



# Our Saviour Lutheran Church

725 Gastonia Technology Parkway

Post Office Box 475

Dallas, North Carolina 28034

Phone: 705-922-4648

Email: oslcdallas@aol.com.....Website: oslc-nc.org



## Our Saviour's Good News

Volume XVI, Issue II

February 2021

### 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:

- **President Day** 2
- **Puzzle**
- **Images & Words of Lent**
- **Minutes** 3
- **The Origin of St. Valentine**
- **Boy Scout Sunday** 4
- **10 Things to Know about Transfiguration**
- **Calendar & Events** 5
- **Worship Assistances**
- **Flower Calendar**
- **Agape/Kure Beach Ministry** 6
- **Food For The Needy**
- **Groundhog Day**
- **Shut-Ins**
- **Stewardship Minute** 7
- **Lenten Worship Service**
- **Church NEWS** 8
- **Souper Bowl Sunday**
- **CLW/Rachel Group**
- **Sign-Up For Sports**
- **That's My King** 9
- **Long History Behind Ash Wednesday Traditions** 10
- **Origins of Ash Wednesday & Use of Ashes** 11
- **Crisis Pregnancy (Opportunities for 2021)** 12
- **Feb. Mission: DHSCSM** 14
- **Parish Directory For OSLC** 15

# 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”).

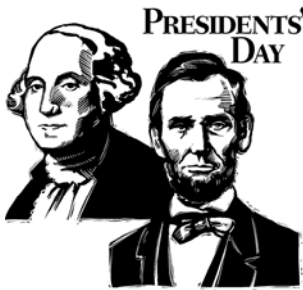
Those are thoughts we should try to keep on our minds throughout the Lenten season.

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.

**(Lent cont’d on page 10)**



**PRESIDENTS' DAY**  
 When: Since 1968, it is celebrated on the third Monday in February(15)

President's Day is a day set aside to honor all of the U.S. presidents. We often think of two great presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln when we celebrate this holiday as it falls by design between their birthdays. But more and more of us, look at this day as a tribute to each and every person who has ever served in the office as President of the United States of America. It is a national holiday, although most businesses and industry do not recognize it as a paid holiday.

**George Washington's Birthday**  
 When: February 22nd

The "Father of His Country", George Washington was born on February 22, 1732. He became commander in chief of the Continental Army in 1775 and fought a long and arduous war for freedom from British rule. The war was finally over in 1781 when the Continental Army with the help of the French, forced Cornwallis to surrender at Yorktown.

In 1787, Washington was unanimously elected president by the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia and took the oath of office in 1789. He served two terms of office from 1789 until 1797. After the presidency, Washington retired to his home in Mount Vernon, Virginia where he died on December 14, 1799 of a throat infection.

Quiz: What is George Washington's most famous quote?  
Answer... "I Can not tell a lie... .. I chopped down the Cherry Tree!"

**Abraham Lincoln's Birthday**  
 When: February 12th.

Every American knows President Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States. "Honest Abe", as he was commonly known as, was born in the wilderness country of Hardin County, Kentucky on February 12, 1809.

Abraham Lincoln became president in 1861. Although he hated war, he was drawn into it as he believed it was the only way to save the nation after the southern states declared their secession to the Union.

In addition to serving as president during the civil war and saving the Union, Lincoln wrote the Emancipation Proclamation that ended slavery in the U.S. forever. He also wrote and gave The Gettysburg Address, memorializing the bloodiest and most important battle of the Civil War. Gettysburg proved to be the turning point of the war.

Shortly after the war ended, Abraham Lincoln became the first U.S. President to be assassinated. He was shot and mortally wounded on Good Friday, April 14, 1865 by John Wilkes Booth in Ford's Theatre.

**Conversation hearts**  
 The world encourages people to look out for themselves and seek success, but in Micah 6:8, God tells us to live differently.  
 Directions: Put the conversation hearts in the correct order by writing the words on the lines below. Hint: Capitalization and quotation marks are included.

micah 6:8, niv    mercy and    "And what    To act    humbly with    does the LORD    justly and    to love    to walk    require of you?    your God."

" \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ " 6:8 , \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: "And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8, NIV

**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.

**LEADERSHIP BOARD MINUTES****OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH  
December 20, 2020****Devotions:** Anna Lowery

Meeting called to order by President, Anna Lowery

**Members present:** Alice Vlaservich, Anna Lowery, Melinda White, Robbie Wooten, Jeff White, Denise Traveria;**Members Absent:** Becky Messick, Teri Trudnak, Joe Fin-ger**Minutes:** November 16, 2020 minutes were reviewed.; Melinda White made the motion to approve the minutes and Robbie Wooten seconded the motion.**Reception of Petitions and Communications:** None**Report of the Pastor:** None presented.**Report of the Treasurer:** Report was reviewed, and a motion was made by Alice Vlaservich to accept the Treasurer Report and seconded by Anna Lowery.**Report of the Ministries:**

- a. Property: Gutters need cleaning at the parsonage. Postpone for better weather; Light bulbs changed in sanctuary
- b. Stewardship and Finance: No report
- c. Worship & Music: Decorated for Christmas. The Church was extra beautiful this season especially with the new trees. Thank you, Anna Cole, Becky Messick and Julie Digh and the Worship Committee, for your time and service.
- d. Youth Team: No report this month
- e. Witness: Cards and prayers continue to be sent to shut ins. Alice is also sending bulletins to those unable to come to worship service.
- f. Christian Education Team: Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes filled this year was 20.

