

#### MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

2025 Eastern Avenue Wesleyville, PA 16510

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Volume 23, Issue 04

Check Out our Web-site: www.messiah-erie.org

#### **Contents:**



Monthly Celebrations2	Parish Health Ministry 10
Daily Bible Readings2	Church Life
Worship 3	
Stewardship/Finance5	Around the Community 12
Property 8	Church Council
CYFM 8	Contact Information
Servant Outreach9	Kid's Page14

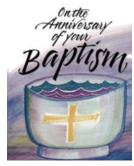
#### **Newsletter Deadline**

All items for the monthly Newsletter must be submitted in writing no later than May 15 and are subject to editing. No exceptions.

# April Celebrations



- 06 Steve Porada
- 17 Emmanuel Alaniz Kira Brown
- 18 Cindy Anderson
- 20 Mary Rush
- 23 Winifred Gardner
- 24 Brennan Frick
- 25 Shirley Case
- 26 Bryson Brown
- 28 Linda Jones



"Through baptism you have been received into the household of God, entrusted with the good news of Jesus Christ, and strengthened to serve by the holy and life-giving Spirit."

Pam Van Horn

3 Thomas Fcke

10 Madison Bartlett

11 Sandy Hough

14 John Needham

Jace Brainard Hannah Piccirilli

16 Katie Frick

18 Joshua Bartlett

- 19 Steve Porada
- 20 Cohen Kent Kaden Brainard
- 22 Elijah Carner
- 24 Doug Wolf Chloee Mills
- 25 Karen Pistner
- 26 Eva Edwards
- 28 Timothy Wolf



- Day 1: 2 Corinthians 5:17
- Day 2: 1 Corinthians 1:30
- Day 3: Romans 3:22
- Day 4: Ephesians 1:7
- Day 5: Romans 6:10-11
- Day 6: 2 Corinthians 5:21
- Day 7: Romans 8:1
- Day 8: Romans 8:2
- Day 9: Romans 6:23
- Day 10: 2 Corinthians 1:20
- Day 11: Ephesians 1:3
- Day 12: Ephesians 2:10
- Day 13: Philippians 4:19
- Day 14: Colossians 2:6-7
- Day 15: Ephesians 3:12
- Day 16: 1 John 5:14-15

- Day 17: Philippians 4:7
- Day 18: Colossians 2:9-10
- Day 19: John 15:5
- Day 20: Ephesians 2:22
- Day 21: 1 John 4:12-13
- Day 22: Acts 17:28
- · Day 23: 1 Corinthians 6:17
- Day 24: Colossians 3:1
- Day 25: Colossians 3:2-3
- Day 26: 2 Thessalonians 1:12
- Day 27: Ephesians 1:5
- Day 28: Romans 3:23-24
- Day 29: Romans 5:1-2
- Day 30: Romans 8:1-2





If we missed your Birth, Baptism, or Marriage
Anniversary we apologize.
Please contact the church office to provide us with
that information.

### Messiah Messenger

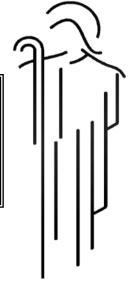
#### Published by Messiah Lutheran Church

#### Our Mission:

Glorifying God through our worship, our witness, our service, and our support

Our Vision:

To build and strengthen the body of Christ





#### **Worship Ministry Committee**

The next meeting of the Worship Ministry Committee will be Wednesday, April 5, at 11:00AM in the Study Lounge.

To be part of this vital ministry at Messiah, contact the Church Office - 814-899-6386

#### Online Worship Update

We are now live streaming our Worship Services on our web site (messiah-erie.org). The videos of the services will be uploaded to our YouTube channel on the following Tuesday.

#### Remembering the Children

The orange banner hanging in the Sanctuary is in remembrance and lament of the children of the First Nations people, whose remains were discovered in a mass grave, and of those yet to be discovered.

We grieve with our Native sisters and brothers as they journey through this very sad and heartbreaking time in their collective psyche.

The orange banner will remain in our Sanctuary through May 28, 2023.

Please offer up prayers for our Native sisters and brothers!

Thank you for your participation in this remembrance!

