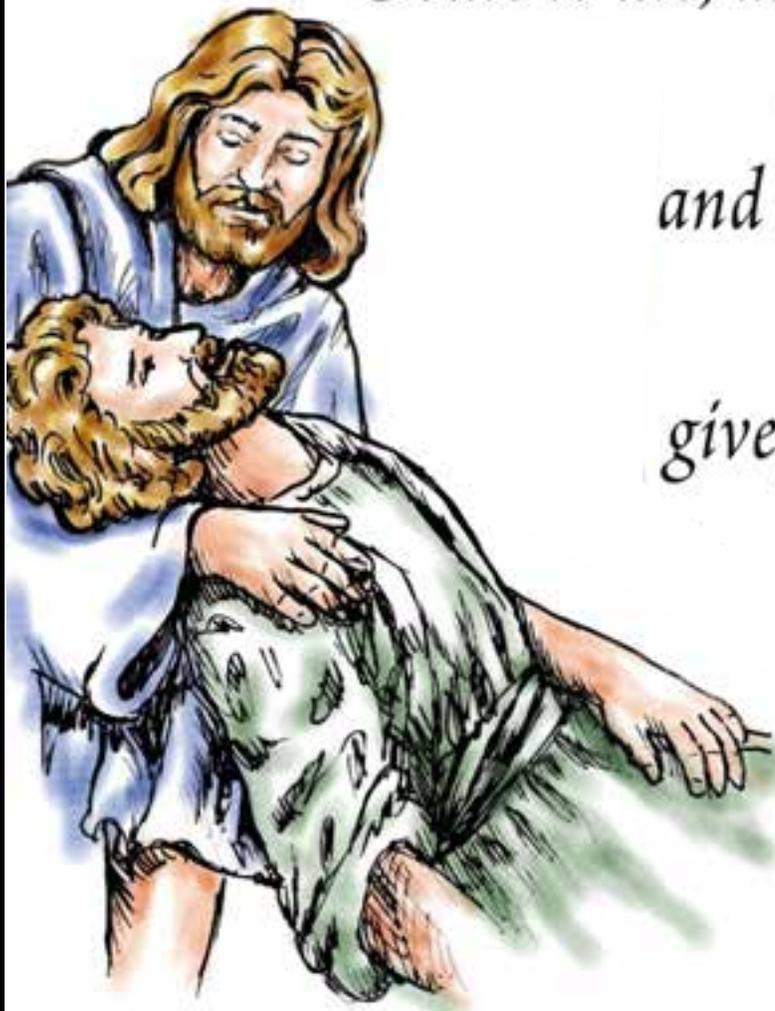




Bethany Lutheran Outlook
March 2013

Serving God, Community, and Individuals



*“Come to me, all you who
are weary
and burdened,
and I will
give you rest.”*

Matthew 11:28



PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Kathy and I were having breakfast down at Buck's on the morning of Father Jim Challancin's funeral in early February. While we were there we overheard a couple of guys talking at a nearby table saying, "I liked him! Now there was a real priest." After that I thought, if they talk about you at Buck's after you die, you really must have made an impact on the community.

Those guys sitting at that nearby table were right. Father Jim was a real priest and he did have an impact not just on the people of his parish at St. Joe's, but on the whole Ishpeming community. His graciousness toward everyone was noticed and appreciated by many, a lot of whom I'm sure never set foot in his church. His smile had a way of making you feel better. He also had a big impact on many of the other clergy in the area in that he represented all that is right and good about the church and about what we do. He had a truly ecumenical spirit in what can be a pretty fractured religious community.



I got to know Father Jim not long after I arrived in Ishpeming. I invited him to the pastor's text study on Tuesdays and he became a regular part of the group. We appreciated his presence with us as in his quiet way he often provided insights that got to the essence of a text. His academic achievements were way beyond those of most of us but humble as he was, we didn't even know it; he was just Father Jim.

Members of his parish have said how much the text study group meant to Jim. In light of that it was a real privilege for me to have the opportunity to say a few words on behalf of the group at the prayer service the evening before his funeral. He wanted his Lutheran friends to be part of things because he saw us all as part of the one church. The church can often look bad with all the infighting between and within denominations, but Father Jim had a clearer vision than that. It wasn't that being Catholic didn't matter to him he just had a different vision, a wider vision.

Many years ago I preached a sermon, the gist of it being that you can't do what Jesus would do until you see what Jesus would see. Better than most, Father Jim saw what Jesus would see and that's how he lived his life; it just became who he was and there was nothing phony about it. I'm sure he had his faults, but he didn't just talk the talk, he walked the walk to the very end.

The guys down at Buck's were right; Father Jim was a real priest in ways that I'm sure he wasn't even aware of.

I'll miss him, but I'll never forget him.

Pastor Geier



March 24 Palm Sunday

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday brunch follows worship.

As we ponder what it would've been like to throw coats and branches in your path as you entered Jerusalem, Lord, help us lay our lives at your feet.

March 28 Maundy Thursday 8:00 p.m.

