

GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH



February 2018 Newsletter

From the Desk of Pastor David Maxfield

Dear Friends in Christ,

February 14 brings together two seemingly opposite celebrations– Valentine’s Day and Ash Wednesday. **Valentine’s day** is a day for love and chocolate, for flowers and chocolate, for Hallmark cards and chocolate and oh yeah did I mention chocolate?

Ash Wednesday seems discordant and out of place, sort of like wearing a polka dot tie with a plaid coat. It is somber as we begin the 40 day journey of Lent. Its symbol is not heart but a smudge-a cross shaped smudge” and its slogan? *Remember you are dust, to dust you shall return.*

So what does Valentine’s day and Ash Wednesday have in common?

Valentinus was a Christian who lived in Rome in the 3rd century. Although many legends and stories have been associated with him this much we know. He was a lover of God and highly regarded by the emperor. They had a falling out when Valentine tried to convert the emperor. Thrown into prison he was sentenced to death. There he had conversations with the jailor’s daughter. On the day of his execution, he left a hand written note simply signed “*your Valentine*” By the end of the century roses became associated Valentine and the day-February 14– was set aside to remember his martyrdom and faithfulness to Christ. Over time he became known as the saint of lovers, of engaged and married couples. Over the centuries February 14 became a feast day and in the early 20th century became *Valentine’s* celebrating love, roses (and chocolate-especially chocolate chip cookies)

Ash Wednesday and Lent have their origins in early second century Christianity. Originally adults (and their families) who desired to be baptized into the faith went through an extended time of teaching called the Catechumenate. During this time they were a part of worship but excused from the assembly when it was time to share the Lord’s Supper. Baptisms occurred on the eve of Easter and the 40days prior to this life-changing immersion were set aside as a time of prayer, fasting and doing works of compassion and mercy. Baptized Christians also took on these disciplines as a way of preparing for the celebration of the Resurrection. The ashes of Ash Wed have their origins in the Jewish burial ritual as a little dust was sprinkled over the body as it was laid in the tomb, and the mourners would sprinkle a handful of dirt over their heads to remind them of their own mortality.

So?

Well, lets see if we can tie the two together. We could begin with saying that Love, although known in life has its origin, its heart beat in God. Remember the verse *Everyone who loves is born of God... for God is love. (I John 4:7-8)*. We also know that the deepest, most profound love is discovered in the mystery of giving, of sacrifice of the self for another (*See John 3:16 and John 15:13*). *Valentinus*, as a witness to the love of God in Christ was willing to give his life for the one who called him beloved in his Baptism. As he listened and taught the jailor’s daughter about the mystery of God’s love in Jesus his note was a final act of friendship, prayer and yes of love.

So this year as I celebrate the love Margaret and I have shared for *almost a long time* I marvel at this journey of life and how something as wonderful, ordinary, joyful and frustrating (*yes we have our ups and downs*) is the very place we learn about life, love and if we are attentive– a bit of the heart of the One who is Love. All of this this year with a smudge on the forehead reminding me of the gift and limits of life, but in the Cross, Love is eternal.

Shalom

Pastor David

(P.S. I haven’t quite figured out where chocolate fits in so I’ll just have to eat a few more cookies until I do)

Church Committees.... WHODOESWHAT

Greetings from Evangelism!

As the weather has gotten colder we are seeing more people in need of our food pantry and encourage donations to the "Noisy Offering" for Community Connections in February ; thank you so much for your generous donations! Our members include: Audrey Frisinger, Mary Kay Odegard, Pat Day, Andrea Peterson, Lori Hahn, Judy Hogue, and Clarene Vee. We are in need of members to help serve homebound communion, if you are interested please contact the church office; education and support will be provided to new volunteers.

Hello from Parish Ed Committee!

Hello from Parish Ed!

Church School has been going very well. We had a successful Christmas Program we hope you all enjoyed.

We are planning our next campership fundraiser. Valentines Bingo event is scheduled for February 11th from 12:00 to 3:30. We will be working with 412Youth Group to provide and serve food during the upcoming event! We will have signup sheets out soon! We are asking families who received summer camp scholarships to bring food for the lunch. Proceeds from the Bingo event will go toward the youth mission trip and the summer camp scholarship fund. Hope to see you all there as it will be a great time for fellowship!

Information will be sent out soon for first communion, so keep your eyes open for that. Also, just around the corner will be 3rd grade bible distribution.

