



# Easter Finding Hope

April 4 & 5, 2026

## **John 20:1-18**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!” So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus’ head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying. Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?” “They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. He asked her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?” Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.” Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”). Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.

## **Message Notes**

- 1. Hope Starts in the Dark**
- 2. Hope Takes Time**
- 3. Hope Delivers**

## **Food for Thought**

Are there areas in your life right now where you're needing some hope? What are they and what is the situation and how do you feel?

Think back to a different time when you needed hope. Maybe as a child or youth and you needed hope with respect to how things were going at school. Or later, in a job. Or at any age, hope in a relationship? Hope in the ways things are working in our world? Describe the frustration. Then think of where God might be working in the midst of that.

Think of a time when you moved into a season of hope. What transitioned you to that season? If it was a circumstance that helped things become more hopeful, what preceded that circumstance change that moved you into that season of hope?

**STILL WATERS** exists to **FIND** the lost, **RELEASE** the captive and **DEVELOP** disciples of Jesus

Still Waters Church | 3617 Scenic Road, PO Box 406, Jackson, WI 53037 | 262-677-1311

Worship Hours: Saturday 5:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am & 10:30 am

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-2pm

**Happy Birthday!**

April 5 Sulli Anderson  
April 6 Emily Aumann  
April 7 Mitch Anderson  
April 8 Jim Krudwig  
April 9 Jamie Johnson, Emily Lepien  
April 10 Derrick Shill  
April 11 Marek Bartusek, Dawn Driscoll, Emily Gill Pucerling

**Happy Anniversary!**

April 7 Tim & July Stellmacher

**Ushers**

**Greeters**

**Communion**

**Saturday**

**5pm**

Marc & Kim Bartusek

Marc & Kim Bartusek

**Sunday**

**6am**

Youth

Youth

Youth

**9am**

Kathy Dalton  
Debbie Drews

Kelly & Vicki Passineau

Al & Mary Helsell  
Kelly & Vicki Passineau

**10:30am**

Linda Kleinhans  
Vicki Passineau

Greg & Patti Bocain

Guy Hoppe & Linda Kleinhans  
Greg Bocain & Kelly Passineau

Church Website



Online Giving



Good morning, Still Waters family! Prayers for each of you as your week progresses, and especially on this Holy Week, as we continue our final journey with Jesus to the cross and resurrection. In the midst of all the busyness and challenges and joys of life, I am praying for you and for your journey in life and especially this week. I hope to see you at our many worship opportunities this week, starting tonight!

A few notes about the upcoming opportunities, this week and beyond:

### **Easter Letter and Offering**

You should have received or will soon be receiving an Easter Letter. It contains invitation cards to our Holy Week and Easter services. Use these to invite friends to Holy Week and/or Easter worship! We anticipate a meaningful Holy Week next week! Also, there is an Easter offering envelope, which you can bring to church on Easter or anytime, as a way to give generously to God's glory this Easter season!

### **Easter Monday- Office Closed**

After a very full week for all of our staff, the office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 6. We'll be back on Tuesday, April 7!

### **"Following Jesus" Study, 2 Monday Evenings**

Join us for two **Mondays, April 6th and 13th at 7:00 p.m.** as we look at the last three chapters of Henri Nouwen's book, "Following Jesus: Finding Our Way Home in an Act of Anxiety." Without minimizing the anxieties, fears, and brokenness that touch down in every reader's story, Nouwen gently leads the way into a life that centers on Jesus and engulfs the follower with God's love, a sense of belonging, and a purpose that endures. If you'd like to contribute toward the cost, book is \$12. Some of you already have that book- great- you're all set! Sign up online or on your Connection Card.

### **Tuesday Morning Study- The Road Less Traveled**

On Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m., are studying the 'classic' book, "The Road Less Traveled" by M. Scott Peck, M.D. The study will go for 15 weeks, and **conclude on June 16**. Together we will explore the nature of loving relationships and discover new serenity and fullness of life. We'll look at how to distinguish between dependency and love, how to become more sensitive parent, and ultimately how to become one's own true self. Book is \$12. Sign up on the Connection Card or online.

