



**Bethany Lutheran Outlook**  
**March 2008**

**Serving God, Community, and Individuals**



I HAVE LOVED  
YOU WITH AN  
EVERLASTING

*Love....*

JEREMIAH 31:3

## PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS



*(With a few editorial changes, this month's article is a rerun [I think on TV they now call them "encore episodes"] of last year's Easter article. I do this unashamedly as the article essentially is an invitation to the services of Holy Week, an invitation that should be extended every year. The Holy Week services are ones in which the ritual actions often speak louder and have greater impact than any preaching that's done. Our central purpose as a church is to worship and these are the central worship experiences of the year. Hear again the invitation.)*

The Triduum, the Three Days beginning at sundown on Maundy Thursday and ending at sundown on Easter Sunday are the center, the focal point of the entire liturgical year. These three days actually overlap two seasons as the first two days are the final two days of Lent and the third day is the first day of the Easter season. It is during these three days though, that through a series of connected liturgies, we tell the story of God's acts to save us through Jesus Christ.

The liturgies for these days don't change much from year to year. With the new hymnal, there are minor changes but they are pretty much set pieces, once a year services that take us through the disorientation of Jesus' betrayal, trial and crucifixion into the new orientation of resurrection. Those who are able to be part of all these liturgies really are able to experience the joy of Easter in unique ways having experienced the emotions of the previous days, especially the loss and the absence.

The schedule for Holy Week worship is elsewhere in this newsletter so I encourage you to mark the times and be present. **I also encourage parents to bring children to these services.** They may not understand it all but they will sense the drama and difference of what is going on. It's a lot of church in a few days, but it's only once a year and it does celebrate what is most central to our faith.

The Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday begin the 50 day season of Easter. In other words, the celebration goes on! The good news of the Resurrection requires more than one day! So in the church we have 50 days, 7 Sundays to continue to rejoice! The story is familiar, but it never gets old. It's God's reality for us! It's a reality which needs to be heard against all the competing realities of the world. It changes who we are, and that is good news!

Happy Easter!  
Pastor Geier

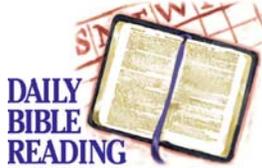


Lord,  
Thank you for spending 33 years with us:  
for announcing Love  
from the high heavens;  
for introducing Love in an  
obscure manger setting;  
for living Love in a family  
framework;  
for sharing Love with the poor  
and deprived and diseased;  
for showing Love to the  
unlovable and unloving;  
for letting little children  
feel Love in your arms;  
for suffering on a cross  
because of Love;  
for loosing Love upon the  
world to take up  
residence in us;  
for your Love that will  
not let us go. Amen.

—Forrest Nees

Enclosed within the Outlook is an Easter postcard that has the service schedule for Holy Week. Please use this postcard as a reminder, a bookmark, or, if you would like, as an invitation to someone to join us in our Holy Week worship services.

## DAILY LECTIONARY



*The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.*

### Daily Lectionary for March 2008

1	Psalm 23	1 Samuel 15:32-34	John 1:1-9
2	Fourth Sunday of Lent		
3	Psalm 146	Isaiah 59:9-19	Acts 9:1-20
4	Psalm 146	Isaiah 42:14-21	Colossians 1:9-14
5	Psalm 146	Isaiah 60:17-22	Matthew 9:27-34
6	Psalm 130	Ezekiel 1:1-3; 2:8-3:3	Revelation 10:1-11
7	Psalm 130	Ezekiel 33:10-16	Revelation 11:15-19
8	Psalm 130	Ezekiel 36:8-15	Luke 24:44-53
9	Fifth Sunday of Lent		
10	Psalm 143	1 Kings 17:17-24	Acts 20:7-12
11	Psalm 143	2 Kings 4:18-37	Ephesians 2:1-10
12	Psalm 143	Jeremiah 32:1-9, 36-41	Matthew 22:23-33
13	Psalm 31:9-16	1 Samuel 16:11-13	Philippians 1:1-11
14	Psalm 31:9-16	Job 13:13-19	Philippians 1:21-30
15	Psalm 31:9-16	Lamentations 3:55-66	Mark 10:32-34
16	Sunday of the Passion		
17	Monday in Holy Week		
18	Tuesday in Holy Week		
19	Wednesday in Holy Week		
	Easter Triduum		
20	Maundy Thursday		
21	Good Friday		
22	Vigil of Easter		
23	<b>Resurrection of Our Lord</b>		



24	Psalm 118:1-2,14-24	Exodus 14:10-31;15:20-21	Colossians 3:5-11
25	Psalm 118:1-2,14-24	Exodus 15:1-18	Colossians 3:12-17
26	Psalm 118:1-2,14-	Joshua 3:1-17	Matthew 28:1-10
27	Psalm 16	Song of Solomon 2:8-15	Colossians 4:2-5
28	Psalm 16	Song of Solomon 5:9-6:3	1 Corinthians 15:1-11
29	Psalm 16	Song of Solomon 8:6-7	John 20:11-20
30	Second Sunday of Easter		
31	Psalm 114	Judges 6:36-40	1 Corinthians 15:12-20

April 2008

1	Psalm 114	Jonah 1:1-17	1 Corinthians 15:19-28
2	Psalm 114	Jonah 2:1-10	Matthew 12:38-42



## The Bible as a Letter



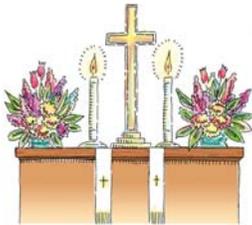
Søren Kierkegaard, a brilliant 19th-century philosopher, said this about the Bible: 'The Bible should be read as a letter from God with our personal address on it.'

