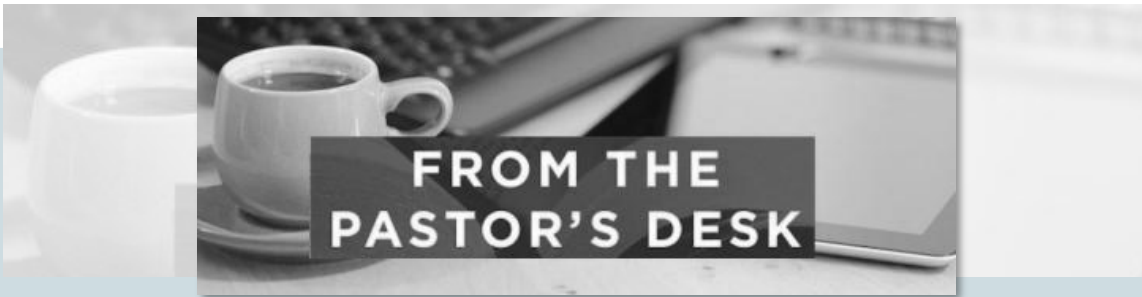


Holy Crossings

Newsletter

MARCH 2024



▶ LENTEN REFLECTIONS

By the time you read this article you may be aware of the fact that Ash Wednesday is past and the Lenten journey has already begun. The 40 days of Lent are slowly ticking by. The remorse over sin brought on by stark message of repentance may even be taking a back seat in your life as you journey ever closer to the warmth and business of Spring cleaning and the thoughts of Spring break and summer vacations or gardening. You may have also relinquished the Lenten commitment to change (give up or add) something to your life during Lent that you so wanted to do this year. But this is nothing new to most of us, that happened in January already with our New Year's resolutions going up in smoke. If I have aroused your conscience to at least consider the question of "where is your desire and commitment to have a living and filled relationship with Jesus?" and you find yourself wanting, then maybe you have reached the same point as the multitudes did after they listened to John the Baptist. They faced their failure and asked, "What shall we do then?"

The setting is what we find in the Gospel of Luke where he records in the 3rd chapter that in the 15th year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar John the Baptist came from the wilderness and preached the gospel of repentance in the regions of the Jordan and baptized the multitude. He warned them who came in great number that mere symbolic washing would not wash away their sins, unless

they bear the fruits of repentance. People in turn asked him: "What shall we do then?" (Luke 3:10)

This confrontation with their failure to follow God's intent for their lives was contagious. Two more groups of people repeated the same question to the Baptist. "Then the Tax collectors also came to the Baptist and said to him, Teacher what shall we do?" (Luke 3:12). And then "Likewise the soldiers asked him saying, . "And what shall we do?" (Luke 3:14) During the period of apostles, two more groups asked the same question to St Peter and St. Paul. "Now when they heard this, they were cut to the hearts, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, . "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" (Acts. 2:37) later "And he called for a light, ran in and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. And he brought them out and said, Sirs what must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16: 29, 30)

All these are the outcry of the disturbed minds, fearing souls, broken and contrite hearts with sense of guilt and sin that was heard two thousand years ago. But now this kind of cry is seldom heard. Devotions and sermons are in abundance, exhortations are close to the ears, conventions are competitive, and pulpits are live with theology; yet the cry of the broken heart is not to be heard today. The concept of sin consciousness is overtaken by superfluous spirituality and confession has become a ritual formality.

(continued on next page)

FROM THE PASTOR *(continued)*

When Jesus said, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first?" (John 8:7), one by one all dispersed. But if the command is repeated today, all will take the stone to throw. Not because all are sinless and not associated with that woman and her sin, but, all want to show their wives, their children, their parents and their community that they are sinless, hiding their sins.

When Nathan pointed to David, "You are the man?", David repented and said, "I have sinned against the Lord?" (II Sam.12:7,13) and created the heart tearing Psalm 51 of repentance for all the generation to come; but the generation that recites it today is doing only a lips exercise, void of actual repentance. Oh, how I pray that the call "What then shall we do?" could be heard across our country and even hear in our pews.