#### Assisting Ministers and Lectors

The blank schedule for **Mat** will be in the **Narthex** through **April 16.**Please schedule yourself.

If you do not indicate your availability, it will be presumed that you ARE available.



We are in need of more Assisting Ministers and Lectors for both Worship Services!

Training will be provided.

Contact the Church Office if interested!



The Altar Guild is a very important "behind the scenes" ministry!

The people in this ministry make sure that our worship space is properly prepared for Sunday Worship and other special services.

To be part of this welcoming ministry please contact: Linda Voigt at 899-8618

#### April Supply Pastors

We thank the following for their agreeing to preside at Sunday worship

April 2

April 9, 16, 23, 30 Pr. Tom Glasoe

## Holy Week Services



Tuesday, April 4 6:00PM Meal in the **Upper Room** 



Maundy Thursday, April 6 7:00PM - Service of Holy Communion with Corporate Confession and stripping of the altar. Pr. Glasoe presiding.



**Good Friday Prayer Service: April 7** 

7:00PM, Take time this evening as our faith community gathers to remember the sacrifice our Lord made for us. Pr. Glasoe presiding.



**Easter Sunday Worship:** April 9, 8:30AM and

11:00AM

Celebrating the resurrection of

Jesus Christ.

All Services will be live streamed on our website: messiaherie.org with the exception of the Meal in the Upper Room.

## Vídeographers needed



Would you like to help with videotaping the worship services on Sunday?

> We need volunteers for both the 8:30 & 11:00 services.

> > **Contact the Church Office!**

#### **Combined Service Attendance** Streaming services from web site

Date	8:30	11:00	On Line	Total
Feb. 26	22	26	10	38
Mar. 5	17	29	22	68
Mar. 12	16	27	16	59
Mar. 19	17	27	13	57

<sup>\*</sup> indicates no live stream for one or both services



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## Stewardship/Finance

The goal of our Stewardship/Finance Ministry is to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and finances that God has entrusted to them.

#### **Year to Date Financial Picture**

(Through March

( · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
	Actual		YTD		
	<u>March</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>		
Env. Giving	\$7,132.00	\$28,936.00	\$39,999.99		
Other Reg. Giv.	\$285.00	\$1,595.00	\$3,499.96		
Misc. Income	\$ <u>3,147.00</u>	\$3,906.43	\$7,351.43		
<b>Total Income</b>	\$10,564.91	\$34,437.43	\$50,851.42		
Expenses:	\$ <u>4,824.55</u>	\$ <u>21,681.65</u>	\$45,667.56		
Net	\$5,740.36	\$12,755.78	\$5,183.86		

The Stewardship/Finance Ministry Committee
will next meet on
Tuesday, April 11, at 4:30pm
in the Conference Room.
Contact Mike Mikotowicz (814-790-8115)
if you would like to share your talents
as part of this important work of the
congregation.

Thank you for your continued Financial Support.
Your generosity is most appreciated!

#### DID YOU KNOW...

that your offerings to Messiah Lutheran Church can be made electronically while you're on vacation or if you prefer the convenience of scheduling a monthly/weekly automatic withdrawal from your account?

It's easy to set up the following option:

Electronic transfer from your bank account
For more information, call the Church Office, 899-6386.

Make your Contribution from our Website!

#### **Now Live!! Check it out!**





Located on the home page

Members and website visitors will be able to contribute to
the ministry happening at and through Messiah from our
website. You can choose one time or recurring
transactions. You can also choose to cover the small fee!
You can pay for the sponsorship of Altar Flowers,
Worship Aids, and Vigil Candles too. You will still need
to sign up for them on the flower chart!



#### **Counter Ministry**

Are you good with figures?
Do you like to handle money?
Maybe the Counter Ministry is for you!

Time commitment is about 30 minutes after worship.

Training will be provided! Contact the Church Office if interested.

# FOOD DRIVE

#### **Wesleyville Food Pantry**

Please consider a financial gift for the Food Pantry.

Checks should be made payable to Messiah Lutheran Church, marking "Food Pantry" in the memo line.

#### **Food Pantry Distribution:**

**Tuesday, April 4, 5-6:00pm** - Country Fair Items Only **Tuesday, April 18, 10-11:30am and at 5-6:00pm**Thank you for your generosity!