Lastly, believe it or not, we have started the initial preparations for bible school! Doing this in house requires a lot of planning and prep. Currently we are planning for "Shipwrecked" to take place June 3rd through June 7th from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. Please, if you have any interest at all we would love to have you help with Bible school. This takes a lot out of our committee as we have a lot on our plate with church school already. A few extra hands would be much appreciated! You can let any one of us know if you would like to be a part of this subcommittee. Every little bit counts for this big event, we doubled in size last year and hope to have just as many kids this year! We appreciate all the generosity we have received from everyone the past couple years to make this great event happen!

Please let us know if there is anything you would like to help with throughout the year. Members of our committee include, Georgette Huravitch, Liz Shupe, Sherry Weyrauch, Steph Amundson, Heidi Clemes, Ann Nelson, and Kami Dornfeld.

Greetings from Stewardship Committee!

What have we done lately with the gifts God gave us? Not just your talents, but including your talents. Not just your time, but including your time. Not just your money, but including your money. Everything we have is a gift from God, entrusted to us to care for and manage, and that includes our money. In the Bible, we read that what we do with our money and our possessions impacts our faith.

Thank you for the many ways you use all that God has entrusted to your care, for the ways you share gifts with your family, this congregation, our community and our church.

The Stewardship Committee -

Wendy McGinley, Kent Reiersen, Alberta Parisien, Rick Clemes & James Bervig

Community Connections

Working together to be a community where all people are valued.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

His love endures forever.

Psalm 118:1

As the New Year arrived so did the bitterly cold weather. That translated to more clients asking for assistance to pay rent. It is unbelievable how many have come into the office saying they are or have been evicted for non-payment of rent. They are lamenting they can't be evicted because of the cold weather – yes, they can. They are forced to read the agreements that they signed when they moved into the apartment or house.

We are in transition here at Community Connections. We are having the funds transferred from Bismarck Synod account to a bank here in Williston. This transition means many changes for us in the office. We will still be a ministry of the ELCA but moving the funding closer to us will be more convenient for us and enable us to better service to our clients.

Steve has noticed an up-tic of his services as employment counselor. If you know of anyone needing employment counseling or maybe a career change they should call to make an appointment with Steve, 701-713-6783.

We recently presented our program to churches in Divide County. We have offered to consult with them as they discern how to best help the people in their area.

Next month we will report on the Point -in-Time count of the homeless people here in Williston.

Stay warm and God's richest Blessings.

Sandy Winter
Steve Peters

603 Main Street #2
Williston, ND 58801

701-713-6783
communityconnectionswilliston@outlook.com

2018 EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

QUANTITY _____ @ \$15.00 EACH TOTAL _____

THESE FLOWERS ARE IN:

