



The Beacon

March
2020

Christ Ev. Lutheran
Church

320 N 28th St E
Superior, WI
54880

Office Phone
715.398.3680

Web Site
Christlutheran-
superior.org

Divine Worship Services

Sunday - 8:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

Bible Study & Sunday School

Sunday - 9 a.m.



As I've mentioned in the past, I really like our synodical organization The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty. The director of LCRL is former professor and Lutheran Hour Speaker, Dr. Gregory Seltz. He writes: in the Gospel reading from Matthew 17:1-8 (The Transfiguration of our Lord), the Bible says,

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." "He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

THERE'S ONLY JESUS!

One of the things that gets Christians in trouble at times is the Bible's teaching that Jesus is the ONLY Savior of the world. It got Russell Vought, President Trump's nominee to be deputy director of the White House Office of Management and Budget, in big trouble. Todd Starnes reports,

Sen. Sanders deemed Vought unsuitable for office because he believes that salvation is found alone through Jesus Christ. He said someone with that kind of a religious belief system is "really not someone who this country is supposed to be about."

It's really unbelievable to hear a leader in America castigate a person whose apparent crime is believing in a Savior who said, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21), clearly differentiating the scope and the roles of the Church and the State. It's also hard to see an American Senator scold a person who believes in a Savior who says, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36). Instead, he and we should celebrate the fact that Christianity's worldview fundamentally differentiates between the public authority, boundaries, and purposes of the State and those of the Church unlike any other. It also happens to undergird an American polity that has created and sustained the personal liberties of more people from more places than any other country or culture in all the world.

But we shouldn't be too surprised. Jesus himself teaches his disciples, "A servant is not greater than his master. If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours" (John 15:20). There is a reason that Jesus is adored and scorned at the same time. It's because of sinners like you and me who need a savior like Him.

There is a reason that faith in Jesus Christ is, at the same time, both controversial and comforting. It's because Jesus is the only one, then and now, of whom the Father said the words in the above reading, "This is my beloved Son, . . . ; listen to him." Therefore He can also tell us what he said to those disciples on the mountaintop long ago, "Have no fear." It's true that faith in Jesus is different from other religions. In fact, when it comes down to it, faith in Jesus is not really a religion or simply about a moral way of life. It is, rather, a proclamation of freedom, forgiveness, and eternal life that comes from the person and work of Jesus alone as a gift.

So, in view of our reading from Matthew 17, if there is another savior capable of fulfilling the words of the Law and the Prophets, let me know (see also Matthew 5:17). If there is another savior capable of living our life perfectly, dying our death sacrificially, and rising from the dead for the sake of everyone's eternal life, I'd like to hear who that might be! If there is another way of living that holds both the work of this world and the saving work of Jesus for the world in perfect tension for the sake of each, I'd like to know what that is.

Since there is no one truly like Him, we will joyfully proclaim the uniqueness of Jesus for the sake of all. We will even proclaim the uniqueness of the Christian worldview that undergirds the civil freedom and liberties of all people better than any other worldview out there. And we will happily share the joys of knowing Jesus as Savior with anyone and everyone, no matter who (they are) or where they come from. Why? Because there's always good news when we trust in Jesus Christ alone and above all things.

PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for being the only Savior who could save me and the whole world. And thank You for doing it, for all of us who didn't deserve it at all.

A blessed Lenten season to all! Pastor Schield

Midweek Lenten Series

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which was on February 26.

Lenten services at 12:15 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. start March 4 with Soup and Sandwich suppers at 5:30 p.m.

March 4 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

March 11 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

March 18 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

March 25 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

April 1 (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)



April 5 Palm Sunday (8 & 10:30 a.m.)

April 9 Maundy Thursday (6:30 p.m.)

April 10 Good Friday (12:15 & 6:30 p.m.)

April 11 Easter Vigil (6:30 p.m.)

April 12 Easter Day (8 & 10:30 a.m.)

Musicians (instrumentalist and vocalist) who wish to participate in Holy Week Services should contact pastor immediately.

Soup & Sandwich Suppers

Every Wednesday in Lent, starting March 4 we will be having a soup and sandwich supper. These are generally hosted by various boards. Lent has 5 Wednesdays that we serve supper, we have 3 boards that currently serve, the Deacons, Stewardship & Education. That leaves 2 Wednesdays that need hosts. It can be a family or a group of friends, if you would consider hosting a supper it would be wonderful. Please let Roni know which Wednesday you would like to host as soon as possible.