#### 2ND MILE GIVING APPEAL

**2nd Mile Giving** is that support we offer above and beyond our regular giving.

Our 2nd Mile Giving recipient for **April** is: **Lutheran Disaster Response** 

You may contribute through your regular envelope, marking how much to designate to 2nd Mile on the "other" line on your envelope, or by sending a separate donation.

Through March 22, \$10.00 has been donated for *Jr./Sr. Youth Ministry* 

Thank you for your generosity!

## Want to know more about our 2nd Mile Giving organizations?

Lutheran Disaster Response shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

## Attention Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Members...

Thrivent Members can designate Messiah
Lutheran Church as a recipient of the charitable
giving that Thrivent offers through Choice Dollars.
Visit their website, www.thrivent.com, or call
your Thrivent representative for more information.

To those who have designated Messiah as a recipient of Thrivent Choice Dollars, we gratefully thank you!

For more information about Thrivent Financial for Lutherans contact Vince Kremer, Financial Associate, at 814-878-5727 or visit Thrivent.com

#### **April Sponsors** Flower (2) 8:30 WA 11:00 WA Flower (1) Candle 4/2 Mikotowicz 4/9 Lg Lily-Deb Rogala Lg Lily-Jean Parker Mikotowicz 4-16 Mary Rush Deb Rogala Mikotowicz 4/23 Mikotowicz Marylou Bartlett Mikotowicz 4/30 Mikotowicz

Please consider sponsoring the Worship Aids during the year. Every sponsorship helps to defray the cost to the congregation. Thank you!



### 2023 Sponsorships

The completed form, and payment, are due prior to date of sponsorship

Altar Flowers: \$30/1 vase

\$55/2 vases (for same day)\*

Worship Aids: \$7/service/week\*

\*(except Easter & Christmas)

#### **Pennies for Poverty**

An ongoing project of the NWPA Women of the ELCA

Consider dropping your spare change, or even bills, into the container in the narthex for this project.

Each year a charity is selected to receive the money collected by the participating churches.







Children, Youth & Family Ministry/ Faith In Action Committee

#### **CYFM/Faith in Action Committee**

Next meeting is *Thursday, April 6* at 12:00PM Finance Room

Guided Meditation on Mondays is now a "traveling" group. Please call Bonnie Stearns at 814-460-0556 to find out how you can participate in this prayer ministry!

Every Monday - 6:30PM



#### **BOUND TOGETHER**

(BOOK REVIEW CLUB)

## Wednesday, April 5, at 1:00pm in the Study Lounge

**April-**Nomadland by Jessica Bruner **May-**The House at the End of the Street by Diane

Chamberland

**COME AND JOIN US!** 

#### **The Grateful Prayer Group**



THURSDAYS AT 10:00AM
CURRENTLY MEETING BY CONFERENCE CALL
CONTACT JEAN PARKER AT 814-528-5817
OR LINDA FRYER AT 814-899-6899.

**ALL** ARE WELCOME!

## **Property**

#### **Property Committee**

Do you have an interest in helping to keep our church property in top condition?

Join the Property Committee!

Next meeting will be Sunday, April 9, at 9:45am in the Study Lounge

To get information about any project for the church or to Inform us of something that needs to be repaired, please contact Art Anderson at 881-1680

<u>In order to make a Prayer Chain request, please</u>



email or call the Church Office

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## Servant Outreach

Servant Outreach/Parish Health Ministry Committee will meet April 2 at 9:45am.

### **Sewing Circle**

Do you like to sew? Need something to do?

The quilters are meeting again in the sewing room and are sewing up a storm!

Currently they meet on Tuesdays from 10:00am12:00pm.

The day of the week can change, so please call Joyce Hauser to confirm.

Project Linus blankets continue to be made in people's individual homes.

If you are interested in helping or have any questions, please call Joyce Hauser at 814-825-3919.

Thank you!

#### **Bethany Outreach**

The collection box for donations has been removed from the Narthex, but you can still drop off men's and boy's clothing!

Clothing can be dropped off at the office or in the library. Talk to Karen Pistner if you have any questions.



