



# *The Messenger*

*March 2015*

**Pastor Gregory Pope**

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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## **How Will He not also Give Us *All* Things?**

God has the power and desire to solve every problem of your life. Our imperfect thinking often underestimates the LORD's power to help us. For example, a person is torn on whether or not to go to a mid-week Lenten service. I'm already tired and racing from appointment to appointment. Do I really need to squeeze another event into my day? But then when you attend, you're transported to another world. There is the Christ-centered message and meditative hymns like:

Oh, come, my soul, your Savior see -- Nailed to your cross on Calvary. -- Your pains he bears;  
Your thorns he wears -- That yours a crown of life might be.

'Tis yours, my soul, the sin, the shame, -- The cross, the nails, the thirst, the pain; -- In agony  
His blood runs free -- To write in heaven's book your name.

Oh, sing, my soul, sing endlessly -- The wondrous love that sets you free; -- His dying breath  
Brings life from death, -- Makes heav'n your home eternally.

That was hymn 99, "Oh, Come, My Soul" from *Christian Worship*. After singing such hymns, you end up leaving the service more rested and refreshed than if you hadn't attended in the first place. The same goes for attending a weekend church service. This is the power of God's Word. This is in keeping with God's promise. "He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?" (Romans 8).

Do you see? If the LORD was willing to give up his only Son to death, to solve our greatest problem – sin – then he also has the power and love to give us *all* things, even to let us solve *all* our problems.

Let me briefly tell you one problem that God has graciously allowed me to solve. That is, having enough time to read. A pastor always seems to have more desired reading material than he has time to read, especially in Lent. Now, please don't get the idea that I am too busy to counsel you if you would ever like to meet with me spur of the moment. I purposely build time into my schedule for

unexpected meetings, and I'm glad to help you in any need. My time available for reading, though, does get reduced in Lent. That seemed like an unsolvable problem but I kept bringing it to the LORD in prayer and, after a time, he has brought me a good solution. I bought a book called, "Breakthrough Rapid Reading" by Peter Kump.

I'm less than a quarter of the way through the book so far but after doing the training exercises for about ten minutes a day for a month, I've already almost doubled my reading rate. It's gone from 200-some words a minute to 400-some. Some of the techniques it teaches are to use your index finger as a guide to pace your reading of each line. (This is somewhat embarrassing to do in public, but I read this way now at home.) It also has exercises where you read as far as you can for three minutes. Then, read through the same material in two minutes. Then, do it again in one minute. At the accelerated pace, you can't comprehend every word and line, but the speed practice forces you to process more words faster and, eventually, after weeks or months, you can understand what you're reading at the increased pace. You might think that reading at a faster speed is not satisfying or that you're not going to remember what you read, but the book also has drills to help you summarize paragraphs to develop better reading recall.

I don't mean to get carried away on the subject. My point is that in the past I thought of limited reading time as an unsolvable problem but the Lord has graciously given me help in this area. Think of problems in your life that seem unsolvable. Don't underestimate the Lord! It's not unsolvable. If he could remove your damning sins by putting them on his Son, the spotless Lamb, if he could give you eternal life as a free gift in Christ, and he has, then he can give you every other good thing.

Keep bringing your unsolved problems to your heavenly Father. He may well surprise you and open up the shining doors to a solution. If God doesn't completely remove your problem, he can definitely decrease the severity of the pain and increase your perseverance in peace and hope. As Romans 8 also says, "What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?" Thanks be to the triune God.

*Pastor Greg Pope*



## ***Message from the President***

### ***A few important items....***

I am sure all of you have seen the notification in these last few Sunday bulletins regarding the church piano. We have had problems with that piano for the last few years. We have tried tuning it and buying different things that the piano tuner has suggested in an effort to make it play and sound better. These attempts have not solved our problems so a suggestion was made to look into and purchase a different piano. A door collection will be held this month to start the funding for this purchase. To offer you some idea, we can expect to pay over \$1000 for a used piano. This is an expense that is not in the budget so we are attempting to cover the cost with free will offerings and the use of member designated Thrivent funds.

The church council and the voters at the last quarterly meeting held a discussion regarding the summertime Saturday and Tuesday night services. This discussion started in council when we realized our shortfall in the budget last year. Not meeting our needs to cover expenses, we looked at any possible way to reduce costs. Each of these evening services requires Pastor's time, electricity, an organist, ushers, and summertime air conditioning adjustment. If Pastor Pope is on vacation a vacancy Pastor must be scheduled to fill in. **No recommendation** has been reached at this time. This is an effort by the council to gauge your reaction and gather input. Ladies and Gentlemen, *PLEASE* speak to your council members. Let us know your opinions regarding this subject. Do we continue as in the past few years with both services? Do we not have a Tuesday service? Do we drop Saturday during the summer and only have Tuesday? HELP!