How true! The Bible tells us who's behind our amazing lives. The Bible makes clear the source of our existence and explains how we're to live out our years on Earth. The Bible gives us the best rules for living with others and for living in our own skin.

Scripture tells us of the wisdom of saints and the foolishness of scoundrels. It explains how God tries to relate to us. It guides us and provides strength and courage through our daily lives.

The Bible tells how God walked among us on Earth in the person of Christ. Most importantly, it details how Christ revealed God's immeasurable love for all humankind.

Finally, the Bible assures us that God not only cares for us here and now but will care for us in the hereafter. Forever and forever!



## *Music and Worship*



In Holy Baptism, God liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Born children of a fallen humanity, in the baptismal waters we become God's reborn children and inherit eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church, which is Christ's body. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love and obedience to God's will.

Baptism is one of the two sacraments that mark Lutheran theology and practice, the other being The Eucharist (or Holy Communion). We believe both to have been instituted by Jesus.



ELCA Lutherans believe that baptism addresses itself to the question of salvation. In God's gift of Baptism, we are assured the forgiveness of sins to live a free, responsible and joyful life - in order that we might be saved everlastingly. With Luther we can say that, "No greater jewel ... can adorn our body and soul than Baptism, for through it we obtain perfect holiness and salvation, which no other kind of life and no work on earth can acquire." Baptism is truly God's gift, drawing us into Christ's church and bestowing upon us forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life. In it, we are marked by the cross of Christ forever. (ELW Service of Holy Baptism, pg 231, "... child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.") (LBW, ELW, Augsburg Fortress Publishers.)

At the most recent meeting of the Worship and Music Committee, the condition of our baptismal font was raised by the altar guild. It has become apparent that it is in need of attention and to that end the committee will begin an evaluative process looking into ideas for its renovation or replacement. Our baptismal font should be a symbol reflecting the importance that it has within our belief as Lutherans.

Bob Bucan



# Enjoy the Poetry of Hymns

## Waterlife

Before I can remember the covenant was sealed  
With Father, Son, and Spirit, in water was revealed.  
The cleansing was for certain, with water and the Word;  
Gentle words were spoken, in heaven they were heard.  
They were singing waterlife, beginning life, waterlife  
All my life, waterlife, Spirit life, waterlife.

A simple sweet beginning, a loving place to start;  
Christ began the singing that swells within my heart.  
His love became my calling, his life my ministry.  
His name is my adoption in to his family.  
They were singing waterlife, beginning life, waterlife  
All my life, waterlife, Spirit life, waterlife.

My hope and expectation for true community  
Begins with resurrection, his death and life in me.  
His Spirit fills the Body: his church through water sees  
Promise for tomorrow, his waterlife in me.  
They were singing waterlife, beginning life, waterlife  
All my life, waterlife, Spirit life, waterlife.

ELW # 457

Hymn – 1 part  
D and refrain  
Text and Music by Handt Hanson

SPIRIT LIFE: 7.6.7.6

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Inc..



## **“It All Started With Water”**

What does your baptism mean to you? For those of us who were baptized as infants, we have no physical memory of our baptism. Maybe you are fortunate to have heard a few stories like I have, a story that bears some small memory about the occasion. The story that is most remembered about my baptism is about an aunt who sat on my baptismal candle, breaking it into two pieces. The taped up candle has since been lost amongst the things that we collect. Perhaps it will be found some day.

Yet, even though the candle is missing, even though the stories are few, the memory of my baptism is great. The memory is great precisely because I am surrounded each day by the waters of my baptism. Water, drank by every living creature, sustains all of life. Life created by God; life sustained by God. A holy people claimed as God’s own, and it all started with water.

Our brother Martin Luther strongly advocated that whenever we take a bath, we should pour water upon our heads and make the sign of the cross in the memory of our baptism. We remember that we are God’s children, filled with life sustaining water, amidst a world full of hopelessness and sadness. Be the child that God has created you to be and share the waterlife with the broken world. Spread the waterlife to everyone you meet on your walk, at school, in your workplace, or in the grocery store. Shower the waterlife that is within you, wherever you encounter despair that all may know of God’s promise for tomorrow.

Luke Smetters



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## **The gift of water**

Water is a wonderful sign for baptism. It is a gift of God from creation. It cleanses us from that which has soiled us. It refreshes us when we are hot and tired. Without it we could not live. Whatever use we make of water it can become for us a reminder of God’s gift of love and grace in accepting us into the household of faith.



**Erica  
Reese  
Lundholm**



Erica Reese Lundholm was baptised on Jan. 27, 2008.

She was born at MGH on November 28, 2007 at 11:03am. She weighed in at 7 lb 12.2 oz and was 20 inches long.

Erica is the daughter of Tunya and Randy Lundholm and sister to Shaala Schwamb. She is the granddaughter of Paul and Marcia Waters, great-granddaughter of Bob and Carol Waters. Her sponsors were Rich and Jamie Lundholm, aunt and uncle of Erica.



Sister  
Shaala

Also present was her uncle Eric M. Martin (brother of Tunya). Erica is named in honor of Eric, as he is currently deployed, serving his 2nd tour in Iraq. He was home on 18 days of leave.



**Hallelujah!  
I'm a child of God.**

Many relatives from near and far came to share this special day with Erica.

## Symbols of Christianity

### Why a fish?

One of the most significant statements the early Christians used was “Jesus Christ, God’s Son, Savior.”

Because Greek was the universal language then (the New Testament books were written in Greek), Christians often said and wrote, “Jesus Christ, God’s Son, Savior” in Greek.