## Wesleyville Food Pantry Volunteer Opportunities

April 4 at 5:00-6:00pm for Country Fair distribution.
April10 at 10:00am to unload senior boxes.
April 17 at 10:00am to unload food delivery.
April 18 at 10:00-11:00am & 5:00-6:00pm for regular food distribution.

Thank you for your willingness to help!

Thank you to Joe Burwell, Brad Bresee and Linda Voigt whose blood donations in March impacted the lives of 9 people because each unit of blood can be separated into red cells, plasma and platelets. Hopefully this thought will encourage others to donate as well! Your next opportunity will be the week of May 15.

### Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Messiah Prayer Shawl group is working from home.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please call Shirley Damon at 814-899-8805 with any questions or concerns. We can provide patterns, yarn, and instruction if needed.

Thank you!

Prayer Shawls are available at the Church office for anyone who would like one.

#### **Baby Bottle Tree**

**Beginning May 7** 

To help support Foster Care Children in the Erie area, we will be collecting baby items, ages preemies to 18 months. Some bottles will have a monetary donation, made out to the church, to reimburse purchases made through NAIER, which is a warehouse website with greatly discounted prices for non-profit organizations.

Thank you in advance for your support!

\*For monetary donation please note for Foster Care.



Mike Samueloff Ins Agcy Inc

Mike Samueloff, Agent 2244 W 38th St

Erie, PA 16506-4563 Bus 814-838-9650

5320 Buffalo Rd Unit B Erie, PA 16510-2312 Bus 814-806-3466



#### Parish Health Ministry

I have heard your prayer and seen your tears. I will heal you. 2 Kings 20:5

#### AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

Autism Acceptance Month, previously named Autism Awareness Month, in April aims to celebrate and promote acceptance for the condition that occurs in one in every 54 children as of 2020 in the United States. Autism, a complex developmental condition affecting the patient's ability to interact, communicate, and progress, has not one but many subtypes. First held in the year 1972 by the Autism Society, Autism Acceptance Month emphasizes the need for public awareness to promote acceptance, celebrate the differences, and be more inclusive towards autistic individuals around us.

#### HISTORY OF AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

Every April, the Autism Society works to build an inclusive community where autistic individuals are embraced and supported to achieve the highest quality of life possible. The Autism Society was founded in 1965 by Bernard Rimland and remains one of the few grassroots organizations in the autistic community. Driven by the fact that autism is the fastest-growing developmental disability in the world, the Autism Society hosted one of its first nationwide efforts of an awareness campaign called National Autistic Children's Week in 1972, which subsequently evolved into the Autism Awareness Month earmarked in April. In 2021, Autism Awareness Month was renamed Autism Acceptance Month to foster acceptance and ignite change.

The Autism Society deeply understands the need to foster awareness and acceptance to ignite change and a healthier lifestyle through improved opportunities for people with autism. It works every day to improve the lives of affected individuals and families. The organization caters to more than 600,000 people living under the "autism onslaught," using tools like community partnerships with organizations, digital and print resources, along with events and referrals to spark empathy and inclusivity in the general public. Besides educating masses for better systems-wide change and acceptance, their affiliate program stretches across more than 75 networks and advocates for exclusive services for the autistic community.

With the autism diagnosis rate increasing fast, we take these 30 days to celebrate the differences of, learn more about, and empower autistic individuals.

## Church Life

Contact Cindy Anderson at 881-2161 to be part of the Church Life Ministry Committee.

### Meal in the Upper Room



April 4 at 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall.

Join us for a meaningful prayer service and meal woven together.

A very powerful way to kick off Holy Week!



#### He Is Risen!

Most of us have known Christ Jesus for many years, or at least we know about him. As I watched "Jesus of Nazareth" the other day, I couldn't help but think....what would we have thought of Jesus in his days on earth?

Even his own people called him just a carpenter's son. It took a face-to-face with an angel of God to convince Mary, Joseph, Ann, and Elizabeth of his Divinity! He had a childhood like any other Jewish boy. He did chores, studied at Joseph's side. Then he turned twelve. If you've been privy to the life of a twelve year - old - boy, you know that his mother's prayer was, "God help us all."

