



# Light *of* Life

MARCH 2021

## Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY	MAUNDY THURSDAY	GOOD FRIDAY	EASTER SUNDAY
MARCH 28 8:30AM & 10AM	APRIL 1 6PM	APRIL 2 6PM	APRIL 4 8AM, 9:30AM & 11AM

### PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 28, 8:30AM AND 10:00AM

We're planning on a return to in-person worship with the start of Holy Week! Of course, all will depend on the current CDC guidelines at the end of March. We'll offer two times of worship for Palm Sunday, and attendance will be based on reserving a timeslot on SignUp Genius at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D44ADAE2EA6FB6-palm>. If you do not have internet access, please call the church and let us know what service you would like to attend. Slots will be limited.

With the return to worship, we'll also need volunteers to sign up to act as ushers and to clean pews in between the services. Let us know if you're able to volunteer.



Burke Lutheran Church  
**Online Services  
Season of Hope**

**Lenten Wednesdays  
Feb 24, Mar 3, 10, 17 and 24**

5720 Portage Road | Madison, WI 53718  
608.244.8486 | [www.burkelutheran.org](http://www.burkelutheran.org)

### OUR STAFF

#### Pastor

Robert Neubert,  
240-215-5176  
[gumby523@yahoo.com](mailto:gumby523@yahoo.com)

#### Administrative Secretary

Peri Beal, 608-244-8486  
[burkelutheran@att.net](mailto:burkelutheran@att.net)

#### Maintenance Engineer

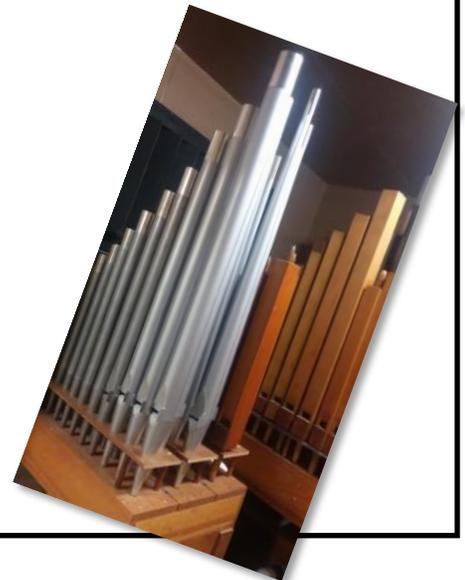
Dave Wisner

### BURKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

5720 Portage Rd / Madison, WI 53718  
608-244-8486 / [burkelutheran@att.net](mailto:burkelutheran@att.net)  
[www.burkelutheran.org](http://www.burkelutheran.org)

### BUILDING UPDATE

The organ is back, work is being done on the siding, windows and trim and other little jobs are in the final stages.



# A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ROBERT.....

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

Though this may be an exciting time for us as we await our return to in person worship on March 28th (Palm Sunday) I want to remind everyone that on Wednesday February 17th we celebrated Ash Wednesday and officially kicked off Lent. So if there is any joy or happiness of any kind in your heart it is time to dispel it. Lent is a time of preparation and mourning as we join together to focus on our own guilt, misery, and participation in Christ's death. Let the fun begin!

Here at Burke Lutheran as we give up not only the word "ha&% #h" (sorry printing of this word in it's fullness is not allowed until Easter morning) there will also be absolutely no smiling or any other expressions of joy. To help in this process you are encouraged to stay away from all small children and/or house pets since their cuteness levels are way too high and produce far too many smiles. Please refrain from telling jokes, and definitely do not watch any comedic movies or TV shows. If you do need to watch anything only watch things that would fall under serious minded religious, historical, true crime, political documentaries, or dramatic movies like Dodgeball: A True Underdog's Story. Only things that cause severe frustration, anger, pure logical thought, or depression are considered appropriate. If you find yourself at work or at a friend's house and you feel a smile beginning to crack upon your lips due to the process of actually enjoying one's self, quickly get up and run from the room before those good feelings begin to spread. Do not let those around you cause you to fall into that deep bright pit of sunshine and joy.