**Report of Auxiliaries:** No meeting scheduled until after January 2021.**Old and/or Unfinished Business:**

- a. Council decided it was in the best interest of the church to keep the approved 9 seats and the current Council members will remain the same at this time (for one year). There will be no new installation of Council members at this time. Amendment to the constitution to be added to reflect this change of 9 seats.
- b. Need to replace facial board at the Activity Bldg. Jeff White will gather help and attempt this repair in January 2021.

**New Business:**

- a. 2021 Devotion Schedule completed and reviewed.
- b. President Anna Lowery will send a card of thanks to Pastor George Rhyne for his service and commitment

to OSLC in times of need and congratulating him on his retirement.

**General Information:**

- a. Attendance: BRING A FRIEND!!
- b. Laszlo Mission (Kids International) Report
- c. JAARS report

The Council meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is January 18, 2021 at 7pm; Alice Vlaservich will have devotions.

---

## The Origin of St. Valentine

The origin of St. Valentine, and how many St. Valentines there were, remains a mystery. One opinion is that he was a Roman martyred for refusing to give up his Christian faith. Other historians hold that St. Valentine was a temple priest jailed for defiance during the reign of Claudius. Whoever he was, Valentine really existed because archaeologists have unearthed a Roman catacomb and an ancient church dedicated to Saint Valentine. In 496 AD Pope Gelasius marked February 14th as a celebration in honor of his martyrdom.

Saints are not supposed to rest in peace; they're expected to keep busy: to perform miracles, to intercede. Being in jail or dead is no excuse for non-performance of the supernatural. One legend says, while awaiting his execution, Valentinus restored the sight of his jailer's blind daughter. Another legend says, on the eve

of his death, he penned a farewell note to the jailer's daughter, signing it, "From your Valentine."

St. Valentine was a Priest, martyred in 269 at Rome and was buried on the Flaminian Way. He is the Patron Saint of affianced couples, bee keepers, engaged couples, epilepsy, fainting, greetings, happy marriages, love, lovers, plague, travelers, young people. He is represented in pictures with birds and roses.



# Boy Scout Sunday

February 2

The **Boy Scouts of America (BSA)** is one of the largest youth organizations in the United States, with over four million youth members in its age-related divisions. In 1909, Chicago publisher W. D. Boyce was visiting London, where he encountered the Unknown Scout and learned of the Scouting movement. Soon after his return to the U.S., Boyce incorporated the Boy Scouts of America on February 8, 1910. Since its founding in 1910 as part of the international Scout Movement, more than 110 million Americans have been members of the BSA.

The BSA goal is to train youth in responsible citizenship, character development, and self-reliance through participation in a wide range of outdoor activities, educational programs, and, at older age levels, career-oriented programs in partnership with community organizations. For younger members, the Scout method is part of the program to inculcate typical Scouting values such as trustworthiness, good citizenship, and outdoors skills, through a variety of activities such as camping, aquatics, and hiking.

The BSA is a constituent member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. The traditional Scouting divisions are *Cub Scouting* for boys ages 7–10, *Boy Scouting* for boys ages 11–18 and *Venturing* for young men and women ages 14–21. Learning for Life is a non-traditional subsidiary that provides in-school and career education. The BSA operates traditional Scouting locally through units sponsored and operated by churches, clubs, civic associations, educational organizations and the like. Units are led entirely by volunteers who are supported by local councils using both paid professionals and volunteers.

The influence of Scouting on American society is frequently cited by both its advocates and critics. In addition to nostalgic memories of campfires kindling friendships, prominent leaders in various fields of endeavor have credited the skills they learned in Scouting as helping mold them into successful citizens.

The BSA's stated purpose at its incorporation in 1910 was "to teach [boys] patriotism, courage, self-reliance, and kindred values. Later, in 1937, Deputy Chief Scout Executive George J. Fisher expressed the BSA's mission; "Each generation as it comes to maturity has no more important duty than that of teaching high ideals and proper behavior to the generation which follows." The current mission statement of the BSA is "to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law."



And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.

Matthew 17:2, NRSV

## 10 Things You Need to Know About Jesus' Transfiguration

What happened at the mysterious event known as the Transfiguration? What did it mean?

The Transfiguration of Our Lord is hard to understand. Why did it happen? What did it mean?

Here are 10 things you need to know.

### 1. What does the word "transfiguration" mean?

The word "transfiguration" comes from the Latin roots *trans-* ("across") and *figura* ("form, shape"). It thus signifies a change of form or appearance. This is what happened to Jesus in the event known as the Transfiguration: His appearance changed and became glorious.

Before looking at the Transfiguration itself, it's important that we look at what happened immediately before it in Luke's Gospel.

### 2. What happened right before the Transfiguration?

In Luke 9:27, at the end of a speech to the twelve apostles, Jesus adds, enigmatically: There are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God. This has often been taken as a prophecy that the end of the world would occur before the first generation of Christians died out. The phrase "kingdom of God" can also refer to other things, though, including the Church — the outward expression of God's invisible kingdom. The kingdom is embodied in Christ himself and thus might be "seen" if Christ were to manifest it in an unusual way, even in his own earthly life.

### 3. Did such a manifestation occur?

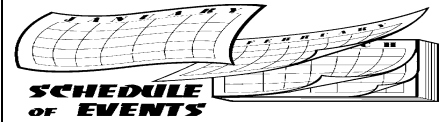
Yes, and it is the very next thing that Luke relates: the Transfiguration. Pope Benedict states that it has been...