When Cain stood before the Lord after killing his brother Abel, he said, "My punishment is greater than I can bear" (Gen.3: 12) and thus became the first repentant of the Bible characters. God set the mark of salvation on him and set him free of any vengeance. But today, having received the seal of salvation by Holy Baptism, many live in sin, without repentance and consciousness of sin. This grieves the Holy Spirit of the Lord even though we have been told "Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption?" (Eph. 4:30)

For that process of making His bride fit in character, takes place throughout the entire time from the time of the regeneration work of the Holy Spirit to the time of the great wedding feast, it is one constant working of purification, one constant work of making us fit in character. It is a constant coming to the knowledge of the blessed image of Christ. Therefore, beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, let us submit ourselves to God for the Holy Spirit to strengthen us to ask in spirit, "What shall we do then?"

CHURCH COUNCIL

The next Church Council meeting will be **Monday night, March 11th, at 7:00 pm.** All members of the boards are invited and encouraged to attend these meetings.



2024 LENTEN SERIES

Amos – Restore the Roar!

This year's Lenten theme is called "**Amos: Restore the Roar!**" The sermons and some of the elements of our worship services will be adapted from material prepared by Dr. Reed Lessing of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and author of a recent commentary on the book of the prophet Amos (published by CPH).



Why "Restore the Roar?" Amos 3:8 says,

"The lion has roared; who will not fear? The Lord GOD has spoken; who can but prophesy?" The temptation is to put our hands over our ears to drown out Lion Yahweh's roar. The world, the devil, and our old Adam continue to urge us to clip the claws on the Lion and clean up His bloody Passion we are called to follow. This Lenten sermon series dares to let the Lion out of His cage to roam, roar, redeem, and restore. This Lenten theme will enable us to dig deeply into this minor prophet who has a major message for the church. So plan to come and learn again that the Lion of the Tribe of Judah has triumphed!

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| March 6 | Midweek 3 (6:1-7)
"Grieving for Joseph" |
| March 13 | Midweek 4 (7:1-6)
"Locusts Here, Locusts There,
Locusts Are Everywhere!" |
| March 20 | Midweek 5 (7:10-17)
"Lion Alert!" |
| March 28 | Maundy Thursday (8:11-14)
"The Taste Test" |
| March 29 | Good Friday (9:1-6)
"Buried!" |
| March 31 | Easter (9:11-15)
"Come to the Feast!" |

COMING SOON!

Youth group will be selling Easter flowers to decorate the church for Easter service. More details to come!



WHEN CHRISTIANS SIN



When we are baptized for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38), in order to be saved (Mark 16:16), God takes away every sin we have ever committed (Acts 22:16). He wipes our slate clean (1 Corinthians 6:11). He gives us a new beginning and we are born again (John 3:3,5) and we are raised to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:3-4).

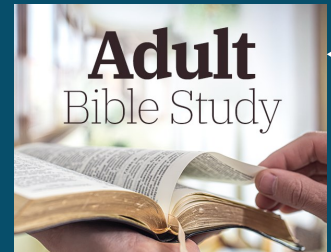
But after we have been baptized and God has taken away all of our sins, what do we do when we commit other sins? How do we get forgiveness of these sins? For the answer to this let us look at the Epistle of First John. First John was written to Christians who had been baptized for the forgiveness of their sins, just as you and I have been.

1 John 1:7 says, "But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." Here this verse says we must be doing two things so that the blood of Jesus Christ will continue to cleanse us of all our sins. 1) We must "walk in the light", that is we must be following God's word in the Bible. 2) Also must "have fellowship one with another", that is we must be regularly worshipping God in His church and working with other Christians. The original Greek word that is translated "cleanses" in this verse means that there is a continual cleansing going on. Herein lies the problem with those who have become unfaithful in their worship. Because they are not having fellowship one with another, they are not longer receiving forgiveness of their sins.