You will soon notice an example of our cost reduction efforts. The weekly bulletin cover is no longer printed in color. This small change will cut the cost of bulletins in half. Printer ink is a very expensive little item.

The council has been in contact with Bank First National in regards to the direct money transfer for general fund contributions. We are putting together the paper work and cost that will be associated with such a program. We will soon ask the question regarding participation so that we can gauge the interest in such a program. More information to follow.....

### **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

*The Stewardship Committee update will appear again soon.*

*How is Jesus the Savior of the world?*

On September 11, 2001, passengers on United Airlines Flight 93 attempted to gain control of the hijacked airplane that was by most accounts headed for a target in Washington, D.C. The plane crashed in a field in Pennsylvania. All 44 passengers were killed. The valiant passengers sacrificed their lives so that possibly many more lives were spared. Those passengers were lifesavers in the sense that they substituted their own lives for the lives of others.

Christians refer to Jesus as a lifesaver. Jesus saved our lives and the lives of every single human being. That is quite an astounding assertion. How specifically did Jesus save the human race? The answer hinges on Jesus serving as our substitute.

The Bible clearly states that God is absolutely holy, righteous and just. The problem is that we human beings are not in God's spiritual league, far from it. The apostle Paul bluntly reminds us that no one is perfect: "There is no one righteous, not even one...All have turned away and have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one" (Romans 3:10, 12).

We are sinful; God is not. Left to ourselves, our lack of holiness will prevent us from living eternally in our holy God's presence. God's Word says, "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Instead of going to heaven, our final destiny is eternal death in hell. Jesus said that those who are not righteous will be cast by God into the place of torment (Matthew 13:49, 50), the abode of the evil angel Satan. It is an ominous and bleak eternal outlook!

But God intervened. We have a lifesaver. We have a substitute. In unimaginable love, God the Father sent his Son, Jesus, to save us from death and hell. As true God and true man, Jesus lived a holy and sinless life in our place. Jesus substituted his holiness for our lack of holiness, so that because of Jesus God counts us completely holy!

Then in remarkable humble love for all of us, Jesus suffered and died. On the cross, Jesus suffered the agony of eternal separation from God the Father's love. We deserved that eternal punishment for our sin, but God put Jesus under the sentence of death as our substitute.

Then victoriously Jesus rose from the dead to prove that he fully accomplished our salvation. He is the Savior who rescued the world from the guilt of sin, the hold of death, and the power of hell by his perfect life and his death for us.

Trust Jesus who is your "substitute" Savior, and all these eternal blessings are yours!

For more Questions & Answers, go to [www.WhatAboutJesus.com](http://www.WhatAboutJesus.com), then *Questioning God*.

## News from the WELS

*From the office of President Mark Schroeder*

### **Synodical Council approves Ministry Financial Plan**

The Synodical Council (SC) held its winter meeting last week. The foremost item on the agenda was the adoption of the 2015-2017 biennium Ministry Financial Plan (budget) to be recommended to the synod convention for consideration this summer.

Prior to adopting the plan, the SC received word that the Church Extension Fund (CEF) will be making grants of \$700,000 to Home Missions in each of the next two years. In addition, the WELS Foundation also forwarded a grant of \$460,000 to the synod this year and is planning grants of \$150,000 annually during the biennium. Both of these grants to the synod resulted from newly adopted policies governing the unrestricted net assets of the WELS Foundation.

As a part of the planning process the SC first adopted the Support Forecast, which estimates the anticipated financial support available for the synod's mission and ministry. On the basis of that information, the SC then established spending levels for all areas of ministry in a Ministry Financial Plan that includes the following features:

- \*The operating support total of \$29,426,700 for the first year is virtually unchanged from the current operating support of \$29,410,800.
- \*The operating support total for the second year of the biennium drops to \$27,890,800, since the anticipated retirement of the synod's capital debt will no longer require the \$1,600,000 allocation for debt repayment.
- \*Total expenditures (which include synod support and special funds) increase by \$1.2 million in the first year, with the majority of that increase in Home Missions, made possible by the use of additional special funds already on hand and the grant from the CEF.
- \*Even though the synod support levels have been kept flat, the overall plan provides sufficient support for our Ministerial Education schools and for all existing World Mission fields and expanded work in Home Missions.
- \*Home Missions receives an additional allocation of \$700,000 in both years of the biennium as a result of the grant from the Church Extension Fund. This will enable it to plant several additional new home missions.
- \*The Support Forecast assumes a 1% increase in CMO in each year of the biennium. Increases greater than that will either enable some unfunded items to be funded or will result in a smaller drawdown of the Financial Stabilization Fund.

