

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 <i>Chili & Bingo</i> Women's Gathering 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Bible Study 10:15 Meeting
4 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible Study & Sunday School	5	6 7:45 Deacon's Meeting 5:30 Choir 6:30 Lenten Service	8 9	10	11 <i>Daytime Savings Begins</i> 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible Study & Sunday School	12 13 6:30 Church Council Meeting 6:30 Lenten Service
14	15	16	17	18 <i>Blood Pressure Checks</i> 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible Study & Sunday School	19	20
21 5:30 Choir 6:30 Lenten Service	22	23	24	25 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 8:30 Worship 9:45 Bible Study & Sunday School	26	27
28 5:30 Choir	29 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> Service—6:30 pm	30 <i>Good Friday</i> Service—6:30 pm				

March 2018

News N Notes

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

530 S. Victoria St., St Paul, MN 55102 651-228-1482

St. Peter's Worship Schedule:
Worship Service -8:30 AM
Bible Class &
Sunday School—9:45 AM

Lenten Services
Wednesdays - 6:30 PM

Holy Week Services
Maundy Thursday - 6:30 PM
Good Friday—6:30 PM

Church Office Hours:
Monday: 8:30 am to 1:30 pm
Tuesday: 8:30 am to 1:30 pm
Wednesday: 10:30 am to 3:30 pm
Thursday: Office closed
Friday: 8:30 am to 1:30 pm

Office will be closed from March 5 and will reopen March 19.

Giving up some small pleasure for Lent, like chocolate or coffee, can be a nice way to remind ourselves throughout Lent that it is Lent. When we reach out for those things we remember that we are denying ourselves in commemoration of Our Lord's suffering.

This isn't meant to please God or gain His favor. Nor can such a small denial make Lent more meaningful or increase faith. It is simply an attempt to keep ourselves mindful throughout the day that it is Lent. That is a valid Christian desire and discipline.

Curbing the flesh is always good. Cutting calories is probably appropriate for almost everyone reading this, and (though I hate to admit it) cutting caffeine wouldn't probably hurt a few of us either.

But Lent isn't ultimately about giving things up. Its purpose is not self-improvement in the conventional sense. Instead Lent is a season of preparation. We are preparing to celebrate Easter and the Church is always prepared in the same way: by repentance.

True repentance is not simply feeling sorry, and it certainly isn't an emotional frenzy of despair. Nor is it merely an outward discipline for the world to see. True repentance means turning away from sin in sorrow and also turning toward God in joy. That is to say, that true repentance is faith. It expects forgiveness. It trusts in Christ to give it. Judas was not truly repentant (Matthew 27:3-5). He was only remorseful. He did not think he could be forgiven. He did not trust Jesus to love him. In contrast, St. Peter was repentant (Mark 14:66-72). He was more than remorseful. He was sorry for his sins and ashamed of what he had done, but even more than this, he trusted in Christ to be merciful.

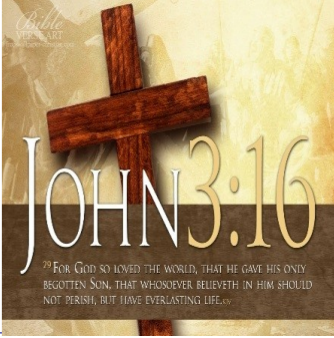
Lent is therefore not so much a time of "giving things up" as it is a time for adding things that increase our awareness of God's mercy in Christ Jesus. When Lent leads us to repentance, it isn't to make us sad or to somehow get God's attention. It is to strengthen our faith.

Part of that strengthening includes an increased awareness of our great need—and yes, that often

means a stern preaching of the Law. But that is not the real mark or purpose of Lent. For Lent also includes, and is mostly focused on, the solution to that need: the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for our redemption. Nearly all of our churches add midweek services during Lent and also Holy Week services, not for the primary purpose of preaching the Law but rather that we might have more opportunities to receive God's forgiveness, hear his Word and receive His Sacrament.

So if you're looking for something to give up this Lent, I suggest you give up a few hours each Wednesday evening and go to church. Don't do it to make yourself sad. Do it for the joy of hearing God's Word and receiving His gifts. There, by the means of Grace, repentance is educated and edified and faith is fed. That is what Lent is meant for.