Then we continue to read the next verse 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." We must repent and ask God to forgive us, and He will. When we stand before the Lord on Judgment Day we will have no sins and we will go to Heaven. This is very comforting to know that we are being continually cleansed.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Now 50 years ago, Seminex (Concordia Seminary in Exile) occurred but what was it all about. We will examine the disagreements over Theology and church



politics that led to the dismissal of 45 of the 50 faculty members and more than 200 congregations and 100,000 members to leave the LCMS. It was interesting and important times in the church and unless we learn from history the dangers that arose between Fundamentalist and Modernist ideologies it may happen again!

TUESDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us every Tuesday (Women are welcome!) from 8-9:00 am. We will not be meeting on March 5th. We will finish the last chapters of Revelation on March 12th, and begin a new study, yet to be determined on March 19th.

SPECIAL VOTER'S MEETING

We will be having a special Voter's meeting on **Sunday, March 3rd, at 12:00 p.m.** (noon) at church. The

**SPECIAL
MEETING
NOTICE**

reason for the meeting is to vote on extending a call. We will serve a light lunch ahead of the meeting, starting at 11:30 a.m.

The Pastor the Call Committee is bringing forward as a recommendation is Pastor Benjamin Francisco, currently serving at Faith Lutheran Church in York, Nebraska. Please contact Mike Hentges (mhentges@comcast.net, 612-718-2543) if you have any questions on the Call, or the meeting. Please keep the church in your prayers as we seek God's will in the calling of our next Pastor.

EASTER CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Following our Easter service we will enjoy an "expanded" selection of coffee treats. A special sign-up is on the board. We're looking for a variety of items, i.e. cinnamon rolls, muffins, coffee cake, donuts/sweet rolls, mini-bagels, cream cheese, fresh fruit, etc. With a nice variety, quantities need only be a dozen or two. We know people may not be able to stay for long due to Easter gatherings but take a moment to grab coffee and a goodie!



The next Voters' Meeting will be held on **April 28th at 10:15 am.**



WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS

Worship For Shut-Ins is a 30 min television service that is distinctly Lutheran. It is a



traditional weekly service that includes the assigned readings for the day, the Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, sermon, and traditional hymns sung by choirs. The messages, shared by Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod pastors, are designed for individuals who do not go to church because they are not able or choose not. You can view this program on DIRECTV channel 377 at 10:30 am, or you can go to their website at www.worshipforshutins.org.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Melvin Fulbert March 5
- Vicki Case March 6
- Michele Lein March 6
- Chloe Peterman March 14
- Faith Sumpter March 17
- Cora Lein March 23
- Nivin Fulbert March 28
- Daniel Lein March 29



MARCH

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

MARCH 3 - Lent 3

"John's Club Sandwich"	John 2:13-22
Exodus 20:1-17	Psalms 19
1 Corinthians 1:18-31	John 2:13-22 (23-25)

MARCH 6 - Midweek 4 (7 pm)

"Grieving for Joseph" Amos 6:1-7

MARCH 10 - Lent 4

"The Defining Moment of God's Love"	John 3:16-17
Numbers 21:4-9	Psalms 107:109
Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21

MARCH 13 - Midweek 5 (7 pm)

"Locusts Here, Locusts There, Locusts..." Amos 7:1-6

MARCH 17 - Lent 5

"Blindness of a different sort"	Mark 10:32-45
Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalms 119:9-16
Hebrews. 5:1-10	Mark 10:32-45

MARCH 20 - Midweek 6 (7 pm)

"Lion Alert!" Amos 7:10-17

MARCH 24 - Palm Sunday

"The Road Less Traveled"	Mark 11:1-11
Zechariah 9:9-12	Psalms 118:19-2;
Philippians 2:5-11	Mark 14:1-15:47

MARCH 28 - Maundy Thursday (7 pm)

"The Taste Test"	Amos 8:11-14
Exodus 24:3-11	Psalms 116:12-19
1 Corinthians 10:16-7	Mark 14:12-26

MARCH 29 - Good Friday (7 pm) Service of Tenebrae

"Buried!"	Amos 9:1-6
Isaiah 52:13-53	Psalms 22:12;
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9	John 18:1-19:42

MARCH 31 - The Resurrection of Our Lord

"Come to the Feast!"	Amos 9:11-15
Isaiah 25:6-9	Psalms 16
1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Mark 16:1-8

IS EASTER IMPORTANT?

