



April 2018

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Victoria, BC

# THE LINK

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

## He is Risen



## Alleluia

## Notes from Session

In last month's Link, session reported that it was responding to, "The Presbytery of Vancouver Island Review of Ministry Report". The response was finalized at the March session meeting and has been sent to the Presbytery of Vancouver Island with the request that it be placed on the docket for the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Presbytery meeting. After the presbytery meeting, session will send the response to the congregation by way of the email list. After April 4<sup>th</sup>, copies will be available in the office or at the April 8<sup>th</sup> worship service. Please note that the April Presbytery meeting will be at Trinity Presbyterian, Victoria at 10:30 am; presbytery is an open court and all can attend.

On April 29, 2018 during Sunday worship we will be celebrating the sacrament of baptism. Twin baby brothers Avery and Owainn Opoku, sons of Kal Opoku and Shannon Coughlin, will be baptized. Kal has attended church at St. Andrew's during the last few months whenever the commitments of "twin" fatherhood allowed. Please join us as we welcome Owainn and Avery, into the family of Christ at St. Andrew's.

On Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup> our annual meeting will take place immediately after the Sunday Service. Our final financial numbers for 2018 will be available

and we will be discussing among other things finishing the roof project.

Many of you will have received the congregational email regarding the moderator's letter of repentance to the LGBTQI community. If you did not get an opportunity to read the letter there are copies available in the church office or you may access it on the Presbyterian Church in Canada website: <http://presbyterian.ca/2018/02/13/moderator-issues-letter-repentance-lgbtqi-community/>

A number of possible interim ministers' names have been forwarded to the St. Andrew's Interim Ministry Committee of Presbytery of Vancouver Island. Session was also asked to provide some suggested attributes for our interim minister. Our Interim Moderator, the Reverend Laura Kavanagh, has found supply ministers up to the end of June 2018. Please pray for the committee that they may find the right interim minister for St. Andrew's.

On this Easter Sunday let us all celebrate together the greatest gift ever given.

**Christ the Lord is risen today - Alleluia!**

Yours in Christ,  
**David McLean and Sabine Teetzel**  
Co-Clerks of Session

**Inter-Presbyterian Church Gym Games Night** in the Kirk Hall at 680 Courtney Street

We will host 2 more game nights this spring on the 1st Saturday in April and May. Doors will open at 6:30pm on Saturday, April 7 and Saturday, May 5. We have used the earlier start time to benefit families with younger children and their friends from all local Presbyterian Churches.

It is hoped that those who have come out have enjoyed their experience. If there is continued interest we can continue this experiment after the summer on the 1st Saturdays in October and November. For more information please email [bamccowan@shaw.ca](mailto:bamccowan@shaw.ca) or [vtan.cpc@gmail.com](mailto:vtan.cpc@gmail.com)



**Bruce McCowan**



**Thought for the day:**

*What if you woke up today with only the things that you thanked God for yesterday?*

From the Skene Parish Church  
Prayer Booklet.

**Usher Team  
April**

Dave G.  
Sheelagh G.  
Helen G.  
Don M.  
Saul P.

## Palm Sunday Parade



fotosbymitchell

## Administration

The Administration Committee is overwhelmed with the amount of work the Committee must contend with. Fortunately, Committee work is well managed and there is very little disagreement or discussion\* within the Committee when decisions are to be made.

A large part of this can be attributed to the work Whitney does on our behalf. Preparing the bulletin [aka the Order of Service] in a timely fashion. Sometimes under some rather tight timelines. Although we know Sunday is going to roll around after Saturday, there are instances when people will leave things to be placed in the bulletin until late Thursday or possibly even early Friday. "Oh by the way" is a phrase we prefer not to hear on Friday morning!

Whitney also takes care of responding to and redirecting calls for people making inquiries about Sunday service and some of the other activities around the sanctuary and the kirk hall. For repeating events Whitney has templates and processes in place to assist members of the congregation and people who may want to use our facilities. This could be as simple as using the kirk hall or sanctuary for a non-church event, a service of remembrance or a wedding.

