

THE CHRONICLES

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

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February 2018

February 14th is Ash Wednesday and April 1st is Easter which means that we are about to begin the Lenten journey. Running from Ash Wednesday through Easter Eve the season of Lent is also known as the forty days of Lent. Actually, it is forty-six days long, but the six Sunday's are not counted as part of Lent. Every Sunday is to be a celebration of the resurrection, even during the somber season of Lent. The modern term "Lent" comes from an old Anglo Saxon term "Lenten-tide" which describes the time of year when the days are getting longer.

In the early church, Lent was a time of preparation for baptism. Candidates for baptism were required to take part in a form of fasting for the forty days before Easter. At Easter they were baptized into the Christian faith. Today, Lent is a time of reaffirming baptismal vows. It is a time for growing in the Christian faith. It is a time for prayer. It is a time for reflection and repentance. It is a time for renewal and self-discipline.

We are spending this year on strengthening and/or tightening our core. Our spiritual core is that deep down part of us that knows and depends on God's love for us. Our spiritual core believes and trusts that God will hold our skin on us when the world around us is falling apart.

Studies show that new practices or habits often take up to two months to become a natural part of who we are or what we do. Lent becomes a great springboard to try out a new practice. We are not all cut out for the same practices but here are some possibilities.

- Week One: Read the entire Gospel of Mark.
- Week Two: Pick out three people in the congregation or your neighborhood whom you don't feel you know very well. Pray for them, call them, meet them for coffee, or write them a note.
- Week Three: Take fifteen minutes each morning for devotions, reading, praying and listening to God.
- Week Four: Visit someone who could use your care and support.
- Week Five: Tithe your total income for the week. Bring it to worship on Palm Sunday.
- Week Six: Fast one day during Holy Week. Give the amount the meals would have cost to the ELCA World Hunger or the Crisis Bread Basket.

May the discipline of Lent lead you into deeper joy as you continue your daily walk with Christ.

In Christ,
Pastor Becky



Shrove Tuesday – Mardi Gras – Fat Tuesday

Whichever name you want to use **PANCAKES** are on the menu. Plan to come to church on Tues. Feb. 13th between 5:30 and 6:30, bring your family, friends, neighbors and let's make it the LCR Mardi Gras feast.

February Birthdays



8 Vincent Gordin
 15 Nicolas Merkord
 23 Benjamin Raska
 24 Lynn Burttschell
 29 Pat Ehrhart

Wednesdays in Lent

Ash Wednesday – Feb. 14

7:00 Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

Wednesday Schedule

6:15 Soup and Sandwich

7:00 Radio-Themed Worship Skit

- Feb. 21 “Avocado Go Go”
- Feb. 28 “Caught in Traffic”
- Mar. 7 “Frankie, Francis ... Whatever”
- Mar. 14 “Bob and Eric”
- Mar. 21 “Bad News, What News ...”

February Anniversaries



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15 Lynn & Ben Raska

LCR Financial Report

Dec. and Year-To-Date Totals

	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			<u>BUILDING FUND</u>		
	<u>Donations</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Donations</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>%</u>
Dec.	\$12,894	\$8,900	145%	\$850	\$1,445	58.8%
YTD	\$75,682	\$83,700	90.4%	\$14,855	\$17,340	85.7%



Church Business

The quarterly congregational meeting on January 14 was difficult for those of us that were present. Most of us do not like confrontation nor do we go to church to experience confrontation. To clarify a few items that was brought up.

- The decision to disband the council and set aside the constitution in May of 2016 was to follow through on the congregation’s vote to enter Redevelopment at a congregational meeting in August of 2013. Redevelopment opens the possibility to engage in experimenting with structures that best meet the needs of LCR at this point in its life cycle. This type of change opens the doors for some people and creates anxiety for others. The members on council at that time were invited and encouraged to be a part of the leadership teams.
- My commitment to you as a congregation is that all major decisions around structure and finances will be done according to the constitution and your input. One of the on-going challenges has been who gets to make decisions.
- What was described as my being a dictator is my understanding of my call to be a decision maker and leader. Whenever there is an opportunity to connect to the community such as the Flood Lunches and Camp Noah, I have quickly said yes.
- I have worked with the policies and leaders of the congregation when dealing with staffing challenges and the decisions were made together.
- I too, wish we would have a time of fellowship after worship and miss it. If someone would like to be responsible for organizing it, that would be great.