The 15th chapter of 1 Corinthians, has been called the Resurrection Chapter. Obviously this is because St. Paul writes about the resurrection. Here are his words:

12–15 Now, let me ask you something profound yet troubling. If you became believers because you trusted the proclamation that Christ is alive, risen from the dead, how can you let people say that there is no such thing as a resurrection?

If there's no resurrection, there's no living Christ. And let's face it — if there's no resurrection for Christ, everything we've told you is smoke and mirrors, and everything you've staked your life on is smoke and mirrors. Not only that, but **we would be guilty of telling a string of barefaced lies about God.** All these affidavits we passed on to you verifying that God raised up Christ — were sheer fabrications, if there's no resurrection.

16–20 If corpses can't be raised, then Christ wasn't, because He was indeed dead. **And if Christ weren't raised, then all you're doing is wandering about in the dark,** as lost as ever. It's even worse for those who died hoping in Christ and resurrection, because they're already in their graves. If all we get out of Christ is a little inspiration for a few short years, we're a pretty sorry lot. **But the truth is that Christ has been raised up,** the first in a long legacy of those who are going to leave the cemeteries."

Paul is referring to the situation of his day where the Jews had two different views of death. One belief was that there was life beyond the grave and a resurrection. The other group believed that when life ended here on earth, that was the end! (It was good enough for them just to walk on earth with God with no thought of what might be beyond death.) After her brother's death,

Jesus' friend Martha said **"I know my brother will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."** She sided with the first group. Jesus went on to add: **"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"** Martha responded: **"Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."**

We too live in a world where many people do not believe in the resurrection of the dead. St. Paul reminds us that if Jesus had not been raised from the dead, if there had been no resurrection — we would be wasting our time going to church and believing everything else. Why? The resurrection is the lynchpin of our faith. No resurrection, no faith. It's just that simple.

The resurrection is the lynchpin of our faith.

The resurrection is God's proof that everything else is true. We can trust His Word. St. Paul does a wonderful job of joining Good Friday and Easter with our baptism. In Romans 6:3–4 he writes: ³**"Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? ⁴For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives."** Because of what Jesus did for each of us, and because of our baptisms, we have each had a mini death and resurrection experience. We need not fear the future because we have had a taste of it.

**Is Easter important? Absolutely!
We are betting all eternity on it.**

A most blessed Easter

ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS!



Thrivent Choice "Choice Dollars" is a program to give Thrivent funds to organizations, including Holy Cross. There is money set aside for each Thrivent insurance customer. It is strictly Thrivent dollars and has no effect on the insurance holders finances or their tax itemized deductions. The money is given when a Thrivent member (including non-members of Holy Cross), calls 1-800-847-4836

asks for "Thrivent Choice"; dial 1 to Direct Choice Dollars, or dial 0 to get Customer Service tell them to give your "Choice Dollars" to Holy Cross Lutheran Church at 14085 Pike Lake Trail, Prior Lake, MN. The money is direct-deposited from Thrivent to Holy Cross' bank account. **Eligible clients have until March 31 of the following year to direct Choice Dollars® they are designated.** If the Choice Dollars® haven't been directed by then they are lost for that year. **If you are a Thrivent Member and you have not talked with them about this program please give them a call.**

2 MINUTE MULTIPLIER

FIVE TWO

A WEEKDAY 2-MINUTE DEVOTION THAT HELPS YOU SEE JESUS AT WORK IN YOUR WORLD

Accidentally

It was a wonderful mistake.