God, after the first Passover, you delivered Israel from slavery. Today we share that meal, transformed by your Son, and trust in your delivery from slavery to sin. Amen.

March 29 Good Friday

Ecumenical Service @ Wesley Methodist Church 12:30—3:00 p.m.

Tenebrae Service 9:00 p.m.

Holy God, mighty and immortal, have mercy on us. We praise you, for by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

March 30 Easter Vigil 9:00 p.m.

All Night Vigil 11:00 p.m.

March 31 Easter Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Hallelujah! Christ is risen! Welcome into Easter joy. The power of God raised Jesus from the dead and offers eternal life to all.



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.

March 2013

“The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid.”

—Martin Luther

- | | | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1 | Psalm 63:1-8 | Daniel 12:1-4 | Revelation 3:1-6 |
| 2 | Psalm 63:1-8 | Isaiah 5:1-7 | Luke 6:43-45 |

3 Third Sunday in Lent

- | | | | | |
|---|---------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| | Isaiah 55:1-9 | Psalm 63:1-8 | 1 Cor. 10:1-13 | Luke 13:1-9 |
| 4 | Psalm 39 | Jeremiah 11:1-17 | Romans 2:1-11 | |
| 5 | Psalm 39 | Ezekiel 17:1-10 | Romans 2:12-16 | |
| 6 | Psalm 39 | Numbers 13:17-27 | Luke 13:18-21 | |
| 7 | Psalm 32 | Joshua 4:1-13 | 2 Cor. 4:16 -- 5:5 | |
| 8 | Psalm 32 | Joshua 4:14-24 | 2 Cor. 5:6-15 | |
| 9 | Psalm 32 | Exodus 32:7-14 | Luke 15:1-10 | |

10 Fourth Sunday in Lent

- | | | | | |
|----|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | Joshua 5:9-12 | Psalm 32 | 2 Cor. 5:16-21 | Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 |
| 11 | Psalm 53 | Leviticus 23:26-41 | Revelation 19:1-8 | |
| 12 | Psalm 53 | Leviticus 25:1-19 | Revelation 19:9-10 | |
| 13 | Psalm 53 | 2 Kings 4:1-7 | Luke 9:10-17 | |
| 14 | Psalm 126 | Isaiah 43:1-7 | Philippians 2:19-24 | |
| 15 | Psalm 126 | Isaiah 43:8-15 | Philippians 2:25 -- 3:1 | |
| 16 | Psalm 126 | Exodus 12:21-27 | John 11:45-57 | |



17 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21 Psalm 126 Philippians 3:4b-13 John 12:1-8

18 Psalm 20

Exodus 40:1-15

Hebrews 10:19-25

19 Psalm 20

Judges 9:7-15

1 John 2:18-28

20 Psalm 20

Habakkuk 3:2-15

Luke 18:31-34

21 Psalm 31:9-16

Isaiah 53:10-12

Hebrews 2:1-9

22 Psalm 31:9-16

Isaiah 54:9-10

Hebrews 2:10-18

23 Psalm 31:9-16

Leviticus 23:1-8

Luke 22:1-13



24 Sunday of the Passion

Procession with Palms: Luke 19:28-40

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 22:14 -- 23:56

25 Monday in Holy Week

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalm 36:5-11

Hebrews 9:11-15

John 12:1-11

26 Tuesday in Holy Week

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalm 71:1-14

1 Cor. 1:18-31

John 12:20-36

27 Wednesday in Holy Week

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 70

Hebrews 12:1-3

John 13:21-32

The Three Days



28 Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 1 Cor. 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35



29 Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13 -- 53:12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 John 18:1 -- 19:42



30 Vigil of Easter

Vigil Readings* Romans 6:3-11 John 20:1-18



31 Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 1 Cor. 15:19-26 Luke 24:1-12

Easter Vigil



On the Saturday before Easter Sunday, Bethany will spend the hours before and after midnight waiting and watching for the presence of the risen Christ.

A large white candle with a cross on it is lit as the vigil begins. The service starts with the pastor saying, "Sister and brothers in Christ, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the Passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through water and oil, bread and wine, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory."

During the Easter Vigil, we rehearse our whole history as God's people as we listen to the stories of God's grace and deliverance. Below is a list of the Old Testament readings and Psalms that will tell the history of God's people.

- * Genesis 1:1-2:4a and Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26
- Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18; 8:6-18; 9:8-13 and Psalm 46
- Genesis 22:1-18 and Psalm 16
- Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21 and Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18
- Isaiah 55:1-11 and Isaiah 12:2-6
- Proverbs 8:1-8, 19-21; 9:4b-6 and Psalm 19
- Ezekiel 36:24-28 and Psalm 42, 43
- Ezekiel 37:1-14 and Psalm 143
- Zephaniah 3:14-20 and Psalm 98
- Jonah 1:1 -- 2:1 and Jonah 2:2-9
- Isaiah 61:1-4, 9-11 and Deuteronomy 32:1-4, 7, 36a, 43a
- Daniel 3:1-29 and Song of the Three 35-65



The Easter Vigil Service will begin at 9:00 p.m. on March 30.

