



Our Saviour's Good News

Volume XII, Issue III

March 2017

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Saviour Lutheran Church welcomes all people to a safe place to grow in faith and serve the Lord Jesus Christ

Inside this issue:

- **The Season of Lent** 2
- **Minutes**
- *World Day of Prayer* 3
- **St. Patrick** 4
- **Calendar & Events** 5
- *Worship Assistances*
- *Flower Calendar*
- **Lutheridge/Lutherock** 6
- *Outreach, etc.*
- **A Stewardship Minute** 7
- *Installation And Ordination*
- **Church NEWS** 8
- *Altar Flowers*
- *Why Is Camping Important*
- *CLW/Rachel Group*
- **Girl Scouts** 9
- *Ash Wednesday*
- **Relay for Life** 10
- *Community Run*
- **March Mission** 11
- **Bread of Life** 12
- **Lenten Service** 13
- **Images And Words of Lent**

Pastor's Voice: Bible Translations

We all hold true to one translation of the Bible or another. Many debates have come out of this and many questions have been asked as to what is the correct or best Bible translation. Some consider the King James Version as the true version while others find the KJV difficult to read. What many of those who hold true to the KJV do not realize that there are multiple versions of the King James alone and many of us would struggle with the original 1611 version. Here is a sample:

¹⁶ For God so loued þe world, that he gaue his only begotten Sonne: that who-soeuer beleueueth in him, should not perish, but haue euerlasting life.

¹⁷ For God sent not his Sonne into the world to condemne the world: but that the world through him might be saued.

¹⁸ He that beleueueth on him, is not condemned: but hee that beleueueth not, is condemned already, because hee hath not beleued in the Name of the onely begotten Sonne of God.

This is of course John 3:16-18 but it reads a bit clunky. So if the King James is not best, then what is?

Here are a few points to consider first. Any translation is not the inspired word of God. The only inspired word of God is what was written in the original languages (Hebrew, Aramaic and Koine Greek). Anything else is simply a translation of the inspired word. Second, any translation has a human agenda or editing slant as decisions must be made as to how words are translated and how grammar is determined. What makes these decisions difficult is the oldest known Hebrew texts did not have vowels – those markings came much later around 600 AD. And the Greek texts were written in all capital letters with no punctuation at all.

So why do we need different translations and why are new ones coming out all the time? Well, languages are dynamic. And this is true of all languages not just English. Words change their meanings constantly, new words are created and some words fall into oblivion. For example, 50 years ago the word “modem” did not exist and is rapidly becoming extinct today as wireless routers become

more popular. Another example is “thy”. No one uses that word anymore!

Another reason for translations is some words change their meaning. In Luke 19:12-27, Jesus tell a parable of the talents. First of all, not too many people today know what a “talent” is. Second, the effect of inflation has changed the amount. One talent in the 1950's would be about \$750 but today could be upwards of \$15,000. So how do you translate that? Word for word would be that each servant received 1 talent and thought for thought would be each servant received about 3 months' worth of salary.

One last thing to consider is how translations are done. There are basically two methods: word for word and thought for thought. Word for word is exactly what it sounds like – each word is translated as it appears in the text in the exact order it was written. Let's take a look again at John 3:16 from a word for word translation:

In this way for loved the God the world so that his Son the one and only he gave in order that everyone the who believes in him not perish but will have life eternal.

Thought for thought is where the translator tries to relay the thought of the original author and does not pay too much attention to word order. Eugene Peterson's “The Message” is a great example of this:

This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life.

Neither one of these will be agreed on by everyone. That is where all the other translations come in – they run anywhere between these two examples.

So how do you choose a translation? My first piece of advice is to pray. While I stated before that a translation is not the inspired word of God, the Holy Spirit can most definitely speak through any translation and any language. The key is to be open to the Spirit. Second, shop around. Read different translations and see which one appeals to you the most. And last, be open to read a variety of translations. This way you can see the differences first hand.

What translation do you use? I would love to hear the responses!

Pastor Pete

The Season of LENT

"Lent is a time for giving things up," we tell ourselves. Yes, it is. But for a good reason. Lent is the time we remember how much our Lord Jesus Christ gave up for us. In former times, Christians were told to give up eating meat on Fridays during Lent. The reason? It was on a Friday (Good Friday) that Jesus gave up his "meat" -- his flesh, his life -- for us. So every time someone had a meatless meal on Friday, that person was supposed to think, "I'm giving up meat today because on a Friday Jesus gave up so much for me. Thank you, Jesus!"

Why did the One we have seen and heard to be God's beloved Son have to give up his life for us? The very first day of Lent, **Ash Wednesday**, tells us that story. On Ash Wednesday we learn again how Adam and Eve disobeyed the Lord God in the Garden of Eden. God had created Adam from the dust of the earth," the story said. God had given Adam and Eve everything in the Garden to eat--except the fruit of one tree. "In the day you eat of that one, you will die." God warned them solemnly.

