

Lent:

A Season of Preparation

Holy Cross Herald March 2022

Aiming
our lives toward
Christ!

Proclaiming
Christ crucified!

Reclaiming
lost lives for Christ!

PASTORAL MUSINGS...

Historically it has been tradition in the Lutheran Church to not hold weddings during the season of Lent—and most definitely not during Holy Week! Lent is a time when Christians voluntarily lay aside some of the joyous and happy things of life and focus our attention more closely on the reason and purpose of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection. It is a time of sorrow for sin and for repentance of that sin. That is quite a contrast to the reason and purpose of a wedding! A wedding is a time of great joy and celebration: laughing, singing, dancing, drinking, and making merriment over a man and woman being joined together by God into a very mysterious, yet wonderful, union called marriage. It is a time to celebrate the companionship that marriage brings to a person's life. Thus the Church has seen fit over the years to discourage weddings during the season of Lent.

This Lenten season, however, let's go crazy and break tradition (Oh No! Can we do that? Will we go to hell? Will we be excommunicated?) and focus in on weddings—sort of. We won't have actual weddings each Wednesday night as we gather together for Lenten mid-week worship, but we will look at various Bible passages that use the imagery of wedding celebrations to proclaim the love of Jesus for us and the way of Christian living.

YOU'RE INVITED

TO LENTEN

Wedding Lessons



LENTEN WEDDING LESSONS

March 9 The Wedding at Cana, Part 1 (John 2:1-11)

March 16 The Wedding at Cana, Part 2 (John 2:1-11)

March 23 Parable of The Wedding Banquet (Matthew 22:1-14)

March 30 Parable of The Wise and Foolish Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13)

April 6 The New Jerusalem! (Revelation 21:1-3)

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 2. We will observe Ash Wednesday with the traditional Ash Wednesday lessons and communion. The rest of the Wednesdays we will focus on our Lenten theme. Holy Week will be observed as we always do with Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil. We will burst forth with loud and joyous alleluias on Easter Sunday at 8:30 and 11:00 am. Because of Covid, church council has decided not to have midweek Lenten Dinners or Easter Breakfast this year. All midweek services will be at 7:00

pm except Good Friday Tenebrae which will be at 7:30 pm. Easter Vigil will be Saturday night at 11:00 pm!

I hope and pray that you commit yourselves to gathering each Wednesday evening that we may keep this Lententide together as we grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ as our Savior.

AE

SAVE THE DATE – PASTOR EISINGER'S RETIREMENT DINNER

Please join us on Sunday, July 24th from 1 pm to 5 pm at the Ukrainian Cultural Center as we celebrate Pastor Eisinger's retirement. More information to follow in the upcoming months.



WE ARE THE CHURCH

One of the "interesting" things I have noticed as we go about the call process for our next Pastor is some of our current responses:

- ◆ Let's wait until the next Pastor is here before we take any action as he will lead us.
- ◆ I am going to transfer my membership once Pastor Eisinger retires.

Let's take a look at some scripture verses that talk about our response to God's love for us and what he has asked us to do.

Starting in Genesis chapter 2 verse 19 "Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called the living creature, that was its name." God called man to action. He responded and did as he was asked. No pushing it back to God, no asking God to wait and give this responsibility to someone else in the future.

Let's look at Matthew, chapter 28 verse 19 and 20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Even though Jesus was speaking to the 11 disciples at that time, he is also speaking "the Great Commission" to us. It's not just the Pastor's responsibility to proclaim the Gospel. It's ours as Christians to share the Good News.

Finally Bible passages from 1 Corinthians chapter 12 "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all of the members of the body though many are one body, so it is with Christ." For the body does not consist of one member but of many. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you", nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you". On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, But God has composed the body, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together."

So, what's my point(s)?

- ◆ As the body of Christ, we are all important to the health of his church. There is no task no office that is not important to the success of the church. This also means we need to be active in the church no matter what our age or abilities. From the baby crying in the pew on Saturday night or Sunday morning to those of us who are getting closer to the final call to glory we have a place and purpose at Holy Cross.

- ◆ Are we putting God first? Do we make weekly church attendance, bible class and Sunday School a priority, or do we let secular events take precedence? As, parents do we lead by example and take our family to church regularly and participate in the life of Holy Cross or do we treat it as an occasional event when **it's convenient?**

- ◆ We talk about Covid-19 having impacted our in-person worship. I think we have taken a number of precautions to mitigated the risk and with three services to offer and every other pew taped off there is still plenty of room to worship in fellowship in excess of the 100 to 135 people in church each week. We could easily seat socially distanced 100 members per service.

