

Crossings

"Making known
God's deeds
among us."
Isaiah 12:4

Volume 11 Issue 3

March 2016

Pastor's Epistle

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am in a reflective frame of mind – a prayerful mind. The following is a portion of a Lenten prayer written by Ted Loder, author of "Guerillas of Grace: Prayers For the Battle", which seems particularly appropriate, not only this Lenten season, but for this whole election year. As the battles rage in our hearts, minds, cities, nation and around the world, may these words prayerfully bring you back to Christ:

Catch me in my anxious scurrying, Lord, and hold me in this Lenten season:

Hold my feet to the fire of your grace and make me attentive to my mortality that I may begin to die now to those things that keep me from living with you and with my neighbors on this earth;

to grudges and indifference, to certainties that smother possibilities, to my fascination with false securities, to my addiction to sweatless dreams,

to my arrogant insistence on how it has to be;

to my corrosive fear of dying someday which eats away the wonder of living this day,

and the adventure of losing my life in order to find it in you. Amen

(pg 123)

May each of us find our feet hot from the flame of the living Spirit at work in us.

Walking with you along the way – Pr. Nancy

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HCI Hospice Care Services Volunteer Orientation

HCI Hospice Care Services is working to carry on the legacy of Monroe County Hospice and strives to provide quality care to Monroe County patients and their families.

HCI Hospice Care Services is offering a volunteer orientation in Albia on March 9th and March 16th from 9am-4 pm in the hospital's conference room. Lunch will be provided both days. This orientation is for anyone who is interested in doing patient care volunteer work with HCI Hospice. Both days of orientation need to be completed in order to become a patient care volunteer. A couple of items to bring to orientation are a driver's license and auto insurance card. Following the completion of orientation, a background check will be performed, as well as, a two-step TB skin test. Some of the topics included in this volunteer orientation are HCI Hospice overview, confidentiality, professional boundaries, volunteer opportunities, documentation, patient rights, infection control, and cultural issues in hospice.

Please call our office at 641-856-5502 to register for the volunteer orientation or if you have any questions.

Our Mission Statement

*Called by Christ to love
God & neighbor
through **deepening prayer,**
broadening fellowship,
and **expanding worship.***

"In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loves us so much, we also ought to love one another."

1 John 4:10-11

Water Needed for People in Flint, MI

Please note on your donation 1 of the following:

To help please send a donation to this address:

**Southeast Michigan Synod/ELCA
8115 E. Jefferson, Detroit, MI 48214.**

Salem Lutheran Church in Flint is working on getting their pipes replaced in the church and install a new filtration system so that the water at the church is safe. Then people can go there to the church to get their water and fill their bottles and jugs. If you wish to help Salem with this project mark your check with Faucets.



Bottled Water



Filters



Faucets

Your donation goes directly to the three needs listed above.



LENT

Mid-Week Wednesday Lenten Worship: our theme is
“Creation to Salvation”.

Worship Services start at 7:00 pm

March 2

March 9

March 16

Holy Week



Palm/Passion Sunday, 3/20 at 9 am.

We commemorate Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, but we also meditate upon Jesus’ passion and death. We hear in the scripture readings that is so central to our faith; though Jesus is obedient even unto death on the cross, he is exalted by God. We gather to remember his offering for the life of the world, and to be fed by his life-giving mercy.



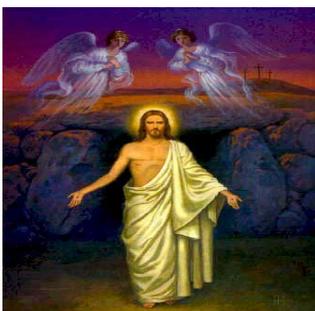
Maundy Thursday Worship: Thursday, 3/24 at 7 pm.

At the heart of Maundy Thursday is Jesus’ commandment to love one another. As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow his example as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved. At the Lord’s table we remember Jesus’ sacrifice of his life, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.



Good Friday Worship: Friday, 3/25 at 7 pm.

John shows us the passion of Jesus in which proclaims that he is a triumphant king who reign from the cross. John reminds us that the church gathers not to mourn this day but to celebrate Christ's life-giving passion and to find strength and hope in the tree of life. In the ancient bidding prayer we offer petitions for all the world for whom Christ died.



Resurrection of Our Lord—Easter Worship: Sunday, 3/27 at 9 am.

On this day the Lord has acted! Jesus Christ was raised from the dead. We celebrate in the waters of baptism and in the feast of victory.

HE IS RISEN. HE IS RISEN INDEED.

ALLELUIA !!!



St. Paul's Shut-ins:
Bob & Ruth Johnson

**Education/
Prayer Team**

RECENT PRAYERS

Dorothy Bates
Mike Davis
Lana Kalderberg
Camden Kelsey
Max & Juanita Olson
Fred Witte

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(2015)

Carrie Bergland
Mary Carder
Ray Hopkins
Frank Hunter
Linda Ulrich Johnson
Martha McGlothen
Karen Moon
June Morrison
Deloris Perry
Gary Perry
Rosealee Rhodes
Ella Teno

=====

(2014)

Sharon Glenn
Nick Griffin
Gary Hollst
Richard McDonough
Pat Mason
Dr. MARRIDEE Randall
Devin Sinclair

Continuing Prayers

Alex Amante
Kevin Bunch
Brantley Hemann
Laura Moore
Trisha Raven
Bert Whitlock

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**WELCA Bible Study
March 9 at 11:00 am**

Our Bible study is an exploration of the book of Philippians.