...convincingly argued that the placing of this saying immediately before the Transfiguration clearly relates it to this event. Some—that is to say, the three disciples who accompany Jesus up the mountain—are promised that they will personally witness the coming of the Kingdom of God 'in power.' On the mountain the three of them see the glory of God's Kingdom shining out of Jesus. On the mountain they are overshadowed by God's holy cloud. On the mountain—in the conversation of the transfigured Jesus with the Law and the Prophets—they realize that the true Feast of Tabernacles has come. On the mountain they learn that Jesus himself is the living Torah, the complete Word of God. On the mountain they see the 'power' (*dynamis*) of the Kingdom that is coming in Christ (*Jesus of Nazareth*, vol. 1, p. 317).

# February 2021



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



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 February 1-28	1 Team Mtg.	2 	3	4	5	6
7 5th Sunday after the Epiphany	8	9	10	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13
14 	15 Council Mtg.	16 	17 Ash Wednesday	18	19	20
21 1st Sunday of Lent	22 CLW/Rachel Group	23	24	25	26	27
28 2nd Sunday of Lent	 February 7	 February 7	 February 14	Washington's Birthday February 22		

- Feb. 1-28—Black History Month
- Feb. 1— Team Meetings: 7:00 pm
- Feb. 2— Ground Hog Day (see p 2)
- Feb. 7— 5th Sunday after Epiphany  
Boy Scout Sunday (see p 4)  
Souper Bowl Sunday
- Feb. 12—Lincoln's Birthday (see p 2)
- Feb. 14— Transfiguration of Our Lord  
Valentine Day
- Feb. 15— Council Meeting—7:00 pm  
Presidents' Day
- Feb. 16—"Prayer Group" will meet at the home of Shirlee Marazza at 1:30 pm
- Feb. 17— "Ash Wednesday" service 5:30 pm
- Feb. 21— 1st Sunday of Lent
- Feb. 22—CLW/Rachel Group Meeting at the home of TBA (See p 8)  
Washington's Birthday (see p 2)
- Feb. 28—2nd Sunday of Lent

**FOOD FOR THE MONTH:**



**Soup, Mac n Chesse, Beanie Weenies.**



**Holy Communion Schedule:**  
Every Sunday

**Worship Service Assistance:**



Choir practice each Wednesday at 4:00 pm unless otherwise announced in the bulletin

**Birthdays**



- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1 Tony Trudnak  | Rob Trudnak    |
| 8 Jared Dease   | Kathy Trudnak  |
| 9 Donna Clemmer | Becky Messick  |
| 16 Teri Trudnak | Ashley Holland |
| 19 Brady Cole   |                |

- Acolyte: OSLC Members
- Communion Asst: OSLC Members
- Lay Reader: Anna Lowery
- Worship Asst: Anna Lowery
- Greeters: OSLC Members
- Ushers: OSLC Members

## FLOWERS

**Flower Schedule:**

- Feb. 7 Keenan Gordy
- Feb. 14 Charla Powell
- Feb. 21 **Lent**
- Feb. 28 **Lent**

Please sign up to place flowers on the altar in the Glory of God and in Honor or Memory of your love ones.

Plenty of openings (26)  
 Decorate the altar of our Lord  
 And then take home to decorate your home of give to a love one of shut-in



**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 9<sup>th</sup> .....Ryan & Keenan Grody
- 14<sup>th</sup> .....Nick & Alice Vlaservich
- 27<sup>th</sup> .....Brian & Anna Cole



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.

**Jerri Presley**  
 2604 Ole Home Trail, Dallas  
 (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.

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

Web site: [www.NovusWay.com](http://www.NovusWay.com)  
 and

**Kure/Agape Beach**

E-mail: [kurebeach@agapekurebeach.org](mailto:kurebeach@agapekurebeach.org)

Web site: [www.agapekurebeach.org](http://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 2019 calendar year are on the  
 wall in the Education wing.



The legend of Groundhog Day is based on an old Scottish couplet: "If Candlemas Day is bright and clear, there'll be two winters in the year."

Every February 2 –around 7:30 am ET - , people gather at Gobbler's Knob, a wooded knoll just outside of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania.

The ceremony in Punxsutawney was held in secret until 1966, and only Phil's prediction was revealed to the public. Since then, Phil's fearless forecast has been a national media event.

The groundhog comes out of his electrically heated burrow, looks for his shadow and utters his prediction to a Groundhog Club representative in "groundhogese." The representative then translates the prediction for the general public.

**If Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, it means six more weeks of winter. If he does not see his shadow, it means spring is just around the corner.**

Phil started making predictions in 1887 and has become an American Institution. Residents contend that the groundhog has never been wrong. Approximately 90% of the time, Phil sees his shadow.



## A Stewardship Minute

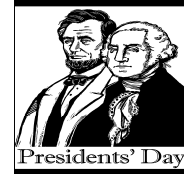
There is truly no time like the present ... NOW!

There is a sad, but true story of a man of considerable means that could not attend worship on Sundays because that was the day he had to count the last week's receipts from one of the several businesses he owned. However, the business man had told the pastor that while he was not currently giving to the church, when he died the church would receive a nice bequest. Well, about two years later, the man died and the church was not even mentioned in his will. Not because he wasn't well-intentioned, but because he had never gotten around to it.

He put his stewardship of the blessings God had given him on hold ... rather than acting on it ... NOW!

