

GIFT of GRACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE NOTES

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 30, 2022

A WORD FROM PT

It is not too late to salvage the observance and discipline of the Lenten Season. As a congregation we got off to an excellent start with a well-attended Ash Wednesday Service. This was followed by a meaningful Prayer Around the Cross Service. Unfortunately, we had to cancel the Midweek Service on March 16 during the 2nd Week of Lent. Last Wednesday, frankly, was minimally attended.

As a handful of participants joined in the Vespers Prayer Service with a Meditation on the First Part of the Small Catechism, the Ten Commandments, it dawned on me that the two previous years we had to forgo the Lenten Midweek Services. In 2020 the Lenten Season

was interrupted by the outbreak of the COVID Pandemic. The following year in 2021 while still exercising some restrictions we provided devotional material for the home in lieu of the Midweek Service. I am afraid we have gotten out of practice.

Of course, changes in the Sunday Divine Service and the Midweek Service offerings are not the only distinctions belonging to the 40 Day Season of Lent. The spiritual disciplines of repentance, fasting, prayer, and acts of love (charity) are also typically intensified. There is also the long-held practice of giving up something for Lent

These exercises do not only

belong to a portion of the year, but the Lenten Season affords a chance to concentrate on the basics. Think of it as annual Spring Training for a game like baseball. As some people are preparing for incorporation in the Church by Baptism at the Easter Vigil, all of us can be renewed in our Baptism. We can concentrate on the fundamentals, so that walking wet in our Baptism can become more natural.

I want to emphasize that it is not too late to join the Spring Training. There is still time to benefit from the emphasis. There are two more midweek services, and the observances of Holy Week. Get on board with the Lenten Journey.

SINCE YOU ASKED...

What is the purpose of the Psalm Reading? And why do we often sing (chant) the Psalm? “The appointed psalm is sung as a meditation on the First Lesson, a response to it, and a bridge to the Second Lesson. ... Hearers of the lessons need a chance to assim-

ilate the First Lesson before the Second Lesson begins. The required use of a psalm between the lessons provides for the restoration of psalm singing to its traditional place in the life of the church and gives the worshiper the opportunity to participate in the singing (or

reading) of a portion of Scripture...” (from “Manual on the Liturgy” companion to the LBW, from Augsburg Pub.)

Chanting can be thought of as “exalted speech”. It sets the speech apart from regular speech and the slower cadence allows for reflection

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 3/29

11am Prayer Gathering

Wednesday, 3/30

7pm Midweek Vespers Service

Friday, 4/1

7am Men's Breakfast
10am Worship at Care Center

Sunday, 4/3 5th Sunday In Lent

8 am Choir Practice
9 am Divine Service of the Word
10:15am Coffee Fellowship
10:45am Confirmation Class

Tuesday, 4/5

11am Prayer Gathering

Wednesday, 4/6

7pm Midweek Vespers Service

KEY ATTRIBUTES OF LCMC & NALC

- Christ-Centered
- Mission-Driven
- Traditionally-Grounded
- Congregationally-Focused

LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)

NALC (North American Lutheran Church) (www.thenalc.org)

THIS AND THAT...

The **Lenten Midweek** services on Wednesdays at 7pm involve the Vespers Prayer Service along with a meditation on the Ten Commandments.

Holy Week is under two weeks away. Look forward to the Psalm/Passion Sunday, the Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday Services all leading up to Easter Sunday.

The **Friday Morning Men's Breakfast Bible Study** gathers every Friday at 7am. Come enjoy a hearty

breakfast, good conversation, and enlightening Bible Study.

The continued **livestreaming** is for those who cannot otherwise attend in person! It is a good outreach tool and a way for shut-ins to connect.

Don't forget non-perishable **Food Donations** for the Food Basket!

Dan and Cyndi Molstad are the cleaners for the week of April 17, and Pr. Tim and

Leslie Duesenberg are scheduled for the week of May 15.

Our **Designated Benevolence** for the month of March is for the NALC.

Invite people 'to come and see' (Jn. 1:39). An invitation remains a most effective tool of evangelizing! You can also invite family, friends, and neighbors to check out the livestreaming of the Divine Service.

GIFT of GRACE

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God. - Eph 2:8

HUMOR DEPARTMENT

Celebrations

Birthdays

Mar 26..... Asher Roll
Mar 26..... Benjamin Roll
Mar 29..... Phyllis Christensen
Mar 29..... Ruth Scholze
Apr 1..... Jarrod Roll
Apr 7..... Janie Uy
Apr 9..... Leslie Duesenberg

Anniversaries

May 3..... J & J Schoonover
May 6..... T & L Duesenberg
May 7..... T & N Rislow
May 10..... D & C Molstad
May 23..... C & M Bartos

Truths About Life Learned by Adults

1. Raising teenagers is like nailing Jell-O to a tree.
2. The best way to keep kids at home is to make a pleasant atmosphere and let the air out of their tires.
3. Families are like fudge ... mostly sweet, with a few nuts.
4. Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.
5. Laughing helps. It's like jogging on the inside.
6. My mind not only wanders; sometimes it leaves completely.
7. If you can remain calm, you just don't have all

the facts.

8. There is always a lot to be thankful for, if you take the time to look. For example, I'm sitting here thinking how nice it is that wrinkles don't hurt.

Four stages of life: 1) You believe in Santa Claus, 2) You don't believe in Santa Claus, 3) You are Santa Claus, and 4) You look like Santa Claus.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

tbd (to be determined)

4/3 5th Sunday In Lent

Asst Minister: Tom Rislow
Reader: Jarrod Roll
Crucifer: Jed Roll
Acolyte: Stella Roll
Ushers: Jarrod Roll
Counters: Dan M/Connie M
Comm Asst: Connie Meunier
Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg
Fellowship: Cyndi Molstad
Livestreamer: Hannah Scholze

4/10 Palm/Passion Sunday

Asst Minister: Mike Meunier
Reader: Hannah Scholze
Crucifer: Drew Staff

Acolyte: Dawson Staff

Ushers: Jeremy Schoonover
Counters: Jeremy S/Cheryl R
Comm Asst: Nikki Hanson
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: Connie M/Leslie D
Livestreamer: Jeremy Schoonover

4/17 Easter Sunday

Asst Minister: Naomi Rislow
Reader: Mike Meunier
Crucifer: Asher Roll
Acolyte: Ben Roll
Ushers: Dan Molstad
Counters: Jarrod R/Tom R
Comm Asst: Jarrod Roll

Accompanist: Leslie Duesenberg

Fellowship: no fellowship refreshments
Livestreamer: Jarrod Roll

4/24 2nd Sunday Of Easter

Asst Minister: Jeremy Schoonover
Reader: Dan Molstad
Crucifer: Elyse Schoonover
Acolyte: Stella Roll
Ushers: Cheryl Ruud
Counters: Hannah S/Naomi R
Comm Asst: Jessica Schoonover
Accompanist: Tom Rislow
Fellowship: tbd
Livestreamer: Mike Meunier

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Services held at 9am at:
642 Western Avenue
A block north and then
a block west of King Furniture