spiritual support to people in transition. Rev. Gaffney also is a lay-ordained student of Taigen Leighton in the Soto Zen Buddhist tradition. Paul and Annie both live and work in San Rafael.

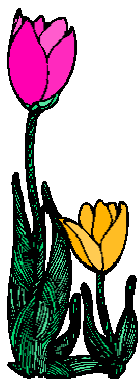
Come and hear about this interesting ministry in our community!

*On Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup> (Palm and Passion Sunday), and on Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup> (Easter Sunday), there will be no adult education classes.*

### APRIL CELEBRATIONS

#### Birthdays

- 1 Jon Rolien
- 11 Ray Gergus
- 16 Nancy Epanchin
- 17 Jules Houts
- 28 Matt Carlsen



### Vacation Bible School

As you are planning your summer, keep the week of **August 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>** open for your kids to attend VBS!



It is a week filled with music, learning, games, crafts, snacks & FUN - a hit with everyone. It is for children ages 3 y/o through 5<sup>th</sup> grade (in the fall). Youth in sixth grade and up can be junior helpers and leaders.

More information and registration materials will be available in May.

## WELCA Marin Lutheran Church Women

### **Thursday, April 14th at 10:00 a.m. – Circle Bible study**

Session 8: Easter is coming and we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Yet many people live with things in their lives that keep them from fully experiencing the life giving presence of the resurrected Jesus with them. We will look at barriers to resurrection life. Visit [www.lutheranwomantoday.org](http://www.lutheranwomantoday.org) to view a free video introduction to each session.

All anyone needs to enjoy the Bible study is a subscription to *Lutheran Woman Today*, which is \$12 per year. Order through Augsburg Fortress at 800-328-4648, one copy is available in the church office for your use.

### **Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> 10:00 a.m.-12noon - Serve & Share**

We meet in the Church conference room and work on different craft projects.



### **Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> – Spring Fund Raiser**

The funds raised will be used to purchase replacement candelabras for our sanctuary. This sale will feature baked goods, craft items, greeting cards, rag rugs, quilts, knit items, Ukrainian Easter eggs, fabric Easter eggs, etc. Everyone is welcome to participate.

**Calling your attention to a supplement to Lutheran Women Today.** This supplement was included in your monthly *Lutheran Woman Today*. ***Living a life of daily bread.*** “What can you learn about your faith by baking bread?” Get out your apron, pull out the flour canister and get to work. You’ll learn about living a life of intention and attention. You’ll learn some patience. You’ll learn to live in wide-eyed anticipation. You’ll learn to live in community. Question? Maybe you would like to do this some Thursday during our Serve & Share or on a Saturday morning? Suggestions are given for using this as a retreat. We’d love to get your feedback. Reprints of the supplement will be available in the narthex during lent.

*Jane McKenzie*

## **MLC Notebook**

### **Japan Earthquake/Tsunami**

Following the 9.0 magnitude earthquake and resulting tsunami in Japan on March 11<sup>th</sup> the news and images from the devastation have been heartbreaking. We were immediately relieved to get the news that ***Matt & Mo Kawajiri*** and their families, and Roy & Marilyn Davis’ granddaughter ***Kristen*** were okay. We continue to get updates from Matt living in Tokyo. Day-to-day life is not easy as store supplies are gone, there are rolling electrical blackouts to conserve energy and

transportation has been affected, but they are grateful to live in a safe apartment where they are comfortable and can keep updated on reports especially in regards to the nuclear power plant and further safety recommendations. We are keeping Matt and Mo in our prayers along with all the people of Japan as they work to regain a semblance of their normal routine – for many that will be a long ways away.

(Cont’d)

We ask that you consider helping the recovery and rebuilding of Japan through a donation to the **ELCA Disaster Response**. Make a check payable to MLC and write "Japan earthquake" in the memo line. 100% of your donation will go to help with this relief effort.