I consider it a privilege to be the pastor of Lutheran Church of the Resurrection and take seriously our work in redevelopment. Change is not easy whether it is technical (how we do things based on past learning/experience) or adaptive (requires new learning, willingness to try different things, experimenting with new ways). Please stay engaged in the conversations and our work of redevelopment. God is not done being served in and through Lutheran Church of the Resurrection.

Stewardship: Faith and Finances



“Remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth.” Deuteronomy 8:18

I came across this spiritual financial checkup in the newsletter from Zion Lutheran, Buffalo, MN written by Mike Davis and pass it on to you. Here are some helpful questions to ask yourself in evaluating your finances, generosity and relationship with the Lord.

- Do you acknowledge God’s blessings and ownership over all you have?
- Have you made a financial decision to honor God by tithing/growing toward tithing (which is 10% or more of your income)?
- Do you pray about financial purchases and ask the Lord for His direction and provisions?
- Have you ever participated in a financial Bible study?
- Are you actively using some of your financial resources to help mission work, relief work or people in need?
- Has the pursuit of financial gain distracted you from being an active part of your church family?

- As a Christian, it is important to your spiritual and financial well-being to make a specific decision to honor the Lord from the income God has provided for you through your employment and other revenue sources.

Honor the Lord with your possessions, And with the first fruits of all your increase; So your barns will be filled with plenty, and you vats will overflow with new wine.” Proverbs 3:9-10

♥ **From Jeanette Nelson**

Thank you to all the members of LCR for the Christmas gift. It is my pleasure (and joy!) to play for you on Sunday mornings. God blesses us in various ways, but we all serve. This is my way of sharing the blessing that has been given to me.



ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

The ELCA Youth Gathering is scheduled for June 27 – July 1st in Houston!! This is too close by to pass up! Details are at www.elca.org/YouthGathering and contact Pastor Becky if you'd like to go or be an adult volunteer.

Book Group

The group is reading *An Echo in the Darkness* by Francine Rivers. The next two meetings will be on Thursday February 15 and Thursday March 1 at 6:30 at Mima's.



Christmas Project



The residents of Upbring New Life Children's Center in Canyon Lake have made Thank You cards for the many Christmas gifts they received from LCR. The cards are sitting above the mailboxes so when you get a chance view them.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Don't forget that Super Bowl Sunday is also **Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday at LCR**. On Feb. 4th we provide food for the hungry in our community by bringing canned or packaged food items and/or making a monetary donation to Crisis Bread Basket. Especially needed are cereals, peanut butter, jelly, coffee and canned goods.



PRAYER SHAWL GROUP



The February meeting of the Prayer Shawl Group has been cancelled. But the group will have its regular meeting next month on Sat. March 10th at 9:30. Anyone who knits or crochets is welcome to attend as is anyone who wants to learn these skills.

ROAD CLEANUP

The next road cleanup is scheduled for the morning of Sat. Feb. 24th. We'll meet in the church parking lot and traverse Route 12 in front of the church and nearby.



February Worship Helpers

Assistant Ministers

4 Autry Burns
11 Lois Hickman
18 Shirley Schliessmann
25 Autry Burns

Acolytes

4 Whitlee Leonard
11 Abigail Burttschell
18 Aiden Boger
25 Savannah Cargill

Readers

4 Tamela Jarvais-Flores
11 Vincent Gordin
18 Mary Rodgers
25 Kay McBrayer

Ushers

4 Al Strobel
11 Danny Hickman/Autry Burns
18 Al Strobel
25 Vincent Gordin/Danny Hickman

Altar Guild

4 Ann Fox
11 Pat Ehrhart
18 Shirley Schliessmann
25 Dianne Kilpatrick

Greeter

4 Arturo Flores
11 Don & Enid Isler
18 Joan Mohr
25 Lynn Raska

Counters

4 Arturo Flores & Tamela Jarvais-Flores
11 Don Isler
18 Shirley Schliessmann
25 Brandon Merkord

Bulletin Folders

4 Kylie
11 Kylie
18 Shirley Schliessmann
25 Enid Isler

Thank you

Thank you to Whitney Cargill for volunteering to chair the Road Cleanup Project. LCR was about to lose the road signage without a volunteer for this project.



Michael Thurman
Estelle Hill
Lill Grant
Kelly Sensat
Marvin Bowen
Father Wade Russell
Tracy Calamari
John Nawrocki
Beverly Pugsley
Sue Vines
Judge Bert Cobb
Brooke Lado
Teresa Cazerta
Becky Bergstrom
Keith Lauderdale
Rob Schultz
Estella

*But for you who revere my name, the
sun of righteousness will rise with
healing in its wings.
Malachi 4:2*