

The Lamp Lighter
March 2020
The Newsletter of Living Lord Lutheran Church
Real God. Real Faith. Real Life.
www.LLLC.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 8:00 AND 10:30 AM
ADULT FORUM & SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT
SOUP SUPPER 5:30
LENTEN EVENING SERVICE 6:30

From Pastor William D. Leitch... The month of March is the season of Lent this year. Then the first Sunday in April is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. Here is what this journey will look like:

First, Jesus meets Satan in the wilderness, and Satan learns who the “Boss” is. Second, we meet Nicodemus, a Pharisee, a teacher in the temple. Nicodemus wants to learn from Jesus, but this is a huge transition from how he got his teaching to become a Pharisee. He wants to keep a low profile to gain confidence first. Sound a bit like us sometimes?

Third, we meet the Samaritan woman at the well. Totally opposite of Nicodemus! She must avoid her own people in order to survive. Her eyes are opened, and she understands who this Jesus is. Her fear of her own people goes away immediately, and she delivers the “Good News” without hesitation. Nicodemus will eventually deliver the “Good News”, but he is burdened by his status and it slows him down. The Samaritan woman has nothing to lose. One thing she does have is a loving heart full of grace and mercy. Without a doubt, she never loses that!

Fourth, Jesus gives sight to a blind man who immediately spreads the “Good News”. What? “Who gave him authority to preach?” asks the Temple leaders. In the simple words of this man, “He touched me! He told me to see! It worked! I am thankful! And I’m not keeping this to myself! Get over it!” or words and body language to that effect. Sometimes we must be firm in our conviction. I always worry that I need to be more graceful.

The message during the Wednesday Lenten Services will be about sharing our faith throughout our community, the world, and in every circumstance we might find ourselves. We are not just going to talk about it! I am encouraging every one of us to practice it. Like our brothers and sisters in Scripture, we have “Good News” to share. We are all called to share it. Not just a select few!

Lenten Evening Worship Service & Soup Supper... Beginning on **Wednesday, March 4**, we will have Soup Suppers at 5:30 pm followed by Lenten Evening Worship Service at 6:30 pm at Living Lord Lutheran Church. We will need two crocks of soup each Wednesday. Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you can volunteer to bring soup.

Town Hall Meetings...The entire congregation is invited and encouraged to attend one or both of the Town Hall Meetings scheduled on **Sundays, March 15, at 11:45 am and March 22, at 9:00 am.**

Purpose: To develop the Strategic Ministry Plan for Living Lord Lutheran Church.

Why: Each congregation must have a vision and a plan for their ministry within their community. Plans must be current and relevant, therefore, they must be updated regularly. At the transition of leadership and before a search is made for a new pastor, the “Ministry Profile” must be updated in order to call the leader with the gifts to support that vision and plan. This is the vision and desires of our congregation, YOU!

Our Congregation Council has been working at updating our “Ministry Profile” since May 2019. The demographics have been completed with the most current census and our 2019 Parochial Report. This tells us who Living Lord is and who our community is.

Next, we must decide how we will minister to this community.

The Council has been looking at how we will navigate this journey, i.e. Where are we? Where do we want to go?

We cannot get from here to there without the entire team participating and owning the vision and plan that we develop. The Council needs to hear your voice in order to formulate a realistic plan.

There will be a brief presentation of how the Town Hall Meeting will proceed, but we desire that most of the meeting will be brainstorming with you. We will wrap up the session by prioritizing the ideas by your votes.

After both meetings are complete, the Council will create a draft “Strategic Plan” based on your input. This will be published for the congregation to review and make comments. Based on these comments, the Council can clarify the plan.

Finally, the Council will schedule a Special Congregation Meeting to approve the “Ministry Profile” and the members of the Call Committee. So far, the following members have requested to be on the Call Committee and have been accepted by the Council: Randall Beckley, Raymond Boothe, Neal L’Amoureux, Brycen Prasky, Warner Taiclet, Nancy Walters, and Barb Wright.

Again, please plan to join us as we need to hear everyone’s voice.

Church Information...Please remember that you can obtain church information from the monthly Lamplighter Newsletter, the Constant Contact emails you receive, on the church website (www.lllc.org), on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Living-Lord-Lutheran-Church-493806727349110/>), and postings on the church bulletin board. Church Council Meeting minutes are posted on the bulletin board and sent out via Constant Contact. We would like to see a better “open rate” when we send information to you via Constant Contact so that we know you are being informed of the activities that are occurring at the church. If you have any other suggestions on how best to reach out to our parishioners, please see a Council member.

From the Finance Committee, Treasurer Dave Henderson... The books are closed for January 2020. Receipts for January 2020 were \$13,991.00 and expenses were \$11,992.20, resulting in a gain of \$1,998.80 for the month. We have started out the year with a positive cash flow. Let’s continue throughout the year to meet our commitment to giving.

From the In-Reach Committee, Member Lynne Walters...

Card Class...Join us for a card-making class on **Thursday, March 5**, in the Activity Room. We will be making 4 cards. The theme is "Fun Folds" cards. 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, March 1. If you have any questions, please contact Lynne Walters at 330-856-9689.

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 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.