While the decrease in Congregation Mission Offering subscriptions for 2015 presented some challenges, the SC earlier made reductions of \$825,000 in the current year plan to enable the synod to operate within expected levels of support. Additional steps taken in forming the 2015-2017 plan are also intended to keep the synod's expenditures within the planned levels of support. The complete plan will be published in the *Book of Reports and Memorials*.

*Serving you in Christ,  
President Mark Schroeder*

### **Malawi flood relief update**

Relief efforts have been ongoing in the flood-damaged areas of Malawi. WELS missionaries in Malawi, leaders from the Lutheran Church of Central Africa - Malawi (LCCA), WELS Christian Aid and Relief, and WELS Kingdom Workers have been collaborating to meet the needs of affected LCCA members. So far, Christian Aid and Relief has designated \$50,000 to relief efforts, but initial assessments indicate that needs are extensive and ongoing.

In January, Malawi experienced damaging floods that destroyed or damaged the homes of an estimated 3,200 LCCA families and nearly 20 LCCA church buildings. The floods also washed away crops, depleting the local food supplies, and increased the threat of diseases such as malaria and cholera.

So far, WELS Kingdom Workers volunteers and LCCA leaders, working with Christian Aid and Relief, have been distributing supply buckets with sheet plastic, nails, and blankets to provide temporary housing to affected families, but traveling the flood-damaged roads can be difficult. To help expedite the travel and delivery process, Christian Aid and Relief is funding two more Kingdom Workers volunteers to rent additional trucks in Malawi and get supplies to members more quickly.

WELS Christian Aid and Relief Director of Operations Mr. Mark Vance is planning a trip to Malawi in March to assess the damage and determine ongoing relief needs, particularly food and medical needs in addition to the structural damage to homes and churches.

The LCCA is WELS' sister synod in Malawi. To help support relief efforts, you can [donate online](#) or send checks to WELS, Re: Christian Aid and Relief, flood disaster relief fund, N16W23377 Stone Ridge Drive, Waukesha, WI 53188-1108

### **Live parenting webcast**

*Forward in Christ's* new parenting column, *Heart to heart: Parent conversations*, is hosting its first live webcast on Tues., March 10, at 8 p.m. (central). Get to know three of the column's authors and ask them questions.

Laura Schaefer, a mother of three young children, has been following the *Heart to heart* articles since their debut in the January issue and has joined the conversation online at the [column's blog](#). She says, "I'm connected online with many friends and relatives that are parents, and we share stories, ask for advice, and support each other. I find the *Heart to heart* group valuable—in addition to my own network—because the range of topics being discussed is more broad and the pool of parents leaving comments is new to me. The authors come from different walks of life and are at different points on the path of parenthood. Getting to know them through their bios, their writing, and this webcast is a privilege and an encouragement to me."

The conversation of the March webcast will focus on the topic of March's column: "How do we talk about Jesus with our children?" Sometimes we as parents struggle to talk about Jesus in natural ways with our children. It's easy to read them a Bible story about Jesus, but it's harder to apply that story as a situation unfolds. See how authors Wendy Heyn, Dan Nommensen, and Ann Jahns deal with this topic with their children and share ways that you talk about Jesus with your children.

Does your congregation have a mom's group? This would be a great get-together. The group can participate in the broadcast and then have its own discussion after the broadcast is over. Or consider making a date with your spouse to tune in after you put the kids to bed.

To view the webcast, go to [www.wels.net/forwardinchrist](http://www.wels.net/forwardinchrist). You can also participate in the discussion via the chat feature.

## **Seminary holds annual Mission and Ministry**

From February 3-5, presenters from around the country and world - some in person, some via Skype - spoke to those who attended Mission and Ministry, an annual three-day event at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wis., that highlights the worldwide mission of WELS. Under the theme "Should I not be concerned about that great city," 34 presenters from wide-ranging ministries spoke about their work. In addition, more than 30 WELS organizations set up displays to share their work in God's kingdom. Each day featured a worship service, keynote address, an update from WELS areas of ministry, and ten workshops to choose from.

"We get to hear real life stories about what ministry is like in the trenches," said Jason Williams, a seminary senior and a member of the organizing committee. "I believe this is very uplifting for the students, and it gives them something to look forward to while they spend hours learning Hebrew and Greek, translating, reading, and writing papers. There is an exciting ministry waiting for them after they faithfully complete their formal academic studies."

Some of the topics they heard about include ministering to first-responders and military members, sharing the gospel with people who are openly hostile to Christianity, reaching out in urban settings, and applying the Truth in Love witnessing approach to general outreach. They also heard firsthand updates about work in Mexico, Germany, Ethiopia, Ukraine, and Nepal.

