

FAITH NEWSLETTER

February / March 2019



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

March 6th will be Ash Wednesday, and Lent will begin once more. During the Lenten season we pay special attention to Jesus' suffering and death for us. We hear of His arrest, His trials, His torture, and His crucifixion, to prepare us to hear of His resurrection.

During that last week of His life, Jesus encountered many different people. Each person reacted differently to Jesus. Some listened and followed Him. Some opposed Him and tried to get rid of Him. Some mocked and made fun of Him. Some wept and were sad to see Him die. Some ran away because they could not watch.

This Lent, I would challenge you to consider what the last week of Jesus' life was like from these different perspectives. What did it feel like to be Peter, Judas, Pontius Pilate, or Mary?

This is not merely an exercise in imagination. Jesus is still here at work in our world. The question that you face each day is: How you will respond to Him? Will you oppose Him? Will you pretend you don't know Him? Will you abandon Him? Will you risk it all to follow Him?

This Lent we will be exploring these different "People of the Passion" by using a devotional booklet, written by members and friends of the congregation. We'd love for you to volunteer to write a contribution.

Join us on Wednesday evenings for our Midweek services throughout the Lenten season as we consider these people and how Jesus cared for each one of them, and how He continues to care for you.

God's Blessings

Pastor Birkholz

In and Around Faith Church

Ladies Aid

We would like to thank Mary Slepski and Eleanor Lang for their devoted service to the Ladies Aid. Mary has been a long-time member and Treasurer. Eleanor has served as President for the past few years. God Bless you both for your dedication.

We invite all ladies to our meeting Feb.7th at 6:30 PM. We will be discussing future events.

Lenten Devotional Booklet

This year's Lenten theme is "People of the Passion." Members and friends of Faith are invited to contribute devotions for our congregational devotional booklet. Submissions must be received by Sunday, February 17th. For guidelines, please see Pastor Birkholz.

Transfiguration Sunday

We will celebrate the Transfiguration of Our Lord on Sunday, March 3rd. Following the service, we will burn the palms from Palm Sunday 2018 to use for our ashes on Ash Wednesday. If you saved your palm cross from last year, you may bring it with you to be burned.

Ash Wednesday Service

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 6 this year. You are invited to a special Divine Service at 7:00 PM. Imposition of ashes will be available before the service for those who wish to receive them.

100 Greek Words Every Christian Should Know

Have you ever wanted to learn Biblical Greek? Pastor Birkholz will be leading a one-day seminar on Saturday, March 9th from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. You will learn the Greek alphabet and pronunciation as well as a basic vocabulary of over 100 words. There is no cost to attend. Lunch is included.

Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry is doing well with helping those in need. We would like to thank all who contribute to our success including the following:

Meijer Evergreen Park, Operation Blessing, Panera Bread, Chik-fil-A Chicago Ridge, Barracos Evergreen Park and Krispy Kreme Evergreen Park.

Lenten Midweek Services

Beginning on March 13th, Lenten midweek services will be held on Wednesday evenings through April 10th at 7:00 PM. From 7:45 to 8:30 PM Pastor Birkholz will talk about Jerusalem and the surrounding area during the time of Jesus' Passion.

March 13: The Temple and Religious Life.

March 20: The Marketplaces and the Economy.

March 27: Mount of Olives and the Surrounding Regions.

April 3: Palaces of Pilate and Herod and the Political Scene.

April 10: Calvary and Jesus' Tomb and Traditions of Death and Burial.

Bingo Night

March 16th will be fun for the entire family known as Bingo Night. There is no cost to play. You may purchase food at a minimal cost and prize donations would be appreciated. The proceeds go to the building fund so the Trustees can pay for repairs around the church.

Lenten Breakfast

The Lutheran Altar Guild Federation will hold their annual Lenten Breakfast on Saturday, March 23rd at St. John Lutheran Church in Wheaton. Pastor Scott Bruzek will be giving a presentation entitled, "Everything Matters because Everything Teaches." Cost is \$10 per person. For more information, see Amberleigh Birkholz.