Scholarship Applications...Attention High School seniors and current college students: Applications and stipulations for the Larry L. Maggiano, M.D., Memorial Scholarship are available in the Parish Office. Completed forms must be returned by **Sunday, April 26, 2020**. Please direct any questions that you may have to Lorraine Bell at 330-372-0227.

From the Outreach Committee Chairperson, Judy Shaffer...

Bingo at NSOV...The Outreach Committee will be hosting Bingo at Niles Shepherd of the Valley on **Wednesday, March 18**, at 1:30 pm. We will meet at 1:00 pm to set up. Men and women both are invited to assist. Please see the sign-up sheet on the main bulletin board if you are able to help. We are asking for donations of large print word search and crossword puzzle books, snack cracker packs, and pastel bags with a wide bottom. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Shaffer at 330-856-3148.

Easter Food Baskets...We will begin collecting food for the Easter Food Baskets on **Sunday, March 22**. The last day to bring in items will be **Sunday, March 29**. Please do not bring in any food items until after Election Day. 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 27**. We will pack and distribute the baskets on **Wednesday, April 8**, 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 Parish Nurse, Dora Muller... *"But the real secret to lifelong good health is the opposite: Let your body take care of you."* Deepak Chopra

In the past couple of days, the new cases of coronavirus have made headlines and it affected the economy, especially the travel industry. The image of people wearing face masks and the Chinese government taking the urgent task of building hospitals almost overnight is enough to increase a worldwide fear. The outbreak started

in central China and rapidly spread to other locations. What is coronavirus and what are the chances that it will show up in Trumbull County? In the past, virus outbreaks were mostly geographically confine, which in today's world is not possible. We are a society on the move. Transportation has allowed us to be flexible and reach places that long ago would take months. Coronavirus is an upper respiratory infection that can be spread by contact (person to person). Symptoms can include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, all of which are the classic symptoms of colds or flu. The severity of the illness has ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death. In extreme cases, panic often results and everyday life is disturbed as children do not got to school, factories stop production, and access to food is decreased. The best prevention available is to avoid visiting the center of the outbreak and contacting persons who have had possible exposure to the virus. Personal protective barriers are essential to prevent being infected and transmitting the virus to others. A drastic measure to monitor the spread of the disease into the United States has been to implement isolation up to 14 days to U.S. residents and family members that had visited the epicenter of the outbreak. In the case of any respiratory infection, prevention is the best venue with purposely hand washing with soap and water, avoiding the touching of the mouth and eyes, and keeping your distance from suspected infected individuals. Let's employ the same precautions as we do for any type of flue, i.e. avoid unnecessary physical contact.

Thank you...Bountiful blessings and trusting relationships have resulted during my Living Lord association as it comes to an end. Moving brings changes and changes bring opportunities. Memories boost us along the new way. To all of you, keep striving, doing God's inviting, uplifting work. Love & Faith, Mary Lou Ulam

2020 COUNCIL

Board of Trustees

President – Nancy Walters

Vice President & In-Reach (formerly Later Life) Committee Chairperson – Lorraine Bell

Council Secretary – Warner Taiclet

Finance Committee Chairperson – Robert McKinney

Council Members

Evangelism/Membership Committee Chairperson – Arlene Barkan

Fellowship Committee Chairperson – VACANT

Finance Committee Chairperson – Robert McKinney

In-Reach (formerly Later Life) Committee Chairperson – Lorraine Bell

Outreach Committee Chairperson – Judy Shaffer

Parish Education Committee Chairperson – Raymond Boothe

Property Committee Chairperson – VACANT

Worship Committee Chairperson – Meghan Miller

Youth & Family Committee Chairperson – Darlene Altieri

Treasurer – Dave Henderson

Finance Secretary – Michael Taiclet

EVENTS IN MARCH

Every Wednesday during Lent (begins March 4) – Soup Supper 5:30, Lenten Evening Service 6:30 pm

Sunday, March 8, 11:45 am – Council in Activity Room

Sunday, March 15, 11:45 am – Town Hall Meeting/NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Sunday, March 22, 9:00 am – Town Hall Meeting

MARCH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

- 1 = Warner Taiclet
- 2 = Karin McKinney
- 4 = Jean Pfleiderer & Donna Tompkins
- 6 = Drena Smith
- 7 = Carl King
- 9 = Ashley Anderson
- 12 = Rachel Gifford & Neal L'Amoureux
- 17 = Pat Gilmore
- 20 = Hana Hakeem
- 21 = Pat Lauka
- 22 = Jacob Cox
- 24 = Jack Gilmore & Alberta Lucas
- 25 = Camille Allen
- 26 = Mike Milone
- 28 = Chuck Thompson
- 30 = Ruth Lewis & Barb Wright
- 31 = John Hinely, Jr.

<p>Living Lord Lutheran Church 851 Niles-Cortland Road, N.E. Warren, OH 44484 330-856-5302</p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:30 am Adult Forum & Sunday School 9:00 am</p> <p>Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00-11:00 am</p>

Anniversaries

- 4 = Michaels, Dick & Gloria
- 14 = Thomas, John & Jacquie
- 22 = Sheets, Dennis & Rachael