That phrase, if printed as an acrostic (using the first letter of each word), looks like this:

I = Jesus  
CH = Christ (anointed)  
TH = God  
U = Son  
S = Savior



The acrostic forms the word ICHTHUS, which is Greek for fish. If Christians needed to know where to gather for worship, they could look for a fish and perhaps an arrow pointing in the right direction. Persecuted Christians, seeing a fish on the door of a home or business, knew it was a safe place occupied by fellow Christians.

### Chi Rho



The Chi Rho is an ancient monogram of Christ. The symbol is composed of the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ: XPICTOC (pronounced Christos). There are many variations, but the most common form superimposes the “X” (Chi) on the “P” (Rho). Although it isn’t considered to be a cross, the Chi Rho invokes Jesus’ crucifixion. The symbol has been in use for more than 1,600 years. Early Christians used the Chi Rho as a sign of their faith, and Constantine the Great placed it on his soldiers’ shields

## Love One Another



In the gospel of John, Jesus makes this statement during the Last Supper: **“I am with you only a little longer. ... I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another”** (John 13:33-35, NRSV).

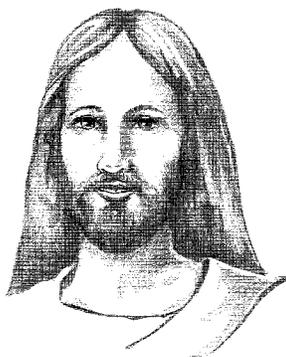
## Maundy Thursday



Maundy Thursday, also called Holy Thursday, commemorates the evening just before the crucifixion when Jesus and his friends broke bread together for the Last Supper. It was at this Last Supper that Jesus instituted the Eucharist or what we call communion. On this Maundy Thursday five young people will receive their first communion - Jessica Penhale, Shaala Schwamb, Honora Seppanen, Sabrina Holm-Brown, and Jaren Kipling. Before the Maundy Thursday service, a Seder Meal will be prepared for them as well as their parents, brothers and sisters, and grandparents. The Seder Meal will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the service at 8 p.m.



## For God so loved



One of the hallmarks of John's short sermons is that they almost always contain the plan of salvation in a single verse. Here it is verse 16: **“This is how God showed his love to the world. He gave his one and only son, that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have life eternal.”** In perhaps the most beautiful words ever written, this verse presents the why as well as the how of God's redeeming love. Later, in his letters, John will betray a preoccupation with the question “What is the meaning of love?” Here he gives himself and all the answer.

— Michael Card  
in The Parable of Joy

## New Books For March 2008

By Keenan Tunnell

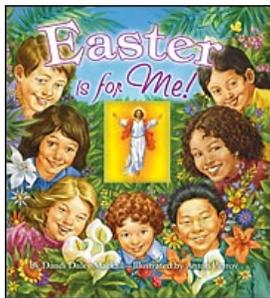
This month's books are limited to children's books for Easter, most of them very recent. Share Easter joy with one of the young people in your life—or just enjoy the beautiful art and simple language of the stories for yourself!



### Mackall, Dandi Daley. **Journey, Easter Journey!**

“Mackall presents the Biblical story of Christ's life, death, and resurrection in a way that is engaging and appropriate for young children. [Written in] short, poetic verse with brilliant illustrations [it] is lighthearted but filled with reverence for the sacrifice Christ paid. This story presents the life of Christ as a journey, beginning in Bethlehem with His birth, then moving on to His life in Nazareth and Galilee, telling about His Father's love. Finally, Christ's journey to Calvary, and the wondering if this was His journey's end. But indeed it wasn't the end, as His journey continued with His resurrection and ascension. This short verse concludes with the encouragement that someday we can all journey on to heaven and be together with Christ. Perfect for Easter story-telling...” (Amazon Book Description)

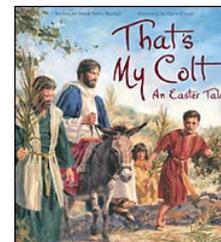
### Mackall, Dandi Daley. **Easter is for Me!**



“In engaging rhyme and winsome illustrations, *Easter Is for Me!* encourages children to see that Jesus lived, died, and conquered sin [and] death -- on their behalf. What makes this book different is that it explains why Jesus' life, ministry, and sacrificial death are important for the individual reader. Young children ... are focused on themselves and their knowledge of the world grows from how they experience it. This picture book clearly puts the Easter story into that framework -- what it means for the young child; why the Bible stories he hears at church, Sunday School, and home are important for him; and what Jesus has done for him personally.” (from Concordia's product description)

### Mackall, Dandi Daley. **That's My Colt.**

“This appealing Easter tale takes a fresh approach to connect with children. [It] tells the story of a young boy who loses a favorite pet to a special purpose. As the boy witnesses the celebration of Palm Sunday, the deep sorrow of Good Friday, and the joy of Easter Sunday, children reading along relate to the boy's circumstances and emotions and gain a more intimate perspective of the events of Easter.” (Concordia product description)



Daybell, Chad. **Through the Eyes of John.**



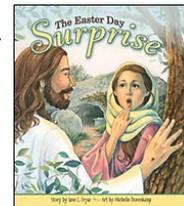
“John the Beloved’s role in sharing the final days of the Savior’s life has been overlooked. He stayed close to the Savior during those crucial final hours, becoming an eyewitness to the supreme sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Based on John’s own words as found in the Bible, the touching storyline combines with the striking artwork to create a wonderful, spiritual reading experience that can be enjoyed by readers of all ages. You will feel a new love and appreciation for the apostle John—and for the Savior Jesus Christ.” (Amazon Book Description)