In honor of this time of pain and sadness I invite you to read this short explanation of Lent: In the early years of the Church the period of Lent was a time of intense prayer, instruction, and fasting for Christian initiates as they prepared for baptism. As the Christian Church grew and less and less adult members came into the Church Christians joined in with the initiates during Lent as a way of renewing their faith and commemorating their own baptism. As the years passed it became expected that all Christians would commit themselves during Lent to practicing daily prayer, acts of penance, abstaining from eating meat, fasting during the daylight hours and refrain from participating in any festivities. Since Christians were not allowed to participate in festivals that gave rise to Mardi Gras so that Christians could get all the partying out of their systems before entering into the season of Lent.

In the 16th century a man in Switzerland served sausages to some workers during Lent thus breaking the Lenten fast of not allowing meat during the season of Lent and since his action was backed up by Ulrich Zwingli one of the leading church reformers during the Reformation era, this caused a chain reaction regarding the season of Lent leading to today where many people's idea regarding disciplining one's self during Lent to mean that we had to give up chocolate one day a week.

While some of the ancient practices surrounding Lent may seem extreme to those of us living today, they did have a purpose and even though Zwingli didn't think that abstaining from meat was necessary he and others still believed that making some sort of sacrifice or commitment toward God during Lent was important because it helps ensure that the laity wouldn't become lax in their faith.

### **Biblical foundations and one Historical foundation for Lent:**

- Moses spent 40 days and nights with God on Mt. Sinai.
- Elijah spent 40 days and nights walking to Mt. Horeb.
- God made it rain 40 days and nights in order to flood the earth.
- Jonah told the people of Ninevah that they had 40 days to repent or face God's wrath.
- Hebrew people wandered the desert for 40 years before reaching the Promised Land.
- Jesus spent 40 days and nights in the desert tempted by the devil.
- According to Matthew 9:15 Jesus asked his disciples to fast after he was gone so it is believed that the Apostles began fasting during the 40 day period preceding Easter just after Jesus' death and resurrection.
- The time of Lent marked the time of year in the ancient world when winter food stuffs were beginning to thin out thus it became necessary for people to lessen their consumption if they were going to make food last the entire season. Lent provided a ritualistic way for people to lessen their consumption.

Since I am Lutheran and do believe in grace, our worship committee has decided that three smile like twinges per person will be tolerated during Lent. All those who exceed their quota must sit in the front row once we return to in-person worship.

Peace and Blessing, Pastor Robert

## PRAYER CONCERNS

During the month of February, we have remembered the following individuals in our Sunday prayers:

Tina Bauman	Lisa Thompson	Bev Lowe
Harper DeBauche	Heather Gehrke	Virginia Steward
Helen Knuteson	Marilyn Wolff	Lucy Wisner
Stuart Svoboda	Diane Moore	Kay Gritzmaeker
Paul Beckman	Nancy Bartlet	Amy Mueller

*We apologize if we have missed anyone, it was not intentional*



## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND ANNUAL REPORT

Due to the pandemic we will not be holding an Annual Congregational meeting until later in the year. In the meantime, we'll be sharing the various reports over the next few months here in the Light of Life.

### **Preach Board 2020 Annual Report**

#### Activities:

- Helped to pack materials from old music room to be moved to new church
- Filed all choir music into new filing cabinets in new music room
- Only met as a group Jan.—March to select hymns for services and schedule members in service
- Pastor Rob ordered communion kits to be safely used at this time
- Helped to prepare box lunches for those who attended Burke's anniversary parking lot service
- Had input with organ builders as how to proceed with pipe organ move and restoration

#### Future Business:

- Moving sacristy materials from quilting room to new sacristy behind the nave
- Preparing for in-person church with organ sometime in 2021

Current Board Members: Gloria Lundquist, Chairperson and Council Rep; Dave Wisner, Secretary; Jean Schnick, Finance; Nancy McClurg; Special Assistants: Peri Beal and Pastor Rob

### **Reach Board Annual Report 2020**

Like many other boards this past year, the Reach Board has been unable to gather since February. Due to this and the many events that have shaped our lives this past year, we have not done all that we had hoped to do.

