

Emphasis

February, 2010

Ash Wednesday

February 17, 2010

The season of Lent is the Church's "springtime." Out of the darkness of sin's winter emerges a people - the Church - reborn through Baptism into the Lord's death and resurrection. (Rom. 6:3)

The holy season of Lent, begins with Ash Wednesday on February 17th. We shall commemorate the holy day with two Communion Services at 10:30 a.m. and at 7:30 p.m.

The Lenten season may not be the longest in the church year, but it is one of the most important, if not the most important season. It is a time for spiritual examination in reparation for Easter; a period when God's people focus in a special way of the sacrificial death of Jesus for our salvation. It's a humbling and sobering activity to stand beneath the cross!



We invite you and your family to take your place beneath Christ's cross again this Lenten season as you reverently contemplate the event of the ages - the sacrifice of God's own Son for the world's sin.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES:

- ✠ Wednesday evenings - 7:30 p.m. (as the closing to Youth Club, although everyone is welcome)
- ✠ Thursday mornings - 10:30 a.m.

Our Lenten offerings are designated to the congregation's benevolence fund, which supports charities and activities that put the Gospel into practice. (*Read more about the Benevolence Fund elsewhere in this newsletter.*)

God bless our Lenten season and the time we spend together under the cross.

⇒ - Pastor Mendenhall



Events for the Ladies

Mission of Love at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, February 11th. **Circle I** meet at 1:00 p.m.

Circle II meet Tuesday, February 16th at 12:30 p.m.

Circle III meet Monday, February 15th at 7:30 p.m. at the church. Judy Macleod is hostess.

Keenagers

This month we're getting away from the television and goin' for live entertainment. It's so much fun to attend the Family Children's Theatre at Memorial Hall, and that's where we're going - Sunday afternoon, Feb. 21st at 3:00 p.m. The production this year is the delightful "*Peter Pan!*" Come join us - afterwards we'll go to Braums for ice cream!



International trip to Amsterdam/ Brussels/ Paris/ London...June 2010 (11 days). Color brochures with specific activities planned daily have arrived. The price has dropped slightly from a fall '09 quote, and a \$150 discount is still good for those who register with \$95.00 by the end of March 2010!!! A new pricing and registration sheet is under construction and will be available soon. Contact Judy Henry a.s.a.p. please, as to your inter-est/involvement!

jhenry@havenschools.com 620-474-3673 (cell)



Adult Confirmation

Mark Stites, 1-10-10
Michelle Cross, 1-17-10

Transfers Out

Kenneth & Connie Krusemark

SINGING AT GOOD SAMARITAN: A

heartfelt thanks to the twenty people who "gave of themselves" to the residents of Good Sam in January. The singing was great along with some humor! As we began this ministry ten months ago, Ruth Krueger accompanied the singing. Presently, Mark Lindgren is the accompanist. Since this special ministry began, Charles and Dennis Unsderfer have played piano solos; Tanner Dahlke has played his horn; many vocal solos; and in January, Michael and Mark Lindgren played a duet on the horn and piano. Do you have a musical instrument that you could share with everyone on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.? Please consider this and call Grace to get "on the program", together with all the vocalists. Next singing date is **February 11th!** God has blessed our efforts.



Jr. & Sr. High Youth

Questions: Michelle at lowdenm@usd308.com
Henry at dce@orlhutch.org

Coming Events

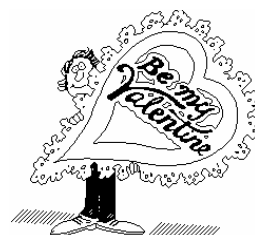
Fri.-Sun., Feb. 5 th -7 th	Youth Quake - Wichita	5:00 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 7 th	Sub Sandwiches	7:30 a.m.
Sunday, Feb. 28 th	P.I.E. (Parents <u>I</u> nvolved <u>E</u> ffectively) Night	6:00 p.m.
Friday, March 19 th	Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser (Armory)	4:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 4 th	Easter Breakfast	7:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Confirmation Dates

Fri. & Sat., May 21 st & 22 nd	Confirmation Retreat
Thursday, June 3 rd	Confirmation Banquet
Sunday, June 6 th	Confirmation Sunday

Birthdays

- 15 Jamie Corn
- 19 Alyssa Miller
- 19th Kaley Bohlen
- 27th Michael Lindgren



Youth Quake

February 5th - 7th

Theme: "DO. LOVE. WALK"

Text: Micah 6:8

"He has shown you what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to DO justly, to LOVE mercy, and to WALK humbly with your God"

Youth Quake is a three day gathering of 400+ junior high age youth. The youth do Bible studies, attend workshops and learn from talented band members and the key note speaker. \$140.00 covers all gathering costs, hotel and meals. You may want to bring \$20.00 or so for spending money. **Be at the church by 5:00 Friday.** We should be back by 1:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Super Bowl Sub Sandwiches

Sunday, February 7th

7:30 a.m.