Wangerin, Walter. **Peter’s First Easter.**

“[The book tells the story of Jesus’ last days on earth through the eyes of one of his disciples. In a conversational tone, disciple Peter tells the story of Judas’ betrayal and his own shameful denial of his savior in his time of need. Lively, full-color pictures illustrate the sometimes gruesome, sometimes joyous events of Jesus’ crucifixion, resurrection, and forgiving of Peter. [This] retelling of the earthly relationship of Jesus and Peter is ideal for families to read together at Easter or anytime. The humanity in the story will touch young readers as they begin to understand the significance of the life and death of Jesus.” (An Amazon.com Review)

Fryar, Jane. **The Easter Day Surprise.**

“Can you imagine what it was like for Jesus’ followers to endure the events of Good Friday only to discover three days later that His tomb was empty? This picture book for children retells the surprising events of that first Easter Day in lively poetry and beautiful illustrations. Told in the context of God’s plan for our salvation, *The Easter Day Surprise* helps readers to understand the wonderful things that took place on Easter: Mary Magdalene’s visit to Jesus’ tomb, the disciples at the tomb, Mary meeting the risen Jesus. Children learn to celebrate the forgiveness that is theirs through Jesus’ suffering in their place.” (Concordia product description)



## **BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE** By Kathy Geier

In addition to the Easter books that Kennan reviewed, Bethany also has a number of other new books for young peoples.

**Jesus.** Illustrated by Demi.

Brilliantly colored artwork and text based on the King James version of the Bible tell the story of the life of Jesus, beginning with the prophecies and the annunciation and ending with his ascension into Heaven. Demi’s paintings are full of bright, intricate patterns, and bold touches of gold produce a feeling of awe and splendor. Grades 3-6

### **The Story of Jesus.**



Retellings of Bible stories by and about Jesus are engagingly illustrated and simply but clearly written. This book provides a way for beginning readers to become familiar with the stories and is a good family read aloud.

**For Every Child: The Rights of the Child in Words and Pictures.** Taken from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the book begins with an introduction by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who asks readers to help make a difference. Fourteen of the rights formally laid out by the Convention are included, and each is illustrated by a different artist well known for work in children's literature. PreS-Gr 3, although all ages will appreciate this book.

## **ESPECIALLY FOR GIRLS**

### **Amelia to Zora: Twenty-Six women who changed the world.**

These short illustrated biographies highlight 20th-century women who have made significant contributions in such varied fields as the arts, sports, journalism, science, and entertainment. The entries from Amelia Earhart to Zora Neale Hurston reflect that variety, including Rachel Carson, Mother Theresa and Kristi Yamaguchi among others. There is sophistication in both the quotes and in the art, encouraging repeated readings. Grade 4-7



### **Extraordinary Girls**

Featuring full-color, attractive photographs of girls from all over the world, each of the seven main chapters addresses such topics as "Different Ways to Learn," "Religion and Spirituality," and "Sports and Play." Young people who have made a difference are also highlighted. Grade 1-5

### **The Girl's Yoga Book: Stretch Your Body, Open Your Mind and Have Fun!**

The focus of the book is learning simple yoga poses for relaxation, breathing, and as a stress reliever. The physical benefits of yoga have made its ancient practices a popular form of exercise all over the world. However, although yoga is not a religion, it is based on a spiritual tradition whose concepts are briefly mentioned in the book.



## March Worship Assistants

### March 2

Assisting Minister - Jacob Dault  
Acolytes - Jordan Dault & Katelyn Ombrello  
Altar - Pat Liivoja & Loreth Johnson  
Greeters - Paul & Diana Sandstrom  
Coffee Hosts - Evangelism  
Nursery - Ali Kitchen  
Communion Bread - Dan & Sharon Argall

### March 9

Assisting Minister - Wendy Penhale  
Acolytes - Natalee Rasmussen & Natalie Dobson  
Altar - Pat Liivoja & Loreth Johnson  
Greeters - Mike Starrine  
Coffee Hosts -  
Nursery - Katelyn Hough  
Communion Bread - John & Marilyn Pontti

### March 16 PALM SUNDAY

Assisting Minister - Carl Pellonpaa  
Acolytes - Christina Mariani & Kate Clark  
Altar - Debbie Cain  
Greeters - Holly & Jim Bjorne  
Coffee Hosts -  
Nursery - Kristina Mattson

### March 20 (8 p.m.) Maundy Thursday

Assisting Minister - Edmund Holmgren  
Acolytes - Kara Harrington & Megan Hough

### April Ushers:

Ralph Goethe's team

*Thank You!*

### March 23 (9:00 a.m.) EASTER

Assisting Minister - Matt Waters  
Acolytes - Victoria Mattson &  
Mindy Harrington  
Altar - Sue Holmgren  
Greeters - Paul Sandstrom &  
Larry Alexander  
Coffee Hosts - Easter Brunch  
Nursery - Kaitlyn Thompson

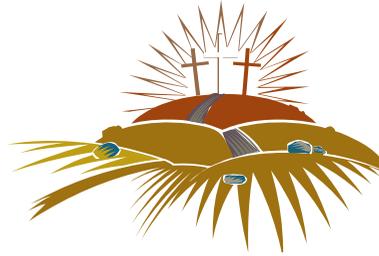
### March 30

Assisting Minister - Ned Johns  
Acolytes - John Leverton & Max  
Alexander  
Altar - Carrie Goldsworthy  
Greeters -  
Coffee Hosts -  
Nursery - Matt Leverton  
Flowers—In memory of Diane  
Harris by Ann Sundblad