It will be followed by an All-Night Vigil. If you are able to take part in the All-Night Vigil, please sign up for a designated time on the list posted on the kiosk.

Lenten Services and Soup Suppers Continue

The Wednesday Lenten Services continue during March at 6:30 p.m. with the last three plays in the series *Lent in the Attic* by John P. Trump. All the stuff that's been stored and left in the attic will be explored first by the children of the couple who bought the house, then by two burglars, and finally by the woman, now a widow, who bought the house thirty years before.

Prior to the service there will be the Lenten Soup Suppers which begin at 5:30 p.m.



These Boards of Bethany will provide the soups during March.

March 6 - Stewardship and Personnel

March 13- Finance and Property

March 20 - Council

Easter Flowers

Easter Lilies will be \$14

Mums, Daffodils, & Tulips will be \$15

Azaleas and Hydrangeas will be \$25

The deadline for ordering is March 15.



Once the Door Is Shut

Get away from your worldly occupations for a while, escape from your tumultuous thoughts. Lay aside your burdensome cares and put off your laborious exertions. Give yourself over to God for a little while, and rest for a while in Him. Enter into the cell of your mind, shut out everything except God and whatever helps you to seek Him once the door is shut. Speak now, my heart, and say to God, 'I seek your face; your face, Lord, I seek.'

-St. Anselm

Enjoy the Poetry of Hymns

Come Unto Me

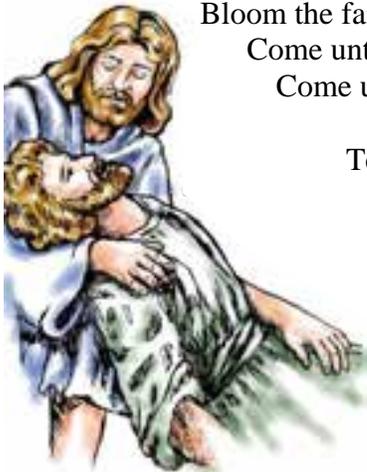
Come unto me, when shadows darkly gather,
When the sad heart is weary and distressed,
Seeking for comfort from your Heavenly Father,
Come unto me, and I will give you rest!

Ye who have mourned when the spring-flowers were taken,
When the ripe fruit fell richly to the ground,
When the loved slept, in brighter homes to waken,
Where their pale brows with spirit-wreaths are crowned;

Large are the mansions in thy Father's dwelling,
Glad are the homes that sorrows never dim;
Sweet are the harps in holy music swelling,
Soft are the tones which raise the heavenly hymn;

There, like an Eden blossoming in gladness,
Bloom the fair flowers the earth too rudely pressed;
Come unto me, all ye who droop in sadness,
Come unto me, and I will give you rest.

Text by Catherine H. Esling



Catherine H. Esling

Poet Catherine H. Esling, nee Watterman, was a frequent contributor to the periodical literature of the early United States. A selection of her writings entitled "The Broken Bracelet and Other Poems" was published in Philadelphia. Critics described her writing as "smoothly and gracefully written, always pleasing, tender-hearted, and stirring."

Catherine was born in Philadelphia in 1812, married there, in 1840, to Captain George J. Esling of the Merchant Marine. She was a member of the American Protestant Episcopal denomination. She remained in Philadelphia all her life, never having left her home for a greater distance than forty miles, or for a longer period than forty-eight hours.

Catherine wrote *Come Unto Me* in 1839. Its original version had nine stanzas of four lines. In the same year, her poem appeared in the periodical *The Christian Keepsake* where Lowell Mason saw it and thereafter was moved to set her words to music.

Night and God

All day we turn the wheel;
All day we plow the sod;
But when we lay us down to rest,
We leave the night to God.

We yield us to his care,
Forget our joy and pain,
Knowing that he will keep the watch
Until we wake again.

When ends life's little day,
With all our journeys trod,
In perfect trust we'll turn to sleep,
Leaving the night to God.

-Archibald Rutledge



Rest: A fresh approach to Lenten discipline

By Cheri Mueller



Thrilled with the invitation to spend a weekend with friends at their new lake home, Jim and Janelle packed up their Jeep with fishing poles, beach toys, bags and bug spray. Their vehicle, jam-packed and loaded down, was a perfect metaphor for their stress-filled lives.

In addition to the normal strain of raising three small children, they had been dealing with an unexpected season of unemployment, the deaths of two close family members and several medical challenges. Needless to say, they were desperate for a vacation and thankful for the chance to unwind. As their vehicle lurched onto the highway, feelings of stress began to melt away, slowly, like the ice in their cooler of groceries and pop.



The best part of the trip was leaving behind the fierce drive of agendas, routines and unrelenting responsibilities. They savored lying in a hammock and studying the sun glistening on the water like sparklers on the Fourth of July. Waking up at midnight to show their children an evening sky boasting a pollution-free view of the moon. Picking raspberries and rhubarb in the early morning, their mouths stained happy red as they anticipated rolling out pastry for a pie. Swimming in the lake. Living in the moment.