### **Feeding America**

Join us on **Wednesday, April 8** (always the 2nd Wednesday of the month) at **1:00 p.m.** for this very important ministry to distribute food to those who are food insecure. On-the-job training is always available; we often have new volunteers each month, so no worries if it's your first time. We'd love to welcome you!

### **The Flock, Sunday April 12, 5:00 p.m.**

#### ***Fellowship and Informational Meeting for Youth, Parents, and Siblings***

"The Flock" is the name given to a monthly gathering for an informational meeting for youth, parents, and siblings. Snacks available. Sign up online or on the Connection Card.

### **“Jesus as a Changemaker” Small Group Study**

**Join us Wednesdays for four weeks, beginning Wednesday, April 15, 7:00 p.m.** Whether Jesus was impacting the lives of more than 5,000 people with a miracle of food, or having a happenstance conversation with a Samaritan woman by a well, Jesus’ actions show us exactly what it means to live a life of faith, what it looks like to be a compassion driven Changemaker. In these days, **many of us want to know how we can make a difference in the brokenness of this world.** This is a study that corresponds to an initiative that I (Pastor Lori) first heard about last month in a larger-church-pastor gathering, with Rev. Kathi McShane, co founder of the Change Maker Initiative. I’m super excited that we are providing a small group that will give us the framework to dream about how God can use us, either as individuals in our everyday lives, or in our church. I will be attending this small group, and am excited that Kim and Marc Bartusek will be facilitating. There is no cost, as the materials will be downloaded. Through this study we will discover Jesus as a compassion-driven Changemaker, learn more about the theological foundation of change making, and consider how to apply these changemaking principles to our own lives. Sign up on the Connection Card or Online.

### **Souper Sunday, April 19 11:45 a.m.- CHILI COOKOFF!**

Join us for Souper Sunday on April 15!... This one is a special Chili Cookoff! This will be an awesome meal for our congregation, sponsored by our youth on the third Sunday of each month. Come warm up from the cold weather with the warmth of a great meal/intergenerational fellowship. Free will offering accepted, and proceeds will benefit our amazing youth ministry. Sign up to bring your own chili and/or sign up if you plan to attend. Sign up to on your Connection Card or website. Contact Lisa with questions.

### **Still Waters Women**

Calling all women... come on **Sunday, April 19**, and enjoy meeting with other women of all ages for planning and fellowship after the 2nd Sunday worship service, approximately 11:45 a.m. Sign up on the Connection Card or website.

### **Spring Baby Celebration, Sunday April 26!**

We have noticed there are lots of babies in our congregation! How exciting to welcome all these new little ones into our midst! We have decided to have a celebration on Sunday, April 26! As a way to honor and celebrate all our babies and all those babies that are expected soon, we’d love to welcome the congregation to a reception in between Sunday services (10:00 - 10:30) and after the last worship service (11:30 - noon) as we celebrate our little ones! Come, little ones, and let us celebrate you! We’ll have amazing sweet treats and other special surprises. Come and join in the celebration. In worship we’ll have a special prayer for these youngest ones as well.

### **Spring Clean-Up Day, Saturday, May 9!**

Come on out on Saturday, May 9, **anytime between 8:30 a.m. and noon.** We will work to do some ‘spring clean-up’ work! There will be outdoor work around the church, memorial garden and prayer path (mulching, trimming, weeding, tree-cutting, etc) as well as indoor work (window and other cleaning, etc). Feel free to bring garden tools such as rakes, shovels, gloves, and wheelbarrows. Contact John Haas with questions. Please sign up on the Connection Card or online.

