



ST. PETER'S

Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

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WELS
Christ's Love, Our Calling.

March 2017

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The “Whats” and “Whys” of Lent

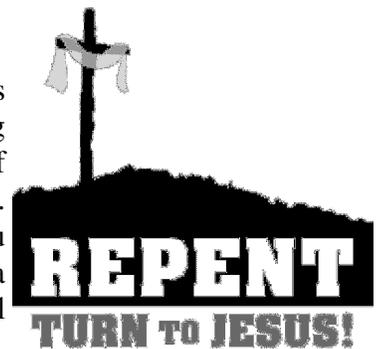
The ancient Christian season of Lent begins on the first day of March. A period of forty days of fasting and repentance has been observed in the Christian church as early as 325 A.D. This was to prepare the worshipers to share in the joy of Easter Sunday, the celebration of Christ’s resurrection from the dead—which proclaims his victory over hell, death, and the grave for his lost and fallen creatures.

The word *Lent* comes from the early English word which means *to lengthen*; it came to mean *Spring*. At this time of year the days begin to lengthen as the light of the day slowly conquers the darkness of night. During Lent we observe Jesus, the Light of the World, conquering the darkness of sin, death, and the devil through his holy passion—his innocent, bitter sufferings and death on the cross.

Lent begins on *Ash Wednesday*, which receives its name from the ancient church custom of daubing the foreheads of the worshipers with the ashes of the previous year’s *Palm Sunday* palm branches. The ashes remind us of our mortality—dust you are and to dust you will return—and our need of a Savior from death and damnation. The liturgical color for the day is black.

Lent lasts for forty days—not including Sundays—commemorating for day fasts of Moses on Mount Sinai, Elijah en route to Mt. Sinai, and Jesus in the wilderness at the beginning of his three-year public ministry. Fasting is a symbol of sorrow and repentance over sin. Some Christians still choose to give up something for Lent to help them focus on their mortality and the saving work of the immortal Savior. The liturgical color of repentance for Lent is purple.

During Lent we observe six mid-week Lenten services in order to somberly witness our Lord Jesus walk down his *Via Dolorosa*—his road of sorrows. The theme for this year’s services is ***Repent: Turn to Jesus!***



LENTEN SUPPERS



Each Wednesday between the two midweek Lenten services, one of our congregation's organizations or service groups will serve supper in the commons. Come, eat, and enjoy fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ between 4:30 and 6:10 and forget about that common question, "What's for supper?" for one evening each week! A freewill offering will be gathered at each meal.

LUTHERAN HOME DEVOTION VOLUNTEERS

Every Friday morning at 9:30, area WELS pastors conduct a devotion in the chapel of the Lutheran Home—244 N. Macy St. This service depends upon local WELS volunteers to help with bringing the residents to the basement, handing out bulletins and hymn sheets, and other duties as they arise. We are in need of some new volunteers to help serve the elderly. Please contact Carol Jackson at 922-5418 or Pastor Aaron Ody at 872-2785.



WLA Presents
**The Seussification
of Romeo and Juliet**
on Friday, March 24 at 7pm and
Saturday, March 25 at 2pm

**Lent 2017
Worship Services
3:30 and 6:30**

March 1- Pastor Zuberbier
Repent: Turn to Jesus and Not to Yourself

March 8- Pastor Guse
Repent: Turn to Jesus; Do Not Turn Away

March 15- Pastor Oberg
Repent: Turn to Jesus; He Holds the Key to Heaven

March 22- Pastor Naumann
Repent: Turn to Jesus; He Longs to Forgive You

March 29- Pastor Zimpelmann
Repent: Turn to Jesus; He Changes Your Life

April 5- Pastor Barenz
Repent: Turn to Jesus When You Face Temptation

MARCH 1 – 15

Kathy Kraus
Sherry Georg



MARCH 16 – 31

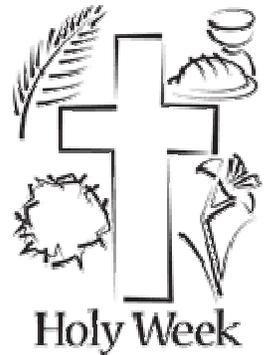
Joan Voss
Mary Demmon

When members wish to donate flowers they must do three things:

1. Call Courtney or Anna (922-1160) for the bulletin announcement.
2. Call one of the pastors if they would like a prayer for the occasion.
3. Call Else Cuppan (922-8672) well in advance so arrangements can be made for delivery.

