



RIVERSIDE CHURCH

MARCH/APRIL, 2024

RIVERSIDE APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH - NEWSLETTER

Dear friends in Christ.

Life is hardly a bed of roses. Ever since the Fall into Sin, life tends to be more “thorns and thistles” than it is roses sometimes. Just look at what we have to witness at times. Sure, there are positives, like marriages or the birth of a child, but we also experience great loss as well. There could be a new job, and then we could lose that job. There are days of great health, followed by years of crushing diseases. We see a lot in this life.

It is unbelievable sometimes to think that God can take the pains we endure in this life and use them for His glory. But God can, and God does. Through loss, disease and even death, God can use all things to His glory. That doesn't diminish that what we go through or say those terrible things we witness are not indeed terrible. But what we can say is that God can, and does, use all things toward His goals and toward His glory. Just consider Jesus Christ. At the moment of His crucifixion do you really think His mother Mary was thinking this was “good”? As Mary Magdalene and the disciple John witnessed Jesus bleeding and slowly dying, do you think they were jumping up and down and clapping in joy? Of course, they weren't. They were devastated. But it was through this suffering and death of Jesus that God planned to pay for the sins of the whole world.

As we continue our march towards Good Friday and Easter Sunday, let's consider the following words

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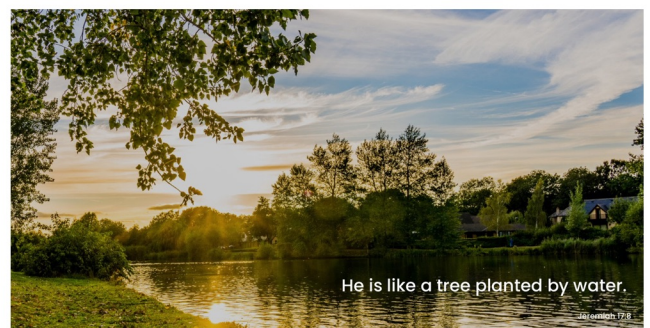
Riverside Apostolic Lutheran Church

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He is like a tree planted by water.

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penned by the author of the letter to the Hebrews, words that draw our gaze for a moment away from our personal struggles and refocus it on the ultimate painful sacrifice followed by His/our greatest victory.

Hebrews 12:1b-3

Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

God's Peace

Pastor Ray

PRAYER REQUESTS

Youth camp weekend

Mission trip planning

Kenneth & Melisa Stenersen & Family

He is like a tree
planted by water.
Jeremiah 17:8

LOOKING AHEAD

3/1-3/3 - Youth Camp

3/5 Board meeting

3/7 - Bible study is cancelled

3/9 - Jared & Jaelene's Wedding

3/12 - Men's group

3/29 - Good Friday Service - 7pm

3/31 - Easter Worship Service - 10:30am

4/2 - Board meeting

4/27 - Spring Cleaning - 9am

Mission trip - May 4-11

VBS - June 19, 20, 21 (Register online)

ALC Conventions in Hockinson - June 27-30