What if we approached Lent with this same easy discipline, embracing a vacation-minded rhythm to our days? Instead of taking on more, giving up more, serving or sacrificing more, what if we focused on the promise in [Isaiah 30:15](#): "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength"? What if we committed to repentance and rest during Lent, embracing the Hebrew meaning of salvation — yasha: to be open, wide or free?

Repentance

Angie was accustomed to giving something up for Lent. The way she understood it, giving up a vice would clear some of the obstacles in her heart, making room for more of God's presence. One year she gave up coffee. Another year it was chocolate. Then she switched to exercising more (or trying).

"I 'm not sure I drew closer to God, but I do know I felt like a big failure," she lamented. "I tried to pray more, give more, but the vice thing...well let's just say I never overcame my faults successfully, and believe me I have more than one."

For Angie self-denial achieved the opposite effect. It didn't help her focus on God, it just left her with a mountain of guilt.

Although there's a place for self-sacrifice, it's only a redemptive experience if the process brings us face to face with our loving Savior. According to Isaiah 30:15, the Hebrew word for repent; means more than just turning from sin. It means "re-turning" from sin and to God.

In his Lenten devotional *Show Me The Way* (Crossroad, 1992), theologian Henri Nouwen encourages us to reject the voice of despair that says "forget about underneath God's arm and hone in on the voice of Jesus that says, 'I am your God, I have molded you with my own hands, and I love what I have made. I love you with a love that has no limits. Do not run from me. Come back to me – not once, not twice, but always again...I so much want you to be close to me.'"

Like the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32), when we settle into the Father's embrace we experience turning and re-turning as a vacation-like gift.

Psalms 23 reminds us that God wishes to restore our souls by leading us to quiet waters and pastures green.

Repentance is a gift that ultimately leads to rest.

Rest

Imagine if entire congregations and communities truly experienced the kind of repentance that leads to rest. Would God's work continue?

In Kolkata, India's, Home for the Dying and Destitute, Mother Teresa insisted the nuns take Thursdays off. "The work will always be here, but if we do not rest and pray we will not have the presence to do our work."



Can you imagine how selfish it must have felt to turn away the sick, hungry and desolate for some personal rest? But Mother Teresa understood the discipline of rest that in Hebrew is *nachath*. It means “lighting down,” which suggests a feather floating gently on the wind.

The opposite of lighting down is someone trying to carry more than he/she should. It takes discipline to trust that God's work will continue without our own prideful agendas. It takes faith to believe that God has important spiritual work to do that can only be accomplished if we are quiet and still.

We take pride in our work and too easily believe we are the glue holding all things together. The rest of Isaiah 30:15 says: “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength. *But you refused.*” If we rebel against repentance, rest, quietness or trust, we lose sight of the work that has already been accomplished through Christ. We forget that Jesus offers a yoke that is “easy.”



For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Matthew 11:30

Author Phillip Yancey suggests that Jesus would not appreciate our modern emphasis on punctuality, precise scheduling and accomplishing more. In *The Jesus I Never Knew* (Thomas Nelson, 1995), he reminds us that “Jesus did not mechanically follow a list of ‘things I Gotta do Today’ ...He attended wedding feasts that lasted for days. He let himself get distracted by any ‘nobody’ he came across, whether a hemorrhaging woman who shyly touched his robe or a blind beggar who made a nuisance of himself. Two of his most impressive miracles (the raising of Lazarus and of Jairus’ daughter) took place because he arrived too late to heal the sick person.”

Like Jesus, we can live in the moment with the same focus it requires to thread a needle. We can accept the invitation to repent that Lent offers, welcoming it like a much needed vacation. And when the Savior whispers, “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28), we can lean into Jesus and the stories leading up to Easter in a way that truly sets us free.

From The Lutheran, February 2013



Five Restful Disciplines for Lent

By Cheri Mueller

- **Get more sleep:** Your energy level and overall Lenten perspective will begin to change when you commit to getting more sleep. Practice going to bed 30 minutes earlier than your usual bedtime. Or, if you're guilty of hitting snooze repeatedly, set your alarm for a realistic time so you can capture more uninterrupted Zs.
- **Read about rest:** Consider a book about meditation, prayer or slowing down. *Seven Sacred Pauses: Living Mindfully Through the Hours of the Day* by Macrina Wiederkehr ([Sorin Books](#) 2008) is a wonderful read for anyone who wants to learn to bring balance to their frenetic days. Practice this monastic tradition of pausing at key points during the day to pray, breathe and live in tune with the spirit of each hour.
- **Practice saying no:** It might feel difficult to refrain from taking on more responsibility in life, especially when called upon to do something you believe in. But for six weeks make a commitment to refrain from adding anything new to your life, citing religious reasons if needed.
- **Forgive yourself:** Sometimes it's the internal voices of doubt, shame and self-judgment that fuel our rat races. Practice being easy with yourself. Memorize Jesus' invitation to the weary and heavy laden ([Matthew 11:28](#)) or a verse on forgiveness — repeat it often.
- **Give lay leaders a break:** Change up your church programming during Lent so youth leaders, Sunday school teachers or other key assistants can take a much needed hiatus. Offer a slower paced curriculum for youth that is creative, refreshing and in the spirit of the Lenten season. Or seek out substitute help for a handful of leaders who seem burned out and in need of time to reflect, relax and rejuvenate.