Here are the dates for Lent and if hosts are needed:

March 4: Deacons

March 11: Board of Ed

March 18: hosts needed

March 25: Board of Stewardship

April 1: hosts needed

Easter Vigil Service – April 11

Commit to attending the 6:30 p.m. Service on **Holy Saturday** called **the Easter Vigil**, which is actually our first Easter service.

The Easter Vigil is one of the oldest, most unique of all Christian liturgies (definitely NOT “same ol’, same ol’). In it we hear key Old Testament passages, waiting like the ancient people of God as they waited for the

fulfillment of the promises. We wait in physical darkness as they waiting in spiritual darkness for God’s faithfulness. But then breaks in the light and the glory, as “Christ is risen” breaks out and we celebrate the first remembrance of Christ’s resurrection. It is a candlelight service, it may include baptism and will include the Eucharist. The Easter Vigil involves all of our senses and is very moving.

One of the fathers of the church, Chrysostom, issued an Easter proclamation that began with these words: *“Are there any who are devout lovers of God? Let them enjoy this beautiful bright festival! Are there any who are grateful servants? Let them rejoice and enter into the joy of their Lord! Are there any weary with fasting? Let them now receive their wages!”*

The celebration of Christ’s passion and resurrection is worthy of our time for it is the center of our faith and joy. Join us during Holy Week for as many of the services as you are able—and bring a friend!

Candidates (both infant and adult) for Holy Baptism at our Easter Vigil should immediately contact pastor or the church office to make arrangements.

Christ the King Memorial Scholarship

The purpose of the Fund is to provide scholarship assistance to LCMS students pursuing higher education at LCMS colleges, universities or seminaries. The Fund earned net income sufficient enough that \$2,000.00 is available for scholarship awards in 2020. Any award granted shall be for tuition purposes only. Any student who is a communicant member in good standing of CLC or another LCMS congregation is eligible to apply for an award. Application forms and related instructions are available from the church office. Students must return completed applications to the church office no later than April 1, 2020. Applications will then be reviewed by the Scholarship Committee.

Church Council

February 13, 2020

Members Present: John Robinson, Len Campbell, Wayne Ploetz, Pastor Schield and Sharyn Vengrin

Call to order: Sharyn Vengrin

Opening Prayer: Pastor Schield

Call for additional agenda items: Meeting Times

Approval of Minutes: Wayne made the motion to

accept the January 9, 2020 minutes and John

Seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Schield:

There will be 3 confirmands. Confirmation will be May 17, 2020 at 10:30 service.

The Youth outing at Kroeplins was a success. Good food and fun were had by all.

Pastor Schield will be giving the sermon on Lenten Sundays.

Treasurer’s Report: Checking Account Balance:

\$19,362.03 John made the motion to accept Checking Account Balance as written. Len seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Board of Deacons: No Report

Board of Trustees: Perrault installed insulation in Secretary's office (foam and Insulation) vapor barrier. Proposal is on file. Changed timer

Board of Stewardship and Evangelism:

Ashley will be introduced to the congregation at a church service during the latter part of April as she will be a contact for updating events on Facebook. Ashly will be encouraged to attend a Technology Meeting in Rice, Mn. This will be paid for by the congregation if she decides to go. This would include Registration fees, food and mileage.

Len will add something in the bulletin to inform the congregation that the Damiano Center will accept men's and women's winter coats, boots and shoes. However, they continue to ask for men's clothing only.

New Business: The existing photo directory is approaching five-years old and is in need of updating.

Len will contact Life Touch Photography to consider looking at updating the photo directory next fall.

Other Business: The board will sponsor the Lenten soup and sandwich on March 25.

A door offering to support Project 24 – Christ's Care for Children in Kenya will take place the end of April and first of May.

We will plan for a potluck on Pentecost Sunday.

There will be no Board Meeting in March.

Next Meeting: 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 14, 2020

Board of Education:

Valentines Dinner will be Feb 23, 2020

No Sunday School on Easter

Last day of Sunday school will be May 17, 2020

Catechisms is going well.