Whitney serves as a receptionist and welcoming person in the office. Office hours are typically Monday to Friday 9:30am to 2:30pm. Drop by and say hello, and if you are there on a Friday morning, you can always help fold the Sunday bulletins.

\*Note – this Committee-of-one is always looking for someone to help in the decision making of the Committee.

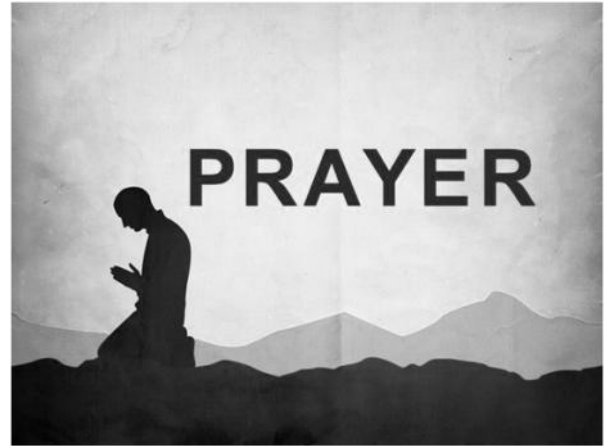
**Jim Ferguson**

# April 2018

Our elders invite us to pray together!

If you have items you would like included, please contact Whitney in the church office:

office@standrewsvictoria.ca  
250-384-5734



## Please pray for...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
The Lord is Risen! Give thanks for the promise of life everlasting	All people traveling for Presbytery tomorrow	Ministers and elders participating in the Presbytery meeting	All those with birthdays and anniversaries in April	Those searching for meaningful employment	Climate justice and that we all would care for creation	Families attending gym night in the Kirk Hall
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
Those involved in music ministry who give of their time and talents	Those traveling with PWS&D to Malawi to see our work in that country	The General Assembly Design Team meeting to plan this gathering	Peace for all suffering in the midst of conflict	That we may be inspired by the beauty of spring	Our neighbors in need and the St. A's team serving them breakfast on Saturday	Compassion and courage to welcome and care for strangers in need
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
Ministers, church staff and many volunteers	Those around the world who are imprisoned or denied their human rights	Wisdom for elders who guide and decide at St. Andrew's	People in the armed forces and their families	The Boards of Managers and Property/ Finance Committees in the Presbytery	University and college students finishing the academic year	The words to invite people to know God in fellowship with believers
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
Youth, children and young families	All refugees fleeing violence and oppression	Any friends or family who are sick or hurting	People who volunteer in churches and other community organizations	Those speaking out against hatred and injustice	People in hospital and those who visit them	Patients and staff in the PWS&D supported hospital in Nepal
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>					
Christian Education committee volunteers and all teachers	That all people would have access to clean water					





## Car-Free Day...

We haven't worked out the details of how Car-Free Day might unfold for St. Andrew's. But, we do know it will affect us.

**Transit:** In previous years BC Transit was a partner in Car-Free day and we would expect them to be again this year. Based on previous years, with a stretch of Douglas Street being blocked off to traffic for much of the day, there will be changes in regular transit service in the downtown core.

From 8am until 8pm, buses that use Douglas Street will be re-routed onto Blanshard between Bay and Courtney Streets. Temporary stops will be set up on Blanshard, corresponding to the stop locations on Douglas.

For east-west routes, Johnson, Yates and Fort Streets will all be open, with traffic control personnel on-hand to ensure pedestrian safety.

### What does Car-Free Day mean for St. Andrew's Sunday Service?

It may be difficult to get in and out of the parking lot at the Public Library. An alternative would be the View Street Parkade on View near Blanshard.

People who might normally take the bus will have to walk from Blanshard to Douglas Street to the Church.

We will need some folks to help us set up the tent in front of the

Church and possibly redirect people into the Sanctuary.

This is an opportunity to demonstrate we are a welcoming congregation by having people greet our friends and neighbours as they peek inside to learn a bit about our sanctuary and perhaps even to take a few moments for quiet and meditation.

### What do we need to make this a successful St. Andrew's event?

We need volunteers to put a face to St. Andrew's. To welcome people to our doorway, share some water and information about our programs and to remind people we have been in our community for well over 150 years.

