

2 approaches to Easter

Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb.

He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on

Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes." — John 20:3-10

John (the other disciple) and Peter represent for me two different Easter Sunday experiences.

STEPHEN
BLENKUSH

John is the person who celebrates on Easter Sunday. He is the one for whom faith comes easy. He believes without seeing. He runs the fastest because he is the least encumbered. His burden is light.

Peter, on the other hand, is the one who comes with a heavy heart to Easter Sunday worship. He carried the burden of having betrayed a loved one. The prospect of seeing Jesus is mixed for Peter. What will he say to me? What will I say to him?

Peter, unfortunately, does not hang around the tomb long enough for the miracle to happen. Unlike Mary Magdalene, who stays behind to grieve and is met by Jesus. Peter must wait for Easter to happen to him.

All of us come to Easter Sunday with different life experiences and life realities. Some of us are broken like Mary and wonder if we'll ever be whole again. Some of us are ashamed of ourselves like Peter and wonder if God's forgiveness

can ever reach our betrayal. Some of us are faithful like John and simply celebrate the love of God.

The Christian faith is all about new life, new birth, second chances and 70 second chances. The Christian faith is about love, forgiveness, reconciliation. It's about waging war against the powers of brokenness with the power of self-sacrificing love.

It's about God doing for us what we cannot do for ourselves. For Peter and John, and for us, Easter means that Christ is risen in them and they will never be the same again.

Let us pray: Dear Jesus, we come to this new day still thinking about Easter Sunday morning and your risen presence in our midst. Love us, heal us, forgive us and lead us. Bring the newness of your life to bear in us, that we might bear the newness of life into the world around us. In Jesus name. Amen.

Stephen Blenkush is pastor at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Pequot Lakes.

CARD GAMES

500 SCORES

1 p.m. Tuesdays

Pine River American

Legion

Tuesday, April 19

► Ernie Burch 4210, Bud Johnson 3690, Don Krut 3550, Bill Ellis 3370. Ron Kriewald won the door prize.

BRIDGE SCORES

1 p.m. Tuesdays

Ideal Town Hall

Tuesday, April 19

► Duplicate: Chris Brown and Diana Brown 55.50, Tom McGrath and Helen McGrath 51.50, Enga Wodziak and Mary Kay Kendall 43.50.

SENIOR MEALS

PINE RIVER — The Senior Nutrition Program offers a nutritionally balanced meal for all people and is open again for in-person dining. Masks are no longer mandatory.

Meals are served at 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday at the Heartland Apartments, 445 Snell Ave., in Pine River. The suggested voluntary donation is \$5 per meal for those over 60 and \$8.50 for those under 60.

To make a reservation, call 218-587-2921.

Menus are subject to change. Meals are served with low-fat milk.

May 2-6

► Monday: Orange chicken, brown rice, Oriental vegetables, mandarin oranges, dessert.

► Tuesday: Kitchen closed for out-of-town cooks' meeting.

► Wednesday: Ham and turkey, salad, fresh orange, breadstick, dessert.

► Thursday: Pepper steak or liver, mashed potatoes with gravy, carrots, dinner roll with margarine, dessert.

► Friday: Fish patty with tartar sauce and a bun, cheesy hashbrowns, baked beans, dessert.

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Crosslake Cares

Senior Days & Senior Expo is this weekend

CROSSLAKE — Crosslake Cares will host its annual Senior Days & Senior Expo April 29-May 1 at Crosslake Lutheran Church.

All weekend there will be restaurant deals in town. The expo on Saturday will feature prizes and giveaways, free coffee and pastries and exhibitors until noon. Scheduled events include:

Friday, April 29

► 10-11:30 a.m.: Senior technology presentation at Crosslake Lutheran Church. Participants will learn computer and internet basics from knowledgeable network technicians Justin Hanson and Dylan Raph. Instruction will also include cyber security.

Participants may bring a laptop, tablet or cell phone if they have questions. Additional questions may be directed to Krystin Peterson at 218-763-8118 or krystin@emilytel.com.

► 2-3:30 p.m.: Senior travel presentation at Crosslake Lutheran Church. This presentation will introduce