This is also an opportunity to encourage pastoral students from other schools. On Tuesday, the junior class of pastor track students at Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn., attended presentations, and the entire student body of Bethany Evangelical Theological Seminary, Mankato, Minn., of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod attended sessions on Wednesday and Thursday. In all, over 175 students, professors, and guests participated.

## **Bible – About the Bible – 5 in a series of 6**

In past articles we have looked at the Old Testament, New Testament, people of the Bible and now we will find out about the Bible in this 6 part series.

### **About the New Testament**

Before you begin your journey through the books of the New Testament take a moment and learn about the New Testament as a whole!

### **Not Completely Silent Years**

Our Bibles move directly from the Book of Malachi (400 B.C.) to the Book of Matthew (50 A.D.). But between those two books there is a period of over 400 years. They were "400 silent years" in the sense that no inspired writings from God came to us during that time. But in another sense, they were very "loud years." There were military, political, and religious clashes during those years that we need to know about to help us better understand New Testament times.

### **Persian Rule**

When Malachi was writing the last Old Testament book, the Persians were still in control of the ancient world. The Jews in Israel too were under Persian rule with a Persian governor stationed in Jerusalem. This Persian Empire lasted from 539-331 B.C. That means that the Persians continued to rule Israel until about 100 years after the time of Malachi, Ezra, and Nehemiah.

## **Greek Rule**

The new world power that next arose was Greece under mighty Alexander the Great. Alexander first made himself ruler of all of Greece and then headed east to defeat the Persians. By 330 B.C. Alexander was in control of the territory that Persia had formerly ruled. This included Israel, Egypt, Syria and the territory stretching all the way to India. But Alexander did not have the opportunity to enjoy his new empire for long. In 323 B.C. at the age of just 32 years, Alexander died of a fever in Babylon. Before his death, however, Greek culture was spreading throughout the newly conquered lands. Another name for Greek culture is "Hellenism." "Hellene" is the Greek word for Greece. With the spread of Greek culture came the use of the Greek language as the common language of the Greek Empire. This explains why the New Testament came to be written in Greek and not in Hebrew or Aramaic.

## **The Ptolemies**

At the death of Alexander the Great, his generals divided up the empire. Two of those generals became important for our understanding of Jewish history in the time between the testaments. Ptolemy and his successors called the Ptolemies ruled Egypt. Seleucus and his successors called the Seleucids ruled Syria. Because Israel was located between Egypt and Syria, the Ptolemies and Seleucids fought over who would control Israel.

The Ptolemies were the first to control Israel between 320-198 B.C. The Jews were treated well during this time. It was under one of the Ptolemies (Philadelphus, 308-246 B.C.) that the translation of the Old Testament into Greek was completed in Egypt. This is the translation that we know as the Septuagint or LXX after the seventy Jewish scholars who did the translating.

## **The Seleucids**

In 198 B.C. the Seleucids under Antiochus III became powerful enough to defeat the Ptolemies and take control of Israel. They ruled Israel from 198-165 B.C. The Seleucids wanted to Hellenize Israel; they wanted to force their Greek culture on the Jews. They built a gymnasium and race track in Jerusalem and insisted that the races begin by calling on the names of heathen Greek gods. Greek theaters were built; Greek styles of dress were adopted; operations to remove the traces of circumcision were even performed on the Jews. At the temple itself, a statue of the Greek god Zeus was set up. Seleucid King Antiochus IV even had a pig sacrificed at the temple. Some of the Jews refused to follow this Hellenizing of the Jews and the heathen religious practices that were introduced. Some of the Jews were no doubt faithful believing people who wanted to worship the living God according to God's laws given through Moses.

## **The Maccabees**

It was at this low time in Jewish history that a group called the Maccabees rose up. "Maccabees" is the nickname for the Jewish family that led the fight against the Hellenizing of Israel by the Seleucids. "Maccabeus" means "the hammer." The proper name for this family was the Hasmoneans. Mattathias was the first of the Maccabees to fight against the Seleucids. But his Son Judas was the best known of the Maccabees. After several years of guerilla warfare against the Seleucids, Judas Maccabeus was successful in cleansing the temple from the heathen practices and rededicating it to the Lord. This great event of the intertestamental period took place in 165 B.C. It is celebrated by the Jews each year in the Feast of Dedication or Hanukkah. The same feast is sometimes called the Feast of Lights and is mentioned in [[John 10:22](#)]. Under the Maccabees the Jews were granted independence and were allowed to rule themselves.