St. Paul wrote to the church in Corinth these words: "Now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation." (II Corinthians 6:2) We can add to that: "Now is also the day of stewardship." After all, it is not how we plan to serve Christ in the future (after our own business and pleasures); it is how we seriously serve Christ today. Salvation today requires stewardship today. "The love of Christ urges us on..." wrote St. Paul. (II Corinthians 5:14) And so it does! It really does! Today. NOW!

**Prayer:** Gracious Lord, you have opened your hands toward us again and again with gifts galore. Stir us up to use these gifts not only for ourselves, but for your church and the hurts of the world. In Christ's name. **Amen**



February 22



Lent comes early this year. We just took down our Christmas tree a mere few weeks ago and now are looking at Ash Wednesday on February 17.

So time marches on – no surprise there. But it is sometimes it is a struggle to switch from a season of joy to a season of repentance in a short amount of time. I know I am trying to find joy in our world today with the political and cultural divides we are facing. We live in a society that is creeping more secular and the new spiritual movement of the "Nones". The "Nones" are those claim to be spiritual but not religious. They do not ascribe to one set of beliefs but have a "cafeteria: approach like, "I'll take some of this grace from Christianity, some of the wisdom from Buddhism, some of the mysticism of Hindi and maybe a sprinkle of Mother Earth love for the environment."

The problem here is that while this may sound ridiculous, it actually appeals to many of us. Why not take the best of everything and reject the hard stuff? The ironic part of this is that this is not a new thought – the Israelites fell for it some 1,000 years ago.

The final blow to the Southern Kingdom of Judea in 606BC was the Babylon assault (the Northern Kingdom fell in 722 – about 100 years earlier) and the captivity for the next 70 years. God was angry with the lackluster worship, the heartless obedience, and the constant straying to follow fake gods. Kind of like today.

Babylon offers us two things: a diversion from God and an attraction to the world. A distraction from eternal life and an offer of fast and fun temporal life. We fall for this lie constantly, and we need worship and community to strengthen and affirm our faith. This year we will study the book of Daniel and while we are challenged with the lingering threat of the COVID virus, we will meet in the spirit of safety and community via Zoom video conference on Wednesday nights. The meetings will start at 6:30pm and should go about an hour.

The log in information is: [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) (click "join a meeting" at the top right)  
Meeting ID: **848 1026 1143**  
Meeting password: **050863**

If you prefer to join by phone, you can call in (we will provide that information later)

I look forward to our study and pray that God will unfold this ancient story to us in ways we have never imagined!

Grace+Peace!

*Pete*



If you need a Pastor, please contact Pastor Pete Feige at 704-516-2805 or our office at 704-922-4648. Check out our website at [oslc-nc.org](http://oslc-nc.org) or email us at [oslcdallas@aol.com](mailto:oslcdallas@aol.com).

## Souper Bowl Sunday



### FEBRUARY 7

Each year on **Souper Bowl Sunday** congregations from around the nation collect monies to be donated to local and/or regional charities. This year the we will support our local Dallas-High Shoals Christian Ministry. On Sunday, February 7, the baskets will be at each door of the church with their kettles for any donation you might want to give plus there will be a basket at each door of the church for canned goods. Please help fight hunger and poverty in our community.



DALLAS DIXIE YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL  
SIGN-UPS

BASEBALL AGES 5—15  
SOFTBALL AGES 6—14

DENNIS FRANKLIN GYM

Now thru February 14  
Baseball Cost—\$60 if you live inside and \$70 outside

Go to [Dallasnc.net](http://Dallasnc.net) for Sign-up form or



## CLW/RACHEL GROUP

will meet at the home of TBA  
February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 am

**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)



SUSAN Aderholt, SETH Alexander, AMANDA (friend of the Penley’s), MARVIS Anderson, WHITNEY Auten (breast cancer), KELLY Ballard (friend of Shana Dease), BRAXTON Bearden (friend of the Locketts), ADDISON Blanton (friend of Dease’s), KATHY Bohanan (cancer), RHONA and ADRIAN Carpenter (parents of Raygen Messick), KAREN Brady, MIKE Coffey (Robbie Wooten’s uncle), EASTON Finger (Aboard Abraham Lincoln Aircraft Carrier in Persian Gulf) DON Greene (cancer-friend of Teri & Melinda), HARDY Feige (Pete’s dad – chronic back pain), JASON Hames (friend of the White’s) DANA Kirshman (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), CHRIS Messick (intestinal blockage), GARY Neal, (friend of Caleb Dease), MARY O’Shea (co-worker of Melinda White’s), SONDRRA Phillips (friend of Melinda White), JERRIE Presley, BETTY Ratchford, GARY Turner (father of Jason Murray), ANNE White (niece of Betty Ratchford-breast cancer), JOE White (stroke), MARY Wooten (Sara’s great-grandmother and Rosalee’s great-great grandmother). NANCY Wilson

### GOD WANTS YOU!

- (1) God wants you to participate in His worship service for **2021** by servicing as a worship assistant as a Crucifer, Greeter or Usher  
See the sign up sheet in notebook in hold on office door and please help.
- (2) New Flower Calendar is up. Please remember your love ones and also help decorate our Lord’s altar. **Cost of Flowers has increased to \$35.10 There are 25 openings**



Lent



## That's My King

Rev. Dr. Shadrach Meshach Lockridge (1913 – 2000).