- ◆ Do we volunteer for positions in the church and such as serving as ushers, tellers, altar guild and other activities that need our service at Holy Cross? Or **do we take the approach that I don't need to do that someone else will take care** of it.

As to my second lead bullet point: It is very disappointing if people transfer their membership because Pastor Eisinger retires. Why would you give up on your **Holy Cross family because the Pastor changes? Don't you value the fellowship and** friendship of the family you have here at Holy Cross? Will you not even give the new Pastor a chance; the one that God places here for our congregation. I think that is unfair to you, your fellow members at Holy Cross and the new Pastor.

It's time to get involved. To put God first and be active in the life of his church here at Holy Cross. There is no time like the present to start, what a great way to kick off Lent!

John Pepperman, Elder Zone 5

NEW HOPE FOOD PANTRY NEWS

We started off the year with an average number of clients. In January we had 19 families, serving 58 people. We gave 3 Bibles and 5 packages of diapers. The pantry is still very well stocked with food. Our Item of the month is juice again, if anyone cares to donate. Please put it by the pantry door. Thank you for your contributions in the past.

Dave Difatta has volunteered to be our new director and will therefore represent New Hope at the church council meetings.

We discussed having an Easter food basket distribution. But tabled it until the next meeting. If we do have one, we will reduce the number of families as there has not been many requests at Easter time in the past.

Please join or visit with us at our next pantry meeting on Saturday, March 5, 2022 at 10:00 am.



UNITED WOMEN'S MINISTRY



LWML NEWS

LWML is celebrating their 80th Anniversary this year. In honor of this we would like to collect 80 items to be donated to Turning Point Shelter in Mt. Clemens. Turning Point provides emergency shelter to women and their children who are victims of domestic violence or sexual assault. Turning Point also provides housing programs; trauma & counseling services, and legal services. Items needed are:

Pajamas or Slippers – All sizes

Sheets: twin, full, queen – new or gently used

Household Items: paper towels, paper plates, cups, plastic silverware, toilet paper or garbage bags (size 13 or 30 gallon).

Donations will be accepted from March 1st through April 17th. You can place the items in the basket in the hallway near the mailboxes. Thank you.

MITE-Y MUFFINS annual sale (free will offering) will be on Saturday, March 5th and Sunday, March 6th. All proceeds will go to fund our Mission Grants. Please help support these grants by purchasing a muffin.



LWML SUBURBAN LIGHTS ZONE SPRING RALLY EVENT will be Saturday, April 2, 2022 at Our Shepherd Lutheran in Birmingham. Our guest speaker is from The Luke Clinic in Detroit. The Luke Clinic is a pro-life, free medical clinic founded to promote the health and well-being for the expectant mother and infants under 12 months of age. It is located at Family of God Lutheran (FOG) church.

Watch the Bulletin for the time of the Event and sign-up information.

LWML MICHIGAN DISTRICT CONVENTION is Thursday, July 7 through Saturday, July 9, 2022 in Frankenmuth. Registration forms will be in the Spring Lutheran Women's Quarterly magazine or you can register online on their website www.lwmlmichigan.org. The Women's Quarterly can be found in the magazine rack on the UWM board.

UNITED WOMEN'S MINISTRY CONTINUED

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY will be Saturday, March 12th. Our Bible study will be on Comfort and Hope based on Jeremiah 29:11-12. Invite a friend and please join us!

EYEGLOSS COLLECTION FOR MOST MINISTRIES

By now you have probably noticed a collection box in the hallway for used eyeglasses. MOST Ministries is one of the groups that the Council of Lutheran Women supports. They do wonderful work providing good usable eyeglasses to people living in the poorest countries in the world, while proclaiming the Gospel message during their fittings. The first collection will be given directly to MOST when we attend the CLW luncheon on March 15. This collection will be ongoing. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

MOST MINISTRIES EYEGLOSS MINISTRY FAQ

What Type of Eyeglasses Does MOST Ministries Accept?

Adult-sized Glasses, Children-sized Glasses, Non-prescription Sunglasses

Why Are Donated Glasses Needed?

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that of the 153 million people worldwide who have poor vision, 138 million or 90% live in African, Asian or Latin American countries. This is because in many of these countries people cannot afford the cost of a simple pair of eyeglasses. Sadly, more than 4 million pairs of eyeglasses are discarded every year in the U.S.