HONOR OF _____

MEMORY OF _____

GIVEN BY _____

ORDER FORMS MUST BE TURNED INTO THE OFFICE BY MARCH 18th



February

BIRTHDAYS

02/01

JERRY BAUER
KADE MORTENSON
MARKUS NOESKE

02/02

GLENDON OLSON
DEBORAH SOLOMONSON
ARLENE TVEDT
KRIS VINGER

02/03

ZOIE MATHERS
FLOYD PETERSON

02/04

WAYNE BIBERDORF
JOHN GARAAS

02/05

AMBER DEGELE
DUANE FENSTER
MARK OWAN
MAYCEE WILKIE

02/06

SHIRLEY GROTH
BRANDON SALVESON

02/07

GARRETT GRUNDSTAD
CRAIG NELSON
JACKSON OPPERUD
ABBY POWELL
BRIA SCHILKE

02/08

LINDA KNUDSVIG
CASEY PARADIES
JOSH REEB
ZANDER SHERMAN
MORGAN SNELLINGS

02/09

KATHY ENGBERG
EMMET WOLD

02/11

AUTUMN BAUSTE
BRIAN CERKONEY

02/12

CHRIS OSTER
SONYA OWAN

02/13

DANIELLE HODENFIELD
DAWN LAMBERT

02/14

ADAM KEMP
LONDEN PETERSON
DOROTHY POLSON
KOURTNEY SUNDBY

02/15

JEAN BIBERDORF
KAREN OLSON
TORRIE VADER

02/16

CHRIS ERICKSON
JAIDYN NASS
TRITEN TESKE

02/17

ELEANOR GAFKJEN
ISLA GILBERTSON
LINNEA MAXFIELD
THERESA MONSON
SONJA PETERSON
TREVOR POWELL

02/18

ETTA MILLER

02/19

LORIN GABBERT
SHELBY MEYER
LORRAINE NELSON

02/20

JERAMY HANSEN

02/21

DEBBIE BINGEMAN
RYLEE MONSON
MARYKAY ODEGARD

02/22

GEORGIANNE TOFTE

02/23

MEGAN MOEN

02/24

DANA LARSON

02/25

CODY HERING
BRINLEY KRITIKOS

02/26

KOLDEN KRINGEN
MOLLY LIPPERT
RUTH OLSON

02/27

TAYTE BORGIALLI
BROOKS BRATLIEN
ALIYAH OSBORN
SLOANE QUEALY
CHRISTY VANNATTA

02/28

WENDY BLOXHAM
ADDYSON ERICKSON
BETTY ROD

02/29

RANDY THOMPSON





PARISH ED/ YOUTH BINGO FUNDRAISER

DATE: FEBRUARY 11TH

TIME: NOON - 3:30 PM

PLACE: Gloria Dei Fellowship Hall

*This is a fund raiser for the 412 Youth Group
Summer Mission Trip and Parish
Education Campership Fund.*

- ◆ 3 Up Bingo Sheet - \$1
- ◆ Bingo Dauber - \$2
- ◆ Prizes for each game winner
- ◆ Try your luck at a winning fortune cookie
- ◆ Food will be available for purchase & is provided by Parish Education

**BRING YOUR FAMILY
FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS**



January Memorials & Honorariums

**In Memory of
Arlo Hendrickson**

Mortgage Reduction Fund
Rich & Jane Studsrud
Duane & Dorothy Fenster
Doug Hoglund
Gerald & Ruby Bauer

**In Memory of
Gordan Strand**

Mortgage Reduction Fund
Gerald & Ruby Bauer
Bill & Lola Christensen

**In Memory of
Cheryl Redalen**

Mortgage Reduction Fund
Duane & Dorothy Fenster

**In Honor of
Joan Bekkedahl's
85th Birthday**

Music Ministry
Ron & Deb Bingeman

**In Memory of
Dale Moline**

Memorial Fund
Harold & Arlene Tvedt

**In Memory of
Steve Larvick**

Memorial Fund
Harold & Arlene Tvedt

**In Memory of
Lanny Holgerson**

Memorial Fund
Harold & Arlene Tvedt



Mid Week Lenten Worship

The Lord's Prayer will be the theme for Lent this year as we sit at the feet of Jesus and learn from him. Each week we will explore an aspect of prayer, discover how this is seen in the life of Jesus, and consider ways it speaks to the life of disciples today.

7:00 pm Ash Wednesday (Feb.14) begins the journey with a reflective service of prayer, Holy Communion and the sharing of Ashes.

7:00 pm Wednesdays (Feb 21– March 21) Midweek Lenten Worship

Guided by the beautiful and prayerful sound of *Holden Evening Prayer* we gather for worship

Formed by the teaching of the **Lord's Prayer** we grow deeper in understanding who We are and what God desires to do in and through us.

Gathered in the *Prayers Around the Cross* we have the opportunity to bring our lives and the lives of those we love together with the needs, joys of the world into the healing presence of God

Supper will be serviced in the Fellowship Hall Wednesday night at 6 PM during Lent.

Prayer around the cross



Prayer Around the Cross is a meaningful devotional prayer service that was originally developed at Holden Village. Holden is an intergenerational retreat next to the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area in Washington State. It is a contemplative service filled with music, scripture and silence. It stems from the ancient and emerging worship movement with a Post-Modern component. It is sort of Holden's response to Taize' style worship. Worshippers can either sit in their pews or come up to the cross, light a votive candle, sit or stand and pray and meditate while music is played or silence is observed. Please join us for this special time of meaningful and engaging worship.



Gospel Seeds.... ***February 2018***

A Monthly Update from the Synod Office

Witnesses of the Gospel...

As I write this (mid-January) a group of people from Western North leave for the Central African Republic. We hope to share word from these witnesses of the Gospel in coming months.

Rev. Janis Sloka, Executive Director of Camp of the Cross has a long standing relationship with Cam-pamento Luterano Eduardo Roig near Dorado, Puerto Rico. He along with seven others who have a connection to Camp of the Cross made the trek to help with hurricane recovery work. We thank God for their efforts and look forward to learning more from them.