My King was born King.  
The Bible says my King is a seven-way King:  
He's the King of the Jews. That's a racial King.  
He's the King of Israel. That's a national King.  
He's the King of righteousness.  
He's the King of the ages.  
He's the King of Heaven.  
He's the King of Glory.  
He's the King of Kings and He is the Lord of Lords.  
Now, that's my King.

Well, I wonder, do you know Him? Do you know Him?  
Don't try to mislead me, do you know my King?

David said, "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handiwork."  
My King is the only one whom...  
There's no means of measure can define His limitless love.  
No farseeing telescope can bring into visibility the coastline of His shoreless supplies.  
No barrier can hinder Him from pouring out His blessings.

Well, Well, He's enduringly strong.  
He's entirely sincere.  
He's eternally steadfast.  
He's immortally graceful.  
He's imperially powerful.  
He's impartially merciful.  
That's my King

He's God's Son.  
He's the sinner's Saviour.  
He's the centre-piece of civilisation.  
He stands alone in Himself.  
He's august and He's unique.  
He's unparalleled.  
He's unprecedented.  
He's supreme.  
He's pre-eminent.

He's the loftiest idea in literature.  
He's the highest personality in philosophy.  
He's the supreme problem in higher criticism.  
He's the fundamental doctrine of true theology.  
He's the core and necessity of spiritual religion.

That's my King!

He's the miracle of the age.  
He's the superlative of everything good that you choose to call Him.  
Well, He's the only one able to supply all of our needs simultaneously.

He supplies strength to the weak.  
He's available for the tempted and the tried.  
He sympathises and He saves.  
He our guard and He guides.  
He heals the sick.  
He cleanses the lepers.  
He forgives sinners.  
He discharges debtors.  
He delivers the captives.  
He defends the feeble.  
He blesses the young.  
He serves the unfortunate.  
He regards the aged.  
He rewards the diligent and He beautifies the meek.

Do you know Him?

Well! My King is the Key of knowledge.  
He's the Wellspring of wisdom.  
He's the Doorway of deliverance.  
He's the Pathway of peace.  
He's the Roadway of righteousness.  
He's the Highway of holiness.  
He's the Gateway of glory.  
He's the Master of the mighty.  
He's the Captain of the conquerors.  
He's the Head of the heroes.  
He's the Leader of the legislators.  
He's the Overseer of the overcomers.  
He's the Governor of governors.  
He's the Prince of princes.  
He's the King of kings and He's the Lord of lords.

That's my King! Yeah! Yeah!  
That's my King. My King.

Yeah, His office is manifold.  
His promise is sure.  
His life is matchless.  
His goodness is limitless.  
His mercy is everlasting.  
His love never changes.  
His word is enough.  
His grace is sufficient.  
His reign is righteous.  
And His yoke is easy and His burden is light.

Well... I wish I could describe Him to you!  
But He, He's indescribable. He's indescribable, Yes!  
He, He's incomprehensible.  
He's invincible.  
He's irresistible!

I've come to tell you, the heaven of heavens cannot contain Him let alone a man explain Him.  
You can't get Him out of your mind.  
You can't get Him off of your hand.  
You can't out live Him and  
You can't live without Him.

Well, the Pharisees couldn't stand Him, but they found out they couldn't stop Him.  
Pilate couldn't find any fault in Him.  
The witnesses couldn't get their testimonies to agree.  
Herod couldn't kill Him.  
Death couldn't handle Him and the grave couldn't hold Him.

That's my King, yeah!

He always has been, and he always will be.  
I'm talking about... He has no predecessor, and He'll have no successor.  
There was nobody before Him and there'll be nobody after Him.  
You can't impeach Him, and He's not going to resign.

That's my King!  
Great is the Lord! That's my King!

Thine, thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory. Yeah!  
Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory.  
For ever and ever and ever and ever.  
How long is that?  
And ever and ever, and ever and ever.  
And when you get through with all of the forevers, then Amen!

If that's how Dr Lockridge described God while seeing Him 'through a glass, darkly' here on Earth, how do you think he'd describe God now he's seen Him face to face in Heaven?

# The Long History Behind Ash Wednesday Traditions

by  
ASHLEY ROSS

**A**sh Wednesday is inextricably linked to Easter. After all, it marks the beginning of the Lent penance period that ends on that important Christian holiday. But, even though the Easter story takes place in biblical times, the traditions of Ash Wednesday aren't quite that old.

"The practice of Ash Wednesday dates back to the 11th Century," says Lauren F. Winner, a priest and assistant professor at Duke Divinity School. "You see that in the book Daniel in the nine chapter there's a line about associating fasting with ashes, so ashes are associated with penance, which is the dominant theme of Lent."

And the most familiar Ash Wednesday observance—the ash crosses worn on the foreheads of many churchgoers—hasn't always been acknowledged by all branches of Christianity, Winner says. It wasn't until a few decades ago that the tradition became widespread in the United States.

In the 1970s, the practice matched up with a few wider trends in American religion, including the embrace of once-discarded traditions and the search for ways to connect the physical body to spiritual life. Ash Wednesday was an opportunity for a multi-sensory way of connecting faith to the body, so many American Christians at the time decided to begin wearing that outward physical mark of their spiritual lives. Winner says she thinks its popularity has endured as it offers those celebrating an easy way to prompt conversations about faith.

"We've seen the rise of a whole array of bodily practices and this is a very striking one for those who are not necessarily comfortable talking about faith," she says. "The practice of this once a year is an organic way of drawing their faith into their lives."