Summer Day Camp will be Monday through Thursday, August 10-13, 2020

March 8th Sunday School Roller Skating at 1:00.

Memorial Committee: Same

Endowment Committee: same

Memoriam Garden: No activity

Old Business: Computer Scanning documents:

Wayne is proceeding with this. Some at home, some at church. Len made the motion and it was seconded by John that Wayne make the decision on record retention out of the treasurer's manual as to what is to be shredded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by John and seconded by Len that Roni be allowed to sign in to checking account at NBC. All in favor. Motion carried.

Church credit card for online and local purchases that we don't have accounts for. Wayne will look into this.

Voters Assembly: Will be on Sunday, February 17, 2020. Len will make agenda

Use of Fellowship Hall: Motion was made by Len and seconded by Sharyn that we grant use of Fellowship Hall to Kathy Field, July 18, 2020 for Shower. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Meeting times: Jim will call Frank regarding a new meeting time.

No March Meeting.

Next Council Meeting: 5 p.m., Thurs., April 16, 2020

Adjournment-Lord's Prayer

Stewardship

We are at the beginning of Lent. During the Lenten season, the church calls to our attention the sufficiency of what God gives. It points to the sufficiency of God's grace in the atoning work of Jesus. It shows us the sufficiency of faith in Jesus' work for us. It makes known the sufficiency of God's Word in faith and life.

But Lent doesn't just remind us of the sufficiency of God's spiritual gifts, the gifts that pertain to our redemption and salvation. Lent also reminds us of the sufficiency of the physical, temporal gifts of God, those that pertain to this body and life. In other words, it reminds us of the importance of godly contentment and of outward discipline and training of the body.

This outward training of the body teaches us not to give in to every desire of our flesh but to learn to say no to them. And it does this in such a way that if you fail, it is no sin. It is a way to practice without putting yourself into a compromising situation.

The easiest example of this is fasting. When you fast, you are practicing saying no to the desires of your body. But if you fail in this, if you break your fast, you have not sinned. You have, though, learned something about how your flesh works, how difficult it is to fight against it, and how you need help from above in order to do it.

There is another example of this. It is alms-giving. This is an increase in giving to the church and its mission during this time. We all know that our flesh finds security in money and stuff. By committing to give more to the church, you are training your flesh. You are, by this outward discipline, training yourself to be content with what God gives. You are practicing saying "no" to your desires. Again, if you fail, you have not sinned. But you've learned just how powerful your flesh is in leading you instead of you leading it. You've learned how you need help from above in being content with what God gives.

This is why St. Paul instructs young Pastor Timothy in this way:

"But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and[a] we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs." (1 Tim 6:6-10)

Our sufficiency is not of ourselves; it is in God. Let us learn this without sin by training our flesh this Lenten season.

Just an FYI

In effort to let the congregation know where we are each month on our income and expenses, a update will be printed in the newsletter each month. If you have any questions you may talk to the treasurer, Wayne Ploetz.

Income/Expense thru January 2020

Budgeted income: \$19,923.00

Income: \$13,137.00 (\$6,786.00) short

Budgeted Expense: \$19,923.00

Expenses: \$21,486.50 \$1,563.00 over

YTD income – expenses: (\$8349.50) short

Lent for Life

For centuries Christians have used the Lenten season to fortify their spiritual health. The Christian church has developed a variety of “disciplines” or spiritual “workouts” to help people renew their commitment to Jesus Christ. These also allow people to prepare for baptism and to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter. Spiritual insights and habits gained during the six weeks of Lent can then be applied very successfully to the rest of life through the miracle Jesus Christ’s resurrection.

Rediscover some of these helpful disciplines during this Lenten season:

1. In addition to the regular 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday services, two additional midweek Vespers services are available each Wednesday at 12:15 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. during Lent. Week by week you are invited to meditate on the incredible events and personalities through which God first brought His saving love into the world. Midweek Lenten services will continue every Wednesday through April 1. Soup and sandwich suppers are served every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. (except Ash Wednesday).
2. Another opportunity is to make an appointment for a “conversation with the pastor” during Lent. We make appointments to see experts in medicine for the health of our bodies and minds. You are invited to consult with our pastor about your spiritual health and to use the discipline of personal confession and absolution.
3. Lent is an excellent time to reconnect with the ancient Christian practice of alms giving or helping those less fortunate. Donations for the local food shelf will be received during Lent.
4. Or you may wish to culture the discipline of fasting and prayer. There are numerous aids to private and personal reflection and growth during Lent. A number of free resources are available on the tables in the church narthex