"You are the face of St. Andrew's"

### More information and to help.

Please contact **Jim Ferguson** at 250-415-3687 or [jpfergus@gmail.com](mailto:jpfergus@gmail.com) or leave your name with Whitney in the office.

## Ladies' Saturday Morning Breakfast



FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY  
MONTH - 10:00AM

## Café Bon Appetit

The Bay Downtown

Join the ladies for laughter, friendship and fellowship once a month. This is our chance to connect without any distractions. Please don't hesitate to bring a friend. The Bay has a full breakfast menu - you can order breakfast or just have a cup of coffee.

If you wish, you can donate \$5 to help raise funds for the development of handicap access from the Church to the Kirk Hall.

## Presbytery is actively searching for an Interim Minister to serve the congregation of St. Andrew's, Victoria.

Suggestions can be submitted to the Presbytery committee through the session. The Reverend Laura Kavanagh has agreed to continue as Interim Moderator – supporting the session and congregation and arranging pulpit supply – until an Interim Minister is appointed. If you have pastoral concerns or other questions regarding the future of ministry at St. Andrew's, please address them to the Reverend L. Kavanagh at Knox Church or to one of the elders.

## Annual General Meeting MAY 6, 2018



The Annual General Meeting will be held immediately after the Sunday Service.

**Yes, it is that time of year again!!**

## Count your Blessings.....

In today's busy world, full of daily news stories of murders, school shootings, terrorist attacks and world-wide calamities, we are sometimes led to the conclusion that only bad things are happening. Our personal view of the world is sometimes shaped by how we see things developing around us, and often it is depressing and worrisome. Deb Verwey has written this article about wanting to take a painting class and the wonderful effect it had on her. We all have many blessings in our lives – usually too many to count. So we were wondering if you would like to share some of yours? We would like to invite the congregation to write in to the Link and tell of the good things that are happening in your life right now. Or maybe, now in retrospect, you see where blessings occurred in the past. Either way, this space is being reserved for you and with your permission we will put your story here next month.

By sharing our happy moments and blessings in our lives, we can enrich the lives of others and have our church family and friends reflect on how God has brought blessings into their lives as well.

We invite you to contribute to our monthly column by sharing your “blessings” and thereby help uplift the spirits of the rest of us. Just send it to [thelink@shaw.ca](mailto:thelink@shaw.ca)

*~About three years ago, I enrolled in a watercolour painting course for beginners. I had always loved watercolour paintings but someone had told me that it was a very hard medium to learn. So it was with trepidation that I went to that first class.*

What a surprise to learn that with just three colours I could make beautiful scintillating rainbows of very hue possible! You can mix colours right on the paper... brush clear clean water on the sheet, drop in two or three different tints and voila, a new combination appears that you never would have anticipated!

Since I started painting as a hobby, I have started to look really closely at the different colours that you see in nature. You notice that the sky sometimes has yellow in it, not just at sunrise or sunset, sometimes brown is there. The bark of trees is not just brown and black but red, green, and purple! And don't get me going about rocks!

I think that you can tell that I enjoy my watercolour painting a lot. What I enjoy the most about it is seeing the world with a fresh perspective. As Marcel Proust said, “The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking **new** landscapes, but in having **new eyes**.”

As Elisha prayed in 2 Kings 6:17, I pray also to God “to open my eyes that I might see” how “the heavens declare the glory of God and the sky above proclaims his handiwork” (Psalm 19:1)

There is a lot more to watercolour painting that I have not mentioned...perspective, glazes, lost and found edges... but, with this hobby, I learned how to see the world as if it were a new world. Praise God and thank you!

**Debra Verwey**

### Men's Saturday Breakfast - Café Bon Appetit

5th floor of the downtown Bay Centre overlooking the Inner Harbour.

Please join us for our Men's Breakfast on April 21 at 10am. We use Daily Bread as a devotional. There are two other Presbyterian church-hosted Bible studies currently being held.