But they were tempted by Satan and they disobeyed. God confronted them in the Garden: "What have you done?" and reminded them of the consequences: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." That's why many Christians observe Ash Wednesday by wearing ashes on their foreheads. That's also why the Scripture readings for Ash Wednesday urge us to "return to the Lord, your God" by confessing our sins and seeking God's forgiveness ("Create in me a clean heart, O God").

Those are thoughts we should try to keep on our minds throughout the Lenten season.

The **First Sunday of Lent** gets us off to a good start. The Gospel reading in all three years (Lectionary Series A, B, and C) deals with our Lord's going to the wilderness after he was baptized by John in the Jordan River. (We celebrate our Lord's baptism, remember, on the Sunday after Epiphany, which was January 6. We should maybe celebrate Ash Wednesday the very next week--except that we had all that important Epiphany season stuff to learn about Jesus, and if we are going to live the story, it's a good idea to have all the pieces in place, even if that takes us a while to do.)

A couple of items to note here. One is that the length of time Jesus spent in the wilderness was 40 days. That's how long our season of Lent is, and that's probably why. But in Jesus' day, those 40 days in the wilderness were probably supposed to remind his followers of the 40 years the children of Israel spent in the wilderness after they had crossed the Red Sea on their way to the Promised Land. Can crossing the sea be a foreshadowing of Jesus' baptism? Both of these events involved coming through water, didn't they? And both of them, in a way, marked something wonderful God has done to be a Savior for his people (your baptism certainly does that, doesn't it?)

Another item to note is what was about to happen in the wilderness. The devil was waiting there to try to tempt Jesus to sin. We recognize the tactic, because we saw it back in the Garden of Eden, where the serpent was just waiting

for Eve to come by. The devil is still trying to get people to "return to dust." The season of Lent does a good job of reminding us of that.

But we are not alone in the wilderness. Our Lord Jesus is with us here. And so is the family of God has made us part of, going all the way back to Abraham and Sarah, whom we meet on the **Second Sunday in Lent** as God promises to bless them.

As we move through the season of Lent, then, we continue to see temptations to sin--look for them every week--and the dreadful result of sin--look for that too. By the **Fifth Sunday of Lent** we come face to face with death. But, as was the case in the Garden of Eden, we also continue to see a God who is "gracious and merciful--and abounding in steadfast love," a God who is willing to sacrifice in order that people might be rescued from the results of their sin. If "we are dust," Jesus is with us in this wilderness, sharing our dust--our humanity--and eventually sharing its outcome. For our sakes, he will "return to dust" and die.

That is why the Church has chosen to make its observance of Lent a somber affair. "Lent is a time for giving things up," we say. Even in our worship, many churches "give up" joyful music for a while, and joyful colors. Some congregations (like ours) do not have flowering plants in the chancel during this solemn



March 11
For

Our Saviour Lutheran Church Bill Trudnak, President January 16, 2017 Council Minutes



Devotions: Bill Trudnak

Meeting called to order by President Bill Trudnak.

Members present: Bill Trudnak, Melinda White, Bud Penley, Jon Clemmer, Alice Vlaservich and Becky Messick. Absent: Yvonne Finger, Shirlee Marazza, Teri Trudnak, and Steve Digh.

Election of New Officers: The following were elected for 2017 Council: Bill Trudnak-President; Bud Penley-Vice President; Melinda White-Secretary; General Treasurer-Joe Finger; Jon Clemmer will serve on the Worship & Music Team and Alice Vlaservich will serve on the Property Team.

Minutes for December 19, 2016 reviewed and a correction was noted regarding the pay for Pastor Feigh. The correct amount should be \$400/week instead of \$400/month.

Reception of Petitions and Communications:

A donation of \$200 to the Chicken-n-Dumpling community fund raiser was approved by Bud Penley and a second made by Alice Vlaservich.

Report of the Pastor: N/A;

Report of the Treasurer: Motion by Bud Penley to accept the Treasurer Report and seconded by Jon Clemmer.

Report of the Ministries:

- a. **Property:** New commode to be installed in Men's room; new doors were installed and painted (Thank you Nick!). Light bulbs were changed.
- b. **Stewardship and Finance:** No report
- c. **Worship & Music:** Undecorated the sanctuary from Christmas season.
- d. **Youth Team:** No report.
- e. **Witness:** No report.
- f. **Christian Education Team:** No report

Report of Auxiliaries:

Rachel Circle: Met at the home of Betty Clemmer for Christmas social and program. Next meeting will be at the home of Shirlee Marazza in January.

Old and/or Unfinished Business:

New phone tree system in use.

New Business: Replacement on Council.