### **March Ushers:**

Robert Waters  
James Anderson  
John Carlson  
Robert Nadeau  
David Niemela  
Tom Sodergren  
Roger Solberg  
Greg Stahlmann





# March 2008



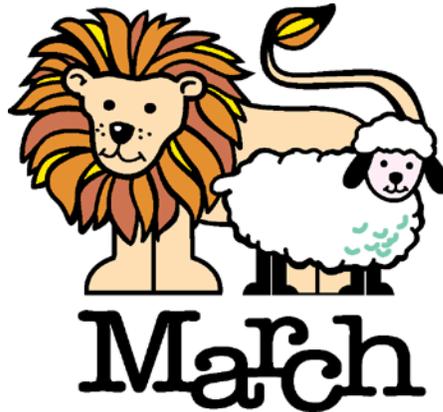
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 Sunday School 9:15 Evangelism 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship 6:00 Confirmation	3 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Worship 7:00 Prayer Shawl 7:30 Christian Educ.	4 9:00 Quilters 2:00-6:00 Blood Drive 6:30 Worship & Music 7:00 Property 	5 10:00 Men's Group 5:00 Bells 5:30 Lenten Supper 6:30 Lenten Service 7:00 Choir	66:30 Bible Study	7	8 
9 9:00 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship	10 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Worship 7:15 Men's Ministry Deadline for ordering Easter flowers	11 9:00 Quilters 1:30 Social Ministry	12 5:00 Bells 5:30 Lenten Supper 6:30 Lenten Service 7:00 Choir	136:30 Bible Study	14	15
16 No Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship 6:00 Confirmation (Faith)	17 No Bible Study 6:30 Worship 7:30 Council	18 9:00 Quilters 6:00 Intern Meeting at Argall's	19 10:00 Men's Group 5:15 Bells 6:30 Choir	20 <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b> No Bible Study 6:30 Seder Meal 8:00 Maundy Thursday	21 <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> 12:30—3:00 Ecumenical Service 9:00 p.m..Tenebrae Service	22 <b>EASTER VIGIL</b> 9:00 p.m. Easter Vigil All night Easter Vigil
23 <b>EASTER</b> No Sunday School <b>9:00 Worship</b> <b>10:00 Easter Brunch</b>	24 No Bible Study No worship service	25 9:00 Quilters 7:00 Joy Circle	26 1:30 Mary Circle 5:15 Bells 6:30 Choir 7:15 Martha Circle	27 No Bible Study	28	29
30 9:00 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship	31 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Worship					<b>Deadline for April Outlook March 22</b>



## *Happy Birthday!*

- 1 Carol Carlson
- 2 Carol Heavyside
- 3 Heidi Sweet
- 4 Marvin Swanson
- 5 Addy Cain
- 5 Joyce Lehto
- 7 Alexandra Kitchen
- 7 Evelyn Valente
- 8 Terra Argall
- 8 Roberta Luokkala
- 9 Gwen Bruhnke
- 10 Rick Dault
- 10 Betty Leverton
- 11 Brett Sandstrom
- 12 Robert Clark
- 12 Trisha Gugin
- 14 William Carne
- 14 Marjorie Rosten
- 15 Jamie Healey
- 16 Joshua Argall
- 17 Beth Bertucci
- 18 Peggy Clark
- 19 Sue Ryan
- 21 Marvin Nadeau
- 21 Gregory Stahlmann
- 22 Nicholas Chartre
- 24 Patricia Nault
- 25 Paul Blomgren
- 25 Robert Kaukola
- 25 Roy Lemin
- 27 Gavin Argall
- 27 Allen Maki
- 28 Kimberly Marks

- 28 Doris Pellonpaa
- 28 Donna Stahlmann
- 29 Chad Anderson
- 29 Catherine Barton
- 29 Marie Chilman
- 29 Kenneth Lawson
- 30 Sharla Anderson
- 31 Benjamin Bruhnke
- 31 Lois Goethe



## *Happy Anniversary!*

**Paul & Marcia Waters**  
3/12/1994      14 years

**Kenneth & Jean Lawson**  
3/29/1958      50 years

# Kids - Did you know?

## Bible Verse to Memorize

**“But God demonstrates His own love for us in this:  
While we were still sinners,  
Christ died for us.”**

Romans 5:8

## What happened on Palm Sunday?

Jesus rode into Jerusalem  
and the people cheered  
him. The people put  
palm branches in his path,  
and they shouted  
Hosanna in the Highest.



Dear God,

I keep waiting for spring, but it never  
did come yet. What's up? Don't  
forget.  
Mark



## Bethany Was Part of the 2007 Lutheran World Relief's Gift of Love

Did you know....

- Lutheran World Relief covered and comforted 23 countries with quilts and kits.
- Nearly 1500 tons of quilts, school kits, health kits, sewing kits, layettes, and bars of soap were shipped.
- Annual distributions were valued at more than \$14 million.
- 452,870 quilts were sewn and tied (the most distributed since 1999)
- Groups that participated included women's groups, youth groups, confirmation classes, men's groups, and even ecumenical groups.

"In 2007 we made a concerted effort to partner with new organizations and identify new countries to which we could send shipments of quilts and kits," said Trevor Knoblich, LWR's program associate for material resources. Knoblich manages the inventory of LWR quilts and kits housed in warehouses in New Windsor, Maryland, and South St. Paul, Minnesota.

"Each partner organization that distributes our quilts and kits must meet specific criteria to ensure they will be able to reach the people with the most need in their communities, and to distribute the quilts and kits fairly," said Knoblich. After they receive the shipment from LWR and complete the distributions, they then report back to us on how the materials were distributed and give us feedback."