Main Street Living Northland

"MAIN STREET LIVING NORTHLAND" is a locally produced TV program that includes a 30-minute worship service led by participating pastors of the Minnesota North District of our LCMS, along with a 30 minute remastered program called "This is the Life" from Lutheran Hour Ministries (starting at 10:00 a.m.). Main Street Living Northland is broadcast every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Central time on KBJR Channel 6 NBC and cable and satellite systems carrying these stations. All current shows and information about Main Street Living can be found at <http://www.mainstreetliving.com> and past programs are archived on <https://vimeo.com/user82955593>

Thank you for your support! You can send comments or contributions to:

Main Street Living Northland
c/o Mt. Olive Lutheran Church
2012 East Superior Street., Duluth, MN 55812

Valentine's Dinner

Thank you everyone that came to the Valentine's dinner and helped us support the day camp again this summer. We raised approximately \$535 to help have camperships and to lower the cost of the camp.

Christ's Men

Men, Let's Do Lunch

Christ's Men will meet on Tuesday, March 3 at 12 noon at Fuller's Family Restaurant in South Superior. This is an opportunity to gain guidance and spiritual support from God's Word as well as an excellent opportunity for Christian friendship.

LWML at Christ Lutheran

Women, here is an opportunity to join thousands of other Lutheran women who focus on missions and God's Word. Join us on Tuesday, March 10 at 1 p.m. our emphasis will be on Bible Study, mission projects, and sharing faith and friendship with out "sisters-in- Christ. Please mark your calendars and join us.

Daylights Savings Time

A reminder the Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 8! We'll lose an hour. Move your clocks ahead 1 hour on Saturday night. It is another sign of spring and the changes that are coming our way, we hope.

Gifts for Easter, Confirmation, Etc.

Concordia Publishing House offers a variety of gifts for Easter, Confirmation and various other events (800-325-3040 for a catalog or to place an order). Help confirmands keep their confirmation day close to their heart by giving them a *Concordia Study* or *Concordia Reference Bible* and their own copy of the *Lutheran Worship Hymnal* engraved with their name on the cover. The new edition of *Lutheran Book of Prayer* is another fine gift. My *Book of Confirmation Memories* is the perfect place for memorabilia, with guest pages and inspiring text.

The Heating Season

The heating season is upon us again, please double check that all doors are locked, all lights are turned off (including bathrooms), and thermostats are turned down before your group leaves the church. Thank you!

Defending the Faith, Teaching the Truth

Issues, Etc. is a talk radio show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio. Recent topics include: Same-Sex Marriage, Reformation *Solas*, Depression, Radical Islam, What Boys Need, Pro-Life Women and more. Listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org.

Food for the Local Food Shelf

The first Sunday of every month is when you need to bring in your donations of non-perishable food items for the local food shelf. You may put your items under the table in the narthex. This is given to those in need and then to the local food pantry

Do We Have Your Current Email Address?

Are you receiving email from Christ Lutheran? If not, you are missing important and timely information from your church. We will not flood your inbox or share your email address (addresses are always hidden when sent from church). Please help us keep you informed! Call the office at 715-398-3680 or send it to clcoffice320@gmail.com

Looking for something?

The LCMS staffs the "Church Information Center", which offers a great deal of help and resources on a variety of topics. To contact the CIC with your questions, you may write: infocenter@lcms.org or call toll free 1.888.843.5267

March Birthdays

1	Maci Heytens
3	Gloria Vreeland
4	Chris Filteau
8	Jonathan Schoessow Carol Corrine Evans Brian Maslowski
9	Russell Hagberg
11	Jim Kari
12	Nancy Durand
16	Kayla Bedard
17	Caryl Lehto
20	Cheryl Harkabus Beverly Strongitharm Brandee Dittbrender
22	Una Privette Judy Pohl Eliana Mack
23	Amanda Fudally Donovan Pattee
26	Taylor Amundson
28	Peggy Campbell Nick Kirchoff
30	Belinda Sternberg Grant Thompson