- ♦ Rev. Reid Chudley hosts a Men's Bible Study using Daily Bread, Thursdays 10 - 11am.  
2964 Tillicum Road. For more information please phone 250-891-4525 or [trinitypcvictoria@shaw.ca](mailto:trinitypcvictoria@shaw.ca)
- ♦ Rev. Vincent Tan leads an English co-ed Bible Study on Galatians, Tuesday evenings 8 - 9:15pm.  
816 North Park Street. For more information please phone 250-891-8588 or [vtan.cpc@gmail.com](mailto:vtan.cpc@gmail.com)

**Bruce McCowan:** 250-881-5155  
or [bamccowan@shaw.ca](mailto:bamccowan@shaw.ca)

## Christian Education News

On **Palm Sunday**, after the palm procession in the sanctuary, the Sunday school children moved upstairs to their classroom. There they heard the story about Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and completed a "Hosanna" craft. As well, Jean Watt taught the children, one at a time, how to make crosses from palm fronds. The extra palm fronds were also used during coffee hour. Several adults came to the table where Jean was making crosses, and learned to make them too. The children gave many of the crosses they created to family members and others during coffee hour. Some were taken to Oak Bay Lodge for the service there.

**Dianne Penner**



*fotosbydiannepenner*





## Service on March 18, 2018 - led by Dirk Ryneveld



fotosby Mitchell

Speaking to the choir before the service with Worship Elder Elizabeth G.



Word to the boys and girls

### All Glory be to Christ

(To the tune of *Auld Lang Syne*)

On Sunday, March 3 we attended **HymnAlong 2018** at the Victoria Christian Reformed Church. It was a wonderfully uplifting experience. The sanctuary was filled to capacity, the pipe organ and brass accompaniment were magnificent and, for nearly two hours, the church was filled with the sound of glorious old hymns of praise that almost raised the roof. What's more, we knew every hymn – except for one that was sung to the tune of *Auld Lang Syne*. The lyrics were so stirring and fitted the tune so beautifully that we decided to pass it along.

[Verse 1]

Should nothing of our efforts stand  
Nor legacy survive  
Unless the Lord does raise the house  
In vain the builders strive

To you who boast tomorrow's gain  
Tell me what is your life  
A mist that vanishes at dawn  
All glory be to Christ!

[Chorus]

All glory be to Christ our king!  
All glory be to Christ  
His rule and reign we'll ever sing  
All glory be to Christ!

[Verse 2]

His will be done, His kingdom come  
On earth as is above  
Who is Himself our daily bread  
Praise Him, the Lord of love

Let living water satisfy  
The thirsty without price  
We'll take a cup of kindness yet  
All glory be to Christ!

[Chorus]

[Verse 3]  
When on the day the great I Am  
The faithful and the true  
The Lamb who was for sinners slain  
Is making all things new

Behold our God shall live with us  
And be our steadfast light  
And we shall e'er his people be  
All glory be to Christ!

[Chorus]

**Nancy & Bill Duke**

### Why the Easter Bunny?

The Teutonic deity Eostra was the goddess of spring and fertility, and feasts were held in her honor on the Vernal Equinox. Her symbol was the rabbit because of the animal's high reproduction rate.



Spring also symbolized new life and rebirth; eggs were an ancient symbol of fertility. When Roman Catholicism became the dominant

religion in Germany in the 15th century, it merged with ingrained pagan beliefs. Thus the Easter egg symbolized Jesus' resurrection. The first Easter Bunny legend was documented in the 1500s. By 1680, the first story about a rabbit laying eggs and hiding them in a garden was published. These legends were brought to the United States in the 1700s, when German immigrants settled in Pennsylvania Dutch country, according to the Center for Children's Literature and Culture. The tradition of making nests for the rabbit to lay its eggs in soon followed. Eventually, nests became decorated baskets and colorful eggs were swapped for candy, treats and other small gifts.



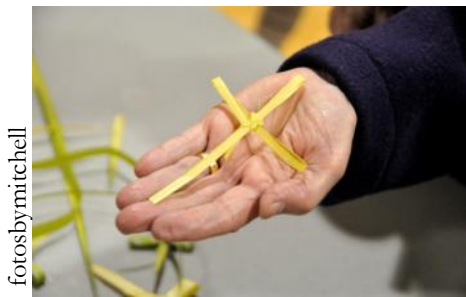
## Donations to Cedar Tree Ministries

Saint Andrew's-Victoria and all the other Presbyterian churches on Vancouver Island have been asked to collect non-perishable food for Cedar Tree Ministries (CTM) in Duncan. The food will be distributed to those in First Nations communities who are in need.