Yvonne Finger has regretfully resigned her position on Church Council due to her work schedule. Her position will be replaced by Robbie Wooten. A motion was made by Becky Messick to approve Robbie's appointment to Council and Bud Penley gave a second.

General Information:

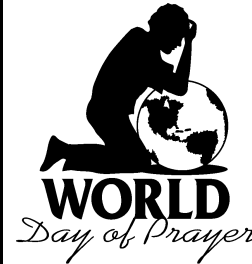
- a. Attendance
- b. Crisis Pregnancy Center put in new furnace at parsonage.

c. Thank you from Salvation Army for donation.

Adjourned with Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting: February 20, 2017

Devotions: Becky Messick



Friday, March 3, 2017, we journey to Philippians and enter a world vibrant with song and praise.

The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement which brings Christians of many traditions together to observe a common day of prayer each year. Perhaps you have seen maps of the world that are not centered from an expected or familiar perspective. For example when the Southern Hemisphere is displayed on top, one's orientation is literally turned upside down. In theory one knows that the earth is round and suspended in space and so the world can be accurately viewed from any point. But our first impulse is to turn the map around because we feel lost. Even when we have seen satellite images of the earth with no borders we cannot resist adjusting the image until what is familiar is at the center and then to see others in relation to ourselves.

Thus the ecumenical spirituality of World Day of Prayer, which is celebrated in 170 countries, is a process that shifts our perspective to a different country each year. While the theme is chosen and assigned at a quadrennial international meeting of WDP Committees, the development of the theme into a worship service is conducted by women of WDP in that writer country. Their preparation strives to be done in an attentive, mutually supportive process so that the worship service will authentically reflect the multi-dimensions of their context, their faith experiences from the various church traditions in their country, and their cultural influences. The worldwide network of women of WDP are committed to listen intensely to what their sisters will say—in effect they hear the women of that writer country into speaking. Truly, one is able to speak when one knows that she is being heard.

The preparations for the actual WDP worship service on each first Friday of March are a creative and educational process that takes months of organizing and work. Women conduct workshops and publish articles and resource materials. They seek out where members of the writer ethnic community might be in their country. They show slides; arrange for speakers. They conduct Bible Studies that explore the significance of the text in itself, in the writer context and in their own country. Women faithfully struggle to make their sisters' words and symbols the basis for local ecumenical worship.

The wonder of the ecumenical spirituality of WDP is that the writers shape a community worship service that is particular because it has come from Indonesia, Samoa, Romania, Lebanon, Panama, and in the future Poland, South Africa, Paraguay and on and on, year after year. It is universal because the honesty and integrity that are the basis of the writer's prayer allows distant sisters to recognize what is similar and shared and to value what is special and different. Thus a prayer of intercession that

(World cont'd on page 7)

St. Patrick's Day



The person who was to become St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was born in Wales about AD 385. His given name was Maewyn, and he almost didn't get the job of bishop of Ireland because he lacked the required scholarship.

Far from being a saint, until he was 16, he considered himself a pagan. At that age, he was sold into slavery by a group of Irish marauders that raided his village. During his captivity, he became closer to God.

He escaped from slavery after six years and went to Gaul where he studied in the monastery under St. Germain, bishop of Auxerre for a period of twelve years. During his training he became aware that his calling was to convert the pagans to Christianity.

His wishes were to return to Ireland, to convert the native pagans to Christianity. But his superiors instead appointed St. Palladius. But two years later, Palladius transferred to Scotland. Patrick, having adopted that Christian name earlier, was then appointed as second bishop to Ireland.

Patrick was quite successful at winning converts. And this fact upset the Celtic Druids. Patrick was arrested several times, but escaped each time. He traveled throughout Ireland, establishing monasteries across the country. He also set up schools and churches which would aid him in his conversion of the Irish country to Christianity.

His mission in Ireland lasted for thirty years. After that time, Patrick retired to County Down. He died on March 17 in AD 461. That day has been commemorated as St. Patrick's Day ever since. Much Irish folklore surrounds St. Patrick's Day. Not much of it is actually substantiated.

Some of this lore includes the belief that Patrick raised people from the dead. He also is said to have given a sermon from a hilltop that drove all the snakes from Ireland. Of course, no snakes were ever native to Ireland, and some people think this is a metaphor for the conversion of the pagans. Though originally a Catholic holy day, St. Patrick's Day has evolved into more of a secular holiday.

One traditional icon of the day is the shamrock. And this stems from a more bona fide Irish tale that tells how Patrick used the three-leafed shamrock to explain the Trinity. He used it in his sermons to represent how the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit could all exist as separate elements of the same entity. His followers adopted the custom of wearing a shamrock on his feast day. The St. Patrick's Day custom came to America in 1737. That was the first year St. Patrick's Day was publicly celebrated in this country, in Boston.