Prior to the pandemic, the Reach Board helped organize the soup suppers for our Lenten Services. We were able to meet for 3 soup suppers this year.

The work on the pictorial director was also put on hold. Who wants their picture taken now anyway? Let's wait till we all get a decent hair cut and can take off these masks!

The River food pantry has had to restructure their volunteer schedules during the pandemic, so we were no longer able to send our church members on the 3rd Friday afternoon of the month. The River is now requesting that volunteers work during the day. Burke will continue to look for ways to participate in this mission.

This Christmas we coordinated the donation of 30 gifts to children and families in need through the River Food Pantry. Thank you to all the people who donated to this ministry.

Most importantly, a big THANK YOU!!!! to Barb Henning and June Chadwick for their work in sending cards to people in our community. With the pandemic keeping us all apart, this ministry has help people feel connected to their friends at Burke.

Reach Board Members: Donna Fredrick, June Chadwick, Linda Klinger, Patrice Neubert

**Teach Board 2020 Annual Report****SLEDDING PARTY**

A Family Fun event was planned for January 4th at Sheehan Park in Sun Prairie, but the lack of snow, prevented the fun.

**HIGH SCHOOL**

Graduating seniors were celebrated at the Nov 15th service. The graduating seniors: John Bosben, Maddie Gardner, Charley Hanson, Laura Hung, Cory Moderow

**CONFIRMATION**

The following 8th graders were confirmed and shared their faith statements on Sunday, November 1st: Carter Truitt, Danni Queiser, Abby Harris, Clara Neubert

Confirmation Camp was not attended this year due to COVID-19.

The 2020-2021 Confirmation class has teamed up with Norway Grove Memorial Lutheran Church and is conducting classes virtually.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**-The First Holy Communion classes were not held this year.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**-The 2020-2021 Sunday School year was not able to be held due to COVID-19.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**-Vacation Bible School was not held this year due to COVID-19

**FUNDRAISERS**-The following fundraisers were conducted to help raise money for our youth:

Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast was scheduled for April 15th, but due to the lack of a functioning kitchen (due to move), we had to cancel.

Butter Braids were sold virtually in December and raised \$429 for the youth programs.

**Property Board 2020 Annual Report****Activities:**

-Helped with removal of trees for construction project.

-Removed items from church garage in preparation for moving it to make way to move church building.

-Helped with moving of property out of Sunday School building and putting it in trailer for storage.

-After church was moved and garage put back in location, put stored items back in garage.

-Contracted with snow removal company for plowing snow for 2020/2021 season.

-Contemplating how to arrange for glazing and painting of church windows. Project was put "on hold" prior to building being moved.

Current Board Members: Sharon Hughes, Chairperson and Council Rep; Tim Wachs, Dan Hanson, Chris Otis

# MARCH CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Quilting, 9:00am Online Confirmation Class <b>ONLINE LENTEN SERVICE</b>	<b>4</b> Online Bible Study, 1:00pm	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
		Pastor Rob out of office				
<b>7</b> WORSHIP ONLINE	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Quilting, 9:00am Online Confirmation Class <b>ONLINE LENTEN SERVICE</b>	<b>11</b> Online Bible Study, 1:00pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 
Pastor Rob out of office					Set your clocks ahead!	
<b>14</b> WORSHIP ONLINE	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Council Meeting, 6:30pm	<b>17</b> Quilting, 9:00am Online Confirmation Class <b>ONLINE LENTEN SERVICE</b> 	<b>18</b> Online Bible Study, 1:00pm	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> WORSHIP ONLINE	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Foundation Mtg, 7:00pm	<b>24</b> Quilting, 9:00am Online Confirmation Class <b>ONLINE LENTEN SERVICE</b>	<b>25</b> Online Bible Study, 1:00pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Palm Sunday WORSHIP 8am & 10am And ONLINE	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			