Our Mission and Outreach Committee is co-ordinating this food donation project in our church. Jerry Verwey, Presbytery parity elder and member of St. Andrew's-Victoria, took two-and-a-half grocery bags of non-perishable food to CTM on March 14<sup>th</sup> on his way to a Presbytery meeting. The next time that he will be making a delivery will be April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Besides donating non-perishable food items, you can purchase gift cards from Save-on-Foods grocery stores and donate these to Cedar Tree Ministries. The cards are used to buy fresh vegetables and meat. Save-on-Foods is the biggest grocery store in Duncan so that is why the gift cards should be purchased from there. Any gift cards for CTM can be left with Whitney in the church office.

Food items can be put in the two baskets, marked Cedar Tree Ministries, in the narthex on Sunday mornings. If you have any questions about this project, please contact **Brian Titus**, 250-382-2387.



### From the Skene Parish Church Prayer Booklet

Just think—  
You're here not by chance  
but by God's choosing.  
His hand formed you  
and made you  
the person you are.  
He compares you to no one else -  
you are one of a kind.  
You lack nothing  
that His grace can't give you.  
He has allowed you to be here  
at this time in history  
to fulfil His special purpose  
for this generation.

JUNE 12 TO JUNE 15, 2018



### GOLD CAMPING TRIP AT LITTLE QUALICUM FALLS PROVINCIAL PARK

Enjoy the beauty of Little Qualicum Falls and enjoy bible study and fellowship with island Presbyterians. This camping trip is especially suited for our more "experienced" members but all ages are welcome to participate. We are looking forward to the study that will be lead by Rev. Kerry McIntyre.

Pre register by **April 15** and you will save the reservation fee

Senior Fee: \$45.00 Non-senior Fee: \$80

After April 15 people should contact Elizabeth to find out the site numbers for those already registered and book your own site. There will be an additional \$10 fee for CampVip to be collected at Camp.

Contact Elizabeth Forrester to register:

1-250-751-1544 eamfor@telus.net

2408 Glenayr Drive, Nanaimo BC, V9S 3R7

## You did it!

Many hands did make light work of moving all the fabric and yarn from the craft room to the gym. Thank you to all those who helped. Because so many of you helped, it was all accomplished in a very short time. The sort, and pricing of all the inventory has begun so watch for further notices of the sale date in May. Spread the word. Many bargains to be had and possibly that exact piece of material, in the exact colour, that you have been looking for .

Our Craft/Quilters Group has for many years donated hundreds of articles to support the various projects at St Andrew's. We are most grateful that in sharing their talents with us we were able to show God's love to many others.

**Sheelagh Garson**

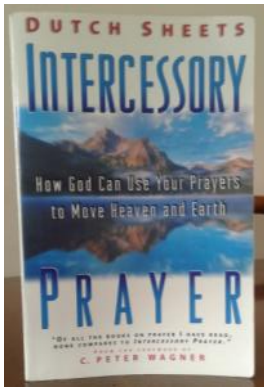


fotosbymitchell





## *Ex Libris Ecclesiae* ~ *Intercessory Prayer*, by Dutch Sheets. Regal Publishing, 1996.



I hasten to bring this recently donated book to your attention. When I was on the board of Saanich Baptist Church (before St. Andrew's), this is one of the books we elders read and discussed together.

An assigned reading from Dutch Sheets might raise an eyebrow. Isn't he a wild-eyed

charismatic preacher? (No, not very wild in the eyes, but definitely in the charismatic camp.) Why would elders in a conservative Baptist church choose to read Sheets?

Several things commended this book to us back then, and to us Presbyterians now, starting with Sheets' breezy and positive style. And back when I first read it, as now while preparing this review, I liked his command of the literature on prayer.

Two examples:

I agree with E.M. Bounds when he said,

"God shapes the world by prayer. The more prayer there is in the world, the better the world will be..."

Charles Spurgeon said, "By perseverance the snail reached the ark."