Today, people celebrate the day with parades, wearing of the green, and drinking beer. One reason St. Patrick's Day might have become so popular is that it takes place just a few days before the first day of spring. One might say it has become the first green of spring.

(World cont'd from page 3)

The reaching out toward another country is matched by reaching out to ecumenical connections and understandings within one's own local and national context. When Romania led the worship in 2002 and Lebanon in 2003, women especially sought out the Orthodox women and clergy in their communities in order to begin or to broaden dialogues about World Day of Prayer. At the same time care was given to explaining elements in the worship service that came from Orthodox practices that were unfamiliar or difficult for other traditions. When one could move through an obstacle or one's own resistance, there was often an encounter with the breadth and depth of the mystery of God's divinity. To make the sign of the cross when it was not your practice pulled one's capacity to be with another in a way that was beyond words. In this dialogue women also found themselves speaking about their own traditions and coming to a deepening appreciation of it. Ecumenical spirituality of WDP is to move through respectfulness and openness to solidarity in an expression of Christian faith within a common ecumenical worship service.

In their commitment to build ecumenical participation locally, regionally, nationally and internationally women of WDP have experienced support and joy as they saw ecumenical relationships grow stronger through the annual preparations on the first Friday of March. They have also withstood objections and sometime have even been denied use of a church—as late as the morning of the worship while decorations were being set up. It takes ingenuity to relocate and generosity not to close down the ecumenical effort when the rejection and misunderstanding are so painful. Women cannot know ahead of time the significance of their effort. Nonetheless, like the unnamed woman in Mark's Gospel who is only known for her action in breaking open an alabaster jar, women of WDP break open every reserve of patience, persistence, and creativity in their preparations. When walls divide a community they seek out openings. Together women make a space for inclusion that grows wider each year.

It cannot be said often enough that World Day of Prayer is a movement and a process that requires a commitment in time, study, preparation, and personal stretching in order to bring into a local community in an authentic way the realities of women in distant places. The ecumenical spirituality of WDP is a yearlong task in order to be ready to receive from God inspiration that is linked to a country, Bible texts, prayers and a theme.

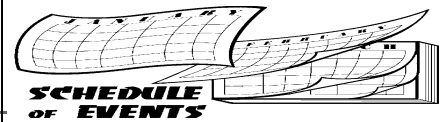
The ecumenical spirituality of WDP is dynamic because of our commitment to informed prayer. When we become informed in our prayer we open ourselves to the disturbing consequences that we are responsible for what we know and learn. Through informed prayer we seek out ways to act in solidarity with women in need.

The host country for WDP 2017 is the Philippines. The women of the Philippines call us to explore concepts of economic justice in both the Philippines' context and around the world and our response in light of God's generosity. (Matthew 20: 1–16).

March 2017



Sunday School: 9:45 pm
Church Service: 11:00 pm



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			ASH WEDNESDAY 2		3 World Day of Prayer	4
5 1st Sun. in Lent	6 Team Mtg.	7	8 Lenten Service	9	10	11
12 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS	13	14 Gaston Together	15 Lenten Service	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18
19 3rd Sun. in Lent	20 Board Mtg	21 Prayer Group	22 Lenten Service	23	24	25
26 4th Sun. in Lent	27 CLW/Rachel Group	28	29 Lenten Service	30	31	Food Collection

- Mar. 1— Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm
- Mar. 3— World Day of Prayer (see p 3)
- Mar. 4— Ordination and Installation of Peter Feige
- Mar. 5— 1st Sunday in Lent
- Mar. 6: **Team Meeting:**
Youth - 6:30 pm
Other - 7:00 pm
- Mar. 8— Lenten Service w/lite supper
- Mar. 11— **Daylight Saving—set your clock ahead one hour March 12**
- Mar. 12— 2nd Sunday in Lent
GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY
- Mar. 14—Gaston Together (see p 8)
- Mar. 15— Lenten Service w/lite supper
- Mar. 17— St. Patrick's Day (see p 4)
- Mar. 19— Workday at Lutheridge
- Mar. 19— 3rd Sunday in Lent
- Mar. 20—**Board Meeting** at 7:00 pm
First Day of Spring
- Mar. 21— Prayer Group will meet at the home of Shirlee Marazza at 1:30 pm
- Mar. 22— Lenten Service w/lite supper
- Mar. 25— Good Friday Service (7 pm)
- Mar. 26— 4th Sunday in Lenten
- Mar. 27— CLW/Rachel Group will meet at the home of Betty Clemmer at 1:30 pm
- Mar. 29— Lenten Service w/lite supper

Holy Communion Schedule:

Mar. 1: Ash Wednesday



Worship Service Assistance:

- Altar Guild: Yvonne Finger/
Marie Robinson
- Acolyte: Nick Vlaservich
- Crucifer: (not during Lent)
- Communion
Asst: Yvonne Finger
- Lay Reader: Jon Clemmer
- Worship Asst: Alice Vlaservich/
Betty Clemmer
- Greeters: Members of OSLC
- Ushers: Members of OSLC
- Council
- Devotions: Bud Penley
- Collections: Melinda White

FOOD FOR THE MONTH:

Blackeye Peas, Spaghetti, Spaghetti Sauce



Choir practice each Wednesday at 6:00 pm unless otherwise announced the bulletin



Birthdays



- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 4 Jack Clemmer | Christian Clemmer |
| 19 Ben Finger | Mariel Finger |
| Bailey Messick | Betty Mullen |
| 22 Steve Digh | |
| 30 Emma Dease | |

FLOWERS

Flower Schedule:

- Mar. 5 None during Lent
- Mar. 12 None during Lent
- Mar. 19 None during Lent
- Mar. 26 None during Lent

Please sign up to place flowers on the altar in the glory of God and in honor or memory of your love ones.

12 openings

Please sign up and help Decorate the altar of our Lord



Nursery Guardians Schedule

- Mar. 5 Joann Scarborough
- Mar. 12 Anna Cole
- Mar. 19 Emma Dease
- Mar. 26 Teri Trudnak



ANNIVERSARIES

31stBritt & Anna Lowery



725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
 Post Office Box 475
 Dallas, North Carolina 28034
 Phone: 705-922-4648
 Email: oslcdallas@aol.com
 Website: oslc-nc.org



OUTREACH MISSION

SHUT-INS
NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Please remember our church members who are shut-ins or reside in a nursing home* and visit them.

Betty Mullen*
 Stanley Total Living Center, Room 517,
 514 Old Mt. Holly Rd, Stanley

Marilyn Finger (at home)
 1150 Meadow Way Dr.
 Dallas, NC

(If others, please let the church office know)



Help fill the pantry
 at the
 Dallas-High Shoals Christian Ministry.

Check and see what food item they need for the month (on page 5—our calendar) and let us over fill that basket in the hallway. This is a great outreach program.

God will bless you in your generosity.

Souper Bowl Sunday



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

THE FINALLY COUNT WAS
 83 CAN GOODS



**Bring
 a
 Friend**

Why is Camp Important?

- ✦ Camp is a Christ—centered experience in a *Fun and Safe Environment*.
- ✦ A summer camp experience is the *second most powerful* this you can do to keep your children faithful in the church! Don't let them miss out.
- ✦ We focus on individual camper needs through a *small group relational style*.
- ✦ Campers have an intense time with quality, well-trained, *Christian role-models* as staff.
- ✦ Experience the powerful impact of our emphasis on *building self-value* in each camper.
- ✦ Campers are challenged to ask questions, grow in faith and *understand faith and values*.
- ✦ We believe in people making a difference through the *guidance of the Holy Spirit*.

"Experience the Spirit — Christ, Creation, Community"

Agape-Kure Beach

**Events For
 Lutheridge -Lutherock-Lutherspring-
 Lutheranch**

Web site: www.NovusWay.com

and

Kure/Agape Beach

E-mail: kurebeach@agapekurebeach.org

Web site: www.agapekurebeach.org

Please see calendars and other information on the bulletin board or go on-line



GO OUT ON A LIMB
GET INVOLVED

BE A WORSHIP ASSISTANT

A positions are still open. Participate in the service of the Lord and sign up.

Sign up sheets for the 2017 calendar year are on the wall in the Education wing.
 THANK YOU!

A Stewardship Minute

The March issue of *Stewardship* reminds us that Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, when ashes are put on foreheads reminding Christians of our sins and that Christ died on the cross to forgive those sins. St. Paul wrote in his letter to the church at Rome these words: "God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us." Again and again, the New Testament writers tell us that we become reconciled with God as we gratefully accept Christ as Lord and Savior. But it also reminds us that our salvation should make us so grateful that we would want to serve Christ eagerly

and faithfully as long as we live.

Servants of God are called stewards in the Bible. Being a worthy steward involves sincerity in following Christ. A reliable steward is active in using his or her talents to be a responsible and continuous servant of the Lord.

St. Paul's brief letter to Titus says, "God's steward must be blameless; he must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or addicted to wine or violent or greedy for gain; but he must be hospitable, a lover of goodness, prudent, upright, devout and self-controlled." Paul believed strongly

that the Holy Spirit could make anyone change "when the goodness and loving kindness of God appeared." He believed that because he himself had been touched by the Holy Spirit, he was therefore "justified by his grace."

Once a person is transformed by the Holy Spirit, he or she is compelled to become a true steward. Stewardship involves working and witnessing of behalf of God and the betterment of humankind. Who knows how many true stewards are right here among us. Maybe you are one yourself?