Knoblich also makes two to three trips a year overseas to visit partner organizations and observe their distributions to ensure that LWR's distribution guidelines are being met.



**"Over and over again we hear from our partner organizations and the recipients of the quilts and kits how much they appreciate these gifts of love, and the generosity of U.S. Lutherans," said Brenda Meier, director for parish & community engagement at LWR. "Any type of blanket could warm a person's body, but a handmade quilt also warms the soul and encourages the spirit."**

Countless parish groups sew, tie and assemble thousands of quilts, layettes, and health, sewing and school kits each year. New bars of commercially made soap are also collected for LWR's distribution overseas.



“The groups participating in LWR Parish Projects are some of our best examples of ‘faith in action’,” said Meier. “They work tirelessly to ensure that families stay warm, kids stay in school, and babies have a healthy start in life. The work they do is invaluable to Lutheran World Relief.”



## There's something better coming

This season of Easter is a special time for Christians to celebrate the ultimate reason for our hope: Christ is risen, and invites us to rise with him to new life.

- Easter is an invitation to try again with God's help to break that addiction we had given up all hope of ever breaking. There's something better coming. ...
- Easter is a chance to work at renewing the marriage we had given up all hope of ever saving. There's something better coming. ...
- Easter is an opportunity to reach out to our neighbors who, in our busyness, we neglect. There's something better coming. ...
- Easter is an invitation to look at our lack of love and seek God for compassion. There's something better coming. ...
- Easter is a chance for all no-hopers to regain their vision of what can be! There's something better coming. ...
- Easter is an opportunity to renew our faith. There's something better coming. ...
- Easter is a chance to “renew our strength and mount up with wings as eagles; to run and not faint.” There's something better coming. ...





## What's Up with WELCA?

The Prayer Shawl group meets the first Monday of every month at 7 P.M. in the Social Room. Anyone interested in making shawls is always welcome to attend; the shawls are simple to make using basic knitting or crocheting skills .

Shawls are meant to be tangible expressions of prayer, and they are available at the church for anyone who would like to give one. Shawls can be given to those undergoing medical procedures, as a comfort after a loss or in times of stress, for prayer or meditation, or for special events like weddings, births, graduations, birthdays, and the like. There are endless possibilities!



Please let Pastor or any member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry know if you would like to give a shawl to someone.

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### WHAT DOES WELCA ME TO ME!

"Being part of Joy Circle for over 30 years has been a wonderful journey. Many close friendships, lots of laughs, and much crying thru sharing and praying together."

"One of my fondest memories was at a WELCA Mother Daughter Dessert around 1984, my mother (Willie Sodergren) won an award for having the most family there. She had her daughters, daughters-in law, and granddaughter there. I remember she was just beaming!"



-Peggy Clark



**Spring Cluster Meeting**  
**April 20**  
**Grace Lutheran - Gwinn**

**March 2, 2008 — Tim Wise – Insulating Your Attic**

*Galatians 3:28*

Racism can be a tough thing to get our hands around, especially when the majority white culture struggles to even recognize the many unspoken privileges it enjoys. What does it mean to be born into privilege – not economic wealth, but all of the other perks and comforts that go with unseen advantages of being born white? [Tim Wise](#), an author and anti-racism activist has a sharp mind for thinking creatively about this question. Host Peter Marty reflects on a Biblical word about our tendency to draw distinctions between people.



**March 9, 2008 — Luci Shaw – The Crime of Living Cautiously**

*Exodus 16-3*

God built risk into the universe. It is all over creation. It is part and parcel of the Christian life as well. There is no indication that Jesus of Nazareth promoted a safe life as the highest priority. In fact, his definition of discipleship encourages us to take paths that nobody may have ever walked before. Poet [Luci Shaw](#) understands life to be full of adventure and risk, with her own personal life as evidence. She joins the program to help distinguish faith from fear, and both from fanaticism.

**March 16, 2008 — Peter W. Marty – Palm Sunday Special – A Life of Reconciliation**

*2 Corinthians 5:17-21*

Program host [Peter W. Marty](#) takes you from a street fair in Palm Springs, California to the dusty road in Jerusalem where Jesus made his final and triumphant entry prior to his death. Along the way, he stops to contemplate the silence of Jesus and what Jesus was willing to absorb. Reconciliation becomes the focus of Jesus' ministry in those final days, as he demonstrates that being in a relationship is much more important than being right.



**March 23, 2008 — Peter W. Marty – Easter Sunday – The Nonsense of Standstill Christianity**

*Mark 16:1-8*

In this special Easter Sunday meditation, program host [Peter W. Marty](#) ponders the Easter story from St. Mark's Gospel. He takes a candid look at the Christian life lived in light of the resurrection. If Jesus has been raised from the dead, there is no such thing as a standstill Christian. Believing people must be on the move, open to new possibilities. They cannot park their faith in contentment with the past, or in coziness with the present. Living the Christian life well is all about trying to keep up with the risen Christ, who keeps showing up several steps ahead of us.



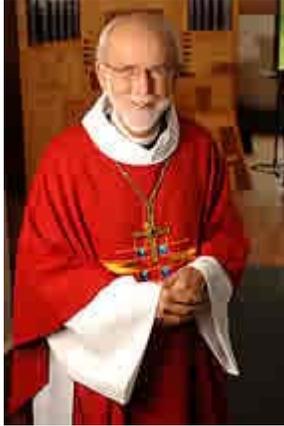
**March 30, 2008 — Joy Newcom – When You Did Not Expect Joy**

*Psalms 16*

[Joy Newcom](#) is the mother of two boys, one of whom was born with multiple birth defects. That birth and that child has ended up transforming her life. Much of it has been an involuntary transformation, taking her places she never asked to go. But every step of the way, joy keeps giving shape to the transformation. It's a hard but beautiful story of God working steadfastly with us through the circumstances of our lives.