In the midst of the devastation, small miracles are occurring – an 83 year-old woman escaped the tsunami by riding her bicycle to higher ground (her house was destroyed); a family connecting with their daughter in the US by holding up a sign for the TV crews to see and hoping that by pure chance she gets the message that they are okay. She got it, and saw that her house was standing amidst rubble all around; a four month old baby rescued after four days and reunited with her parents; an 80 year-old woman and her grandson rescued after nine days; a baby dolphin found nearly 2 weeks after the tsunami in a rice paddy one mile from the ocean and returned safely to the sea. We thank God for these miracles!

### **Five Million Dollar Grant Awarded**

In August of 2010, the Veteran's Affairs Office of Academic Affiliations issued a request for proposals to establish *Centers of Excellence in Primary Care Education*. These centers will utilize VA primary care settings to develop and test innovative approaches to prepare residents, med students, and graduate and undergrad level nursing students for primary care in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. 37 VHA facilities wrote proposals for the Centers. The review process has been completed with the selection of five VA Medical Centers. Each of these Centers will receive \$1 million per year for five years. Why is this of interest to us? The San Francisco VA was selected as one of the recipients of the grant – **Rebecca Shunk, MD** is the Director of this Center. Congratulations to Rebecca for her involvement in the grant proposal. She reports that the hard work is only beginning.

### **ALL Church Work Day**

In April we will not hold the gardening day on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday (April 2<sup>nd</sup>). Instead, there will be a **work day**



**(morning) on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 12noon.** There will be lots of projects, both inside and outside to complete on this day and we encourage lots of you to come and help with these projects! Coffee, juice and donuts will be available to help get us going in the morning.

### **Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

On this Sunday our Teaching Parish Seminarian, **Christa Compton**, will be delivering the sermon at both services. We continue to be blessed by Christa's presence among us and look forward to having her with us through the spring.

We will also be **welcoming new members** to our congregation this Sunday.

We encourage you to come and be inspired by Christa's message and show your support and welcome our new members.

### **Easter Lilies**



Be on the lookout for the Easter lily sign-up sheet that will be posted on the kiosk in the narthex. If you would like to buy a lily plant(s) for the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please sign your name on the sheet. If you would like a dedication included in the bulletin please write it on the sign-up sheet as well. Each plant costs \$8. You may write a check to MLC (cash is fine as well) and note that it is for "Easter lilies."

## **Festival of the Arts at Marin Lutheran**

*A Capella Marin*

May 15, 2011

4:00 PM



Featuring two excellent a capella (unaccompanied) vocal ensembles, *Marin Harmony* and *Sing We Enchanted*.

**Marin Harmony** – a community chorus of 26 singers that perform a capella do-wop and jazz arrangements. Directed by Rebecca Jones, the chorus performs for the county's numerous retirement communities, and in July 2010 won 5<sup>th</sup> place at the Marin County Fair's Marin Star Search Group Competition.

**Sing We Enchanted** – performs a variety of three to five part a capella music – madrigals, light classics, folk music, and old familiar favorites for cancer patients at the UCSF Parnassus campus and at the Mt. Zion Cancer Center, through the Art for Recovery program. Directed by Deborah Hahn

### **The Importance of Providing Meals at Mill Street**



You likely know that MLC provides meals every month for residents at the Mill Street Center run by Homeward Bound. MLC members generously provide food for both a dinner and breakfast every third Thursday. How does this work and why is it so important?

Mill Street is viewed by Homeward Bound as their “front door” for adult services. These individuals are homeless and typically require other services as well. Their average age is 44 and an average stay is 30 days. Mill Street served almost 600 individuals in FY 2009-10. 220 of the residents then moved to the New Beginnings Center in Novato, an 80-bed facility also run by Homeward Bound. There they could stay for up to 6 months and while there benefit from job-training, counseling, access to a computer lab and money management classes, as well as a host of other services. These programs are all designed to help people advance to independent living.

Anyone who has helped deliver the meals to Mill Street knows about the warm reception they experience. We are told that a resident at Mill Street summed up the situation this way, “When you contribute a meal, one who is experiencing apparent lack is replenished with the knowledge that they matter, and harmony is served. Thank you!”

Our message here is that a simple meal from the folks at MLC helps open doors and can provide those in need with a path to independent living. If you'd like to help by providing or delivering food, check out the kiosk in the narthex for Mill Street information or contact a member of Social Concerns.