And what did Jesus do? Well, he took off without letting his parents know where he was going. Yes, he would be found at the Temple, but not until Mary was pulling her hair out. The story mercifully leaves out the details of his teenage years. I feel safe in saying he was a leader, though probably not a diplomat. We can be sure he spoke well and was quite charismatic.

I can't imagine him stealing dates from the penny candy store. I can only think what his teenaged friends would say if he told them "I am the Son of God, the Most High." Yeah, it would have been quite a brawl.

Then we meet Jesus many years later; he has become a man of his convictions. Word of his miracles spread like wildfire! He was at the same time cursed and yet welcomed with joy.

Jesus was a man with a mission. People were drawn to listen. Part of the draw was how he used the parables, to put his lessons into circumstances even a child of the day could understand. He was quick to demand our obedience to the word of God, and quick to ask some telling questions, and for repentance before pronouncing forgiveness.

Even after seeing how the people would treat him, he still gave his life so that we may live.

Yes Lord Jesus is quite a man. Sincere, intelligent, and faithful. Uncompromising in his beliefs.

If only we could say, yes, I really know Jesus!

From my family to yours, have a very Happy Easter. Celebrate His Resurrection with joy!

#### Hallelujah! Christ is Risen!

Your servant in Christ,

Marilyn DiLuzio Rizzo



#### **Around the Community**



#### MEADOWSCAPING: TO MOW OR NOT TO MOW

I almost feel like it's the creepy start of a horror movie when I see a perfect lawn that has little yellow flag on it....it's covered with 2, 4-D, Mecoprop-p and Dicamba and, of course, Round-up.

https://www.insider.com/native-landscaping-doug-tallamy-lawns

Meadowscaping is gardening with <u>pollinator-friendly, perennial native plants</u> — with the intention of building healthy, resilient communities. Planting native plants for birds and pollinators is the way to be responsible! We all pay a high price for the notion of "perfectly manicured lawn'. Perfectly manicured means gas machines, noise, pollution, bagging up valuable leaves, pesticide poisons and no habitat for butterflies and birds

Deer ticks carry disease and effect anyone who spends time out of doors in NWPA. Mowed lawns and non-native plants do not sustain a healthy ecosystem that naturally discourages ticks. Replacing even 1/3 of manicured lawns with perennials, shrubs and trees provide a healthier ecosystem for native insects, which feed native birds, bats and other creatures who eat the insects, including ticks! If you're lucky native non-poisonous snakes will eat mice, who carry deer ticks.

Mow less and create a native, healthy landscape around your home. You'll be caring for creation and creating self-sustaining natural, healthy habitats you can also enjoy. Doug Tallamy, an entomologist at the University of Delaware, wants to see lawns replanted with native North American flora, supporting a healthy array of native North American butterflies, moths and other arthropods, providing food for a robust population of songbirds, small mammals and reptiles. He even has a name for it: Homegrown National Park, an aspirational project to repurpose half of America's lawnscape for ecologically productive use. That would comprise more than 20 million acres, the equivalent of nearly ten Yellowstones. The intention is to unite fragments of land scattered across the country into a network of habitat, which could be achieved, he wrote in Bringing Nature Home, "by untrained citizens with minimal expense and without any costly changes to infrastructure. Every little bit helps," Tallamy says. "Most people don't own 50 acres, so it's not going to be that hard. The minimal thing is, you plant a tree and it's the right tree." www,smithsonianmagazine.com/science-nature/meet-ecologist-who-wantsunleash-wild-backyard-180974372/

Go to these resources for ideas and resources about how to get started in your home landscape.

- www.americanmeadows.com
- www.kidsgardening.org/the-latest-meadowscaping
- www.meadowmaking.org
- www.bentonswcd.org/meadowscaping-benefits-surface/
- www.gardeningforlifeproject.org/about-doug-tallamy
- https://extension.psu.edu/pennsylvania-native-plants-for-theperennial-garden

<u>NWPA Synod Green Team "Green Corner"</u> – Keep up to date with the Green Team on the Synod's website: <a href="https://www.northwesternpasynodelca.org/nwpa-green-team.html">https://www.northwesternpasynodelca.org/nwpa-green-team.html</a> All past issues of the "Green Corner" can be found here:

https://www.northwesternpasynodelca.org/the-green-corner.html

## **About Our Members**

Please keep the church office informed of any changes in your contact information. It is important for us to keep our database up-to-date. Thank you for your cooperation.