**Grace Matters** airs on Sunny 101.9 at 7:30 Sunday mornings.



## **ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson's Easter Message 2008**

**"For you have died, your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory." (Colossians 3:3-4)**

"You have died." The words resonate because this world's violence and suffering--so pervasive, so needless, so relentless--haunt every human community and life. Where death rules, hope lies entombed in endless grief.

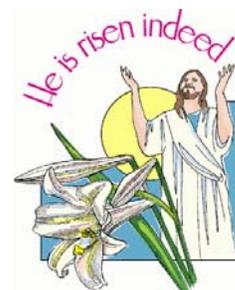
Another death--the crucifixion of Jesus--changed everything. God is not hidden, but present through suffering, sorrow, and death. Jesus is God's resounding "yes!" to the steadfastness of God's forgiving love, embodied on a cross.

The death of Jesus shows no partiality. It was for all nations and all people--for them, for you, for me. Your life is now with Christ. In baptism you have died. Hidden with Christ, no longer entombed in grief, your life carries the promise of glory.

From that first day of resurrection onward, God has been raising up messengers of salvation, heralds of peace, and testifiers of the promised glory. You are a witness of the hope to come. Quite simply, Christ is your life, my life, our life. You have no other than this One who lives resurrected in you.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

The Rev. Mark S. Hanson  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



## An Easter carol

Tomb, thou shalt not hold him longer;  
Death is strong, but Life is stronger;  
Stronger than the dark, the light;  
Stronger than the wrong, the right;  
Faith and Hope triumphant say,  
Christ will rise on Easter Day.

—Phillips Brooks



## Easter Is Early This Year



**RESURRECTION  
SUNDAY**

Easter is very early this year. Easter is always the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after the 1st full moon after the Spring Equinox (which is March 20). This dating of Easter is based on the lunar calendar that Hebrew people used to identify Passover, which is why it moves around on the Roman calendar. Based on the above, Easter can actually be one day earlier (March 22) but that is quite rare.

March 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

This year is the earliest Easter any of us will ever see the rest of our lives! And only the most elderly of our population have ever seen it this early (95 years old or above!). And none of us have ever, or will ever, see it a day earlier!

Here are the facts:

- The next time Easter will be this early (March 23) will be the year 2228 (220 years from now).
- The last time it was this early was 1913 (If you're 95 or older, you are among the few that were alive for that early Easter.)
- The next time it will be a day earlier, March 22, will be in the year 2285 (277 years from now).
- The last time it was on March 22 was 1818. No one alive today has or will ever see it any earlier than this year!



## Social Ministry Sponsors Blood Drive

March 4

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Sign up and  
Give the Gift of Life.

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## Evangelism Makes Plans For New Church Directory



It has been many years since Bethany last had a church directory made. The Board of Evangelism feels that it is time for an update and has arranged to have this done by Olin Mills. The photos will be taken free of charge.

Photo Schedule: Friday, April 25 3:00 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 26 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

### Church Photo Directory



Please keep these dates in mind.

If you have any questions, contact a member of the Board of Evangelism. Members of the Board of Evangelism are Paul Sandstrom (director), Peggy Clark, Bob Clark, Marilyn Pontti, Sue Ryan, Pat Varda, Kim Skewis, Holly Bjerne, Diana Sandstrom, and Jim Bjerne.

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## Lenten Soup Supper

Join us each Wednesday  
At 5:30 p.m.



## Order Your Easter Flowers by March 10

The following flowers are available for Easter Sunday:

Lilies	\$14.00	Daffodils	\$15.00
Hyacinths	\$15.00	Mums	\$15.00
Tulips	\$15.00	Azaleas	\$25.00
Hydrangeas	\$25.00		



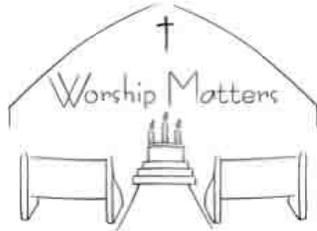
Please order your flowers by either calling the church office (486-4351) or by filling out an order form which can be found in the bulletin each Sunday. Make your check payable to Bethany when your order is placed.

All orders must be placed **no later than Monday, March 10th.**

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### Did you know???

- Katie Johns sang the national anthem before one of the Northern Michigan University hockey games.
- Rick Dault, David Leverton, and Bob Nadeau were recently appointed to the Ishpeming School Board
- Bethany gave \$185.88 for the Souper Bowl. This money went to the Marquette Homeless Shelter "Room at the Inn".
- Honor Roll for 2nd marking period: Courtney Allen, Natalee Dobson, Megan Hough, Kate Clark, Jordan Dault, Kara Harrington, Christina Mariani, Katelyn Ombrello, Natalie Rasmussen
- Matt Waters was captain and Jake Dault was alternate on this year's Ishpeming High Scholl Bowl team. Though Ishpeming lost in the third round to Norway, they did an admirable job. Good luck next year.



### **Council Highlights**

- Pastor will travel to Chicago to interview 9 intern candidates for 2008-2009
- New laptop and equipment have arrived and is under budget
- Possible Youth Mission Trip is being planned
- Luke will be having a candle workshop on

Tuesday, Feb. 26

- Bethany will fund a trip for Luke to attend the Institute of Liturgical Studies March 31-April 2 at Valparaiso.
- Property will be replacing emergency lights
- Bob Maki and Bill Heavyside will fix the edges of the Council table.
- Evangelism is looking for more to sign up for Coffee.