Christian Citizenship 101

Session 2: **Servant-shaped soldiers** (Philippians 1:27-2:18)



In Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to all the family and friends who mourn the death of Justin Smithberg, Bryan Dye and Delores Dykstra who died in February. May the peace of Jesus' presence comfort and strengthen all who mourn with certain hope of the resurrection.

Building Faith Through Family Home Huddles
(BF-T-FHH)

Family Home Huddle Mission Craft day will be Sunday, March 6 after worship. Everyone is welcome to spend time with the young members as we work on an Easter Mission Craft.



We pray for our partners in the Gospel proclamation Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Duluth, MN, which burned down in February. May the Holy Spirit encourage them to meet their challenges with zeal for your love and proclaiming the Gospel.

Fellowship Team Ministries

3rd Sunday Brunch



March 20
Palm Sunday
1st Day of Spring

Senior Fellowship

We will have a pot-luck lunch on Wednesday, March 2 at 11:00 am. (Weather permitting)



We will be playing BINGO this month. Please bring a white elephant item for prizes.

WELCA

Monthly Meeting: Thurs., March 31 at 7:00 pm.

***** **Note day change because of Holy Week.**

Hostess will be Colleen Putnam.

WELCA Bible Study: Weds. March 9 at 11:00 am

(See more info on pg 3)

Cluster 9 Spring Gathering: (see details on page 6)



Birthdays

1. Nathan Dorpinghaus
6. Kara Tomlin
19. Robert Zarn
22. Grayson Kelley
25. Mike Spieler
27. Bob Johnson
29. Larry Wilkin

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Baptismal Birthdays

3. Betty Hohneke
8. Marilyn Johnson
10. Rhonda Mason
11. Carson Stocker
21. Ron Hohneke
22. Mary Carder
22. Sophie Hemann
- Kay Spieler



After worship on March 27 we will have a special Easter Sun. pot-luck breakfast brunch.

You are encouraged to bring cinnamon rolls, breakfast casseroles, fruit, etc. Hope to see you there.



Shrove Tues.- Pancake Supper:

Thank you to everyone who helped with purchasing food items, setting-up, cooking, serving and cleaning up for our annual Shrove Tuesday- Pancake Supper. Without your help this event would not have been a success. We received dona-

tions of \$358.00. We purchased 2 new griddles for the Lions, as they have loaned us their griddles to use for many year, to thank them.

Council



Council Retreat

On Sunday, March 13 from 11 am—2 pm the council will have their annual retreat. Please bring a dish to share for lunch.

There will be installation of the council that day (3/13) during the worship service.

2016 Council Officers and Members

Kay Spieler, Pres.
Curtis Kelley, Vice Pres.
Amanda Thomas, Secretary
Lana Kaldenberg
Colleen Putnam
Richard James
Marilyn Woods
Gail Clouse
Dakota Kelley

Council Meeting Minutes - January 24, 2016 - 11:30 AM

Members in attendance: Kay Spieler, Anita Simmons, Curtis Kelley, Gail Clouse, Marilyn Woods, Pastor Nancy Reed, Amanda Thomas

President Kay Spieler called the meeting to order.

Pastor discussed the agenda, which included voting on council and setting a date and time for the annual council retreat. At the retreat, we will have a prayerful Bible Study and create a 3-year plan for St. Paul's Church.

Council Retreat will be on Sunday, February 14 from 11 am – 2 pm. Everyone to bring something for a potluck lunch.

Upcoming Council Meeting Dates

- NO March meeting
- April 17th, following church services
- NO May meeting
- June 5th, following church services
- July 31st, Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting
- NO August meeting
- September 18, following church services
- October- the third Sunday of the month, following church services- Preparing Budget
- November-the third Sunday of the month, following church services
- December-the second Sunday of the month

Important Upcoming Dates

- Pastor will be on vacation March 28-April 3rd
- September 7th- God's Grace is Free Spaghetti Dinner

Officers for 2016

President: Kay Spieler

Vice President: Curtis Kelley

Secretary: Amanda Thomas

Treasurer: Anita Simmons

*Karter Spieler and Dakota Kelley will be invited to fill the vacant Council position, as left by Colleen Putnam.

Meeting Adjourned 12:00 PM

Amanda Thomas—Council Secretary

Treasurers Report

January Offerings:	\$6,501.00
January Expenses	\$6,507.56
Net	\$ - 6.56

Pastor's Days Off During Lent

During the month of March, Pastor Nancy's days off will be Monday, Tues. & Weds AM. She will be in the office Weds pm—Thursday and Friday.



Missions Meeting:
March 27th after worship.

MISSIONS TASK FORCE Lenten Mission Project

ELCA Good Gifts Piggy Banks.