*Ross Johnson*

The Social Concerns Ministry Team received a “Thank You,” which we pass along to you, from *Operation Gratitude* for the knitted scarves and hats our congregation sent them. These were included in over 100,000 holiday packages sent to our troops overseas and received with great appreciation.

## CONFIRMATION



The entire confirmation class sends a big THANK YOU to *Minna Billick* for bringing the dinner for our confirmation class on March 13<sup>th</sup>!

Sunday, April 10:

3:30 – 5:30 p.m.: 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> graders

"Is believing in Jesus really the only way to get to heaven?"

5:00 – 5:30 p.m. Dinner for ALL confirmands

Need a parent to bring dinner \_\_\_\_\_

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.: 8<sup>th</sup> graders

"Holy baptism, Faith Statement Discussion & Plans for future ministry at MLC."

Maundy Thursday service, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. or

Good Friday service, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00 p.m.

Attendance is required at one of these services. We'll need your help if you attend the Maundy Thursday service.

Friday, April 29 – Sunday, May 1:

[EoY] Confirmation Retreat at Mt. Cross

Sunday, May 1: 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Yom Hashoah Observance at Kol Shofar in Tiburon - Service of Holocaust Remembrance/ Conversation following the service with youth.

Parents are welcome to attend. Drivers may be needed.

(Those youth that are at Mt. Cross this weekend are excused.)

## National Youth Gathering Planning Meeting

The 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering is headed back to New Orleans July 18-22, 2011.

"After hurricane Katrina slammed into the Gulf Coast wreaking havoc on the city of New Orleans, ELCA members rolled up their sleeves and helped with heavy lifting. In 2009 37,000 ELCA young people showed up in New Orleans ready to help re-build a struggling city.

Sure, they completed service projects – painted, took out trash, raked, cleaned and made repairs – because there was lots of physical work to be done. But they also made **a human connection**. They learned about hospitality and how people overcame anxiety with an unwavering faith. They began a journey that traveled far beyond service projects with the residents of New Orleans.

That's why the ELCA Youth Gathering is going back to New Orleans in 2012 to continue the good work and learn about the new house God is building, 'a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.'" Ephesians 2:21b-22

**Registration for the gathering begins in the fall. We will meet April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. (place TBD) to start planning for our trip and fundraising events. Details will be sent via email!**



**Stewardship Questions:** A continuing series – Jim Kamphoefner

Who: Everyone

Why: see February MLC Newsletter

How: see March MLC Newsletter

This month: What do we give?

**What** do we (should we) give?

Stewardship involves giving and sharing---giving back, or sharing with others, some of the many gifts God has given us. But what is it exactly that we should be giving? Often, we talk about the three T's of giving (asking for commitments of all 3, on the annual commitment, or pledge cards):

Time,

Talent,

Treasure.

To those three T's we can add a fourth: Testimony.

**Time:** There are many opportunities at Marin Lutheran, where your time can be put to good use, helping those inside and outside of our church, teaching others, or enriching our common worship experience.

*Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Psalm 90:12*

**Talent:** We are all different parts of a body—the body of the church—that functions fully only with all of its members exercising their varied and unique God-given gifts.

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10*

**Treasure:** Accomplishing God's mission here on earth—even just the small part of it called Marin Lutheran Church—takes a certain amount of financial resources—treasure—for the building, for full and part time staff, as well as many other less visible things. But there is another reason for each of us to care about our “treasure,” beyond its effect on where it is given or spent: how we choose to allocate and spend our financial treasure is a powerful statement of our personal priorities, a statement of what matters to us, a statement of “where our heart is.” Not only is it true that most of us put our money “where our heart is,” it is also true that we can use money—the giving of it—to *change* where our heart is. The act of loosening your grip on your treasure, putting God first in line for a *meaningful* part of it, will put your heart in a better place.