## Roman Rule

This Jewish independence came to an end in 63 B.C. when the Roman army under Pompey took control of Judea. This was the beginning of a new era in Israel, the period of Roman control. It would be during the time of the Roman control of Israel that the Messiah would be born. God was preparing things for that greatest of all events.

## The Herods and Pilate

It was part of Roman policy to allow natives of their territories to rule when this would work well. Therefore Herod the Great, an Idumean of Edomite, was given approval by Rome to rule as king over the Jews in Palestine. Herod the Great ruled from 37-4 B.C. Herod was a wise politician. To try to make the Jews happy, he built for them a beautiful temple in Jerusalem. Herod was also extremely cruel. He killed two of his wives and three of his sons. It was this Herod who ordered the killing of the innocent babies around Bethlehem. It was near the end of Herod's rule that Jesus the Messiah was born. At Herod the Great's death, his kingdom was divided up among his sons. Archaleus ruled in Judea, Herod Philip in the area northeast of the Sea of Galilee, and Herod Antipas ruled in Galilee. Herod Antipas was the Herod that John the Baptist rebuked for his adultery. He was the Herod that Jesus called "that fox". Jesus stood trial before Herod Antipas at the time of his passion. Archaleus was removed from his rule in Judea by the Romans in 6 A.D. After him a series of Roman governors ruled in Judea. The Roman governor we know best was Pontius Pilate. He was, of course, the governor during Jesus' trial. Later Roman governors mentioned in the New Testament are Felix and Festus. We should remember that even during the rule of these Roman governors, the Jews were granted a certain amount of self-rule. The Jewish Sanhedrin, the high court, was allowed to govern in things relating to the daily life of the Jews. The Roman emperors during the time of Jesus' earthly life were Augustus, also called Octavias (27 B.C. - 14 A.D.) and Tiberius (14 - 37 A.D.). This brief outline of the history of the Jews in Palestine has taken us through the intertestamental time to the time of Christ's earthly life. More historical notes will be added later in the lessons on individual New Testament books.

## The Apocrypha

We have noted that no God-inspired books were written in the years between the Old and New Testaments. That does not mean, however, that all Jewish writing stopped during that time. The best known books from the time between the testaments are the books called the Apocrypha. The word "apocrypha" is Greek for "hidden." When the Old Testament was translated into Greek in the Septuagint translation, some of the books that we today call the Apocrypha were included in the Septuagint. Confusion resulted, and many people began to think of these Apocryphal books as being inspired like the other Old Testament books. The early Christian Bible scholar Jerome (d. 420) tried to set the record straight. He said that the Apocryphal books might be read in the church but that they should not be thought of as having authority like the books of the Bible. Luther in his Bible of 1534 grouped the books of the Apocrypha together and put them at the end of the Old Testament. He gave them this heading in his Bible: "Apocrypha: *These are books which are not held equal to the Sacred Scriptures and yet are useful and good for reading.*" Today the Roman Catholic Church accepts the books of the Apocrypha as being inspired. The Lutheran and Protestant Churches do not. The Jews never accepted them as being inspired like the 39 books of the Old Testament. Though the Apocrypha existed at Jesus' time, he did not accept them as God-inspired like the Old Testament Bible. When we read the Apocrypha today, we may find them interesting and helpful for teaching us some history. But we should not think of them as being on the same level as the 66 inspired books of

the Bible. Listed below are the names of the books of the Apocrypha. If you want to know something about each of these books consult a Bible dictionary for a brief summary.

### **The Books of the Apocrypha**

I Esdras

II Esdras

Baruch

Epistle to Jeremiah

Tobit

The Prayer of Azariah and the Song of Judith

The Three Young Men

Susanna

Bel and the Dragon

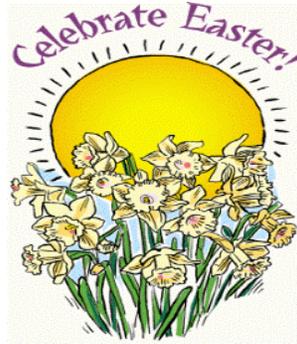
The Wisdom of Solomon

The Prayer of Manasseh

Ecclesiasticus

The First Book of the Maccabees

The Second Book of the Maccabees



## **Announcements**

### **Sunday School**

Thank you to all who helped out with the Sunday School Lenten meal. We heard many compliments and it was nice to see all the helpful hands.

Unfortunately, we have seen a steady decline in children coming to Sunday School after the Christmas Eve service. Please remember that it is very important for your child to attend. If you have issues with rides, please contact one of the teachers. We are glad to coordinate rides for you. It is also excellent to attend the Sunday church service as a family after Sunday School.

Please watch for upcoming dates that we will be singing in church. A note and song will be sent home in the upcoming weeks.

Please consider donating some time and helping out Sunday School next year. We will be looking for teachers and substitute teachers. Thank you!