The incredible Sr. Youth Sub Sandwich making assembly line begins at 7:30 a.m. All Sr. High youth are requested to share their fill-em high sandwich making talents!

P.I.E. (Parent's Involvement Effectively) Night

Sunday, February 28th

6:00 p.m.

Following our combined group meeting, we will separate into Sr. High and 7th & 8th groups for specific topic discussion, such as National Youth Gathering updates, Confirmation expectations and dates, and Confirmation banquet plans. Bring your calendars!



Spaghetti Dinner - Fund Raiser

Friday, March 19th - 4:00 p.m.

National Guard Armory (11th & Severance)

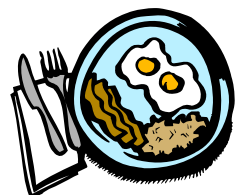


All Jr. & Sr. High youth are needed to help with the Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser. We begin serving our dinner at 4:00 p.m. Join us at the Armory as soon as you're out of school to help with last minute set up and prep work.

Easter Breakfast for the Church

April 4th from 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 noon

It will soon be that time once again when we give to the church a nice Easter breakfast with our famous menu of egg casserole, cinnamon roll, and sausage patty with orange juice and coffee to drink. Not only do we get to say thank you to the church, but we also get to celebrate with our church family **The Resurrection of our Lord and Savior.**



We need your help to prepare the Benevolence Budget for FY 2010-11

Do you know of a project, program, helping agency, or institution that demonstrates the love of Christ by helping others? Many of you are active in community and service agencies that extends the ministry of Christ in deeds of mercy. As a congregation we want to support such efforts. For several years now we have designated all non-Sunday offerings (Thanksgiving, Christmas, Lenten and Holy Week) services to the benevolence fund. That way we don't nickel-and-dime you and hit you up every week with another special offering – unless there is a disaster.

If you'd like to suggest a project, please complete the form below. The Church Council will receive all suggestions, and make a proposal at the annual Congregational Meeting in April.

----- [cut on the dotted line] -----

Project: Name _____

Location: _____

Brief description of the organization, their mission, and goals: _____

Brief description of their financial needs: _____

Any suggested amount: _____

Your Name: _____ Phone # _____

Share this form with Don Sketchley, director of the Stewardship Commission,
or leave it at the church office.

ORL AT GOOD SAMARITAN - "We Have Seen His Majesty" was the Bible Study topic at the Good Samaritan Center in January. These studies from the Lutheran Witness are well accepted by our friends at Good Sam. We are grateful for Verla, Arlene and Cherol who befriend the residents in many ways, including serving cookies and drinks following each lesson. Please join us and witness the joy ORL brings to those at Good Sam. Presently, we have one ORL member in the nursing area in this Home, one member in the assisted living area and four in the Villas, but we minister to everyone. The next Bible Study will take place on Thursday, February 25th at 1:30 P.M. Join us!

“Conversations of Grace”

February 27, 2010

Evangelism – seeing or hearing that word scares most of us. “Me, an evangelist? I’m just not the right kind of person to do that. I’m not gifted that way. I wouldn’t know what to say.” We all have excuses. But listen to what God says:

- Acts 1:8 - *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere - in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*
- John 15:16 - *You didn’t choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name.*
- 1 Corinthians 2:13 - *When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit’s words to explain spiritual truths.*
- Philippians 4:13 - *For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.*

What is a “conversation of grace?” It’s simply sharing the love of Jesus with someone – a neighbor, a friend, a relative, a co-worker, a stranger. How do you do that? What do you say? When do you say it? Come to the “Conversations of Grace Conference “at Our Redeemer on Saturday, February 27, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and you’ll discover the answers via a video conference. The presenters are Rev. Carlos Hernandez from LCMS World Relief and Human Care, and Rev. Fred Darkow, founder of Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ and Deliberate Intentional Evangelism. They will teach you how to use opportunities to share your faith in Jesus and the simple tools to make it easier for you to share your faith. Mark your calendars and make plans to attend!

For more details and to register, go to www.kslcms.org/cog.