#### **Call Committee**

The committee has met every week to complete all the paperwork required by Synod. The members went to great lengths to make sure what was submitted was truthful and positive.

We were asked to talk about our worship life, outreach, involvement with Synod, goals, programming, purpose, giftedness, mission, and the financial well - being of our congregation.

We worked hard to portray the characteristics of both services. We chose the top 5 Ministry Tasks and listed those of high or low priority we felt Messiah needed in a pastor and our expectations of a pastor and what the pastor could expect from the members of Messiah.

Many thanks go to Rich Alaniz, Cindy Anderson (chair), Robin Curtis, Gerrie Elias (secretary), Bob Pommer, and Candy Sprouse who worked diligently and prayerfully on all the paperwork.

Please continue to keep this process in your prayers that God will lead us to our next chapter!



## hurch Counc

#### Church Leadership

#### Council:

Briana Alaniz-Secretary(3) Art Anderson-President

Joe Burwell (2)

Eugene Jones (3)

Dave Kent (1)

Kathy Kiehl (2)

Mike Mikotowicz-

*Vice-President*(2)

Blaine Waters (1)

Robin Curtis (1)

#### Conference I Rep:

Blaine Waters

#### Food Pantry Board Rep:

Mike Mikotowicz.

#### Committee Chairpersons:

Church Life: Cindy Anderson CYFM: Candy Sprouse

Mutual Ministry:

Jean Parker

Property: Art Anderson

Servant Outreach:

Jean Parker

Joe Burwell

Stewardship/Finance:

Mike Mikotowicz

Worship: TBD

#### **Unofficial Highlights**

- + Reviewed the Minutes of the February Council meeting;
- + Reviewed the Financial Reports and Ministry Committee Reports;
- + Reviewed and approved Ministry Site Profile submitted by Call Committee:
- + Approved returning to the RCL (Revised Common Lectionary);
- + Next meeting Thursday, April 20, at 6pm.

#### **Church Office Hours**

Monday Closed

Tuesday 10:00am-5:00pm

Wednesday Closed

**Thursday** 10:00am-5:00pm 10:00am-5:00pm **Friday** 

# Contact



## Find out what is going on in the

Church-wide - www.elca.org

NWPA Synod - www.northwesternpasynodelca.org

## Information

#### Messíah Lutheran Church

**Contact Information** 

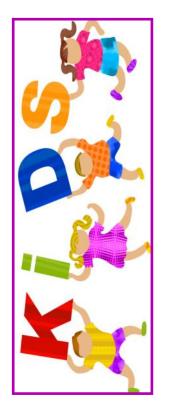
Church Office: (814) 899-6386

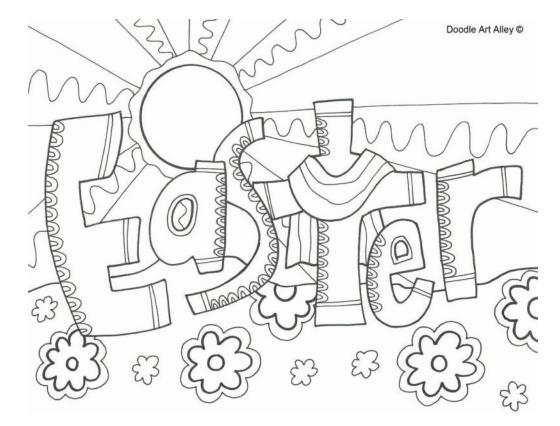
secretary@messiah-erie.org

**Cindy Anderson:** (814) 881-2161 Pastor:

To Be Determined

www.messiah-erie.org







### Easter Word Hunt

G G G F R N Ε R C HAW WP Α LMY Q W D В A S K Ε E S E R В A HUNTUL S

PALM **FLOWERS** BASKET GRASS PARADE BUNNY RABBIT HIDE CHICK SEARCH DYE HUNT SPRING LAMB EASTER SUNDAY LILY EGGS NEST **TULIPS** FIND

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