

Springfield Lutheran Church, ELCA, Newsletter

February 2017

Post Scripts

It's President's Day this month, and the lengthy quote sitting alongside this column always gives me pause, and hope. Spoken just months before he was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth, with a nation torn apart by The Civil War, our President summoned up the courage and insight, both as a citizen and as a person of faith, to speak such words that carry on with impact way past the time it was first said and heard. Remarkable. Humbling. Inspiring. Hopeful.

Jesus' words, of course, have also moved His followers along "The Way" (one of Christianity's first monikers) for some thousands of years. We have heard, in depth, great portions of the Sermon on the Mount over the past few weeks. They, too, are remarkable, humbling, inspiring, hopeful in their own way.

Upon hearing the words of Lincoln, things changed. Historians wonder what would have happened had Lincoln not been killed and had finished out his second term. Although there was change, as wonderful as his words were, and with or without him: it certainly has taken some time to put those words into effect. America—even at its best—has progressed in fits and spurts. Yet what would we be as Americans if Lincoln hadn't spoken them? O, many are praying for such vision from Washington D.C. these days...

Christianity, too, has changed the world. Even though things have been done in Christ's name that are counter to what the Sermon on the Mount presents to us, it is the persistent care for all people, in Jesus' name, that still makes a hopeful difference near and far. Our Christian faith makes the claim that he died willfully, and not simply resulting from the politics of, and religious applications about, the hates and fears of his time. Many are praying, too, for such vision to continue to come from our faith practices here, and around the world....

One way to practice Our Lord's vision will soon take place here. We join the whole Church in the season of Lent (Ash Wednesday is March 1, services here at 12 noon and 7 p.m.) We examine Our Lord Jesus closely, faithfully, about a God who loves us so much that His only begotten Son died for us. Lincoln could have backed down, but didn't. Jesus, in the Garden of Gethsemane, wondered prayerfully, mightily, if there might be some other way than the Cross. But he "set his face" with determination all the way to Calvary, his followers listening, wondering what would happen next. So too with us, now.

"Commit your hearts to seek, the paths which Christ has trod" says our hymn "Rise Up O Saints of God." Though he wasn't Jesus, "With malice toward none, with charity for all" said by Lincoln still carries great power, too, for all the best reasons.

Peace, in Christ, Pastor Erik

Quote of the Month—

"With malice toward none. with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations." --Abraham Lincoln, Second Innaugural address, March 4, 1865

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Every Week

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8:30 am Worship with Communion 9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship with Communion	Office Closed 9:00 SLSS Quilting 12 noon AA 6:30 Bible Study	9:00 LWR Quilting 12 noon AA 5:30 NA	9:30 HS Cooking 12 noon AA 12:30 Nar Anon 2:00 Sr. Mat Yoga 3:30 Sr. Chair Yoga 5:30 AA 6:45 Midwk Worship	9:30 HS Cooking 12 noon AA	12 noon AA 12:30 Nar-Anon	12:30 AA

FEBRUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Epiphany 5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Epiphany 6	13 1:00 Women's Circle @ Lovdokkens'	14	15	16	17	18
19 Epiphany 7 11:05 Council	20 PRESIDENTS' DAY	21	22	23 1:00 Fringe Benefits	24	25
26 Transfiguration of Our Lord	27 11:30 Book Group @ McGrath's	28				

Bulletin Board

In the main hall by the church office, is a bulletin board that is for everyone. It's been titled Our Church—Our Community—Our World.

It is for news and events happening around our church, around Springfield, around Lane County, and around Oregon, and around the US, and around the World.

Not everything is applicable, but most things are. The grandson doing well in sports (our church), another church bazaar (our community), various volunteer opportunities (our community/our world), the latest newsletters from a variety of organizations (our community/our world).

Our goal is to share happenings, not to indoctrinate or recruit for something that is unrelated to the church. The big 'no' is secular politics and activism. There can be news of a meeting, but no views or opinions. We understand that politics and activism impact our church, our community, and our world; but this board is too small a forum for such a task.

Should you like something to go up, contact the church office and we will put it up if applicable.