But what is it exactly that's on the foreheads of those observing the holiday? The ash used for Ash Wednesday is made of palm branches used on the previous Palm Sunday, when Christians carry palms in a nod to the Gospels' reference to Jesus' path being covered in palm fronds on the day he entered Jerusalem. Occasionally the ashes are mixed with oil so they stay on congregants' foreheads for longer.

In modern times, especially as cremation has become more popular in the U.S., many people imbue the ashes with a new level of meaning, Winner says. "[They represent] penance and mortality," she says, "but there's also a much stronger and more palpable association if people were just last year scattering ashes of a family member."

With many religious traditions, the meaning can often be lost over time. But Winner says Ash Wednesday, even as observances evolve, is one exception to that rule.

"It's very powerful to say those words about 'you are dust and to dust you shall return,'" she says. "I keep waiting for it to get overly familiar and lose its power but it doesn't."



## (Lent cont'd from page 1)

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 season.

# What Are the Origins of Ash Wednesday and the Use of Ashes?

by

*Fr. William Saunders*

The liturgical use of ashes originates in Old Testament times. Ashes symbolized mourning, mortality and penance. For instance, in the Book of Esther, Mordecai put on sackcloth and ashes when he heard of the decree of King Ahasuerus (or Xerxes, 485-464 B.C.) of Persia to kill all of the Jewish people in the Persian Empire (Est 4:1). Job (whose story was written between the 7th and 5th centuries B.C.) repented in sackcloth and ashes (Job 42:6). Prophesying the Babylonian captivity of Jerusalem, Daniel (c. 550 B.C.) wrote, "I turned to the Lord God, pleading in earnest prayer, with fasting, sackcloth and ashes" (Dn 9:3). In the fifth century B.C., after Jonah's preaching of conversion and repentance, the town of Ninevah proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, and the king covered himself with sackcloth and sat in the ashes (Jon 3:5-6). These Old Testament examples evidence both a recognized practice of using ashes and a common understanding of their symbolism.

Jesus Himself also made reference to ashes. Referring to towns that refused to repent of sin although they had witnessed the miracles and heard the good news, our Lord said, "If the miracles worked in you had taken place in Tyre and Sidon, they would have reformed in sackcloth and ashes long ago" (Mt 11:21).

The early Church continued the usage of ashes for the same symbolic reasons. In his book, *De Poenitentia*, Tertullian (c. 160-220) prescribed that the penitent must "live without joy in the roughness of sackcloth and the squalor of ashes." Eusebius (260-340), the famous early Church historian, recounted in his *The History of the Church* how an apostate named Natalis came to Pope Zephyrinus clothed in sackcloth and ashes begging forgiveness. Also during this time, for those who were required to do public penance, the priest sprinkled ashes on the head of the person leaving confession.

In the Middle Ages (at least by the time of the eighth century), those who were about to die were laid on the ground on top of sackcloth sprinkled with ashes. The priest would bless the dying person with holy water, saying, "Remember that thou art dust and to dust thou shalt return." After the sprinkling, the priest asked, "Art thou content with sackcloth and ashes in testimony of thy penance before the Lord in the day of judgment?" To which the dying person replied, "I am content." In all of these examples, the symbolism of mourning, mortality and penance is clear.

Eventually, the use of ashes was adapted to mark the beginning of Lent, the 40-day preparation period (not including Sundays) for Easter. The ritual for the "Day of Ashes" is found in the earliest editions of the Gregorian Sacramentary, which dates at least to the eighth century. About the year 1000, an Anglo-Saxon priest named Aelfric preached: "We read in the books, both in the Old Law and in the New, that the men who repented of their sins bestrewed themselves with ashes and clothed their bodies with sackcloth. Now let us do this little at the beginning of our Lent that we strew ashes upon our heads to signify that we ought to repent of our sins during the Lenten fast." As an aside, Aelfric reinforced his point by then telling of a man who refused to go to Church on Ash Wednesday and receive ashes; the man was killed a few days later in a boar hunt. Since this time, the Church has used ashes to mark the beginning of the penitential season of Lent, when we remember our mortality and mourn for our sins.

In our present liturgy for Ash Wednesday, we use ashes made from the burned palm branches distributed on the Palm Sunday of the previous year. The priest blesses the ashes and imposes them on the foreheads of the faithful, making the sign of the cross and saying, "Remember, man you are dust and to dust you shall return," or "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel." As we begin this holy season of Lent in preparation for Easter, we must remember the significance of the ashes we have received: We mourn and do penance for our sins. We again convert our hearts to the Lord, who suffered, died and rose for our salvation. We renew the promises made at our baptism, when we died to an old life and rose to a new life with Christ. Finally, mindful that the kingdom of this world passes away, we strive to live the kingdom of God now and look forward to its fulfillment in Heaven.

---

*Fr. Saunders is president of the Notre Dame Institute and pastor of Queen of Apostles Parish, both in Alexandria.*



## Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County

We at Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County, Inc. would like to welcome you to our center. Our pregnancy center is a nonprofit pro-life organization of committed Christians sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ and actively helping women, men and families in crisis pregnancy situations.

Questioned frequently asked:

- Where can a pregnant women go for physical help and emotional support
- Where can a a new mom or dad go for resources and support for their newborn to twelve month old?
- Where can a pregnant teenager go for support, advice and mentoring?
- Where can a woman carrying the guilt of an abortion go for healing and support?
- Where can a teen hear the truth of Purity and practical ways to live an Abstinent lifestyle?

