

# FEBRUARY - 2012

## † The Journey of Lent †

My high school algebra teacher was an unusual older man who had us all imagining that his classroom was a huge sailing ship. As we came in through the door on the first day of class, he greeted us with an enthusiastic "Welcome Aboard," and then, one by one, invited us to sit on either the port or starboard side of the room. He was, he constantly reminded us, at the helm of our ship - the chalkboard. 'Slackers' and 'scoundrels' were sent either to the poop deck (the back of class) or the brig (the principal's office). The rest of us? We were the crew! Our duty was to work together to batten down the hatches and swab the deck. "We are," he announced, "on an algebraic journey."

Are you up for the journey? Not through algebra! I would hardly be able to captain that vessel! Math's not really my thing. I am talking about a journey through Lent. Are you ready to join the crew of the Trinity Lenten ship? The Church has often been compared to a boat. In fact, the name for the main part of the church building is the "nave," which comes from the same root as the word "navy." The next time you are in the church building, look up! Then imagine that we flipped the church upside down. It would resemble a ship, an ark! We are safe and secure in the 'ark' of the Holy Church! Safe in Jesus forgiveness and love!

It may be a challenge to think of Lent,

beginning with Ash Wednesday (Feb. 22, 7:00 pm!), as the beginning of a journey, yet that is just what Lent is - a journey. We begin again and again because the Old Adam (our sinful nature), must "by daily contrition and repentance, be drowned and die with all sins and evil lusts . . . . A new man should daily come forth and arise, who shall live before God in righteousness and purity forever" (Small Catechism, Baptism, Fourth Part).

Why? Why repeat the same journey to the cross? Why hear the same words of forgiveness? There is nothing more important for us to talk about!! Martin Luther wrote:

Everything, therefore, in the Christian Church is ordered toward this goal: we shall daily receive in the Church nothing but the forgiveness of sins through the Word and signs, to comfort and encourage our consciences as long as we live here. So even though we have sins, the [grace of the] Holy Spirit does not allow them to harm us. For we are in the Christian Church, where there is nothing but [continuous, uninterrupted] forgiveness of sin. This is because God forgives us and because we forgive, bear with, and help one another [Galatians 6:1-2].

Large Catechism, Part Five, paragraph 55

This is the beginning, middle, and end of our identity as Christians! Lent points us back to that simple and beautiful reality, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself (2 Corinthians 5:19).

Come and join the Lenten journey -- God's gift of forgiveness in Jesus!

The peace of the Lord be with you!

**Pastor Bert**



### BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.

### ELDERS MEETING

Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

### EVANGELISM COMMITTEE MTG.

Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

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### ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP & SANDWICH MEAL 6:00 PM

The LWML is hosting a Soup and Sandwich Meal Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.

(Free Will Offering)

Come and enjoy the fellowship and food before our Ash Wednesday Worship (7pm)!!

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### TRINITY CHOIR NOTES

♪ Senior Choir members share the love of Jesus with their music.

The Choir is preparing music for Sunday Divine Services and Lent.

Choir Practices in February will be: WEDNESDAYS, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and

WEDNESDAYS, February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> following the Lenten Worship Services.

More singers are always welcome!

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**MONTHLY MAILER** information for the March, 2012 Mailer should be turned in by February 20<sup>th</sup>!!

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### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday School Hour (8:45 – 9:45 a.m.) gives Children, Youth and Adults the opportunity to "come and learn of Jesus". Trinity has classes for Nursery (3 years old) through Eighth Grade, a High School Bible Class and an Adult Bible Class. In February our *GROWING IN CHRIST* Sunday School lessons will be "Jesus Heals a Man Who is Paralyzed" "Jesus Heals Jairus's Daughter" "The Transfiguration" and "Jesus Calms a Storm."

Parents, we are glad to have your children attend Sunday School. We encourage you to ask them what the Bible Story was each week and throughout the week to review the story.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup>**, we will bring our offering for our Sunday School Mission Project, which is *THE MINISTRY OF DANNY & BECCA DeLOACH*.

Danny and Becca work in Bible Translation in Papua, New Guinea. The offering we receive will be sent to Lutheran Bible Translators for their ministry.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> THE SUNDAY SCHOOL will sing for the 10:00 a.m. Divine Service.**

*JESUS LOVES ME THIS I KNOW FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO!*



**ALL ARE INVITED!!**

**CONGREGATIONAL  
COVERED DISH DINNER**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19<sup>th</sup>**

*Following the Divine Service*

Please bring a dish to share.