### **Sunday Adult Bible Class**

Please join us for Sunday morning Bible study at 8:15 am. We are studying the Book of Revelation. We are using the projector, which allows a look at maps and related Bible readings. Please come to be informed of God's prophecies on the looming Judgment Day and our victory in Jesus.

### **Fellowship Committee**

The Fellowship Committee is also planning to serve the 8 am Easter breakfast this year after the 7 am sunrise service. There is a sign up sheet in the back of church if you would like to bring something.

Fellowship has been planning several activities. We will be serving bars, juice, and coffee after the examination on Saturday May 2. All are welcome to attend. We have the church picnic planned for Sunday July 19 at the park in St. Nazianz, after the outdoor church service there. We will be serving brats, hamburgers, and hot dogs. Drinks will be provided and bring a dish to pass. We hope you can join us for fellowship and a nice meal. There will be games for the kids, bingo, and card playing. Also, on the back of this Messenger is a survey to gauge your interest in a possible Timberrattlers baseball game trip this year.

*Marty & Lisa Kiesow*

### **Building & Grounds**

There was a problem with one of the furnaces for the church proper. Jeff Kasten, Port Cities Heating, installed a new part. The labor was donated. The new light for the west parking lot is working. Schnell Electric completed the wiring. Thank you to Eugene & Marlene Borgwardt for the donation. Good news, we finally have some nice weather. The pipe freezing problem seems to be corrected.

*Ron Kasten*

### **Easter Flowers**

Just a reminder if you would like to buy a flower to help decorate church for Easter Sunday, there is a signup sheet in back of church. There are several different types to choose from.

### **Thank You's**

In my January and February Messenger articles, I mentioned works of service of various members. This article will mention a few more helpful works of service. Let us thank Marie Knutson for using her calligraphy skills for the good of our congregation. She has been using her artistic handwriting to fill out our baptismal certificates and confirmation certificates for at least seven years now. To see how beautiful calligraphy can be, check out one of the recent certificates. On a related note, I thank Louette Propson-Enders for her sewing abilities, which she has used to produce baptismal cloths for our congregation. She has embroidered a baptismal shell on some, and the Holy Spirit as a dove on others. These are used to wipe the head of the baptized, a gift to the family. Also, thank you to Jeff Kasten for donating a lot time to repairing and working on our church's heating and cooling systems. Jeff is co-owner of Port Cities Heating and Cooling, and has done a lot of good work for our congregation, free of charge. Along with all the time that Ron Kasten volunteers in keeping up our church grounds, we are appreciative. – Pastor Pope

### **WCUB Radio Broadcast**

Also in the narthex is the new sign-up for the CUB Radio Word of God broadcasts. You can sponsor a broadcast in memory of or in honor of someone but a dedication is not required. The cost is \$95.00. Please make the check out to Trinity. Our WELS area sermon broadcast is 9:00 am each Sunday on WCUB, which is AM 980 on the radio dial. Pastor Pope can always be heard the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of the month.

### **Flower signup**

Also in the narthex if you would like to put altar flowers on the altar for a special occasion, in memory of someone, or in celebration of something, please sign up.

## **Lent and Pastor Rotation**

We continue our midweek Lenten services to focus our hearts and minds on our Lord's sufferings for our salvation. Our Lenten meals are at 6 pm, followed by the church service at 7 pm.

Our theme this year for the Lenten season is "I Tell You the Truth." Here is the remainder of our Lenten rotation:

March 18 – Pastor David Laabs from Trinity, Kiel

March 25 – Pastor David Endorf from St. John & St. Peter, Cleveland

## **Lenten Meals**

Thank you to the groups that have agreed to serve and provide a meal before our Wednesday Lenten services. Here is a remainder of the schedule.

March 18 – Church Council – To be determined

March 25 – Trinity Ladies Circle – Breakfast for Supper

## **Greeter Sign-up**

In the narthex (the gathering area in back of church), is the new greeter sign-up list. No training required; just a happy face and hand out bulletins. If you are willing to be a greeter one Sunday – welcoming members and guests to church – please sign up.

## **Remember SCRIP**

If you'd like to purchase SCRIP, just pick up an order form in the lower level of church. Fill it out and take the completed form with payment to MLHS. If you take the order to MLHS, it will normally be filled while you wait. Any questions, please contact the SCRIP office at 682-0215, ext. 116.

## **Church Office Hours**

The church office hours are now: Monday 8:30-12:00; and Thursday 8:30-3:00.

## **Newtonburg News From The Principal**

Revelation 21:6

"He said to me: 'It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.'"