"I was looking for your address in my phone. I didn't mean to call you," said my friend and former co-worker on the other end. We've known each other for over a decade. He served on our staff for over half that time. Has since moved fully into retirement.

The accidental surprise was too good to pass up. Sat down. Put my feet up. Proceeded to get the status of prayers we prayed together for months if not years.

My kids. His kids. Wife's health. Travel plans. The status of rebuilding the deck 14' off the ground. Simply a fantastic time to hear a familiar voice and learn what God's up to across state-lines.

Whom would you like to accidentally call you? Who would like you to accidentally call them?

The list is probably longer than you can consider. Some of the best accidents wouldn't even come to mind. Buried so deep in your relationship rolodex. Imagine how many people are stored there. Enough if laid end to end they'd connect Austin to Atlanta? For sure.

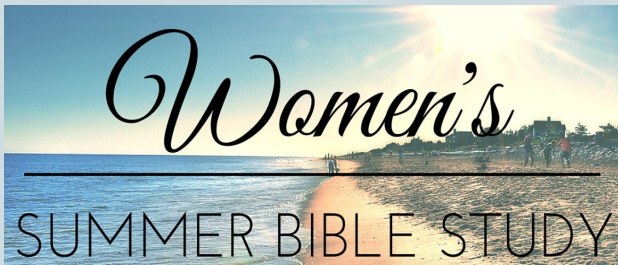
God gave you wonderful people to share life and love. Struggles and sadness. Laughter and lounging. People who sincerely want good for you. Who love you as you are. Reach out to one today. Simply call to check in.

No accident needed.

Rev. Bill Woolsey
President and Founder
FiveTwo Network

Sign up to receive the *2 Minute Multiplier* emailed to you! www.fivetwo.com/2mm

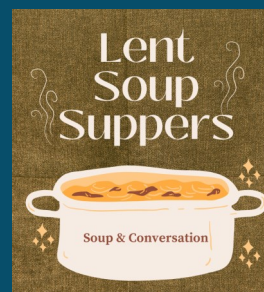
SUMMER WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Join us for the Summer Women's Bible Study on Ecclesiastes. Solomon shares a very human perspective on life in Ecclesiastes that matches our own frustrations with the world and our lives, and things that may seem meaningless. Join us for our women's study this summer on this great and unique book of the Old Testament that gives us much hope amid despair.

The dates are June 12, 19, 26 and July 10, 17, and 24. We will be meeting on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm. Invite your friends, family and neighbors. Watch for sign up and more information coming. Questions contact Michele Lein.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS



Lenten soup suppers are at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays through March 20th. Sign up sheets are available in the commons area. Join us for this fellowship opportunity and get to know each other a little better!

MAIN STREET LIVING

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9 am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of This Is the Life. For more information www.mainstreetliving.com/twincities



LCMS STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY – MARCH 2024

Cherish What God Has Given

In the Small Catechism, Luther follows a pattern when explaining the Ten Commandments. With each commandment, there is something prohibited, and something commanded. There is something wrong which must be avoided, and there is something right which must be done.

The one time this pattern is not followed is with the Sixth Commandment.

“You shall not commit adultery. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other” (SC I).

Here, the catechism focuses solely on the positive: we should live in a chaste and decent manner in both word and deed, and husbands and wives should cherish and honor one another.

Keeping this commandment, and all of the commandments, is a lot easier if you see your chastity and your spouse as a gift from God that is to be protected and cherished. In the same way, you will find keeping the Fourth Commandment easier if you see your parents and other authorities as a gift from God, given to you for your blessing.

This is the key stewardship insight that runs through all of the Christian life: Everything that we have has been given to us by God. We deserve none of it. All of it comes to us by God’s fatherly kindness and open-handed generosity. If I know that everything I have — every possession, every relationship, every ability — is a gift from God, then my perspective changes. All of these things are both gifts to be cherished, and things that I should direct towards God’s purposes. My possessions should be shared generously according to how God has called me in my family, church and community. My spouse should be cherished, loved and encouraged in faith. My children are on loan from my own Heavenly Father, and I have but a brief time to show them the path of righteousness. My neighbor is a gift from God so that I can imitate His kindness toward me.