### **Bethany Approves New Intern for 2008-2009**

A Special Meeting was held on February 24 to approve an amendment to the budget for 2008. A motion was made that Bethany amend the budget for 2008 to include the money needed to have a intern for the 2008-2009 year. The money will come from the Lowell Holmgren Estate ( approximately \$25,000-\$27,000). If more money is needed, it will come from the Hult fund. The motion was made by Carl Pellonpaa and seconded by Ray Sundblad. The motion passed.



### **Time Change March 9**

**Turn you clocks ahead.**

**If you forget, you'll be late!**

## Mission Support in 2007 - \$1,061,964

Thanks be to God and thanks be to the generous 94 congregations of our synod who provided a record amount of financial resources in 2007 for the work of Christ's Church. The Synod received in unrestricted mission support, 101.6% of the 2007 congregational pledges, or \$1,061,964.

Of the amount in 2007 sent to the Synod Office

- 54% for the world-wide work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (support missionaries around the world and start new congregations in this country)



- 12% to assist our seminaries in Dubuque, Iowa, and Chicago, Illinois, and for the work of Lutheran Campus Ministry on the Northern Michigan University campus and the Michigan Technological University campus.
- 34% provides a Synod Office, staff and programs for our work together across the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

Seventy of our congregations met, or exceeded, their financial support goals. Another twelve came very close. It was another excellent year! And while we in 2007 have much to be thankful for, the actual amount of dollars received by the Synod was only 5% more than what it was in 1999! Inflation has eaten about 30% of that dollar away.

Your Synod does not have a huge endowment to subsidize our ministry. Our grants and restricted giving only pay a small portion of our ministry costs. Instead, the Church relies on the generosity of our people in the pew and we rely on the mature judgment of the congregational leaders. We are called by God to share. It is a privilege to give to God's work through the Northern Great Lakes Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. I am proud to be a part of our Church and to be your Bishop

Bishop Thomas A. Skrenes



## Bethany Supports Local Food Banks

**March's target food will be canned fruit.** Though only one type of food is designated, you are never limited to just that if you wish to bring something else.

### Noisy Offering for March & April will go to Central Upper Peninsula Food Bank.



The Central Upper Peninsula Food Bank exists to reduce hunger in Marquette, Alger, Dickinson, Menominee, Delta and Schoolcraft Counties. By routing the food industry's inventory surpluses and left-overs to and through churches and charity agencies that provide food aid to needy families, the Food Bank makes ending hunger more achievable by providing needed quantities of food aid more affordable.



### Bethany's Website [www.bethanyishpeming.org](http://www.bethanyishpeming.org)

New links have been added to our website. To access sermons in the archives, click on "Sermon Archive" to get to the page with the links. There you will now find a link to Pastor Tom Lee's sermons.

**NEW!**

Pastor Lee's sermons <http://drop.io/tomlee2002>

Lenten Drama Link <http://drop.io/lent2008>

### Keep In Your Prayers

- Remember our home-bound and nursing home residents: June Bjerne Brookridge Assisted Living), Alice Jacobson (Woodland Assisted Living), Myrtle Carlson (Northridge Pines Assisted Living—Calumet), Teckla Holmgren, Barbara Crabb (Mather), Marvin Nadeau (Valente), Pearl Forchini (Mather), and Martha Ulrickson (Valente)
- Nick Chartre
- Therese Korpi
- Those in the military that they may remain safe
- Mike & Kathy Richards and family who mourn the loss of Mike's mother Charlotte Richards
- Mikki Jago and family and friends who mourn the loss of Clyde Jago



### Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, Cocoa and Chocolate Are Available at Bethany



Café Salvador Coffee	\$5.00 /box
Organic Decaf Coffee	\$5.75/ box
Whole Bean Coffee	\$5.25/box
Whole Bean Decaf	\$6.25/box
All teas	\$2.50 / box
Hot cocoa	\$4.20 / container
Baking Cocoa	\$4.20
Milk Chocolate Bar	\$2.25
Dark Chocolate Mini Bars	\$3.00 for 20

From Small Farmers With Love

Contributions to and ideas for the newsletter can be made by contacting **Linda Dahl** by phone, e-mail, or by dropping a note in the newsletter mailbox at church.

**485-1625**

**[linkarzig@netscape.com](mailto:linkarzig@netscape.com)**

Bethany Lutheran Church  
Phone: 906-486-4351  
Fax: 906-486-9640  
E-mail: [bethanyim@hotmail.com](mailto:bethanyim@hotmail.com)  
Website: [www.bethanyishpening.org](http://www.bethanyishpening.org)

Rev. Warren Geier, Pastor  
Home Phone: 485-4218  
E-mail: [revwgeier@charterinternet.com](mailto:revwgeier@charterinternet.com)

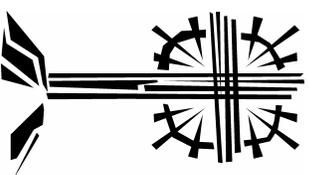
Vicar Luke Smetters  
Phone: 224-406-2398  
E-mail: [luke\\_smetters@hotmail.com](mailto:luke_smetters@hotmail.com)

Parish Planning Council:  
Exec. Director, Robert Nadeau  
Asst. Exec. Director, Tom Ryan  
Christian Education, Denise Clark  
Evangelism, Paul Sandstrom  
Finance, Cheryl Sleeman  
Personnel, Sandee Sundquist  
Property, Bill Heavyside  
Social Ministry, Marian Medlyn  
Stewardship, John Pontti  
Worship & Music, Dan Argall

Bethany Lutheran Church  
715 Mather Avenue  
Ishpening, MI 49849

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