Do you know where the word "Lent" comes from? If you look for the definition you will see that it is defined as "the 40 day period before Easter starting with Ash Wednesday." It is viewed as a religious observance predominately practiced by Roman Catholic, Anglican, and other Christian churches.

The word origin comes from before 1000 A.D. It is from the Middle English *lente* (*n*), Old English *lencten*, or *lengten*. It means, literally, lengthening (of daylight hours). It can also be found from the Dutch word *lente*, and German word *Lenz* which means *spring*.

It doesn't actually seem like spring these days. Even though we are technically in the season of Lent- it seems like winter's icy grip continues to hold fast. Not so for the reason why we observe Lent. As the days lengthen and we are reminded of the promise of warming, so too, do we marvel at the One who gives us the light.

Jesus offers us a spring of life. He is the waters that always refresh! When we remember again His life, death, and resurrection this water comes to us anew. May all of our families take rest in our Savior's precious promises. Rejoice in the spring that never ends- He is the Alpha and Omega!

## **Piano News**

Spring Piano Recital date moved to Sunday April 26 at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome!

### Trinity Wish List

- Church building loan repayment
- WiFi installed in church (approximately \$2200)
- Covered East entrance of church

## Church Attendance for February



Combined total for Saturday/Sunday

### February 2012

Week 1: 38/254\*=292

Week 2: 58/110=168

Week 3: 28/90=128

Ash Wednesday: 81

Week 4: 44/74=118

1<sup>st</sup> Wed. after Ash Wed.: 53

*\*St. John's K-2 sang*

**Monthly: 759**

### February 2014

Week 1: 54/96=150

Week 2: 30/128=158

Week 3: 39/84=123

Week 4: 45/109=154

**Monthly: 585**

### February 2013

Week 1: 45/104=149

Week 2: 54/79=133

Ash Wednesday: 74

Week 3: 67/97=164

1<sup>st</sup> Wed. after Ash Wed.: 44

Week 4: 45/106=151

2<sup>nd</sup> Wed.: Cancelled due to snow

**Monthly: 715**

### February 2015

Week 1: 50/83=133

Week 2: 40/146=186

Week 3: 16/88=104

Ash Wednesday: 87

Week 4: 59/70=129

1<sup>st</sup> Wed. after Ash Wed.: 59

**Monthly: 698**

## *A Happy Birthday and God's Blessings to...*

3/14 Gloria Kiesow - 87 yrs. young  
3/15 Jameson Hennen  
3/16 Ed Vetter  
3/19 Marlene Borgwardt  
3/20 Peter Liermann  
3/21 Darlene Kiesow  
3/22 Michael Kiesow  
3/23 Pastor Greg Pope  
3/23 Mikaela Mellstrom  
3/25 Jordan Sieracki  
3/25 Jacque Smith  
3/27 Alaina Luckow  
3/28 Isabella Hacker  
3/28 Kristina Smith  
3/29 Kara Sieracki  
3/29 Leonard Arnold  
3/31 Sydney Arnold  
3/31 Polly Bonfigt

### **April Birthdays**

4/1 Todd Petersen  
4/2 Logan Brand  
4/3 Darci Matzke  
4/5 Greg Buechner  
4/5 Sarah Hackmann  
4/5 Jeff Knutson  
4/5 Kathy Schrank  
4/7 Dylan Kleinhans  
4/8 Steve Pleuss  
4/8 Hannah Schleis  
4/9 Earl Glaeser  
4/11 Dennis Bratz  
4/12 Miles Schreiber

## *Happy Anniversary To...*

3/15 Lance & Erin Preston – 4 Years  
3/21 Wayne & Kathy Schrank – 34 Years  
3/25 Jim & Connie Mangin – 43 Years  
3/26 Steve & Carole Curtis – 42 Years  
3/30 Karl & Mona Hansen – 21 Years  
4/5 Richard & Helen Isaacson – 40 Years  
4/8 Wayne & Elaine Petersen – 54 Years  
4/11 Keith & Gail Olm – 45 Years

*If you have a March/April birthday or anniversary and it is not listed correctly please let us know so we can update your information. Thanks!*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Ushers on Schedule: \_\_\_\_\_

March 14<sup>th</sup> Fred Schnell, Mike Kiesow

March 15<sup>th</sup> Todd Bergmann, Andy Fisher, David Petersen, Len Arnold

**Lenten Service**

**March 18<sup>th</sup>** Ron Kasten, Andy Kiesow

March 21<sup>st</sup> Keith Olm (Server), Warren Lutze (Server), Steve Pleuss

March 22<sup>nd</sup> Larry Hochkammer (Server), John Smith (Server), James A. Ott, Ian Jones

**Lenten Service**

**March 25<sup>th</sup>** Greg Buechner, David Mellstrom

March 28<sup>th</sup> Derrick Krey, Mark Kiesow

March 29<sup>th</sup> Gary Vetter, Marty Kiesow, Ben Kiesow, Josh Kiesow

**Maundy Thursday**

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>** Todd Bergmann (Server), Keith Petersen (Server), James W. Ott, Eugene Borgwardt

**If you are unable to make your scheduled service, please find a replacement and let me know so I can contact Mary for the bulletin.**

**Thanks, Brian**

If you are unable to make your scheduled service, please call Brian Glaeser @ 775-3941.