Mostly, though, Sheets writes with the smell of the smoke of battle in his clothes. This man prays, and his life of prayer is what gives the book such punch.

One of Sheets' insights has stayed with me since I first read *Intercessory Prayer*. He points out that God gave us humans dominion over the earth; that's the lesson from the Garden of Eden; it means (says Sheets) that when God wanted to achieve something on Earth, He planned to do it through those whom He placed in charge here. But wait! After we turned to sin, did God take our dominion away? No, nothing about that in the Bible. We have ruined the planet pretty much, but we still have God-given dominion over it.

So when God wants to achieve something on Earth nowadays, he *still* expects to work through us. That is why our prayers are so important to God: when we ask God to intervene and do something for us, we

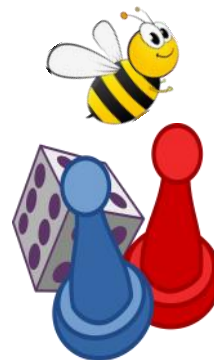
enable Him to work through proper channels, so to speak — to come down and work on the earth *in concert with* those whom He placed in charge locally. In *that* sense, the achievement of God's will still depends on *our* prayers.

The only weakness that stands out to me in this book is how Sheets plays rather loose with dictionaries and lexicons to support his points. This is called "illegitimate totality transfer" or "lexical fallacy" (you can Google that to see what I mean, if you like doing armchair theology). While lexical fallacies are the preferred method for changing the meaning of the Bible, so that it appears to agree with your opinions, I hasten to Sheets' defence by saying that Sheets does not go that way. His conclusions remain in line with Scripture.

To enliven and enlarge your personal prayer life, try reading Sheets. As far as I see, it is the only book on intercessory prayer, or on any kind of prayer, in our library.

Reviewed by **Dave Rogers**

## BEE there for Games Night



**APRIL 21, 2018**  
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM  
DINNER AT 6:00 PM  
TICKETS \$15 FOR 2  
CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE

This year Games Night is the day before Earth Day. In celebration of Earth Day we will 'bee' making mason bee houses to help in encourage the fertilization of fruit and vegetable crops in our neighbourhoods.

Dinner will be chicken wings, salads and of course the traditional Sundaes on Saturday.

Tickets will be available from Sunday, April 8th.



## St. Andrew's Children's Page

**Bible Verse of the Month:** He is not here, he has risen just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay  
Matthew 28:6



### Easter Word Search

See if you can find all of the words listed in the Easter Word Search. The words go 'forward' and 'down' only.

**Celebrate the good news...** The men said to the women who had followed Jesus from Galilee: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen." Luke 24:5

L	E	N	T	K	I	N	G	O	D	C	S	O	N
A	F	T	L	C	O	T	O	P	R	H	S	X	H
M	I	O	F	A	S	T	I	N	G	R	N	T	O
B	T	T	A	S	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E	T
J	H	O	L	Y	L	H	F	A	E	S	R	A	M
E	O	M	S	A	V	I	O	U	R	T	U	S	A
S	R	B	L	T	A	D	R	T	O	F	C	T	R
U	N	R	F	A	T	H	E	R	M	R	I	E	Y
S	S	P	I	R	I	T	V	C	A	I	F	R	R
U	P	A	S	S	O	V	E	R	N	D	I	I	I
P	L	I	V	I	N	G	R	O	S	A	X	O	S
P	A	L	I	V	E	N	B	S	W	Y	I	N	E
E	L	O	R	D	S	I	N	S	C	R	O	W	N
R	E	S	U	R	R	E	C	T	I	O	N	S	M

FATHER  
 SPIRIT  
 HOLY  
 CHRIST  
 CROWN  
 THORNS  
 ROMANS  
 SACRIFICE  
 SINS  
 LIVING  
 TOMB  
 ALIVE  
 LORD  
 GOD  
 CRUCIFIXION  
 SON  
 FOREVER  
 SALVATION  
 SAVIOUR  
 LAMB  
 JESUS  
 EASTER  
 CROSS  
 RESURRECTION  
 MARY  
 FASTING  
 LENT  
 PASSOVER  
 SUPPER  
 RISEN  
 KING