## **Vacation Bible School!**

It's time to start thinking about Vacation Bible School! Our theme this year is Kingdom Quest and we'll be discovering what it means to live in the kingdom of God today! Dates are **Monday July 27 through Thursday July 30** from 6pm-8pm each night. Each day we'll go through centers of music, games, crafts, and Bible adventures. The final day (July 30th) will be Family Night where family and friends are invited for a short program and stay for a cookout and a bouncy house in the back area of the church! Please contact Jena Metzler with any questions up to the month of July. Come July, Lisa Paulson will be stepping in as coordinator and will be able to answer any questions since Baby Metzler will be making her arrival around that time! Register for VBS on our Connection Card or website.

## **Honduras Intergenerational Mission Trip July 11-18, 2026**

We continue to be so excited for our mission trip to Honduras, July 11–18, 2026! You are invited to come to Honduras, OR you can participate in the mission from home! Our mission this year is two-fold. If you come to Honduras, you will choose to be in either an **Education or Medical Focus Group**. No specific training or experience needed for either group. We also need people to be a part of the back home support group. Examples of how you can help from Wisconsin include being part of the VBS planning or sponsoring medical costs. As a **full team in country**, we'll spend time together worshipping, eating, laughing and experiencing Christ's amazing presence on the mission field. We can't wait to serve together!

**For more specifics continue reading:**

### **Education Focus Group (Contact: Lisa or Lori):**

We'll support Danli UMC in leading VBS at the School in the Carbonera Community—one of the highest-need schools. We'll also paint murals at our partner church; Central UMC in Danlí. We'll tour another public school and learn about a scholarship program that helps kids attend school. Even though public education is “free,” the ability for families to afford uniforms and supplies can prohibit kids from actually attending.

### **Ways to help from Wisconsin:**

- **VBS Planning sessions**

Our First VBS Planning Session was awesome. We'll be adding additional Sundays to be announced. No education background is required. Sign up on the website or Connection Card.

### **Medical Focus Group (Contact: Debi Haas):**

Partnering with Honduran doctors, and a pharmacist we'll co-run a clinic providing preventive and urgent care.

### **Ways to help from Wisconsin:**

- **Contribute toward supplies and medications:** We have been so blessed by your outpouring of support for us to have Honduran doctors with us! If you'd still like to contribute financially, money toward supplies would be wonderful!
- **Amazon Registry (Amazon Scrip cards are also available)** We have an Amazon registry! Feel free to purchase items for our mission using this link:

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gi/guest-view/19RV16ADLXDF3>

- **A great idea- buy an Amazon Scrip card** from Still Waters in the lobby on Sundays or see Robin Olson. Using your Amazon Scrip card, you're also helping Still Waters Church in the process of also helping the Honduras mission!
- **Bring Supplies to church**

Additionally we will be collecting supplies at the church. We have a wish list for supplies, see attachment to this email or lobby flyer. To be able to navigate customs, we will need to have all our meds/supplies by April. Contact Debi Haas at 262-617-5593 or [debihaas15@gmail.com](mailto:debihaas15@gmail.com).

We welcome your involvement—whether going to Honduras or supporting from home! Many hands make for powerful impact!

### **July Honduras 2026 Mission Trip Openings Available!**

There are still openings on our July Honduras Mission Trip! See Pastor Lori or Lisa for information or check the box on the Connection Card for more information.

Looking ahead...

### **Quest Camp**

Quest camp is a remarkable, ridiculously fun, re-imagined way for youth groups and youth leaders to experience God, encounter Christ, grow closer as a group, and refocus!. Quest camp is for incoming 6th graders through seniors in High School, and this year will be June 21st - 26th. Quest camp includes Bible study and worship, an expansive high ropes course, climbing tower and zipline, amazing lakefront activities, and refreshing food and lodging. One of the greatest things about Quest is that our youth group and leaders attend together, creating a stronger fellowship bond within our youth group and experiences that create lifelong memories that deepen our faith journey. The cost per camper is \$350.00. Deposit of \$50 due by end of February, with \$100 due monthly after that. See Lisa for details, and sign up online or via the Connection Card.

Praying for you to sense the closeness of your savior, who loves each of us more than we can begin to imagine,

Pastor Lori