

The Lamp Lighter
March 2017
The Newsletter of Living Lord Lutheran Church
Real God. Real Faith. Real Life.
www.LLLC.org

Worship Schedule

Sundays at 8:00 am & 10:30 am at Living Lord Lutheran Church
Sundays at 9:00 am at Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Sundays at 10:30 am at St. Paul Lutheran Church

From Pastor William D. Leitch... What is the season of Lent? First, it is the forty days before the resurrection of Christ. There are 46 days from Ash Wednesday until Holy Saturday, but we do not count Sundays. Why? Because we observe the resurrection of Christ every Sunday. We are a resurrection people. So subtract the six Sundays in Lent and you have forty days.

What is the significance of 40? The number 40 has many Biblical references:

- Moses spent 40 days on Mount Sinai with God (Exodus 24:18)
- Elijah spent 40 days and nights walking to Mount Horeb (1 Kings 19:8)
- God sent 40 days and nights of rain in the great flood of Noah (Genesis 7:4)
- The Hebrew people wandered 40 years in the desert while traveling to the Promised Land (Numbers 14:33)
- Jonah's prophecy of judgment gave 40 days to the city of Nineveh in which to repent or be destroyed (Jonah 3:4)
- Jesus retreated into the wilderness where He fasted for 40 days and was tempted by the devil (Matthew 4:1-2, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-2). He overcame all three of Satan's temptations by citing scripture to the devil, at which point the devil left him, angels ministered to Jesus, and He began His ministry. Jesus further said that His disciples should fast "when the bridegroom shall be taken from them" (Matthew 9:15), a reference to His Passion. Our Gospel text on the first Sunday in Lent is always Jesus' temptation in the desert.

We observe three traditions during Lent. The three traditional practices to be taken up with renewed vigor during Lent are prayer (justice towards God), fasting (justice towards self), and almsgiving (justice towards neighbors).

As Tevye from Fiddler on the Roof would say, "Tradition." And it is a very precious tradition that we observe together as the Body of Christ. It is intentional. It is instructional. And it is a discipline that gives us focus and directs us back to a relationship with God. It gives us pause to examine ourselves and to give ourselves back to God. It is our way of intentionally looking for indicators that might be turning us from God and to renew life practices that will reorient us to Christ as the center of our lives.

I pray that we all fellowship together and worship together every Wednesday night as a discipline that will build and strengthen us as the Body of Christ.

Pastor Bill

Ash Wednesday Services...On **Wednesday, March 1**, we will have an Ash Wednesday Worship Service at noon at Living Lord and at Emmanuel. We will then come together for a Potluck Dinner at 6:00 pm and Joint TALC Ash Wednesday Worship Service at 7:00 pm at St. Paul. The youth will have a practice at 5:30 pm. Please see the sign-up sheet in the main hallway so St. Paul can plan for how many people will be attending. Please bring a covered dish to share at the Potluck Dinner; ham, beverages and paper products will be provided.

Mid-week Soup Supper and Lenten Worship Services...Beginning **Wednesday, March 8, through Wednesday, April 5**, Living Lord will host the mid-week Lenten services in a series called "At the Crossroads". Many of those involved in the story of the Passion of Christ came to a crossroads and had to decide which way to go. Some chose well, some did not, and the stories of each of these experiences at various crossroads help us to know what to do and what not to do when we encounter similar crossroads in our own lives. In the end, each service in the series reveals in some way how Christ and his cross lead us to decide the path of God's will for us. We will begin each Wednesday with a Soup Supper at 6:00 pm followed by Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm.

All three churches are having a Reformation 500 Bookstore...The 500th Anniversary of the Reformation is fast approaching! Do you want to learn more about Martin Luther, his writings, and their impact on Christianity? Do you want to reflect on the ongoing impact of the Reformation today? Stop by our Reformation 500 Bookstore to shop for engaging books on the Reformation for readers of all ages and interests! Save up to 50% plus receive free shipping on all Bookstore titles. Stop by the Reformation 500 table in your church on **Sunday, March 5, through Sunday, March 12**, to order fascinating books on the Reformation for you and your family. Our Bookstore is sponsored by Augsburg Fortress, the publishing ministry of the ELCA. The books will include bestselling biographies like *Luther the Reformer* as well as an atlas of the European Reformations, a graphic novel for young readers, and primary sources from The Annotated Luther series.

Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31...Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars have until **March 31, 2017**, to direct them. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide outreach funding to Living Lord Lutheran Church. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

Camp Frederick Dinner Dance Fundraiser...Camp Frederick will hold a Dinner Dance Fundraiser on **Saturday, April, 1**, beginning at 6:00 pm at Zion Lutheran Church, 3300 Canfield Road, Youngstown, OH 44511. The Roaring Twenties Dinner Dance will be an evening of food, dancing, auctions, and fun! Funds raised will go to support the sending of kids to Camp. The Dinner Dance will start at 6:00 pm with hors d'oeuvres and time to peruse the silent auction and basket raffle items. Dinner will begin at 7:00 pm followed by the silent auction winners, raffle, and dancing. There are many different ways to support Camp Frederick through the Dinner Dance. You can attend the dance, be a sponsor, or donate items for the auctions. We are also going to have a "wine pull". Donations of bottles of wine may be dropped off anytime at Camp Frederick or given to a board member. Please consider helping with the ministry of Camp Frederick by participating in one of the ways listed above. For more information, call 330-227-3633 or email info@canpfrederickohio.com. If you are interested in attending the Dinner Dance, tickets are \$35.00; please see Pastor Bill to purchase your tickets.

From Pastor Ann Marie Winters... “Uniting Matters of Flesh and Matters of Spirit”

Lent is a time for special repentance. Let us dwell on the words of Craig Nesson (Give us this Day) describing how Jesus feeds us, body and spirit:

“By means of bread, Jesus united matters of flesh and matters of spirit. Jesus fed both hungry multitudes and the hunger of the heart. Jesus demonstrated both the dawning of the kingdom as he sat at the table with sinners, and instituted the Lord’s Supper for the forgiveness of sins. For Jesus, there was no division between body and spirit. What Jesus has brought together, however, we have rent asunder. How do we reunite body and spirit as we come together to eat bread in Jesus’ name?”

We have the opportunities for confession and forgiveness at our Sunday worship, and there we can share in the uniting power of the Holy Communion. On Wednesdays, we also have special mid-week Lenten services in a series called “At the Crossroads”, held at Living Lord Lutheran Church (see details below under Ash Wednesday Services). These are instances where we can share a supper meal with Lutheran brothers and sisters, building bonds of community, then strengthening the unity of the Body of Christ through our shared worship – Holden Evening Prayer. I am confident that you will be fed and forgiven during these Lenten worship times.

May God bless your Lent,
Pastor Ann Marie Winters

From the Fellowship Committee Chairperson, Kara Busefink...

Fellowship in March...We will have Fellowship on **Sunday, March 19**, after both services.

From the Finance Committee, Treasurer Dave Henderson...The books are closed for January 2017. Receipts for January were \$26,048.76 and expenses were \$13,109.96, resulting in a gain of \$13,938.80 for the month. Once again, we had individuals who contributed their giving for the entire year in January. So once again we showed a large gain (profit) for January. As the year progresses, we will slowly decrease the profit numbers as our expenses will exceed our giving. Our goal (budget) for 2017 is that we end the year in a breakeven position. Let’s all start the year off right and make every effort to keep our pledges on schedule. If you look at the last three years together (2014-2016), we have managed to achieve a balanced budget, which is our goal. I anticipate that in 2017 we will once again meet that goal.

From the Later Life Committee Chairperson, Karen Bandy...

Card Class...Join us for a card-making class on **Thursday, March 2**, in the Activity Room. We will be making 4 cards. Our theme will be All Occasion Cards: Pretty vs. Cute. Classes will be at 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm. The cost is \$12.00. Please bring adhesives like double-stick tape and liquid glue. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. The deadline for signing up is Sunday, February 26. Emmanuel and St. Paul members are welcome to join us – call Lynne Walters at 330-856-9689 to get signed up! The next card class will be April 6.

From the Outreach Committee Chairperson, Donna Tompkins...

Easter Food Baskets...We will begin collecting food for the Easter Food Baskets on **Sunday, March 19**. The last day to bring in items will be **Sunday, April 9**. A chart will be in the hallway for items to bring. If you know anyone in the church or anyone in need, please call or email the Parish Office (330-856-5302 or

secretary@lllc.org) to order your food basket by **Friday, March 31**. We will pack and distribute the baskets on **Thursday, April 13**, beginning at 9:00 am. Pickup will be from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon. No deliveries. There will be envelopes to donate for the purchase of hams available at the food chart in the hallway. Please mark "Easter Food Baskets" in the memo portion of your check made payable to Living Lord Lutheran Church. You may also place your check in the collection plate. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office.