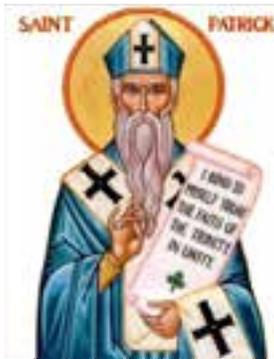
From The Lutheran , February 2013



Library Thoughts for March 2013

By Keenan Tunnell

I'm still in California as I write this, but I'll be home soon after you receive this issue of the OUTLOOK...and I'm looking forward to it, snow and all!! But, down to business: Like last month, I'm providing a look at a few of the holy days occurring this month, some of which we celebrate and others we don't, for various reasons. There will be materials on the Library Kiosk relating to most of them and I hope there will be something among them to enlighten your faith. Please observe Lent to the fullest with Prayer, Fasting, and works of charity and especially the drama of the Easter Vigil leading to the glorious celebration of Easter!! See you soon.



17 March – St. Patrick & the Saints of Ireland

St. Patrick (c. 386-17 March 493) was a Christian missionary and patron saint of Ireland, along with Saint Brigid of Kildare and Saint Columba, and is traditionally considered the introducer of the Christian religion on the island. Born on the west coast of Britain, when he was sixteen he was captured and sold into slavery in Ireland, from where he escaped and returned home to his family six years later. Then he started his religious life and returned to Ireland as an ordained bishop in the north and west of the island, where he had fled to preach the Gospel. See the hymn “St. Patrick’s Breastplate” in the hymnal for his devotion to the Holy Trinity.



24 March – Palm/Passion Sunday (Beginning of Holy Week)

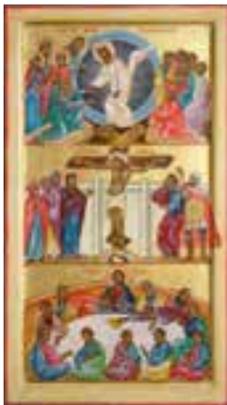
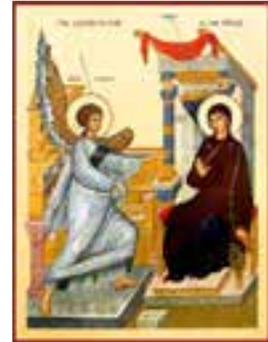
Palm Sunday has a dual focus today. The service begins with a joyful procession with palms to remember our Lord's jubilant entry into Jerusalem. The hymns, prayers, and lectionary Scripture readings also reflect this joy. A second focus on Palm Sunday is our Lord's Passion. When this second focus is observed, the entire passion story (Matthew, Mark, or Luke) is read (in place of the sermon).

Originally, however, Passion Sunday was held two weeks before Easter (since the ninth century) and it began the two week period known as "Passiontide" in which special stress was placed on Christ's suffering and crucifixion. Actually, the two week Passiontide is older than Lent, having been observed since the third century.

25 March -- Annunciation to the Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Annunciation always occurs sometime during Lent and its life-affirming message is a bright light in the darkness of the penitential season. Please join your voices in this prayer, which is the conclusion of the Prayer of the Church for this holy day:

“O Loving One,
as your messenger came to Mary with words of your favor
and the pledge of wondrous new life,
may we, in our day, prove ourselves
as ready to serve you, and as willing to bear the life you offer,
for the blessing of our world. *Amen.*”



28 – 30 March --The Great Three Days: the Easter Triduum

These days are the highlight of the Christian Year, including Maundy Thursday's institution of the Eucharist, Good Friday's crucifixion and death of our Lord, and the Easter Vigil celebrating our Lord's movement from death to life, His once for all sacrifice and conquest of sin and death for all mankind.

31 March – Easter; Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord

Easter tide begins today and we celebrate the season for fifty days, until the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost....but more about Eastertide next month. Check out the Easter books on the kiosk. The majority of them are children's books but their message is probably clearer for that. See what you think!





The Lutheran: February 2013

New Thinkers in the ELCA



Cover story

Talking about God

What some of the ELCA's young theologians are up to

by Anne Basye



Even prophets get the blues

Lessons on depression from Elijah's angelic visitor

by Frank G. Honeycutt



Getting their goats

Mountain villagers use ELCA World Hunger gifts to build community

by Y. Franklin Ishida



Go tell it, smell it

The aroma of good news comes through you

by Michael T. Weaver



Faith and science

What are the gifts that science brings?

by Nelson Rivera, Gilson A.C. Waldkoenig

Columnists



Elements of the Lord's day:

Passing the peace

by Peter W. Marty

Presiding bishop:

We are all theologians

by Mark S. Hanson



*Palm Sunday
Brunch*



*Bethany's Palm Sunday Brunch
March 24
after worship service*



*Decorated Eggs
Ham & cheese on rolls
Fruit
Muffins
Coffee
Milk*

*Sponsored by the
Board of Worship and Music*

*All donations will benefit
Bethany's Ministry of
Worship & Music*





From the Board of Stewardship...

