



FAITH WATCH



Eastminster launches 'rock-based' service

Eastminster Presbyterian Church will launch a new service on Easter Sunday that it says is unlike its other services and designed for people 18 to 35 years old.

The service, ekklesia, will be at 5 p.m. at the church, 1958 N. Webb Road.

Courtney Roberts, communications coordinator at the church, said the service will be a "rock-based worship" that incorporates the use of things such as technology and art with the message.

"It's not church as usual," Roberts said.

The service is meant to reach people such as college students and young adults who may not be attending church regularly because the worship service is not their style, Roberts said.

The church decided to launch the service on Easter Sunday, a time when many people who don't regularly attend church come to church.

Ekklesia is meant to be a "come as you are" worship, Roberts said, but the church will not water down its Bible-based message.

"We're not going to compromise the truth in any way," she said.

In addition to offering the different worship style, Roberts said ekklesia will be active in outreach projects.

Countryside church plans service event

Countryside Christian Church will hold a congregation-wide service project April 18-19.

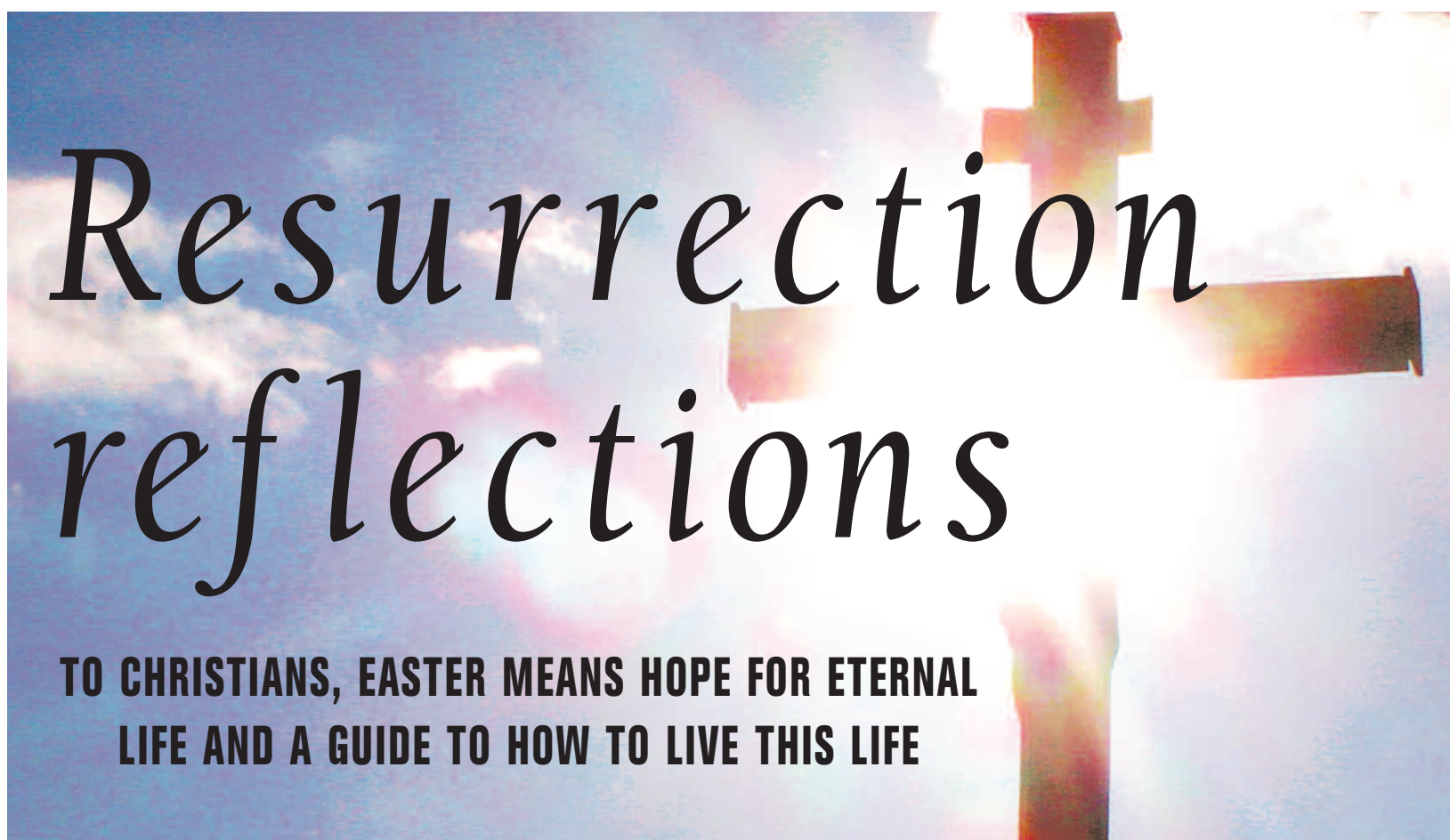
In the project, "The Church Has Left the Building," members of the congregation participate in about 30 community-wide service projects.