*For **where** your treasure is, **there** will your heart be also. Luke 12:34*

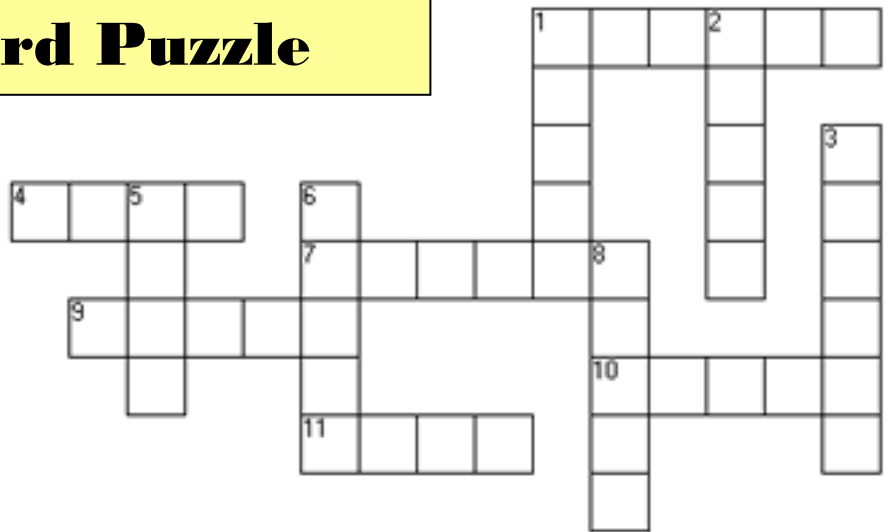
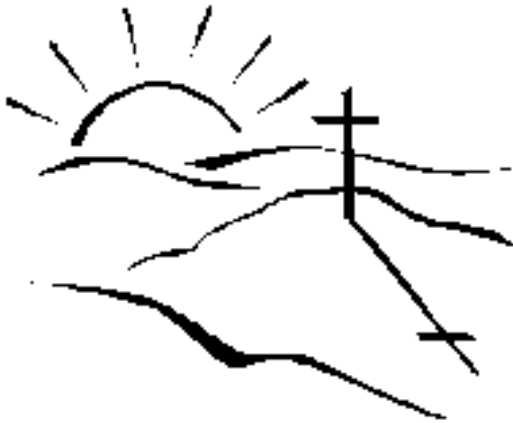
**Testimony:** We are all stewards of our own personal “faith story”— a special gift that can lead others “out of darkness, into God's marvelous light.” Everyone has something of value to share in this category, regardless of how depleted you are feeling among the first three T's, and it doesn't cost you a thing to share your testimony.

*This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ, entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed. 1 Corinthians 4:1*