I would like to start this article about stewardship by quoting from the February *Outlook, Pastor's Reflections*, by Pastor Geier.

“One of the things I’ve been thinking about for a while is where the church is headed; I’ve mentioned this in sermons, I wrote about it in my Annual Report article. There is a lot out there about this, much of it lamenting the “decline” of the church in numbers and significance. My take though, is that this “decline” is not cause for lament nor is it cause to latch on to the latest program that promises to turn things around. Instead, it’s cause for prayer and reflection, not prayer for a return to the good old days, but prayer to be open to the future, open to what God is doing and where God is leading.”

What are YOU doing to be involved in Bethany Lutheran Church’s mission, “To serve God, Community and Individuals?” Stewardship is about how YOU use your time, talents and treasury to help spread the good news of Jesus Christ. As I read the February newsletter I made some notes of all the examples of good stewardship that are taking place here at Bethany. Here are just a few examples:

- Members of the church boards cooking and serving soup for the Lenten suppers
- Actors for our Lenten dramas
- Sunday School teachers teaching our children about Jesus and having them sing on Sunday morning
- Ann Gonyea coming “home” to preach for us
- Bethany contributing offerings to Ann’s seminary expenses
- Worship assistants, i.e. ushers, readers, altar care, greeters
- How about the 2012 offerings exceeding expenses by about \$450!
- Homework Club (They still need some more helpers.)
- Blood Mobile at the church
- Donations to the Atkins family to help with medical expenses
- WELCA, Board of Social Ministry, and quilters organizing contributions of money, food, quilts, and tons of other things to Lutheran World Relief, the food bank, Salvation Army, etc.
- Volunteers serving on church boards and the council

Like most volunteer organizations, only about 10% of our members are active doing the work of the church. Imagine if we could get another 10% of our members active in the church. How much easier it would be for those already involved? How much more could we accomplish? I've highlighted a small number of our activities in the paragraph above. We have also circulated a time and talents survey with a very comprehensive list of ways YOU can get involved with our ministry.

How can YOU get more involved? Break out of your comfort zone.

Let's not lament nor long for the past but get personally involved going forward.

How can YOU help Bethany in the future as we continue to be vibrant for another 142+ years?

Don't be shy! We'll find some way to utilize YOUR talents. Maybe YOU will learn something new. No experience necessary.

Tom Perry
Board of Stewardship



How to Be a "Rhino" Steward



Rhinos are unique creatures. Weighing up to 5,000 pounds, covered with inflexible plates of thick skin, a rhinoceros can run as fast as 30 or 40 mph. When a rhino perceives a threat or is irritated, it charges with enormous power. The last thing anyone wants aimed at him is a pointed 18-inch horn with all that weight and speed behind it. The rhinoceros is single-minded when it comes to doing what God made it to do — protect all members of its herd, especially the young ones. And the rhino does it immediately, without thought for itself.

Perhaps the rhino can teach us a thing or two about stewardship.

Shouldn't we be quick to serve God's kingdom as stewards through the use of our talent, time and treasure? And shouldn't we put the full force of our convictions behind our actions? Such dedication would be rhino-like in its immediacy, persistence and perpetuity.

Time & Talent
Sharing—Serving—Growing
Commitment to Serving the Lord

Worship

- Assisting Minister
- Usher
- Greeter
- Nursery
- Fellowship/Coffee Hour
- Bread Baker
- Altar Guild
- Other?

Music

- Choir
- Bell Choir
- Sunday School Music
- Organ Playing
- Piano Playing
- Instrumentalist

Board Members

- Evangelism
- Worship & Music
- Property
- Stewardship
- Social Ministry
- Christian Education
- Finance
- Personnel

Care and Concern for Others

- Visiting shut-in members
- Nursing home visitations
- Transportation (provide rides)
- Helping members in need
- Funeral serving
- Funeral ushering
- Prayer shawls

Trade Skills

- Outside clean-up (spring & fall)
- Inside clean-up (spring & fall)
- Christmas (decorating and undecorating)
- Carpentry work
- Electrical work
- Plumbing
- Painting
- Other (specify)

WELCA

- WELCA Circles
- Provide food for special occasions
- Quilting for charities
- Sewing for charities
- Other (specify)

Education

- Sunday School Teacher
- Sunday School Assistant
- Confirmation Mentor/Teacher
- Vacation Bible School
 - Teach a class
 - Assist with a class
- Homework Club

**How Can You
Be Involved?**



A Sign of Spring

In *The Story of the Easter Robin* (Zonderkidz), Dandi Daley Mack-all retells an old Pennsylvania Dutch tale of the robin's compassion as he witnessed Jesus' death.