Prayer: Thank you, dear Lord, for our Savior Jesus Christ and his saving grace.
Amen

MARCH 4

1:00 PM



AND

INSTALLATION

FOR

PETER (PETE) FEIGE

Church News



MEN-IN-MISSION AT WORK

MARK OUR CALENDAR
LUTHERIDGE

Area Church's Men-in-Mission will join together Fridays and Saturdays (May 12-13) to do work at LUTHERIDGE. You can either spend the night Friday or drive up early Saturday morning. If you are interested please contact Jim Scarborough or Nick Vlaservich.



.....
GASTON TOGETHER'S CLERGY & CITIZENS COALITION
March 14, 20117
8:30 to Noon
Clinton Room, Gaston Memorial Hospital
Breakfast before meeting , if you wish
.....

 Altar
Flowers

PASTOR PETE FEIGE TELEPHONE:

704-516-2805



CLWRACHEL GROUP

will meet at the home of Betty Clemmer
March 27th at 1:30 pm

LET US PRAY... "Are any among you suffering? They should pray...The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up." (James 5:13-15)



PRAYER CONCERNS—MARGARET Addington (friends of the community), SUSAN Aderholt, SETH Alexander, AMANDA (friend of the Penley's), MARVIS Anderson, KELLY Ballard (friend of Shana Dease), ADDISON Blanton (friend of Dease's), KATHY Bohanan (cancer), KAREN Braddy, HOLDEN Britton (Denise & Jeff's nephew), ANN Digh (Steve Digh's mother-colon cancer HUNTER Digh (Steve and Juile Digh's nephew -cancer), MARILYN Finger, LEVI Friday (Joan Scarborough's nephew) CHARLIE Fox (friend of the Ratchford's), ROBERT Gentile (friend of Shirlee Marazza-heart attack), LINDA Hamm, ANNA Harbour (CDIFF-Shirlee Marazza's granddaughter), JEAN Huffstetler, LESLIE Hunsucker, JOHNNY Lineberger (friend of the community), MARY Johnson (Pastor Feige's mother-in-law), ELAINE Kanupp (friend of the Digh's—colon cancer), BETTY Mullen, GARY Neal, (friend of Caleb Dease), NANCY Parker (friend of Marie Lingle-ALS), EDITH Paysour, RIVER Peedin (Ursela Peedin's great-grandson— leukemia), SONDRRA Phillips (friend of Melinda White) JERRIE Presley, BERNICE—Leon Rawlinson's mother, MARY Brown Robinson (aunt of Brady Ratchford), LEIGH Sellers (college friend's daughter of Libby Bickley), RALPH Summey, KIM Tucker (friend of Joann Scarborough-heart surgery) GARY Turner (father of Jason Murray), SHERREE B Turner (mother of Jason Turner), KELLY Walters (mother of Brie Murray) ANNE White (niece of Betty Ratchford-breast cancer), LORI Wood (Steve Digh's cousin -colon cancer).

NEW FLOWERS CALENDER FOR THE CHURCH is posted on the first door in the hallway of the Education wing. Please sign up to place flowers on the altar in the glory of God and in honor or memory of your loved ones. You can then take them home with you or give them to one



This year marks the beginning of our celebration of 33 years of Relay For Life®

What is Relay For Life?

Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's signature activity. It offers everyone in a community an opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer. Teams of people camp out at a local high school, park, or fairground and take turns walking or running around a track or path. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event. Relays are an overnight event, up to 24 hours in length. **PLEASE CONTACT KATE SCHOBER AT kate.schober@cancer.org OR 704-553-5386 IF YOU ARE INTEREST IN MAKING A DONATION AN PATICIPATING. Go online: main.acsevents.org**

Relay For Life is a life-changing event that brings together more than 3.5 million people to:

- Celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer. The strength of survivors inspires others to continue to fight.
- Remember loved ones lost to the disease. At Relay, people who have walked alongside people battling cancer can grieve and find healing.
- Fight Back. We Relay because we have been touched by cancer and desperately want to put an end to the disease.
- April 28th Sims Legion Park, 5-11 pm

The Community Foundation of Gaston County, Inc.

invites you to
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION RUN 2017



WHEN: Saturday, April 8, 2017; 8:00 am...5 K Run and 2K Walk—Registration close at 8:00 am (\$25 registration fee for runners in 5K Run; \$30 after April 6; \$35 on Run Day; 2K Walk \$10 registration fee for walkers ; \$15 after April 6; \$20 on Run Day;)

WHERE: Rotary Pavilion, downtown Gastonia (Start/finish at Main Ave. and South St.