**APRIL 2011 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

	<b>APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup></b>	<b>APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup></b>	<b>MT &amp; GF</b>	<b>APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup></b>
				<b>4/21: 7p &amp; 4/22: 8p</b>	
<b>GREETERS</b>					
9:00 AM 11:00AM	Sandy Seeger <b>Jane McKenzie</b>	Dawn Brewster <b>Erna Randig</b>	Cheri Houts <b>Marie Conrad</b>	MT: MC Houts <b>GF: Barb Bischoff</b>	Marie & Caitlin J. <b>Janet Foster</b>
<b>USHER</b>					
9:00 AM 11:00AM	Jon Rolien <b>Joe O'Neill, Jr.</b>	Clint Bastin	Michael Houts <b>Roy Davis</b>	MT: M. Rosendahl <b>GF: Rich Myhre</b>	Ron Jacobs & Corneille Church <b>Rick West</b>
<b>ACOLYTE</b>					
9:00 AM 11:00AM	Robert Allen	Morgan Saling	Chloe J & Taylor S	<b>GF: TBA</b>	Laine & Adelaide <b>Michaela Marymor</b>
<b>LECTOR</b>					
9:00 AM 11:00AM	Michele Jacobs <b>Dave Richard</b>	Dawn Brewster <b>Annemarie Hofling</b>	Rich Myhre <b>Tom Schmidt</b>	MT: TBA <b>GF: TBA</b>	Dan Watrous <b>Bob Dunn</b>
<b>ALM</b>					
9:00 AM 11:00AM	Susan Morrow <b>Paul Davis</b>	Christa Compton <b>Betsy McCormick</b>	<b>Paul Davis</b>		Yvonne Weidmann <b>Christa Compton</b>
<b>COMM ASSIST</b>					
9:00 AM 11:00AM	Christa Compton <b>Christa / Betsy</b>	Dawn Brewster <b>Erna R / Marie C</b>	<b>Betsy McCormick</b>	MT: MC Houts	Caitlin Jacobs <b>Janet Foster</b>
<b>SOUND TECH</b>					
8:30AM 11:00AM	Bart Saling <b>John Bischoff</b>	Dan Watrous	John Bischoff <b>Kerry Hansen</b>	MT: Bart Saling <b>GF: John Bischoff</b>	Jeff Reinders <b>Kerry Hansen</b>
<b>COUNTERS</b>					
9:00 AM 11:00AM	Corneille Church <b>Dawn Brewster</b>	Clint Bastin <b>Janet Foster</b>	Roy Davis <b>Kamphoefners</b>	Kamphoefners <b>Kamphoefners</b>	Corneille Church <b>Janet Foster</b>
<b>COFFEE HOUR</b>					
9:00 AM 11:00AM	Jolene Macpherson <b>Jolene Macpherson</b>	Anke Pahmeyer <b>Carol Zlatunich</b>	Sandy Seeger		<b>Easter Brunch</b>
<b>FLOWERS</b>	<b>Theobalds</b>	<b>Lauris Halladay</b>			<b>Easter Lilies</b>
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	<b>Dawn Brewster</b>	<b>Dawn Brewster</b>	<b>Dawn Brewster</b>	<b>MT: Dawn B</b>	<b>Bev Kamphoefner</b>

# Easter Crossword Puzzle



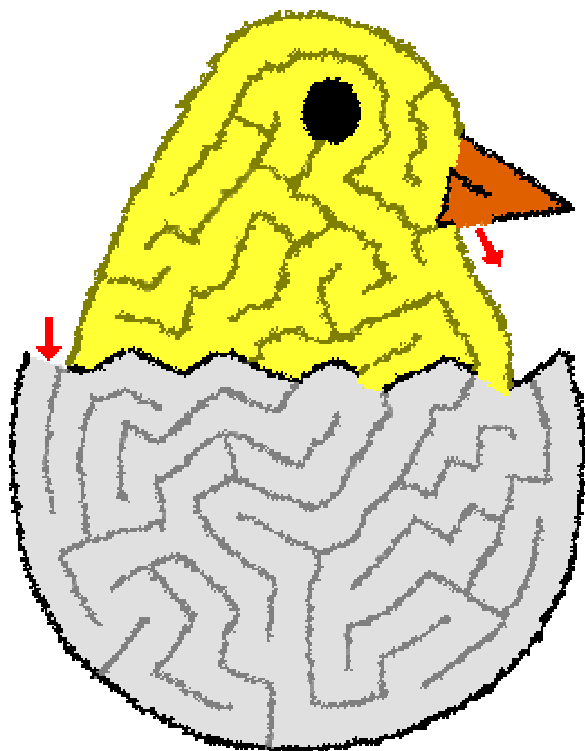
## ACROSS

1. The guards were \_\_\_\_\_ when they saw the empty tomb.
4. A place where the dead body of a human is put.
7. The day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection is called \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Jesus was crucified on the \_\_\_\_\_.
10. When the women came to the tomb, the \_\_\_\_\_ had been rolled away.
11. The angel's clothes were as white as \_\_\_\_\_.

## DOWN

1. Opposite of dead.
2. The tomb was opened by an \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The angel came down from \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The name of the two women who came to the tomb.
6. The Savior of the world.
8. "He is not here. He has \_\_\_\_\_ as he said."

afraid	angel	Easter	Jesus	risen	stone
alive	cross	heaven	Mary	snow	tomb



## Easter Egg Word Hunt

- EASTER
- BUNNY
- CHOCOLATE
- HUNT
- BASKET
- EGG
- JELLYBEANS
- BONNET
- PARADES
- GRASS
- PETER
- COTTONTAIL