No matter the gift, everything has been given to me by God so that I may participate in His own goodness and open-handed generosity.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry
lcms.org/stewardship

COFFEE SERVERS

- March 3 Mike & Kris Hentges
- March 10 Wendy Fitzwater & Joyce Drenckhahn
- March 17 Jason & Kelly Kruse
- March 24 Robert & Bonnie Nowak
- March 31 Norma & Evelyn Jabs

If you are not able to serve on your assigned day, please find an alternate to fill in, and make the notation on the serving list on the bulletin board. Thanks!



NEWSLETTER REMINDER!

Reminder to get you newsletter additions in to Megan by the 15th of each month. **We’d love to have some new ideas, articles, anything you find relevant to add to the Newsletter!**



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME



Daylight savings time begins on **Sunday, March 10th** at 2am. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour!

LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION

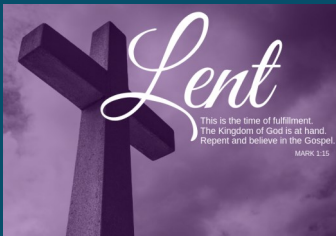
SPRING EVENT—SAVE THE DATE! Join us as we come together on **Saturday, April 6th**, 9:00 am registration, program 9:30 am at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Bloomington. Enjoy fellowship, learn about the work of Lutheran Bible Translators in Papua New Guinea (PNG) by speaker Michelle Gillard, new program assistant for PNG. We'll enjoy a catered lunch. Tickets are \$10. The Gifts from the Heart will be items

for Orphan Grain Train, a Christian volunteer network that ships donated food, clothing, medical supplies, etc. to people

worldwide. A list of needs will be posted as well as a sign-up. More information will be shared in the Happenings.



FAST FACTS ABOUT LENT



⇒ Lent is a 40 day Christian festival beginning Ash Wednesday and concluding on Easter (Sundays are not counted) What we now call Lent was originally

a period of fasting and study for catechumens who were to be baptized on the Saturday before Easter. The 40 day fast was said by Athanasius in 339 AD to be celebrated the world over. The 40 day fast of Jesus in the wilderness was responsible for the number 40 being chosen.

- ⇒ The word "**Lent**" comes from the old Anglo-Saxon word **lengten**, which means "**springtime**," named so for the time of the year in which it occurs. As someone has said: "Lent is the Church's springtime. Out of the darkness of sin's winter emerges a people the Church--reborn through baptism into their Lord's death and resurrection from the grave."
- ⇒ The purpose of this extended fast was to practice self-denial and humility. This was to prepare oneself for receiving God's grace and forgiveness in baptism, given on Easter Saturday.
- ⇒ The liturgical color for Lent is purple, the color of repentance and sorrow for sin.
- ⇒ Lent prepares us for the observance of Jesus Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection for us. It is a season of repentance and sorrow for sin. Lent is a time of self-examination in light of the Ten Commandments; it is a time of giving up of sinful behavior, a time of personal housecleaning. It is a time of commitment to the new life of Christ begun in baptism. It is a time of disciplined study of Scripture and a time of growing in faith. In recent years Lent has become a time to remember our baptisms. It is a time to reflect on the impact of baptism on our lives, and to ask ourselves how we are doing. Most of all, it is a time of renewal and new beginnings, as we through faith apply the complete

forgiveness won by Christ's death to our lives. Lent heightens our awareness that we desperately need Jesus Christ.