WHAT: Certified 5K Run, 2K Fun Walk, non-profit booth exhibits, karaoke competition, Healthy Kids food vendors Zone

WHO: Walkers and runners of all ages, participating non-profits community spectators.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION INFORMATION: Founded in 1978, the Foundation currently manages more than \$83.5 million in assets and 370 charitable funds. As a primary steward of philanthropic giving in Gaston County, the Foundation focuses on coordinating donors and needs of our community.

Run 2017 is an opportunity to unite community volunteers, donors, and businesses in fun camaraderie to support non-profits in Gaston County.

DID YOU KNOW:

- Since inception, *Community Foundation Run* has raised \$17 million for local non-profits with \$2.8 million in grants from the Community Foundation in the last fourteen years.
- 146 local non-profits are participating in *Run 2017* this year.

What to learn more about *the Run* or get involved? Please contact "Community Foundation of Gaston County, Inc." by visiting their website www.cfgaston.org or calling 704-864-0927

The Community Foundation Run will be held April 8, 2017 in downtown Gastonia, NC. On this day our community will come together to celebrate and financially support all participating nonprofits in Gaston County. GO ON LINE TO SEE MORE INFORMATION- <http://www.cfgaston.org>

Dollars given to the Match Fund will be applied to the matching grant, which benefits ALL participating nonprofits. Dollars earmarked for certain nonprofits will go to the specific organization(s) named. For qualifying agencies, up to \$10,000 of total dollars raised will be matched by a percentage based on a ratio of the total amount of dollars collected in the match pot compared to the amount of eligible donor contributions. Gaston County schools share a \$15,000 cap.

On the day of the Run, over 5,000 people come together for one of the biggest celebrations of community spirit and support in the county. The day is filled with a 5k Run and 2k Fun Walk, entertainment, games, food and informational booths. The magic of a community celebration, combined with ease of giving has increased awareness about the work of local organizations and has enabled them to raise nearly over \$15 million in the last thirteen years.

HISTORY OF THE RUN

As a way to celebrate the Community Foundation's 26th anniversary, the first "Run for the Money" event was held March 29, 2003. Building on an idea from Jackson Hole Wyoming, Linda Slade and May Barger co-chaired the event and modeled it after Jackson Hole Community Foundation's Uncle Bill Run.

After twelve consecutive years, the success of the event has been proclaimed by participating non profits, community leaders, runners, walkers, donors, sponsors and all participants. To celebrate the success of the Run, the Board voted in 2014 to change the name to the Community Foundation Run.

2017 MARCH MISSION EMPHASIS

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Our staff and partners in the countries where we work know the local languages, traditions and customs necessary to provide appropriate solutions. And they have access to the knowledge and expertise of their colleagues in other countries around the world. We work in Latin America, Africa, Middle East, and Asia.

AGRICULTURE, CLIMATE & DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Our goal is to improve the lives of millions of small-scale farmers and their families, and to help them adapt to and mitigate the effects of changing weather and environmental conditions. With your generous gifts, LWR, in partnership with a local non-profit organization, is helping 80 farming families in this remote region increase their food security along with their potato crop yields. To do this, we're equipping farmers with a variety of native potato seeds. To further the reach of this work, we're providing training for farmers so that they can serve as local, technical resources to help other area farmers improve their crops. We're also helping families set up seed banks so they can continue to grow the native potato varieties.

Peru, high up in the Andes mountains. The people like the Potato Project, which helps them out of the extreme poverty. Juan wants to make money to educate his kids. This project also helps Daisy and her family, who live in the Castrovirreyna Province, high in the Andes Mountains in Peru. While most of Peru has seen economic growth, poverty persists in this region.

The Philippines has a Cash-for-Work program that helps when disaster strikes, such as a hurricane or typhoon. Decades of political strife, along with severe weather conditions, led many people to leave the region, taking with them the knowledge of traditional farming practices. As a result, many native potato varieties, a staple in the regional diet, were lost. Put together with low household income, this put many families at risk for hunger.

Leonida Carupo is a grandmother living in the Philippines. The Typhoon demolished their house and also their crops. LWR has helped with supplies to rebuild their houses and also to provide seeds and tools to plant gardens. They are very thankful.

WE ARE PREPARED

Prior to emergencies, we and our partners have established systems and capacities that allow us to respond to emergencies efficiently. In order to efficiently and effectively respond to disasters, our staff and our partners need plans and systems in place. Each of our country offices has an Emergency Preparedness Plan that outlines when and how we will respond to emergencies. We train our staff and our partners' staff on best practices for programs, monitoring and evaluation, rapid assessment, etc. We also participate in active networks of organizations, such as Action by Churches Together (ACT) and InterAction.