Schedule of Feb. / Mar. 2019 Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Feb. Event</u>
2	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
3	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
6	7:00 PM	Prayer Service
10	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
13	7:00 PM	Prayer Service
16	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
17	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
20	7:00 PM	Prayer Service
24	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
27	7:00 PM	Prayer Service

Hymns of the Month

Feb: "Word of God Come Down on Earth"
(# 545)

James Quinn (1919-2010) was a Jesuit priest from Scotland who wrote over 200 hymns. This song focuses on Jesus as the incarnate Word of God. It tells the story of Jesus' birth, His earthly ministry, His death, and His resurrection. You may recognize the tune of this hymn as the same one used for "Dearest Jesus, We are Here."

Mar: "Savior, When in Dust to Thee" (# 419)

The Litany is an ancient responsive prayer. In this hymn, Sir Robert Grant (1779-1838) has paraphrased the Litany in poetic verse. Grant was born in Bengal, India. His family moved to England when he was six, and after studying at Cambridge he became a lawyer and a Member of Parliament. He was later knighted and he served as Governor of Bombay, where he lived until his death. The tune for this hymn is Welsh, and is also sometimes used for "Jesus, Lover of My Soul."

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Mar. Event</u>
2	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
3	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
6	7:00 PM	ASH WEDNESDAY Worship / Communion
10	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
13	7:00 PM	Lenten Worship
16	9:00 AM	Food Pantry Distribution
17	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
20	7:00 PM	Lenten Worship
24	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class
27	7:00 PM	Lenten Worship
31	9:00 AM	Worship / Communion
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Bible Class

Weekly Meetings

Bible Study	Fri. - 10:00 AM
AA Groups	Mon. & Fri. - 6:00 PM Wed. & Thur. - 7:00 PM Sat. - 8:00 AM
Alanon	Tue. - 7:00 PM

Save the Dates

2019 Vacation Bible School will be June 10th to June 14th.

Feb. / Mar. 2019 Elders, Ushers & Lay Readers

Feb. Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

Feb. 3 Ed Neaves
Mike Kampenga
Mary Slepski
Cheyenne Breitbarth

Feb. 10 Gene Osmanski
Richard Clark
Kenilynn Breitbarth
Marilyn Diehl

Feb. 17 Ed Neaves
Mark Trojanowski
Katie Kampenga
Ray Bennett

Feb. 24 Mike Kampenga
Richard Clark
Sarah Kampenga
Rachel Kampenga

Lay Readers 9:00 AM Sunday

Feb. 3 Ed Neaves

Feb. 10 Mike Kampenga

Feb. 17 Katie Kampenga

Feb. 24 Ray Bennett

Mar. 3 Mark Trojanowski

Mar. 10 Angela Schillaci

Mar. 17 Dora Haynes

Mar. 24 Ray Bennett

Mar. 31 Gene Osmanski

Mar. Worship 9:00 AM Sunday

Mar. 3 Gene Osmanski
Richard Clark
Cheyenne Breitbarth
Mark Trojanowski

Mar. 10 Ed Neaves
Mike Kampenga
Ray Bennett
Mary Slepski

Mar. 17 Gene Osmanski
Richard Clark
Ray Bennett
Dora Haynes

Mar. 24 Gene Osmanski
Mike Kampenga
Marilyn Diehl
Katie Kampenga

Mar. 31 Ed Neaves
Richard Clark
Ray Bennett
Mark Trojanowski

Lenten Worship 7:00 PM

Mar. 6 Ed Neaves
Mike Kamapenga
Richard Clark
Gene Osmanski

Mar. 13 Ed Neaves
Richard Clark

Mar. 20 Mike Kampenga
Gene Osmanski

Mar. 27 Ed Neaves
Richard Clark