Conversations of Grace

**Web Conference
“Plowing & Planting”
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
February 27, 2010
10 am to 3 pm**



**LEARN HOW TO DISCOVER
THE NEEDS OF YOUR
COMMUNITY AND SHARE THE
LOVE OF JESUS IN YOUR
EVERYDAY LIFE.**

Featured Speakers

Rev. Carlos Hernandez & Rev. Fred Darkow

Cost

\$15.00 - includes lunch and materials

Conference Sessions Include

- ◆ Presentations by Speakers
- ◆ Guided Small Group Discussions
- ◆ Question/Answer Session w/Speakers
- ◆ Resources for Congregations
- ◆ Fellowship

Visit www.kslcms.org/cog

- ◆ Registration, On-line & Mail-in
- ◆ List of Host Congregations
- ◆ Conference Schedule
- ◆ Resources

What Do You See?

<p>Building Team: Henry Blickhahn Ed Howard Linda Stanton Nathan Geuy Starla Wells Steve Wortz</p>	<p>As I was busily driving around Hutchinson the other day running errands, I began to take note of all the changes that have come about in our community over the past year. We've added several new businesses - there are some much needed renovations going on for others - we are getting some new eating establishments - and of course the highway and school projects are taking on new looks every day.</p>	<p>Fundraising Team: Steve Rempel Fran Everson Don Sketchley Tom Stanton Mark Wells Ron Ebersole Mike Lowden Hank Gier</p>
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That led me to thinking about what you see when you look at Our Redeemer. I see God busily at work through those who are here to worship and serve. I see some new faces - some familiar faces and some faces that are missing. I see wonderful ministries that we have nurtured, and I see ministries that I wish we could add. We've got a roof to fix and a debt to reduce, but I also see facilities that need to be expanded and remodeled. Whatever you see when you look around our community and our congregation I hope you see changes for the better, things that need our attention, and blessings for it all. -Starla Wells

Receipts, Disbursements, And Balances For Period Ended December 31, 2009

		Checking Account	Escrow Funds
Beginning Balance		-2,977	113,427
Receipts:			
Offerings	27,117		
Total		27,117	
Interest, Transfers, etc.			5,711
		24,140	119,138
Disbursements:			
Checks Written	23,127		
Missions	3,000		
Interest, Transfers, etc.			20
Mortgage Payment	1,788		
Total		27,915	
CASH ON HAND		-3,775	119,118



ON PRAYER - We are thankful for the numerous prayer requests that have been "called in" this past month. Please continue to call Verla Choitz, 665-5184, or Tim Given, 662-8297, to have your prayers placed on ORL's Prayer Chain. In Romans 12:12 we learn, "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Many of our members and friends have been ill during this season, and we are thankful that so many of your are praying to our Heavenly Father for each of them.

NEEDED: VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILIES

A wonderfully talented group of young people will give a concert at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church next spring.

Who: The Little Falls High School Concert Choir Members from Little Falls, MN, under the direction of Camilla (Geuy) Larson.

When: Thursday, March 18, 2010

What: We need hosts to house at least two students or chaperones one night and provide them breakfast the next morning. There are a total of 33 people needing housing. Hosts will need to meet their guests after the concert and have them back at ORL by 7:30 a.m. the next morning.

Why: To help support the Little Falls High School Concert Choir as part of their choir tour to San Antonio, and to get to know some wonderful young people from Minnesota!

How: Contact Barbara Geuy at 620-543-2698 to host students or chaperones.

Thanks for your consideration and help.

— Barb Geuy



From Our Church Mailbox



Dear Pastor Mendenhall & Members Of Our Redeemer — Greetings to everyone in the name of Christ Jesus. Thank you for your prayers and generous financial support.

This is my fourth year as a student at the Seminary and first as a Vicar. The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church – Hayward family has warmly embraced our family and made us to feel at home in California. I have a supportive supervisor. His name is Rev. Gary Mohr. I have the privilege of working with a motivated staff, including Hispanic outreach past, Rev. Aaron Putnam and a DCE, both of whom are bilingual English and Spanish speakers.

Vicarage is going well. I have preached several times, taught Bible classes, and visited over half of the congregation in their homes. I have started a Christian caregiving training course and a small group ministry in October. I encourage you to visit the congregation's web site at www.gslchayward.org. You can find a recent photo of me in the "staff" folder. At the site, you can also listen to one of my sermons. I preached on the topic of "worship" on November 8. I am also scheduled to preach on November 22nd, 2009.

My family seems to be adjusting well – Joel and Anna are in caring Christian school. Rachael sounds like she enjoys Tulane University in New Orleans as well as being challenged by its curriculum for developing public health workers. We are enjoying the pleasant Bay Area weather. We love the ethnic diversity of the region.

You can pray for a vicarage that equips me to be a pastor. Please include in your prayers Sharon as she is looking for a job. Again, thank you for your encouragement and support.