Meanwhile, Rev. Taryn Montgomery, Bread of Life, Minot is spending a little over a week visiting our companion church – the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Central African Republic. Through her visit she will get a chance see the ministries partner with in CAR. We look forward to learning more from her upon her return.

Plan to Attend...

Unhealthy conflict in a congregation undermines the proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ, that is a fact. One of the ways to avoid unhealthy conflict is to be clear about your congregation's purpose, according to Rev. Dr. Peter Steinke. Steinke has spent his career working with congregation's in conflict, writing about creating healthy congregations and teaching around these areas.

We are glad to welcome Dr. Steinke to Western North Dakota for an afternoon workshop at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Bismarck on Sunday, February 11th from 2:00pm until 5:00pm. The cost is \$10 per person. This is an incredible opportunity to learn from an excellent teacher – we hope to see you there.

Synod Council to Meet...

Your synod council meets February 9th and 10th at Christ Lutheran in Minot. If there are issues you want discussed please let me know. Also, a reminder – the deadline for submitting resolutions for this year's synod assembly is March 31st. Contact Faith Simonieg if you have questions about the process of bringing forward resolutions.

Staffing Reorganization...

Some changes are in the works for the structure of synod staff. A decision has been made to outsource much of the bookkeeping work for the synod. This move is being made to reduce staffing costs within the synod but will result in loss of long time employee Monroe Madson.

Monroe has faithfully served as the synod's Financial Administrator – always doing his best to oversee the gifts shared with the synod from individuals and congregations. He will continue to work in the office through mid-February. I am thankful for his servant's heart.

This means that duties will shift within the office and that we will be bringing on a new part-time position. As with any change there will be a learning curve and we ask that you be patient with us as we engage this new staffing pattern.

At the same time staff is looking closely at the synod's budget to make sure that we are best positioned to continue to provide for face to face contact with congregations. While Mission Support has been consistent it has not kept pace with inflation and rising costs.

What am I reading...

From time to time I am asked what I am reading. Here is what I am spending time with now:

-Original Blessing: Putting Sin in its Rightful Place by Danielle Shroyer. In this Fortress Press book, Shroyer argues that the concept of original sin was an add on to the Christian faith several hundreds years after the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Instead she argues that scripture instead speaks of original blessing, being beloved one of God.

-The Agile Church: Spirit Lead Innovation in an Uncertain Age by Dwight Zscheile. Written by a Luther Seminary Professor, this book does an excellent job of describing the sociological changes impacting the church today.

Blessings all!

Rev. Mark Narum

Serving as Bishop of the Western North Dakota Synod



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

December 2017 Financials

General Checking Account:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| December 1 2017 General Checking Account Balance | 199,917.60 |
| December Offering | +42,950.88 |
| December Expenses | <u>(36,578.87)</u> |
| December 31 2017 General Checking Account Balance | \$206,289.61 |

Special Checking Account:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| December 1 2017 Special Checking Account Balance | 272,956.00 |
| December Specials Offering | +13,553.65 |
| December Expenses | <u>(8,492.26)</u> |
| December 2017 Special Checking Account Balance | \$278,017.39 |

Benevolences :

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| WND Synod—ELCA Benevolence | 2401.77 |
| WND Synod– WND Benevolence | 274.49 |
| UMM Bible Camp Benevolence | 343.11 |
| Bethel Lutheran Home Benevolence | 240.18 |
| Lutheran Social Services Benevolence | <u>171.55</u> |
| Total Benevolences for November | \$3431.10 |

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Thrivent Mortgage Payment | \$6552.00 |
| Building Loan Balance as of December 21, 2017 | \$183,886.31 |

January Council Meeting Highlights

Committee Reports –

Pastor's report – Pastor David thanked the congregation and council for their support and prayers during his shoulder injury.

Evangelism – Committee is planning the potluck meal for the annual meeting on January 28, and they are planning a noisy offering campaign of giving to Community Connections for February.

Property - Work night is 2nd Monday of each month, and the committee is beginning a project of going through items currently in storage to determine what is needed and still being used.

Worship – Committee will be planning dinners and worship services for the upcoming Lenten season.

Stewardship – Committee has a number of projects in the works, including a few joint projects with other committees.