Written by Rev. David H. Peterson, Pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Ft. Wayne, Indiana



Serving this Month

Greeters

- March 4 Steve & Helen Mikle
- March 11 Carolyn Mars
- March 18 Judy & Mike McGinn
- March 25 Gerry Morse

Coffee & Treats

- March 11 Carolyn Mars
- March 18 Judy & Mike McGinn
- March 25 Gerry Morse

Scripture Readers

- March 4 Gerry Morse
- March 11 Becki Hamilton
- March 18 Anneke van Oosterom
- March 25 Howard Klingbeil

Altar Guild

Trish Malcolm

Inside Our Church

Call Committee Update - A call committee is active for the search for a new pastor. Howard Klingbeil is the chairman of the call committee and the committee members are David and Norma Cheesebrow, Gerry Morse and Cory Biladeau. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Howard Klingbeil.

Blood Pressure Screenings — Blood Pressure Screenings will be taken after the service (at the rear of the church) on Sunday, March 18, 2018. If you have any questions, please ask Dave or Norma Cheesebrow.

Thank you! - Thank you for the generous outpouring of love and the many hands who assisted us for our Valentine's Homeless Community Service project. We were able to fill 72 bags with 10-12 items of hygiene products per bag. They were delivered to St. Joseph's Coat and to Dr. Como and his 2 partners, who administer health care on the streets two hours prior to their work day every week. They greatly appreciate the support St. Peter's Lutheran Church gives to the West Seventh St. community.

Easter Flowers: - It's time to order Easter Flowers - Order forms have been included in recent bulletins and there is a supply of order forms in the back of the church. The deadline to order the flowers is Sunday, March 18, 2018. You can contact the church office or drop the order form in the offering plate or leave it with an usher.

St. Peter's Altar Guild —The Altar Guild is responsible for placing the proper altar paraments (cloths) according to the liturgical colors of the church year as well as cleaning the chancel and sacristy areas and other miscellaneous duties as necessary. We are in need for someone to fill the month of November and also a Director of the Altar Guild. If interested, please contact the church office at 651-228-1482.

The current Altar Guild members are as follows: Schedule for 2018
 January—Cindy Nelson
 February—Linda Schwartz
 March—Trish Malcolm
 April—Mary Olson and Lynn Billing
 May—Gail Stemig and Katie Schoenberger
 June—Val Peterson
 Carolyn Mars—Communion Veils and Purificators
 July—Carolyn Mars
 August—Mary Fryer
 September—Gerry Morse
 October—Karen Webster and Joanne Johnson
 December—Cindy Nelson

The church office will be closed from March 5 and will reopen March 19. If you have an emergency, contact Pastor Andrada at 224-567-9808, Dave Cheesebrow at 651-699-2718, or Mark Lehner at 651-338-4823.

In Our Community

2018 Central Lutheran School Gala: Growing in Faith

On Saturday, March 24, 2018, from 4 to 7 pm., Central Lutheran School (CLS) in St. Paul will hold its largest fundraiser of the year. We'd love for you to join us for an evening of food and entertainment, with silent and live auctions benefitting the mission of CLS. There is no cost to attend the 2018 CLS Gala. However, in order to plan appropriately, the favor of a reply is requested by Monday, March 12. Please RSVP by e-mailing to email address; school@clssp.org or calling the school office at 651-645-8649.

Jelly Beans—Jelly Beans are now available at Central Lutheran. Flavors are fruit, spice, and licorice. If interested, please contact the school office at 651-645-8649.

Concordia Academy Musical—Concordia Academy presents the musical "Seussical" - Dates are March 9-11 and March 16-17. For more information and online ticket sales, visit Concordia's website at www.concordiaacademy.com

Guardian Angels Fish Fry—All You Can Eat Fish Fry Dinners will be held at Guardian Angel Catholic Church in Oakdale, MN, on Friday, March 9 and Friday, March 23. For more information, visit Guardian's website at www.guardian-angels.org

Prayer List

Roxanne Knudsen (Cancer), Dave Huber (Illness); Trish Malcolm (total knee replacement); Jim Greer; Rose Reich; Skip Nelson (cancer), son-in-law of Shirley Nelson

Community: Central Lutheran School

Birthdays

- 1 Adeline Schoenberger
- 6 Donald Kostohryz
- 23 Rachelle Bilek
- 26 Kristen McGinn



Baptism Birthdays

- 11 Joe Stemig
- 15 Mary Fryer
- 19 Dennis Szondy
- 20 Austin Schoenberger
- 30 Adeline Schoenberger



February Financial Summary

	General	Koins 4 Kids	Savings Account	Total
Week 1	\$1,985.00	\$8.55	\$1.00	\$1,994.55
Week 2	\$1,581.00	\$4.74	\$20.00	\$1,605.74
Week 3	\$1,909.50	\$3.41	\$0.00	\$1,912.91
Week 4	\$2,386.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,386.20
Week 5	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total				\$7,899.40