The answer to all those questions is Crisis Pregnancy.

Since 1986, Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County has offered all of our servies for free thanks to the donations and support of individuals, churches and businesses across Gaston County.

### Now, how can we serve you?

- Pregnancy test
- Adolescent Parenting
- Baby Clothes
- Diapers
- Formula
- Peer Counseling
- Abstinence Education
- Car Seats
- Wipes
- Baby Food
- Ultrasound
- Maternity Clothes
- Pack & Plays
- Baby Supplies
- Blankets and more

## Sanctity of Human Life

For more than 3 decades we have been making a difference in Gaston, Lincoln and the greater Piedmont area of NC. Simply, by the grace of God, He has strategically placed us here for such a time as this with a reminder that he will honor them, and they will not be insignificant. This is our time.

We work with each client on an individual basis to meet their needs so that giving life to their baby is a viable option. We also prevent unwanted pregnancies by training our youth to save sex for marriage and offer healing and forgiveness in Jesus to those already wounded by an abortion in their past. By PARTNERing with us you can help end the tragedy of abortion one life at a time. YOU can make a difference.

In April and September: Attend volunteer training at CPC.

**(Ten things cont'd from page 4)**

We thus may have the key to understanding Jesus' mysterious statement just before the Transfiguration. He wasn't talking about the end of the world. He was talking about *this*. In fact, Luke notes that the Transfiguration took place "about eight days after these sayings," thus stressing its proximity to them and suggesting that it was the fulfillment of this saying, concerning the fact that some of them would see the kingdom of God. Mark gives a different number of days, saying it was "after six days" (Mark 9:2), but these both approximate a week.

**4. Who witnessed the Transfiguration?**

The three who are privileged to witness the event are Peter, James, and John, the three core disciples. (Andrew was not there or not included.) The fact that Jesus only allowed three of his disciples to witness the event may have sparked the discussion which swiftly ensued about which of the disciples was the greatest (Luke 9:46).

**5. Where did the Transfiguration take place?**

Luke states that Jesus took the three "on the mountain to pray." This mountain is often thought to be Mt. Tabor in Israel, but none of the gospels identify it precisely. (though be aware that the gospels do not actually say which mountain it was).

**6. Why did the Transfiguration take place?**

The Catechism explains it this way: **Christ's Transfiguration aims at strengthening the apostles' faith in anticipation of his Passion:** the ascent onto the 'high mountain' prepares for the ascent to Calvary.

Christ, Head of the Church, manifests what his Body contains and radiates in the sacraments: 'the hope of glory.'

**7. What does Luke (in particular) tell us about this event?**

Luke mentions several details about the event that the other evangelists do not:

- He notes that this happened while Jesus was praying.
- He mentions that Peter and his companions "were heavy with sleep, and when they wakened they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him."
- He mentions that Peter made his suggestion to put up booths as Moses and Elijah were departing.

**8. Why do Moses and Elijah appear on the mountain?**

Moses and Elijah represent the two principal components of the Old Testament: the Law and the Prophets.

Moses was the giver of the Law, and Elijah was considered the greatest of the prophets. The fact that these two figures "spoke of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem" illustrates that the Law and the Prophets point forward to the Messiah and his sufferings. This foreshadows Jesus' own explanation, on the road to Emmaus, of the Scriptures pointing to himself (cf. Luke 24:27, 32).

**9. Why was Peter's suggestion misguided?**

The fact that Peter's suggestion occurs when Moses and Elijah are preparing to depart reveals a desire to prolong the experience of glory. This means Peter is focusing on the wrong thing. The experience of the Transfiguration is meant to point forward to the sufferings Jesus is about to experience. It is meant to strengthen the disciples' faith, revealing to them in a powerful way the divine hand that is at work in the events Jesus will undergo. This is why Moses and Elijah have been speaking "about his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem." Peter misses the point and wants to stay on the mountain, contrary to the message the two heavenly visitors have been expounding. As a seeming rebuke of this, a theophany occurs: "A cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!'"

**10. What can we learn from this event?**

The Transfiguration was a special event in which God allowed certain apostles to have a privileged spiritual experience that was meant to strengthen their faith for the challenges they would later endure. But it was only a temporary event. It was not meant to be permanent. In the same way, at certain times in this life, God may give certain members of the faithful (*not* all of the faithful, all the time), special experiences of his grace that strengthen their faith. We should welcome these experiences for the graces they are, but we should not expect them to continue indefinitely, nor should we be afraid or resentful when they cease. They may have been meant only as momentary glimpses of the joy of heaven to sustain us as we face the challenges of this life, to help strengthen us on the road that will--ultimately--bring us into the infinite and endless joy of heaven.

## 2021 Feb. Mission Emphasis – DHSCSM

"...and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness and to walk humbly with your God." ---Micah 6:8

### *OUR MISSION*

The mission of The Dallas/High Shoals Christian Social Ministry (DHSCSM) is to serve as a cooperative ministry of the area churches in bearing witness to the Love of God made visible in Jesus Christ through acts of compassion and mercy by providing crisis assistance, humanitarian aid and developmental (self improvement) opportunities to persons and families in the North Gaston area.

### *OUR HISTORY*

In an effort to enhance the quality of life for all the citizens in the North Gaston area and in response to a number of urgent needs, The Dallas Ministerial Association (DMA), initiated a local food pantry which soon became known as The Dallas/High Shoals Christian Social Ministry. For more than 36 years, DHSCSM has served faithfully in the North Gaston Community and continues to receive generous and wide spread support from both the area churches and the local community.