Drinks and table service will be provided.

Plan now to attend and enjoy this time of food and fellowship!!☺

***BUILD A LIFE IN CHRIST***  
**Southern Illinois District**  
**LWML SPRING RETREAT**  
**MARCH 3, 2012**

**Faith Lutheran Church**

**1104 N. 42<sup>nd</sup> St., Mt. Vernon, IL**

The retreat will begin at 8:30 a.m. with registration. The event will conclude by 3pm. The cost for the day is \$20/person. **Registration is due by February 20th.**

A collection of items will be gathered for Southern Thirty Adolescents Center in Mt. Vernon, they are affiliated with the LCFS.

The following is the list of ingathering items that may be brought: twin size blankets for boys, individual snacks, (healthy choices are best) ex. Popcorn, pretzels, whale crackers etc., detergent.

During the retreat we will have fellowship time, communion service, hands on activities, singing, a take home memento, and lots of fun!

*This retreat is for anyone confirmed and older. Please note that you do not need to be a member of the LWML to attend this retreat!*



**GOD'S GIFT OF FORGIVENESS**

Midweek Lenten Series



(We gather for the Divine Service at 7:00 pm on Wednesday evenings.)

† **Ash Wednesday February 22**

Psalm 6 "Save Me Because of Your Unfailing Love"

*Catechism: What does such baptizing with water indicate?*

† **Midweek Lent II February 29**

Psalm 32 "Hiding from God or Hiding in God?"

*Catechism: What is the Office of the Keys? Where is this written?*

† **Midweek Lent III March 7**

Psalm 38 "Make Haste to Help Me"

*Catechism: What do you believe according to these words?*

† **Midweek Lent IV March 14**

Psalm 51 "Against You and For Me"

*Catechism: What is confession?*

† **Midweek Lent V March 21**

Psalm 102 "But You, O Lord, Are Enthroned forever"

*Catechism: What sins should we confess?*

† **Midweek Lent VI March 28**

Psalm 143 "Teach Me to Do Your Will, For You Are My God"

*Catechism: Which [sins] are these?*

**LENTEN FOOD/FELLOWSHIP**

**SCHEDULE**

Wed., February 22<sup>nd</sup> – LWML

(Soup/Sandwich Meal at 6pm)

Wed., February 29<sup>th</sup> – Trinity Fellowship Club

*Happy Birthday*

**FEBRUARY**

01	Ray Lovelace	17	Wilma Lou Clark
02	Barb Easterday	18	Keith Clark
	Ty Sanders	19	Chris Flowers
03	Marcia Pilgrim		Karen Huston
04	Samantha McNeill		Nathan Ruppert
	Dan Adkins	20	Roger Eller
05	Sandy Johnson		Nicholas Hilt
	Brenda Stevens		Orville Johnson
06	Joyce Cress		Jessica Ruffing
	Cheryl Hilt		Spencer Johnson
	Alissa Mieners		John Bauer, Sr.
	Cori Stombaugh	21	Michael Easterday
07	Doris Brochmeyer		Kolton Cachera
09	Dillon Johnson	22	Beau Carroll
10	Jason Cassidy		Marcus Chausse
11	Connie Carroll		Brian Cress
	Louis Cesaretti	23	Jared Johnson
	Brittney English		Julee Johnson
	Rebecca Frazier		Jeanane Pryor
	Haley Belanger	24	Elizabeth English
12	Lisa		Isaac Law
	Henrichsmeyer	27	Megan Law
	Joshua Billings		Adam McDowell
	Blake Bauer	28	Shad Hill
13	Pam Johnson		Jean Storm
	Jacob Stevens		Zachary Wieland
	Nichole Vieweg	29	Brendon Mehochko
16	Carol Eickhoff		
	Gib Meiners		

***HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!***

Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> - Rich & Pam Burdzilaukas (41<sup>st</sup>)

Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> - David & Joyce Cress (38<sup>th</sup>)

Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Gerald & Gerlinda Johnson (43<sup>rd</sup>)

*Please let the church office (563-2718) know if there are any additions or corrections to the Birthdays and Anniversaries! Thank you!*