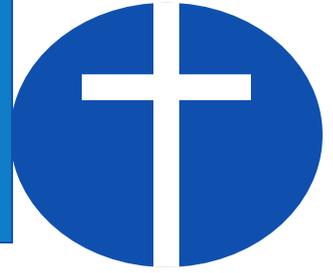


Loco Baptist Church Pastor: Marty Pinion



Loco Baptist Church



Welcome to the Loco Baptist Church newsletter.

If we celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection on Easter then where did the Easter Bunny come from?

Bunnies, eggs, Easter gifts and fluffy, yellow chicks in gardening hats all stem from pagan roots. These tropes were incorporated into the celebration of Easter separately from the Christian tradition of honoring the day Jesus Christ rose from the dead. The origin of the Easter Bunny — can be traced back to 13th-century, pre-Christian Germany, when people worshiped several gods and goddesses. 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. According to History.com, Easter eggs represent Jesus' resurrection. However, this association came much later when Roman Catholicism became the dominant religion in Germany in the 15th century and merged with already ingrained pagan beliefs.

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.

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.

February Trivia Answer: **The Book of Esther**

Upcoming Events

March 6- Spaghetti meal and skating trip (leave @ 1:00pm)

March 20- Meal and Egg Hunt

March 27- Sunrise Service @ 7:00am/Communion/Sunday School with breakfast to follow

Egg Hunt at Ralph and Joyce Martin's House at 3:00pm (arrive early if you are bringing eggs to hide)

EASTER

Easter is much more than dying and hiding eggs and getting candy from the Easter bunny. Easter is the celebration of a Resurrected Savior- Jesus Christ.

According to God's Holy Word, Jesus was crucified on a cruel cross at a place called Golgotha and came back to life, or was raised from the dead, three days after his death on the cross. As part of the Easter season, the death of Jesus Christ by crucifixion is commemorated on Good Friday, always the Friday just before Easter.

Through his death, burial, and resurrection, Jesus paid the penalty for sin, thus purchasing for all who believe in him, eternal life in Jesus Christ.

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

Trivia question: **Who does the Bible say was the meekest man in the Bible (not including Jesus)?**