Our Church—Our Community —Our World—

- Women's Circle—Returns for 2017. The standing date will be the second Monday of each month (February 13) at 1:00 pm. The location will rotate throughout the group. Miriam Jones is your contact. For February, the meeting will be held at the Lovdokken home and there is limited parking, so meet at the church at 12:30 to carpool.
- Book Group—The book you should be reading is <u>A Land of Sheltered</u> <u>Promise</u> by Jane Kirkpatrick. The next book discussion meeting is February 27 at 11:30 am over at McGrath's. Darlene Wood is your contact.
- Council—Will not meets next on Sunday, February 19, following the second service. Please plan to be in attendance.
- **Fringe Benefits—**Thursday, **February 23**, at 1:00, over at the Ricksons' home. Please note the date and time change.
- LutherFest 2017—Sunday, February 26, at the Boulder Falls Center in Lebanon. The event runs from 2-4:30pm. Tickets can be purchased online only at www.lutherfest.luther-house.org. Individual tickets are \$50 and tables of 8 sell for \$350 (a savings of \$50). Don't wait. We expect sales to be swift. Only 250 seats are available. Advance purchase is required. If you have questions, please refer to www.lutherfest.luther-house.org, or call them at 541.753.5213.
- ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE—Please note that Ash Wednesday is March 1 this year. There will be a 12 noon service followed by a 7:00 pm service. Any questions can be directed to the church office.
- SLC Quilting Schedule—The SLSS meets on all Mondays from 9:00 to 11:00 am. Michelle Marroquin and Miriam Jones are your contacts for the SLSS. The SLCW LWR Quilters meet Tuesdays, from 9:00 to 10:30 am. We follow the LWR guidelines and make quilts for those in areas of crisis throughout the world. Miriam Jones & Carol McAllister are your contacts for the LWR Quilters.
- Newsletters—Don't forget to check our bulletin board near the Church Office for a wide variety of newsletters with more information than our little newsletter can handle and still stay little.

Changes...

By Michelle Guillory—The dogs and I are happily back in the office after an overly long January at home. Pastor Erik and I apologize for the super short and very late newsletter. We will resume normality next month. In the meantime, we wanted to get you all the bare bones necessities.

One change on Sundays you may have noticed, we changed the size of the bulletins. We've had feedback that the font was too small in the old bulletins and if we used larger text, we would've had to add pages or make the bulletin bigger. The smallest font on the new bulletin is 11 (instructions to stand or sit) and everything else should be a minimum of size 12. Please give feed back on whether you like it or not...squeaky wheel and all that.

Have a good February and we'll see you all in March.

The Narthex Table

By Michelle Guillory—For January, here's the current list of what's on the Narthex Table:

- The Annual Giving Statements—Are available on the Narthex Table.
 They are located in the rectangle basket with the alpha-tabs...they are sorted alphabetically front to back. If you're not local, let the office know to mail it to you.
- Tithe Envelope Boxes—They're here. They cost the church \$4.54 per box, including shipping. If you don't see your name and want one, let Michelle G. know in the office. Thanks.
- Christ In Our Homes—These are quarterly devotionals that cost \$5 for an annual subscription. The money goes to the SLCW who pays the bill.
- This newsletter (including the monthly calendar) can be found there, as well. We provide it for folks who do not have internet access or those want a quick read while waiting. If you do have access to the internet, please leave the paper copies for those who don't. Thank you.
- Grocery List—What? Well, it's a list of items that are good for Food Pantries. Non-perishable items that are healthy and keep well and are good movers at Food for Lane County and the various pantries that it serves. Please remember pull tabs on canned foods if possible. Take one if you feel you need ideas...or check the green (grey if printed) column on page seven for a handy reference.
- On the easel near the entry to the Narthex, you'll find signup sheets for bringing flowers on Sundays and for reading the Scriptures during the services...you can pick which service to read during. This bulletin board also has the selected readings so those who choose to read may have time to practice.

Periodically check there to see if there's something new with your name on it in the basket on the table with the alphabetical tabs...it won't necessarily be another giving statement, but perhaps something that needed to be passed on to you. Thank you.

Contact Us

If you need the church, the Pastor, the Secretary, prayer, comfort, or guidance; please contact us at:

Springfield Lutheran Church, ELCA

1542 I Street Springfield, OR 97477 (541) 746-2403

Office Hours: Closed Mondays & National Holidays.
Open Tuesday-Friday, from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

SLCAnchor@gmail.com

Visit us on the web at www.springfieldlutheran.org