From the Larry L. Maggiano, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund Chairperson, Lorraine Bell ... Scholarship Fund Challenge...Due to a generous gift by the family of Larry L. Maggiano, the Larry L. Maggiano, M.D., Memorial Scholarship Fund was created. In order for a named fund to be created, a gift of at least \$20,000.00 must be received. That gift is invested, administered by the Scholarship Board, and proceeds from that fund are used each year to award scholarships. In order to grow the principal of the fund, you are asked to help. Envelopes are available for donations to the fund in the basket on the shelf under the bulletin board in the main hallway. Your donation will be invested with the principal. You may place your check in the offering plate or mail it to the church office made payable to Living Lord Lutheran Church with the notation "Maggiano Scholarship Fund" in the memo portion. The family of Larry Maggiano has issued a challenge to each of you. Each dollar you contribute to the fund, the family will match up to \$1,000.00. The generosity of the Maggiano family and your generosity in making this opportunity available for the young people of our congregation are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Committee: Lorraine Bell, Ronda Leitch, and Jo Maggiano.

From the Mission Endowment Fund Committee Chairperson, Michael Taiclet...Greetings and Blessings from the MEF to each and every one of you! It is that time of the year where we, the MEF Committee, are now getting ready to choose another deserving organization(s) for the MEF Award. We ask that if you are aware of any organization(s) that you believe should be considered for the 2017 MEF Award to please contact a member of the MEF Committee (Michael Taiclet, Missy LaRock, Ronda Leitch, Tootie Rogers, Lamar Shoemaker). We ask you to do so as soon as possible so that we can reach out to them and obtain the necessary information about them for our upcoming meeting in April. The support of the congregation is crucial and essential for the continuing success of the MEF and the lives that it has touched and for those lives it has yet to touch. This year also marks the MEF's 20th Anniversary. Special thanks go out to Lee Sanzenbacher and those others whom 20 years ago had a dream. That dream consisted of a committee that was specially designed to serve others in our community. This dream was called the Mission Endowment Fund. It has not only continued to grow, but has had and continues to have such great success! It can be seen in all those who have been blessed by its generosity, by those whom serve on the Committee to help continue its success, and by the generous donations and contributions from our congregation that help keep it going. So, thanks again Lee and let's keep this dream alive! I, Michael Taiclet, would also like to say thank you to the Committee for welcoming me aboard this past year and now for the opportunity to serve as the Chairperson. I would also like to thank Rich Baringer for bringing me on and helping me in this transition to becoming Chairperson. I hope to continue his leadership format, for it has had such great success. I look forward to working with the Committee and congregation to keep this dream going and to help those who are in need and who would benefit from this fund and our continuing support to the community.

From the Parish Nurse, Dora Muller...On need of supplements & vitamins - *"If you eat a balanced diet, you get all the vitamins and minerals you need and you don't need any supplement and overdosing can actually be more harmful."* Subodh Gupta

No one can walk into a pharmacy, or a so-called health store, without feeling overwhelmed with so many vitamin supplements and other health supplements that promise panacea for all our health worries. The industry's sales pitch, that attracts millions of consumers per year, promises to reduce stress, regain your youthful energy, achieve your dream body, and all your aches and pains will disappear. It is the perpetuation of the "forever young" myth. Remember, our bodies have an expiration date and we can sensibly care for our health by engaging in healthier habits that include a good diet, physical activities, and fulfilling relationships. As a society, we often do not have the wisdom to age gracefully. Let's think about the term "supplements", which means to complement the small deficiencies that our diets sometimes lack. A well-balanced diet provides most of the vitamins and minerals that a human body needs to perform. However, our society generally has developed health habits that sometimes lack common sense and rely on supplements to complement our diets. This doesn't mean that we do not need supplements. Yes, as we age our metabolism slows down and a little boost may be necessary. For someone who is pregnant or trying to conceive, supplements can help. Other people battle immune diseases or are recovering from chemotherapy and need extra help to build up energy. We should always ask our health care providers which vitamin and mineral deficiencies we are more susceptible to and how we should complement these deficiencies with supplements. Do not let advertisements of health supplements result in filling your medicine cabinet with unnecessary bottles of pills and making a big dent in your wallet. My message is to be proactive and before reaching out for supplements that promise a miracle new body, we should rethink our lifestyle and follow your physician's advice.

Thank you...