Projects include landscaping, baking, playground cleanups and painting.

The church has a goal of getting 500 of its members involved in the projects.

The church is at 1919 S. Rock Road and has a weekend attendance of about 1,000 people.

— Joe Rodriguez



Resurrection reflections

TO CHRISTIANS, EASTER MEANS HOPE FOR ETERNAL LIFE AND A GUIDE TO HOW TO LIVE THIS LIFE



Jaime Oppenheimer/The Wichita Eagle

Robbin Davis said the resurrection of Jesus serves as a guide for her life. "Just knowing that there is an opportunity for forgiveness and an opportunity for eternal life, it is the focal point of who I am."

BY JOE RODRIGUEZ
The Wichita Eagle

Today, several of them share how Jesus' resurrection has affected their lives — both spiritually and outside the church.

Amy Dopps

To talk about the resurrection's impact outside the church, Dopps said, she has to start with her relationship with Jesus.

"Just acknowledgment of who Jesus is as a savior, my acceptance of him as my savior — all of that needs to be in place first," said Dopps, a member of Northside Church of Christ in north Wichita.

With that in place, she said she is then able to understand how much grace God has for her, and Jesus has for her.

"Because of that grace, because of that salvation, I am so grateful," she said. "I then, in turn, am able to give grace to others."



Fernando Salazar/The Wichita Eagle

Amy Dopps, pictured with her son, Trevor, said the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus reminds her of how much grace God and Jesus have for her. "Because of that grace, because of that salvation, I am so grateful. I then, in turn, am able to give grace to others."

Edison Jaimes

The celebration of the resurrection of Jesus is a reminder of his personal journey of faith and why his life is so much better with Christ at the center of it, Jaimes said.

As a teenager, he said he made poor decisions. Once he accepted Jesus as his savior, he said, it made

him more responsible.

"Once I knew the Christian life, and I've read about Christ's messages, that has had an impact on my life in my values and the way I treat people, and see people," said Jaimes, a member of Iglesia Bautista

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SACRED TIMES

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

Sunday April 12

■ **Easter (Christian):** Marking the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead three days after his crucifixion.

■ **Palm Sunday (Orthodox Christian):** The sixth Sunday in Lent and the beginning of the Christian Holy Week before Easter. It marks Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

Friday, April 17

■ **Holy Friday (Orthodox Christian):** The day on which Jesus Christ was traditionally believed to have been crucified.

Source: Religion Newswriters Association

Renewal of indulgences excites young Catholics

■ The rites have been unused for decades.

BY JEFF STRICKLER
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

MINNEAPOLIS — One of the newest things in the Roman Catholic Church is one of the oldest. Middle Ages old, to be exact.

Indulgences are back. Unused for decades, the rites that the faithful believe wipe away punishment for sins are now being offered by 15 churches in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and

Minneapolis that have been designated as pilgrimage sites. While it has taken time to educate parishioners, things are picking up now that Lent is in full swing.

"The first phase involved teaching," said the Rev. Jon Vander Ploeg of the Catholic Church of Saint Paul, a pilgrimage site in Ham Lake. "But now we're getting a very good response."

An exact count isn't available because people seeking indulgences aren't required to check in. They go to a pilgrimage site and recite a set of prayers privately.

Please see **INDULGENCES**, Page 2E



McClatchy-Tribune

The Revs. Andrew Cozzens, left, and John Paul Erickson are the point men for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis in educating parishioners about the traditional indulgences being offered by 15 archdiocese churches.