- ⇒ Lent is an opportunity not an obligation. It is not commanded by our Lord, nor is it even mentioned in the Bible. Those Christians who observe it do so because they find it a helpful opportunity for repentance and renewal, for the strengthening of their faith. Christians are free to observe or not observe Lent.
- ⇒ Ashes are applied to the forehead of Christians in the sign of the cross (throughout the Middle Ages ashes were sprinkled on the head) as a symbol of humility and repentance. The ashes are a reminder that we are "**dust and to dust you shall return**" (Genesis 3:19). Thus, they are a reminder of our mortality cursed as it is by sin. Moreover, the ashes remind us of our limits, of what we are, and how greatly we need God's mercy in Christ.
- ⇒ Let it be new, in that instead of "giving up" something, we should do something positive and practical and helpful for someone else. One Church suggests that during the first week parishioners express love for someone; in the second week, to write a letter of appreciation; in the third, to make a special phone call. In the fourth they are asked to send flowers, a book, or baked goods to someone new; in the fifth, pray for someone by name; and in the final week attend worship with someone outside their usual range of friendships.

Let's try it! We might enjoy it! Doing these things for other people is an expression of practical Christianity. Don't worry about being called a "do-gooder". The alternatives of being a "do-badder", or doing nothing, are worse. We still remember the deep spiritual disciplines of discipleship, always aware of the self-denial and suffering of our blessed Lord Jesus. We shall be serious, but not sad;.... reverent, but not ultra-pious;.... solemn, but not depressed.

▶ THE LUTHERAN HOUR



The Lutheran Hour can be heard each Sunday on WCCO (830 AM) at 6:05 am. And it can be streamed online too, www.lhm.org. Check-out LHM's daily devotions too.

MARCH 3

"Included in Such Company"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
The more you listen to the life of Jesus, the more you admire Him and the more grateful you are to be included in His company. (Mark 10:43-45)

MARCH 10

"All Bets Are Off"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Jesus engages his opponents in a battle of wits and wins—for us. (Mark 11)

MARCH 17

"The Strangest Request"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe
God promised to make Abraham the father of many nations through the gift of a son named Isaac. But then God asked Abraham to return that gift in a most shocking way. (Genesis 22:1-14)

MARCH 24

"Repurposed Joy and Junk"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
There are artists who can take old junk and turn it into something new and beautiful. Dr. Michael Zeigler tells how Jesus repurposes both the junk and the joy in our lives. (Mark 14:6)

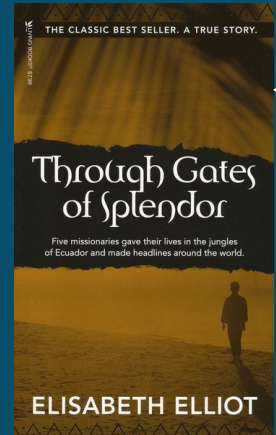
MARCH 31

"Eucatastrophe"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
(Mark 16:6-7)

BIBLE BOOKENDERS

Our next meeting will be **April 23, 2024** at 7pm. We will be reading "**Through Gates of Splendor**" by Elisabeth Elliot. This is a past book we have read. Feel free to re-read it or read any of her other works. She has written many books. We also have three different autobiographies on her that we can read and share from. Invite your friends to join us,



all are welcome, men, women and teenagers. If you have any questions, please ask Bonnie Nowak, Patricia Harvey or Michele Lein. Mark your calendars for these other Bible Bookenders dates:

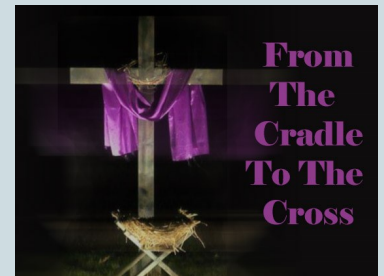
July 23, 2024 "The Great Divorce" by CS Lewis. We will be discussing this book and touch on other works of C. S. Lewis as well.

October 23, 2024 "The Hiding Place" by Corrie ten Boom. This is also a selection we have read. Feel free to reread or read a newer book called "**The Watchmakers Daughter**" by Larry Loftis.