On Good Friday, a plain brown robin flying over Jerusalem was curious about the "nest" atop Jesus' head. When the bird realized it was a crown of thorns, he tried to dislodge it. As the robin pulled out a long thorn from Jesus' forehead, a drop of blood landed on the bird's breast, staining it red. Now the robin's red breast is a symbol of Jesus' loving sacrifice, and the robin's early-spring song is a reminder of Jesus' joyful resurrection.

Easter Is Timeless

Easter is a moveable feast, falling any time between March 22 and April 25 on the Gregorian calendar. At a meeting of bishops in 325 A.D., Easter Sunday was set as the first Sunday after the first full moon following the northern hemisphere's vernal equinox. (Though the equinox can fall on March 19, 20 or 21, the church fixed March 21 as this date.)

Over the years, branches of the church differed on the precise date for Easter, finally reaching agreement in the late 700s. Since 1582, however, when the Western Church adopted the Gregorian calendar while the Eastern Church retained the Julian one, the timing of Easter has sometimes varied between the two.

Such computations are interesting but pale in light of the ultimate assurance that for Christians, every day is truly Easter. Christ's tomb is empty! Jesus defeated death! Whenever we worship, we celebrate resurrection. Date-bound by earthly calendars, the Feast of the Resurrection, by heaven's rendering, is eternal.



**The March Noisy Offering
will go to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.
Thanks to everyone for your generosity!**

Kids!

Sunday School News



During March, we will learn about....

March 3 The Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 25-37)



What does it mean to be a good Samaritan?

March 10



The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32)

How does the father show he forgives his son?

March 17 The Last Supper (John 13:1-20)



Who takes part in The Last Supper?

March 24 Holy Week Activities

Palm Sunday Procession (Like 19:28-40; 22:14-23; 56)

On Palm Sunday we will take part during the worship service and wave palms during the Palm Sunday Procession.



March 31 Easter Sunday
(No Sunday School)



Fifth Graders Take Part in First Communion

During the February 24 worship service, the fifth grade class received their first communion. Those taking part were Kayla Koski, Hope Kaukola, Gavin Argall, Jackson Cardoni, McKenzie Ryan, and Garrett Frustaglio.



Color Easter Eggs the Natural Way

Here's a fun way to color Easter eggs using all natural ingredients. The longer the eggs are in the coloring the darker they will become. (Note: some of these colors need to be heated on a stove or in a microwave oven. Be sure to get an adult to help you.)

Golden Brown

Simmer the brown outer skins of onions for 5-10 minutes. The more skins you use, the darker the color

Blue

Mash blueberries—fresh, frozen, or canned—in a pan with a little water. Simmer 5-10 minutes.

Lilac

Dip eggs in cold grape juice. For a darker shade simmer the juice for 5-10 minutes.

Pale Green

Chop and simmer the green tops of carrots.

Chocolate-colored

Dip eggs in hot coffee straight from the coffeepot.





Council Highlights

- Received thanks from FLLC, Lutheran Social Services, Feeding America Local Food Bank
- Pastoral Acts: Baptisms of Kay Ryan, Mackenzie Ryan and Killean Ryan 2/18/13; Baptisms of Bryan and Preston Smith 1/27/13
- Kevin, Kay, Mackenzie and Killean Ryan were received into membership.
- Approved congregational participation in Earthkeepers II – an interfaith environmental coalition which provides grant funded energy assessment and planning.
- Bethany will have an announcement in the Mining Journal Progress Report and run a ¼ page ad in the Easter Section.
- Discussions for a West End Youth Ministry effort are underway using social networking as an organizing structure.
- Rev. Kevin Kaiser is the new pastor at Bethany in Republic.
- Rev. Tamra Harden is the new pastor at Bethany in Negaunee.
- Pastor explained that the op-ed article which appeared in the Sunday Mining Journal, *Much Work Needed to Change Violent Culture*, grew out of the clergy's text study group. He has had positive feedback on this article.

Easter Postcard Included in Outlook



Enclosed in each copy of March's Outlook is the Holy Week worship schedule. The schedule is written on a postcard. Feel free to use it as...

- Your special reminder
- A book mark
- An invitation (Add postage and send it to someone inviting them to take part in our Holy Week services at Bethany.)

<p>OUR CHURCHES FINANCES</p>	<p>YTD Income: \$14,331.83 YTD Expenses: \$17,465.54</p>	<p>Is Your Pledge up to Date?</p>
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Looking Ahead....

April 6 Bethany's Annual Pie Social

Sign up on the kiosk if you are able to bake a pie(s).

May 5 Bethany will be hosting WELCA's Spring Cluster Meeting



World Day
of Prayer

World Day of Prayer Service

Mitchell United Methodist Church in Negaunee will hold a worship service on March 15 at 1 p.m. in recognition of World Day of Prayer. All are invited to join in this worship service.



"I dyed your scrambled eggs for Easter."





Thank you

Thank you to all in Bethany who sent cards, remembrances and other good wishes to me while I have been recuperating. I hope to be back at Bethany soon.