People affected by disasters are able to recover and rebuild their source of income in ways that maximize their resilience to future disasters. We also plan ahead by pre-positioning items (such as LWR Quilts & Kits) in warehouses supported by the United Nations (U.N. Humanitarian Response Depots). These depots allow us to quickly send items where they're needed, when they're needed. People affected by disasters are able to recover and rebuild their source of income in ways that maximize their resilience to future disasters. We also plan ahead by pre-positioning items (such as LWR Quilts & Kits) in warehouses supported by the United Nations (U.N. Humanitarian Response Depots). These depots allow us to quickly send items where they're needed, when they're needed

Ellie Kitchner lived in Poland during the II World War, she and others had to leave their country and go to refugee camps. Over the years she has moved to Canada. Now she makes quilts for LWR.

Health Kits are given by LWR to people in Latin America for children of poor families and are much appreciated. Quilts are given in India at hospitals and at hospice care.

Sharing Gifts of Extraordinary Love

Pens and pencils, a toothbrush, a quilt ... ordinary items we take for granted become treasures in the hands of their recipients. The items you send will be cherished and used by people who take nothing for granted, for whom even a simple bar of new soap is special. Your gifts of time and resources are beautiful expressions of God's love and grace to those in greatest need. Thank you for your partnership in putting them together.

Please tell the people who are responsible for sending these Kits that we thank them from the bottom of our hearts. The Children will carry these gifts in their hearts, and in their minds they will know that there are people in far away places that care enough to share and send help to people in need.

(Mission cont'd on page 12)

(Mission cont'd from page 11)

– Saul Paisig, teacher whose students received School Kits in Peru

Quilts and Kits provide comfort, cleanliness and needed supplies to people during and after a disaster. They are donated every year from individuals and congregations around the United States. We distribute them in response to both long- and short-term, and slow- and quick-onset emergencies around the world. We also supply other non-food items like shelter support items, clothing and bedding, or other items as necessary. We obtain items from local sources as much as possible, to ensure support for local economies.

2017 Mission Emphasis for March is *Lutheran World Relief*.

This information and these stories tell a small part of what *LWR* is responsible for through their missions. It is an opportunity for members of *Our Saviour Lutheran Church* to contribute toward easing the hunger and thirst, as well as the results of severe weather disasters. Give any Sunday in March by check or cash for *LWR*. Pray for those in active service in other countries through *LWR* and also pray for those who receive the benefits of these temporal and spiritual blessings.



Help fill the pantry
at the
Dallas-High Shoals Christian Ministry.

Check and see what food item they need for the month (on page 5—our calendar) and let us over fill that basket in the hallway. This is a great outreach program.

God will bless you in your generosity.



When we receive the bread offered during Holy Communion,
it's the spiritual equivalent of receiving free bread.

No matter how you slice it the terms of your own denominational tradition,
the “real” bread and “real drink connect us deeply and spiritually with God through Christ.

We are nourished by the grace we receive,
encouraged by the diverse crowd around us
and strengthened to the live life to the full.

There's no substitute for the love
and life we experience when we break the ***Bread of Life***.

Like Peter we cry out,
“Lord, to who [else] shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life”

(John 6:68, NIV)

Homiletics



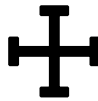
LENTEN SERVICES

Ash Wednesday and Lent

Each year the life of the Church moves with certain rhythms and patterns. One of those is the seasons of the Church year. Although we are currently in the season of Epiphany, a time when we remember how God has revealed His glory through His Son, Ash Wednesday and Lent are just around the corner. Once again, this year, on Ash Wednesday (February 10) we will come together to worship hearing God's call to repentance for our various sins and receive ashes placed on our foreheads as a sign of our mortality, repentance, sacrifice for the sake of our Lord, and to acknowledge the authority of our Lord in our lives.

Each Wednesday evening during the season of Lent we will gather around table for food and fellowship as God's people, and as we have the past couple years, we will share in a time of worship with Holy Scripture, prayer, song, and a drama to help Lenten devotions. This year our Lenten worship and our dramas will focus on the nature of our Christian Discipleship. We hope you will join us each week for the meal at 6:00 pm and our time of Lenten worship at 7:00pm.

MEAL SIGN-UP SHEET ON BULLETIN BOARD



IMAGES AND WORDS OF LENT

LENT: An Anglo-Saxon word meaning "Spring."

FORTY DAYS: The number 40 is attached to historic events—the flood, Moses' days on Mt Sinai, the Israelites' wandering in the wilderness, Jesus' fasting and prayer in the wilderness before beginning his ministry.

JESUS IN THE WILDERNESS: A period of spiritual preparation--just as the 40 days of Lent are to prepare us for the Easter celebration.

PSALM 51 is a Psalm of repentance, just as Lent is a time for repentance.

COLORS VIOLET AND BLACK in church (violet - for repentance- during most of Lent and black--for mourning--on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.



Our Saviour Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 457
725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
Dallas, NC 28034



March 2017



Ash Wednesday Service—7:00 pm

Lenten Service with Lite Supper—7:00 pm