Parish Ed – Christmas program had a great turnout, and there are several upcoming Youth events as well.

Nominating – Open positions for council

Stewardship – 2, Worship – 1, Youth - One youth

**GIVE
ONLINE**

Visit www.gloriadeiwill.org and sign up for online giving.
Click on the 'Give' tab and create an account. If you have any questions,
please call the office at 701-572-2667.

Faith Lutheran Church

| | | |
|-------------|---------|----------|
| February 4 | Worship | 10:00 AM |
| February 11 | Worship | 10:00 AM |
| February 18 | Worship | 10:00 AM |
| February 25 | Worship | 10:00 AM |



Faith News February 2018

Bill Christensen

“Yet even now,” says the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts not your garments.” Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and repents of evil. Joel 2:12-13

Ash Wednesday is February 14 this year. How appropriate that the day couples celebrate their love we begin our journey to the cross and God's love for us, culminating in the resurrection and victory over sin and death . **“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but eternal life.”** John 3:16

As tempting as it may be to fast or give up something and that may be a good thing for you to do depending on what it is you give up for Lent. God wants us to repent and give our hearts and lives to Him and not just make some outward gesture of repentance for others to witness. When we do as the prophet Joel writes: And give our hearts, God abounds in love for us as we found out from the life of his only son our Lord Jesus Christ.

This year at Faith Lutheran Church we will again have Ash Wednesday service with Holy Communion and the implication of ashes and worship services also on Good Friday, with both services at 7 pm. May your Lenten journey draw you closer to the Lord your God.



- **Faith Women of the ELCA will meet February 10th at 10 AM at Darlene Benth's home (this is a change from the regularly scheduled time and place).
Bible Study leader - Phyllis Sylte**
- **Cleaning for February - Larry & Joanne Njos.**

8:30 AM Traditional Worship

9:30 AM Coffee Hour


10:45 AM Contemporary Worship

10:00 AM Worship

Gloria Dei Saturday Schedule

5:00 PM Worship

FEBRUARY 2018

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|------------------------------|
| 11 9:30 - Church School Valentine Bingo Noon - 3:30 PM Sr. High Youth— 7 PM | 12 GDLC Work Night - 5:30 PM Tri County Childcare - 7 PM SOS - 7 PM | 13 Quilting - 9 AM Stephen Ministries - 6:30 PM | 14 Ash Wednesday Education Supper 5:30 PM Education Hour 6 PM Lenten Supper 6 PM Ash Wednesday Service 7 PM Glory Band 8 PM | 15 Bible Study - 1:30 & 6:30 PM Gideons - 6 PM Evangelism - 6 PM | 16 Bible Breakfast - 8 AM | 17 Bible Breakfast - 8 AM |
| 18 No Church School No Sr. High Youth Group | 19  PRESIDENTS DAY SOS - 7 PM | 20 Quilting - 9 AM Stephen Ministries - 6:30 PM | 21 No Church School Activities Lenten Supper 6 PM Lenten Service 7 PM Glory Band 8 PM | 22 Property - Noon Bible Study - 1:30 & 6:30 PM | 23 Bible Breakfast - 8 AM First Lutheran Church Lutevisk 11 AM - 5 PM | 24 Bible Breakfast - 8 AM |
| 25 9:30 - Church School Sr. High Youth— 7 PM | 26 Quilting - 9 AM Stephen Ministries - 6:30 PM | 27 Quilting - 9 AM Stephen Ministries - 6:30 PM | 28 Education Supper 5:30 PM Education Hour 6 PM Lenten Supper 6 PM Lenten Service 7 PM Glory Band 8 PM | 29 Education Supper 5:30 PM Education Hour 6 PM Extended Youth Group 7 PM Glory Band 8 PM | 30 Bible Breakfast - 8 AM | 31 Bible Breakfast - 8 AM |

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church ELCA
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Williston, North Dakota, 58801

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WILLISTON, ND
58801
PERMIT #125

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Gloria Dei Council

Executive Committee

President - Wendy McGinley

Vice-President— Rick Clemes

Treasurer - Jeramy Hansen

Secretary - Kathy Molland

Committee Council Representatives

Parish Ed

Heidi Jeanotte

Sherri Weyrauch

Evangelism

Judy Hogue

Cheryl Nelson

Property

Mark Telehey

Terry Olson

Stewardship

Worship

David Rod

Youth Committee

Bill Reeb