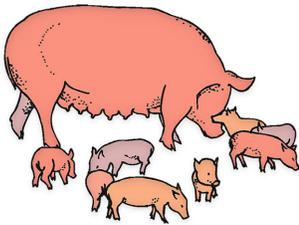
(We will be joining the World Hunger's 40 days of giving.)

We have enough funds, so far, for **2 piglets.**

Let's keep filling those Piggy Banks and see how many more we can purchase.



FILL A PIGGY BANK



For \$ 30, one piglet can be provided to a family in need. When that little pig grows up, she will give birth to as many as 16 piglets each year. Pigs help fertilize fields and provide food to eat.

A pig in the pen is like money in the bank. Within months, a tiny piglet grows to weigh

over 200 pounds! Should a family have a failed harvest, medical expense or other unexpected financial needs, this pig can be sold for much-needed cash at the market.

Piggy banks still available to take home to fill.



WELCA Cluster 9 Spring Gathering

Who: The women of Good Shepherd Lutheran

Where: Bloomfield, IA

When: Saturday, March 5

Time: Registration will be at 8:30 a.m. with program beginning at 9:00.

We will have Marci Prose of 'Sharing The Weight' present her program about her nonprofit organization. She is leading the making of weighted blankets for special needs children and 'olders' that have a need for the special blankets.

Following her program, we will have a lasagna dinner, and then we can Party. The community sewers have been invited to come from 1-6 pm to do their blanket making magic. We are inviting all of the Cluster ladies to stay and see the process, and if possible, jump in and assist. (We have some extra sewing machines, but as you will see, we need non-sewers just as much.) I understand your day may not be completely free, but even 30 minutes will be a fun experience.

Worship Team Ministries



Sunday Worship
9:00 am



CHOIR

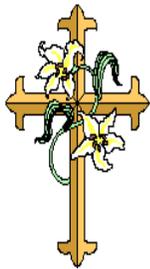
March 6	Practice
March 13	Practice
March 20	Practice
March 27	TBA

March Worship Servers

Altar Guild: Colleen Putnam & Gloria Smallwood

<u>March 6</u>	Worship Assistant:	Gail Clouse
	Ushers/Greeters:	Tom & Linda Preston
	Lector:	Jessica Hemann
	Acolyte:	Sophie Hemann
<u>March 13</u>	Worship Assistant:	Gail Clouse
	Usher/Greeters:	Tom & Linda Preston
	Lector:	Tom or Linda Preston
	Acolyte:	
<u>March 20</u>	Worship Assistant:	Gail Clouse
	Ushers/Greeters:	Don & Karen Niebuhr
	Lector:	Anita Simmons & Gail Clouse
	Acolyte:	
<u>March 24</u> Maundy Thurs.	Worship Assistant:	Marilyn Woods
	Ushers/Greeters:	??????
	Lector:	Gail Clouse
	Acolyte:	
<u>March 25</u> Good Fri.	Lector:	???NEED 2 People for this worship
<u>March 27</u> Easter	Worship Assistant:	Marilyn Woods
	Ushers/Greeters:	??????
	Lector:	Marilyn Woods
	Acolyte:	

EASTER LILLIES



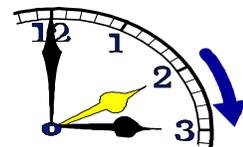
If you would like to bring Easter Lilies to adorn the sanctuary for Worship on Easter Sunday, please sign up on the list in the fellowship hall.
Please do not bring them to the church until 3/21.

Worship Meeting
Thursday, March 10 at 9:30 am



Daylight Savings Time Begins

Spring Ahead 1 hour on Saturday, March 12th after midnight.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
335 North Eighth Street
Albia, IA 52531

Phone: 641-932-7270
Email: splalbia@iowatelecom.net
Web Site—<http://www.splalbia.org>
Office Hours: Tues.-Weds.-Thurs.
9 am-2 pm

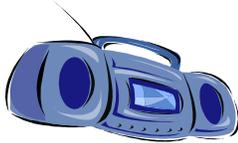
Place Mailing Label Here

Get your newsletter by e-mail and in color. Send your e-mail address to the church office.

Links:

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
The Southeast Iowa Synod of the ELCA

www.elca.org
www.seiasynod.org



Radio Broadcast St. Paul's worship service is broadcast each Sunday on KIIC (96.7 FM) during their Sunday Son—Up programs starting at 8:00 am.



WEB SITE: Check out St. Paul's Web site at <http://www.splalbia.org>.

You will find our newsletters, calendar and recipe.
Please send any photos and recipes you would like to share and Martin Reed will add these to St. Paul's Web site

Helping Hands of Monroe County: NEW HOURS

Closed Sunday, Monday & Tuesday
Open Weds & Thursday from 9 am—1 pm
Open Saturday from 9 am—12 noon



St. Mary's Lenten Soup Luncheon: will be from 11 am – 12:30 pm every Tuesday through March 15. Join them for 4 different kinds of soups & desserts. All free will donations will go to the Monroe County Sports Complex & the Albia Community Theater.

Monroe Co. Ministerial Emergency Assistance Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
from 9 am—12 noon and 1 pm—3 pm.