Save the Dates: April 1 Maundy Thursday, 6pm service & online  
 April 2 Good Friday, 6pm service & online  
 April 4 Easter Sunday, 8am, 9:30am & 11am services & online

## Happy Birthday!

Have a birthday in March?  
 Hope your birthday is spectacular,  
 totally cool, really fantastic, wonderful, exciting,  
 majorly awesome, fun-filled, rocking and **HAPPY!**



## Happy Anniversary!

To all who said "I do"  
 in the month of March!

## SEASON OF HOPE

This Lent, we're putting God's love in action by making Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits. The loss and uncertainty of COVID-19 hit our poorest neighbors around the world even harder. And we ourselves are restless after a year of wandering in the wilderness of a pandemic. We want to be the hands and feet of Christ for our siblings. We're ready to DO something, and are excited to engage in this project as a community during our Lenten journey this year.

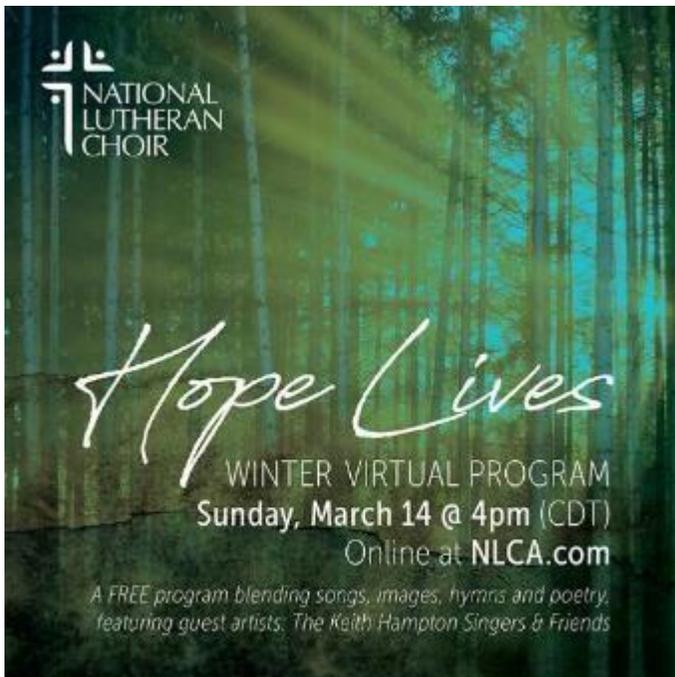


Sharon Hughes is once again graciously heading our efforts, and could use your help. There are two ways you can help — purchase items and drop off at the church, OR donate funds. If you choose to donate funds, go to [LWR.org](http://LWR.org) to make a [monetary](#) contribution directly, or send a check to Burke Lutheran and indicate in the note section that the funds are for LWR.

### *Items being collected:*

- Bars of soap, 4-5 oz, any brand, in original wrapping
- Bath Towels, light-weight, maximum 52" x 27", dark color recommended
- Toothbrushes, adult size, in original packaging
- Combs
- Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)

By assembling LWR Personal Care Kits, we help share God's love, and create a Season of Hope for our neighbors around the world



### LIGHT OF LIFE & BULLETIN ARTICLES

If you have news you'd like to see in the Sunday bulletin announcements and/or Light of Life newsletter:

1. Email your submissions to [burkelutheran@att.net](mailto:burkelutheran@att.net) (please indicate in the subject line whether it is for the bulletin, LOL or both), or
2. Mail to church, 5720 Portage Rd, Madison, WI 53718, or 3. Turn it into the church office

**BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Wednesdays**

**LIGHT OF LIFE DEADLINE: 15th of the month**