**Communion Liturgy:** Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for you, for your sins.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for you for the forgiveness of your sins.

May this strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto life everlasting. Depart in peace; your sins are forgiven. Amen.

**Altar Guild: March – Group 3**

*Marlene Borgwardt, Carole Curtis, Diane Smith*

**Our Greeters for March**



*March 15<sup>th</sup> Steve & Carole Curtis*

*March 22<sup>nd</sup> Harold & Ann Luebke*

*March 29<sup>th</sup> Len & Sharon Arnold*



## Bible Quiz – “Plants of the Bible”

1. Jesus condemned this plant because it had no fruit:
  - a. Fig
  - b. Apple
  - c. Olive
  - d. Vine
  
2. This man climbed a tree in order to see Jesus:
  - a. John
  - b. Zacchaeus
  - c. Peter
  - d. Agabus
  
3. The Israelites sent spies into the land of Canaan, who brought back samples of this fruit, so heavy that two men had to carry it.
  - a. Grapes
  - b. Watermelons
  - c. Coconuts
  - d. Figs
  
4. This judge of Israel is said to have dwelt under a palm tree between Ramah and Bethel:
  - a. Jephtha
  - b. Gideon
  - c. Samson
  - d. Deborah
  
5. Aaron’s rod that budded brought forth this type of fruit:
  - a. Fig
  - b. Almonds
  - c. Olive
  - d. Apple

**Answers: 1.) a [Matthew] 2.) b [Luke 19:2-4] 3.) a [Number 13:23] 4.) d [Judges 4:4,5] 5.) b [Numbers 17:8]**

# A "Rock Concert"

"I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." Luke 19:40 (NIV)

Based on Luke 19:28-40



L M Z C L O A K S P D T Z L L  
 G L O R Y N C V C D R Q B R K  
 A L J E L A M T I O V A G N B  
 R T O U J M J P C L L K I T M  
 W C N R X E K L T S L T A S R  
 I H E A V E N I J B O A U R E  
 J N S I N T Y C N D K J G P V  
 M E D J E P V F V G B W A E O  
 Y L S C S T O N E S V E V E I  
 X H A U R Q M B W D Z I X K C  
 N E T X S O D T E P J W W N E  
 P A P D O R W I V Q U I E T S  
 A Y A T O W T D B L E S S E D  
 G O V L W M I R A C L E S N Q  
 R W S P R E A D I L B B Q J H

QUIET	ROAD	MIRACLES	HEAVEN	VILLAGE
VOICES	STONES	CLOAKS	GLORY	LORD
NAME	JESUS	PRAISE	KING	BLESSED
TIED	COLT	PEACE	CROWD	SPREAD



## The Triumphal Entry

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[Sermons4Kids.com](http://Sermons4Kids.com)

Holy Week Worship Schedule

April 2 – Maundy Thursday – 7 pm Worship with Holy Communion

April 3 – Good Friday – 1 pm Worship with Holy Communion

April 5 – Easter Sunrise Service – 7 am

Easter Breakfast – 8 am

Easter Festival Service – 9:30 am



# Wisconsin Timber Rattlers Church Baseball Trip

The Timber Rattlers play in Appleton and are a minor league affiliate of the Milwaukee Brewers. 2012 was the last year we had a church trip to a game, and it was very enjoyable. The Fellowship Committee has a survey for you below to see if there's interest in another trip this summer.

Cost for a bus would be extra. The cost this year for a game, including all-you-can-eat meal beforehand, including two drinks, is \$20.50 for adults and \$16.50 for children, ages 10 and under. The total cost this year, then, would be around \$25 to \$30 per adult, and \$20 to \$25 per child, depending on the cost of a bus. The bus would leave right after the Sunday church service.

If you are interested, please fill out the form below, tear off the bottom portion of the page, and return it to the church mailbox on the top shelf labeled, "Fellowship Committee". Thank you.

- - - - -

Please mark all games below for which you're available.

Sunday, June 7 \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday, June 28 \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday, July 5 \_\_\_\_\_

How many adults? \_\_\_\_\_ How many children? \_\_\_\_\_

Any additional comments: \_\_\_\_\_