God's blessings of His peace be with you in Christ Jesus.

—In Christ
Jon & Sharon Oetting

Blessings Galore!

During this past holiday season, I watched, once again, one of my favorite movies, "White Christmas". This picture stars one of my favorite crooners, Bing Crosby. One of his many tunes that I enjoy has these words, "When you're tired and you can't sleep, count your blessings instead of sheep - and you'll fall asleep counting your blessings." He sing it with great emotion and compassion

We have begun a New Year and we often look back to the happenings of the past but also look forward with anticipation to the joys and excitement ahead of us. Be positive, knowing our God is always with us, "even to the end of the age".

When I count my blessings, I give thanks for my family and also for my church family and for those who share daily love and concern

happiness. Our heavenly Father invokes great joy in us as He daily showers us with His blessings. The editor of the magazine "Ministry" comments on when and why we are to look for blessings. Mr. Satelmeier wrote, "When we are facing challenges, we must look for blessings, for if we don't, those challenges will over take us. In fact, we should focus on blessings all the time. Blessings come from God, who knows our needs, our capabilities and our future".

We all experience times of hopelessness and it is especially in those times that we are to look for the blessings from above, blessings that bring delight and contentment into our lives - blessings that help us overcome sadness with the loss of loved ones and leads us to remember that God is always in control! We read in Ephesians 1:3 "*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realm with every Spiritual blessing in Christ.*"

home which has been provided for me, but also, of my heavenly home that has already been prepared for me. I think of the gifts and abilities and desire to reach out to all people, children and the elderly, as they reach out to me and to those around them. I look around and am thankful for all the many gifts that each one of us has been blessed with, gifts and talents that can and will be used to serve the Lord with gladness throughout our lives. Make a list of your blessings - it will be lengthy - we have been given so much.

Another song entitled "Count Your Blessings" has this chorus: "Count your blessings, name them one by one. Count your many blessing - see what God has done!"

Look for your blessings! You will find them! "*O, Lord Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in You.*" (Psalm 84:12)

--Grace Dahlke

Helping Hands Ministry-Several calls have been received in January asking for assistance. Three of these calls were for rides to doctor's appointments and one call was for a minor home repair. Dee Scheuermann, 665-5119 and Lucy and Jim Kennedy, 665-7466, are ready to assist you and will find the right volunteers to help you. Do not hesitate to call. We are here to help one another. In John 12:26, Jesus said, "*Whoever serves Me must follow Me, and where I am, My servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves Me.*" Remember: we all serve the Lord by serving His people!



February Celebrations at Our Redeemer

Birthdays

- 2 Jodi Hertach
Sarah Simon
Jackson Doll
- 3 Winnie Hartke
Dustin May
- 4 Jason Taylor
Shirley Neujahr
- 5 Cindy Ward
- 6 Diana Lyons
Steve Rempel
Josh Corn
- 7 Patricia Hoyer
Rita Betterton
- 8 Linda McQuilliam
Juanita Woodworth
Tyler Griffin
- 9 Mitchell Nanney



- 11 Lamoine McEntarfer
Marilyn Rhodes
- 12 Chester Marker
Kelly Kocher
- 14 Victor Zerger
Kerry Robinson
Jason Hummel
Brandon Mehl
- 15 Kris Crainer
Cristal Scholtisseck
Chris Givan
Jamie Corn
- 16 Dr. Bill Unsderfer
Katrina Burns
- 18 Tara Lyons
Clayton Emel
- 19 Alyssa Miller

- 19 Kaley Bohlen
Branda Cole
- 20 Brock Wells
- 22 Donna Schroeder
Jennifer Lattmer
Heather Emel
- 23 Eleanor Cunningham
Robert Armbrust
Lynda Koehn
Rickie Young
Anthony Walenz
- 24 Karen Schwartzkopf
- 25 Reneé Robinson
Madison Hummel
- 27 Gretchen Roth
Mallory Cross
Michael Lindgren
- 29 Rusty Morgan

Wedding Anniversaries

*If a date is incorrect,
or your name
does not appear,
please call the
church office
at 662-5642 to
update our records
We don't
want to miss anyone*

- 1 Bill & Betty Preston
- 5 Bill & Marilyn Boldenow
- 5 Carl & Saundra Grimm
- 7 Henry & Marla Blickhahn
- 14 Ken & Mary Ann Kelley
- 14 Ryan & Cynthia Simpson

- 21 Steve & Kathy Wilson
- 23 Carl & Karel King
- 25 Rosemarie & Francis Mills
Mike & Colleen Murphy
Matthew & Amy Wilson