The “Whats” and “Whys” of Lent

Lent concludes with *Holy Week*, beginning on *Palm Sunday*—the day that our Servant King rode into Jerusalem on the foal of a donkey. Then comes *Fig Monday*—the day on which Jesus cursed a fig tree. That is followed by *Holy Tuesday* or *Busy Tuesday*—the day on which Jesus spoke many discourses both in the Temple and on the Mount of Olives. The next day is *Spy Wednesday*, so-called because it was likely on that day when Judas entered into his corrupt contract to betray Jesus for thirty pieces of silver.



Holy Week concludes with the *Tridium*—the Three Days. The first is *Maundy Thursday*. *Maundy* comes from the Latin word which means *command*. On that Maundy Thursday Jesus gave a new command—to love one another just as he loved us. He also instituted the Lord’s Supper on that sacred eve, giving us the gracious invitation: take eat; take drink; do this in remembrance of me.

The second major day of the *Tridium* is *Good Friday*—the bittersweet day of Jesus’ death. It’s bitter because we know that it is our wickedness that caused him to go to the cross. It is sweet because he was willing to go to hell and back to rescue us from perdition. The liturgical color of the day is black—reminding us that Jesus suffered the deepest darkness of the abyss.

There are no services held on *Holy Saturday*, also known as *Black Saturday*, as Jesus’ body rested in the darkness of death in the sepulcher.

The third major day of the *Tridium* is *Easter*—the celebration of Christ’s glorious resurrection from the dead. Because he lives we know his words are true when he said, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.” The liturgical color is gold—the color of eternal life—or white—the color of Christ’s robes of righteousness in which we are wrapped.

GREETERS SCHEDULE

March 5	7:45	Deb Dehring	Bonnie Baerwald
	10:30	Roger & Laurie Bargenquast	
March 12	7:45	Warren & Mary Demmon	
	10:30	Jane Fell	Marilyn Abbey
March 19	7:45	Jerry & Diane Fricken	
	10:30	Larry Debbert	
March 26	7:45	Vicki Erdman	
	10:30	Diana Kent	Marilyn Abbey

PINWOOD DERBY 2017

Let’s turn those chunks of wood into racing machines! We will have our annual St. Peter’s Congregation Derby Races on Sunday, March 26 at 12:00. You can pick up your car kits from the narthex for \$5 per kit. There will be trophies and medals given out for the categories of *Speed* and *Craft*. See the display for more information.



Board of Elders to Visit High School Seniors

Over the last couple of months, you have been receiving information about the changes that will be occurring in the Mailbox Ministry. The major change being that all confirmed members of St. Peter's will receive their own personal mailbox.

In order to clearly inform and spiritually encourage our younger generation, members of the Board of Elders are planning to meet with each graduating senior from high school, and if time allows, those graduating from college. The purpose of this contact will be to remind the student about their confession they made at confirmation. Encouragement will be given to continue keeping their Savior in focus with regular and faithful contact with the Word of God.

We also realize that this can be an easy time for Satan to convince a student that a strong connection with Jesus is not all that important, but as everyone

knows, it is a very challenging time for the faith life of the individual. In a survey taken at our local Christian high school, it was found that about 80% of the freshmen attend church regularly. By the time the students became seniors their church attendance had dropped to 30%! It is indeed a challenging time.

If the student plans on being away for some time, encouragement would even be given to consider transferring membership to a closer congregation so that faithful and regular worship stays paramount. But if they desire to remain an active member of St. Peter's, then instruction about the blue paddle would be given.

Above all, this demonstration of love and concern from St. Peter's Congregation through the work of the Board of Elders, will serve as an encouragement to our younger members that we are concerned about the eternal salvation of their soul. We pray that all see the value and need for this type of interaction to occur.

Membership Matters

The matters of membership listed below were acted upon or recognized by the Coordinating Council at its February meeting.

Requests for Transfer Out

Brett, Sara, and Oliver* Heeneey
to Immanuel, Greenville

Mari Klinke to St. Peter's, Eldorado

Baptism

Ada Balfour

Recommended for Removal (Unable to Serve)

Zachary Immel

Steven Cuppan

Request for Release

Heidi Guse

Funerals

David Hoops

Confirmation

Randy Schoonover

Nicholas Immel

Katchen Tofil

Wendy Tamm

Thomas Priebe

Cleaning Schedule



<u>Week of:</u>	
March 5	Roger Bargaenquast Mark Kollmann
March 12	Don & Sue Knuth
March 19	Gregg & Carol Leisten
March 26	Loren & Joan Voss

Please call Gregg at
923 - 1583 to
become a member
of the "cleaning
team".