January 21, 2025 "Shepherd's Abiding" for the 30th Anniversary of the release of Jan Karon books. (The Mitford Series)

▶ FROM THE CRADLE TO THE CROSS

A promise kept! And how thankful we are. Our **Women's Tea Event**, "FROM the CRADLE to the CROSS" will be held **Saturday, March 9, 2024 at 11:30 am.**

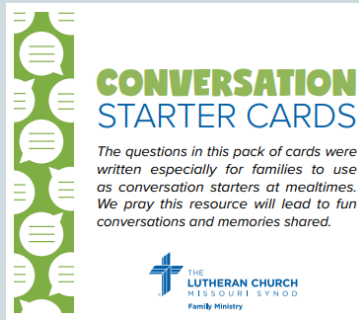


Come and gather for fellowship, a delicious lunch - think finger sandwiches, scones, sweets and tea! We will be exploring Christ's journey from the Cradle to the Cross. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Commons. Questions, contact Pam Hunter.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

Who's your best friend? What is your favorite Bible verse? What do you think it means to have courage?

These questions and more, written especially for families to use as conversation starters at mealtimes.



This pack of cards is meant to accompany your family at the breakfast, lunch or dinner table to add some excitement to your normal mealtime conversations and "mix up" the kinds of things your family talks about with one another.

Martin Luther and his family understood well the importance of welcoming others into their home for lively conversation around a shared meal at the table. Some of these conversations were even recorded by hand and compiled into a collection of writings that are now known as Luther's Table Talk.

LCMS Family Ministry hopes these resources will help your family continue this tradition of good and lively conversation at the dinner table.

Download the conversation cards [here](#). We recommend printing these single-sided on cardstock.

Happenings

Please submit all articles for the Happenings by Wednesdays at 10 am! We also need some new and fresh content for the Happenings, so if you have any great ideas, please send them over to megan@holycross-pl.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS



- March 5** Elder's Meeting
- March 6** Lent Worship
- March 11** Church Council Meeting
- March 13** Lent Worship
- March 20** Lent Worship
- March 28** Maundy Thursday
- March 29** Good Friday
- March 31** Easter
- April 2** Elder's Meeting
- April 6** Lutheran Women in Mission Spring Event
- April 8** Church Council Meeting
- April 23** Bible Bookenders
- April 28** Voters' Meeting

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request on Sunday, please fill out the form in the pew and put it in the offering plate. Pastor will include them in Prayer of the Church during the service. You can also email weekly prayer requests, and any prayers that should go out to the whole congregation, to megan@holycross-pl.org.

TIME OF GRACE

Straight talk about God's Word and real hope for this life. A strong gospel message delivered in an informal Bible study style.

Subscribe to **Time of Grace** (www.timeofgrace.org) resources to be delivered to your email inbox daily. You will receive daily devotion emails with "Grace Moments" written devotions and "Grace Talks" video devotions.

Pastor Mike Novotny

The Core, Appleton, WI • KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 am



2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
3rd Sunday in Lent 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Bible Study 10:15 am Sunday School 3	4	8:00 am Adult Bible Study 4:00 pm Confirmation 5	10:00 am Happenings Articles Due 6:00 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday 8:00 pm Choir Practice 6	7	1	11:30 am Women's Tea Event 2
4th Sunday in Lent 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Bible Study 10:15 am Sunday School 10	7:00 pm Church Council 11	8:00 am Adult Bible Study 4:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Elder's Meeting 12	10:00 am Happenings Articles Due 6:00 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday 8:00 pm Choir Practice 13	14	10:00 am Newsletter Articles Due 15	16
5th Sunday in Lent 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Bible Study 10:15 am Sunday School 17	18	8:00 am Adult Bible Study 4:00 pm Confirmation 19	10:00 am Happenings Articles Due 6:00 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Lent Worship 8:00 pm Choir Practice 20	21	22	23
Palm Sunday 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Bible Study 10:15 am Sunday School 24	25	8:00 am Adult Bible Study 4:00 pm Confirmation 26	10:00 am Happenings Articles Due 8:00 pm Choir Practice 27	7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship 28	7:00 pm Good Friday Worship 29	30
Easter 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Bible Study 10:15 am Sunday School 31						