What Would a Pair of Eyeglasses Cost in a Developing Country?

In developing countries, for a family of four who make \$4.00 a day, a pair of eyeglasses can be the equivalent of a year's salary. As a result, large segments of this population live with vision problems which adversely impact their productivity, employability and quality of life.

How Do Donated Glasses Help Others?

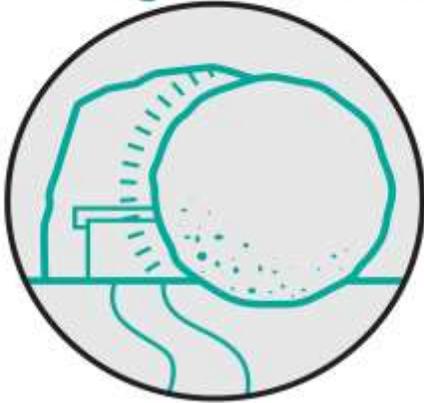
Donated eyeglasses can enable an adult to secure a job and support his or her family; a child to succeed in school; a senior to continue to live an independent lifestyle; a mother or father to see their child's face clearly for the first time, and people to hear the Gospel message while they are being fitted for their glasses.

Where Are The Donated Glasses Sent and How Do They Get There?

After MOST Ministries cleans and recycles the donated eyeglasses, they are sent to some of the poorest countries in the world. Last year, MOST Ministries dispensed more than 10,000 pairs of eyeglasses through its short-term mission teams. In addition, and most importantly, MOST Ministries provides all eyeglass recipients the opportunity to hear the Gospel message while they are being fitted for their glasses.

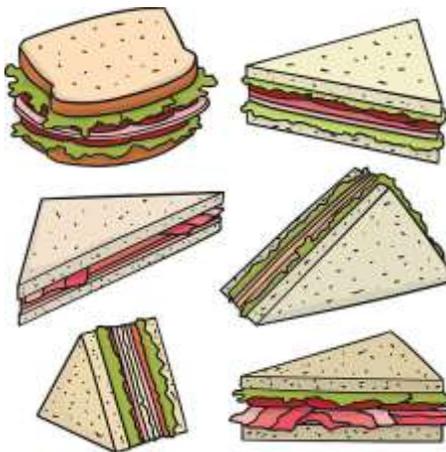
SOME OF THIS AND SOME OF THAT

Looking forward to the EASTER SEASON



Ash Wednesday Worship - March 2, 7:00 pm
Lenten Worship - Wednesday's, 7:00 pm
Holy week beginning with
Palm Sunday Weekend, April 10
Maundy Thursday - April 14, 7:00 pm,
Good Friday - April 15, 11:00 am & 7:30 pm
Holy Saturday - April 16, 11:00 pm,
Easter Celebration - April 17, 8:30 and 11:00 am

FOG (FAMILY OF GOD)



Our thanks to Rev. Hanna's Group for handling the lunch bag project on February 27th with Jenny McCoy making the delivery.

The March Lunch Bag Project is being handled by Gerrie Bufford, Jean Dennis, Mary Kerr, Shirley McClenahan and Maurya Withrow. Gerrie Bufford's daughter, Lisa, will be making the delivery.

Here's a suggestion if you are struggling to get a team together - you could purchase 50 bags of chips or 50 individually wrapped cookies for a team that is handling the rest of the project. Call Roberta to get help in getting started on this.

FROM THE STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY

Lent is fast approaching, and the Lenten Banks may be picked up by the mailboxes on February 26, 27, 2022 or any time after. What we will be using the funds for will be determined later. The turn in for the banks will be forthcoming but make sure you mark your bank with the envelope number or name on masking tape please.
Sharon Adler, Stewardship

MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

IN MEMORY OF JAN KLUMPP

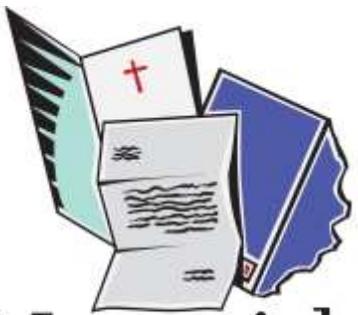
For the General Fund

Heather Haege

IN MEMORY OF BERNICE MEYKA

For New Hope Food Pantry

Susan Kennedy



Memorials & Gifts

IN MEMORY OF FRANK ERDODI

For the General Fund

Dale & Cynthia Lewis

Greg & Pam Debrinsky

Amy Fontana

Kevin & Rachel Kairunas

Anonymous donation

Kim Kendrek

David & Lori Erdodi

Edward & Heidi Lemanski

Chris & Kathy Beutenmiller

Joseph Weintraub & Jill Erdodi

IN MEMORY OF ALVIN ZECKZER

For the General Fund

James & Heidi Drylie

Ladies Guild

Carol Heidenreich

Ron & Joanne Vollbrecht

Marilynn Wright

Denise Schulte

James, Shirley O'Neal & Karen Cann

Benjamin & Christine Castens

Jonathan & Mary Elfert

Deanna Barham

For New Hope Food Pantry

Ed & Jan Danner

IN MEMORY OF PATSY ATKINSON

For the General Fund

Ed & Jan Danner

IN MEMORY OF JACKIE JOHNSON

For the Worship & Music Fund

Ed & Jan Danner

IN HONOR OF ROBERTA HANKA

For New Hope Food Pantry

Doris Swalec

IN MEMORY OF JEAN TIEDEMAN

For the Worship & Music Fund

Ed & Jan Danner

THIS AND THAT

OLDSTERS TO YOUNGSTERS

Jesus and His twelve disciples spent three years traveling back and forth between Galilee and Judea, preaching, teaching, healing, and performing other miracles (walking on the water, feeding 5000, raising to life again a man about to be buried!) throughout the Holy Land. His goal was always to have people believe that He was, indeed, "God in man, made manifest." (LSB hymn 394). He wanted as many people as possible to believe this, and to worship Him as the promised Messiah they had been waiting for. He especially wanted His disciples to be fully convinced of this, because after His Ascension, they would be responsible for spreading the Good News. They had been eye-witnesses to all He did and said! There is no better defense of the truth than eye-witnesses!

That responsibility has been passed down to successive generations, until now it is our turn to share this Good News and prepare future generations to take up this cause; so that the Gospel will continue to be spread until Christ comes again to take all who believe in Him to live with Him in heaven.

Guide and direct us as we seek to do Your will. Bless the seeds we plant in the children with the mailings we send.



UPDATED DIRECTORIES

The updated directories have been placed in your mailbox. If you did not receive one or need an additional copy, please contact the church office. Thank you!





As sweet as honey



Honey is both a sweetener and a medicine.
How can our words be used in the same ways?



Directions: Use the hexagon key to fill in the missing vowels and complete Proverbs 16:24, NIV.



Gr c s w r d s
 r h n c m b,
 s w t t th s
 n d h l n g
 t th b n s.



PROVERBS 16:24, NIV

Answer: Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. Proverbs 16:24, NIV



Nicole Haase	3/2
Roberta Hanka	3/3
Carol Heidenreich	3/3
Janet Cook	3/4
Sally Justice	3/4
Allison Nowakowski	3/7
Laurel Clemons	3/10
Anelise Wilson	3/10
Marc Honold	3/11
Donald Meyer	3/11
Steven Gentz	3/13
Kathy Green	3/17
Pat Crilley	3/18
Mike Yusko	3/21
Wendy Hobert	3/22
Carol Czerwienski	3/26
Brian Leithead	3/27
Glen Schwartz	3/28
Harry Bomers	3/30

Barb Ugo
 Mae Ristau
 Lotte Weber
 Dolly Ferries
 Harry Roberts
 Donna Marshall
 Peggy Majeske
 Shirley Tallman
 Ken Sobocinski
 Shirley Pontious
 Margaret Green
 Linda Troppman
 Marylou Schmidt
 Siegfried Tyburski
 Vern & Ruth Parker
 Jim & Evelyn Cantwell



COUPLE

DATE

YEARS

Jeff & Wendy Hobert
 Ed & Jan Danner

3/14/1998
 3/30/1985

24
 37



You do not want to be late for church on Sunday, March 13. So don't forget to set your clocks ahead before you go to bed on Saturday, March 12.

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NEW HOPE FOOD PANTRY
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Mark Coon, Vice-President
John Pepperman, Treasurer
Denise Vandenberghe,
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Linda Conger, Council Secretary

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JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

SATURDAY MERITAGE - 5:30 PM

SUNDAY - 8:30 AND 11:00 AM
Bible Class - 9:45 am

LENTEN WORSHIP - 7:00 pm