### *A COOPERATIVE EFFORT*

DHSCSM in an effort to enhance the quality of life for all the citizens in the North Gaston area and in response to a number of urgent needs, The Dallas Ministerial Association (DMA), initiated a local food pantry which soon became known as The Dallas/High Shoals Christian Social Ministry (DHSCSM). For more than 35 years, DHSCSM has served faithfully and continues to receive generous and wide spread support from both the area churches and the local community.

### **TWO DHSCSM MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES FOR OSLC THIS MONTH:**



- **Souper Bowl Sunday** • **Souper Bowl Sunday – February 7, 2021:** Bring soup (and other canned goods) for DHSCSM There will be containers in the hallway for the cans



- **Love Offering to Replace the Chicken Dumpling Dinner**  
Love offering for the all the Sundays in February. The DHSCSM received over \$10,000/year. All the area churches will be having something to help the DHSCSM.

The DHSCSM is the February Mission opportunity for you to participate in locally.

- **Pray** for the organization, its staff, those who come to receive food, clothes, financial emergency support for their unpaid medical, electrical, and gas bills, will be encouraged by the words of care and concern spoken in Jesus' Name.
- **Bring cans of soup** (or other canned goods) on Souper Bowl Sunday – Feb. 7



Food Collection

**Soup, Mac n Cheese, Beanie Weenies.**



## 2021 PARISH DIRECTORY OF OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHURCH OFFICE 704-922-4648 --- EMAIL [oslcdallas@aol.com](mailto:oslcdallas@aol.com) --- Website [oslc-nc.org](http://oslc-nc.org)

### LEADERSHIP BOARD

**Term Expiring 2021**

Vacant  
  
Denise Traveria  
830-8333  
  
Jeff White  
922-7056  
  
Melinda White\*  
922-7056

**Term Expiring 2021**

Joe Finger  
860-3368  
  
Teri Trudnak\*  
922-4485

**Term Expiring 2022**

Anna Lowery  
616-8850  
  
Becky Messick  
460-8664  
  
Alice Vlaservich\*  
922-3052  
  
Robbie Wooten\*  
980-475-2048  
\*2<sup>nd</sup> Term

### OFFICERS OF THE LEADERSHIP BOARD AND OTHER OFFICIALS

President .....	Anna Lowery
Vice President .....	Denise Traveria
Secretary .....	Melinda White
General Treasurer .....	Joe Finger
Delegates .....	Undesignated (appointed by Board)

**CHURCH STAFF**

Pastor .....	Peter (Pete) Feige
Parish Administrator .....	Nick Vlaservich
Choir Director .....	Marie Robinson, Interim
Archivist .....	
Organist.....	Nancy Wilson, Interim

**BOARD MEMBERS ON MINISTRIES (The below were on committees last years.)**

Property Team.....	Bill Trudnak, Alice Vlaservich
Ministry of Christian Education .....	Melinda White, Becky Messick
Ministry of Worship .....	Anna Lowery, Yvonne Finger, Denise Traveria, Teri Trudnak, Robbie Wooten
Ministry of Finance & Stewardship .	Steve Digh, Joe Finger, Jeff White
Ministry of Witness .....	Shirlee Marazza, Becky Messick, Marie Robinson, Alice Vlaservich
Ministry of Youth .....	Melinda White
Nominating Ministry Team .....	(appoint in Oct.)**
Fellowship/Facility Ministry Team .	

**MINISTRY REPRESENTATIVE**

Dallas-High Shoals Christian..... Julie Digh

Term of Office for Board Officers and Board Members on Ministries starts January 1 of each year and ends December 31 of the same year.

\*\* Made up of two outgoing board members and the executive officers of the Board (Pres., V-P, & Sec.). This team will compile a slate of eligible candidates (up to 5) for the ballot to the Leadership Board to voted upon by the congregation.



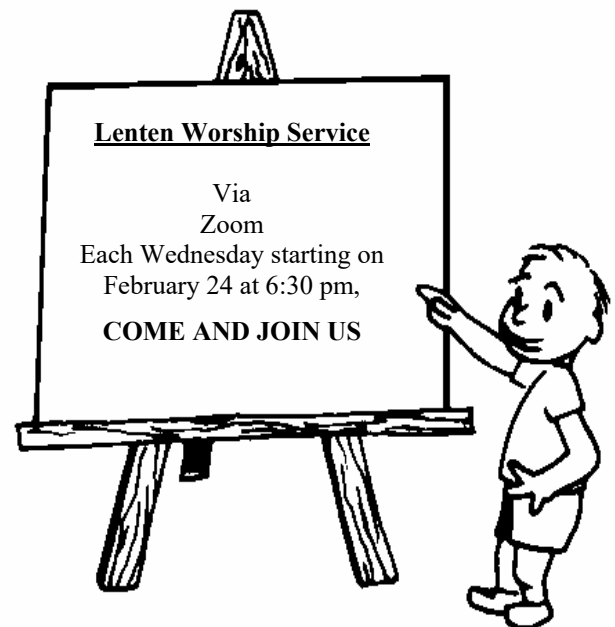
Our Saviour Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 457  
725 Gastonia Technology Parkway  
Dallas, NC 28034



# Souper Bowl Sunday



Feb-  
ruary  
2021



Don't forget to bring can goods on  
February 7