To my Living Lord Family,

Thank you all for the beautiful flower arrangement sent for my Dad's funeral service. Thank you to the Meal Ministry for all the yummy food we received. Thank you for all the beautiful cards, your kind words of sympathy, and your thoughts and prayers. All are so very much appreciated by my family. We are all heartbroken from the loss of such a wonderful husband, father, and grandfather. Although we know he is in a better place and together again with his youngest son, it is so very hard for those of us left here to grieve and to try to go on without him. May I ask that you continue to keep all of us in your prayers. I would also like to thank Pastor Bill and Pastor Ann Marie and the Councils for being so understanding and granting my request to reduce my working hours from 4 down to 3 (8-11 am at LLLC; 11:30-2:30 at St. Paul) so I am able to be available to assist my Mom in the afternoons for many tasks that lie ahead for her and for myself to find a new "normal" without my Dad in my life. This is all so very hard. I truly appreciate everything my Living Lord family has done to try to help me get through this most difficult time in my life.

Blessings to you all. Lynn Golen

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.

I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,

and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28

EVENTS IN MARCH

Wednesday, March 1, 12:00 pm – Ash Wednesday Service at Living Lord and Emmanuel;
5:30 pm Youth Practice; 6:00 pm Potluck Dinner; 7:00 pm TALC Ash Wednesday Worship Service at St. Paul

Thursday, March 2, 2:00 & 6:00 pm – Later Life Card Class in Activity Room

Wednesday, March 8, 6:00 pm – Soup Supper & Holden Evening Prayer at LLLC

Saturday, March 11 – Spring Ahead! Turn clocks ahead before going to bed!

Monday, March 13, 6:00 pm – Council in Activity Room

Wednesday, March 15, 6:00 pm – Soup Supper & Holden Evening Prayer at LLLC

Saturday, March 18, 8:00 am – Congregation Breakfast

Sunday, March 19 – Fellowship After Both Services/Blood Pressure Screening/**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Wednesday, March 22, 6:00 pm – Soup Supper & Holden Evening Prayer at LLLC

Wednesday, March 29, 6:00 pm – Soup Supper & Holden Evening Prayer at LLLC

MARCH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

- 1 = Mike Drotleff & Warner Taiclet
- 2 = Karin McKinney
- 3 = Marlys Johnson
- 4 = Jean Pfleiderer & Donna Tompkins
- 7 = Carl King
- 9 = Ashley Anderson & Tammy Metzger
- 12 = Rachel Gifford & Neal L'Amoureux
- 17 = Pat Gilmore
- 18 = Ken Rising
- 20 = Hana Hakeem & Alexis Stredney
- 21 = Pat Lauka & Lexi Merkel
- 22 = Jacob Cox
- 24 = Jack Gilmore & Alberta Lucas
- 25 = Camille Allen
- 26 = Michael Boker, Walter Kaufmann, Laverne Kubli, & Mike Milone
- 28 = Lindsey Hinton & Chuck Thompson
- 30 = Ruth Lewis & Barb Wright
- 31 = John Hinely, Jr.

Anniversaries

- 4 = Michaels, Dick & Gloria
- 22 = Sheets, Dennis & Rachael

NEWS FROM THE SHARED MINISTRY

Emmanuel Clothes Closet...The Clothes Closet is open every Tuesday at 9:00 am. In need of: winter clothes (children & adults), blankets, deodorant, lotion, dish soap, paper towels, anything for babies, plastic bags.

Emmanuel Shopping Cart Needs for March...Instant potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, stuffing mix, gravy (jar or mix), peanut butter, cereal.

Emmanuel Egg Cartons...Please save your empty egg cartons for the Food Pantry and Clothes Closet. The eggs donated come in bulk and we need them to divide the eggs into individual cartons.

St. Paul Food Collection...For the month of **MARCH** we are collecting instant potatoes and stuffing mix.

St. Paul Grief Ministry...Part of the Social Committee is Grief Ministry. Joyce Osborn (330-372-2136) is spearheading this ministry with Pr. Winters' and God's guidance and help. When a loved one dies, Joyce sends a set of four books called "Journeying Through Grief" throughout the first year. Each book describes the issues and feelings that a person tends to encounter at various points of grief and the books offer suggestions on handling them. If Pr. Winters or Joyce can be of any help or if you have any questions during a time of grief, please contact either of them.

St. Paul SPLASH TODAY...Donations are always warmly welcomed, and with your continued support, we will be able to sustain this valuable ministry to young families.