Evelyn Nadeau

Souper Bowl of Caring



The 2013 Souper Bowl of Caring brought in at least \$134 to fight hunger. Fans of the Baltimore Ravens donated \$64 and fans of the San Francisco 49s donated \$70 on February 3. Additional money came in afterwards to boost the total. Thanks to all who contributed.



Bethany's Website

www.bethanyishpeming.org

To view the latest edition of the Outlook in color, please visit Bethany's website.

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



Café Salvador Coffee
Organic Decaf Coffee
Whole Bean Coffee
Whole Bean Decaf
Teas
Hot cocoa
Baking Cocoa
Milk Chocolate Bar
Dark Chocolate Mini Bars

From Small Farmers With Love



Keep In Your Prayers

- Remember our home-bound and nursing home residents: Teckla Holmgren (home), Barbara Crabb (Mather), Doreen Brown (Valente), Joyce Lehto (Mill Creek), Marjorie Rosten (home), Shirley Sundblad (Valente), Betty Leverton (Valente), Anna Mae Collins (Mather)
- Emilie Brown
- Kay, Mackenzie, and Killean Ryan, newly baptized
- Pastor Marcia Solberg
- Pastor John West
- Pastor Doug Norquist
- Pastor Kevin Kaiser, new pastor at Bethany, Republic
- Pastor Tamra Harder, new pastor at Bethany, Negaunee
- Evelyn Nadeau
- Zander Atkins
- Jerry Plaisier
- Doris Pellonpaa
- Kathy Routhier
- Jim Bjerne
- Nancy Swanson
- Ray Sundblad
- Angie Kempainen
- Jean Lawson
- Mary Bertucci
- Jim Smullen
- Melissa Chartre
- June Forsberg
- Allen Beauchamp
- Allen Maki
- Steven Leverton
- Carol and Juan Papaleo and family
- Pam Waters
- Those in the military that they may remain safe



Daylight Savings Time begins March 10.

Remember to turn your clocks ahead.

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

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Rev. Warren Geier, Pastor
Home Phone: 485-4218
E-mail: pastor@bethanyishpeming.org

Parish Planning Council:
Exec. Director, Robert Nadeau
Asst. Exec. Director, Ted Swanson
Christian Education, Brent Clark
Finance, Jim Kinnunen
Personnel, Debbie Bussone
Property, Bill Heavyside
Social Ministry, Rae Elliot
Stewardship, Tom Perry
Worship & Music, Tonya Perry



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Northern Great Lakes Synod

March Worship Assistants

March 3

Assisting Minister - Sandee Sundquist
Acolyte - Kayla Kaukola & Shy Ann
Holm-Brown
Altar - Clara Carlson
Greeters - Barb Lucas & Paul Kniivila
Coffee Hosts -
Nursery - Melissa Chartre
Bread - Kaye Frederickson

March 10

Assisting Minister - Marilyn & John
Pontti
Acolytes - Liam Seppanen & Ben
Bruhnke
Altar - Sue Ryan
Greeters - Ruth and Roger Solberg
Coffee Hosts - Social Ministry
Nursery - Addy Lemire
Bread - Kay Chartre

March 17

Assisting Minister - Kathy Harrington
Acolytes - Kory Kaukola & Sabrina Holm-Brown
Altar - Marilyn Pontti
Greeters - Rae and Tony Elliot
Coffee Hosts - Worship & Music—Palm Sunday
Brunch
Nursery - Lindsey Stahlmann
Bread - Rae Elliot

March 24 Palm Sunday

Assisting Minister - Greg Stahlmann
Acolytes - Jacob Clark & Noah Kaukola
Altar - Marian Medlyn
Greeters - Shirley Tyni
Coffee Hosts -
Nursery - Jessica Penhale
Bread - Marian Medlyn

March 28 Maundy Thursday

Assisting Minister - Carl Pellonpaa
Acolytes - Sabrina and Shy Ann Holm-
Brown
Bread - Tonya Perry

March 31 Easter

Assisting Minister - Matt and Lindsay
Waters
Acolytes - Hannah Skewis & Savannah
Marietti
Altar - Sue Holmgren
Greeters - John and Marilyn Pontti
Coffee Hosts -
Nursery - Sabrina Holm-Brown
Bread - Terra Frustaglio

March Ushers:

John Beerling
Jerry Hager
Bill Heavyside
Robert Maki
Donald Meyer
Dan Sleeman
John Pontti



April Ushers:

Jaak Liivoja
Mike Richards
Tom Ryan
Ted Swanson
John Waters
Tim Grant

Thank You!

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Carol Carlson
- 2 Carol Heavyside
- 3 Heidi Sweet
- 4 Marvin Swanson
- 5 Addy Lemire
- 5 Joyce Lehto
- 7 Alexandra Kitchen
- 7 Evelyn Valente
- 8 Terra Frustaglio
- 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 Gregory Stahlmann
- 22 Nicholas Chartre
- 24 Patricia Nault
- 25 Robert Kaukola
- 25 Joseph Lemire
- 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 Riutta
- 31 Benjamin Bruhnke
- 31 Lois Goethe

Happy Anniversary!

Kenneth & Jean Lawson
3/29/1958 55 years

