



ANCHOR NEWS

Springfield Lutheran Church, ELCA, Newsletter

February 2016

Post Scripts

By Pastor Erik Post—We are quickly moving through the new year! I know, it's only February, but even with 29 days instead of 28, things can go 'crisply'.

I bring this up because soon we will have Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Another article in this newsletter gives a very broad stroke summary of 'giving something up for Lent'. This article briefly explores what is a main 'driver' behind any Lenten practice of prayer, fasting, or charity: repentance.

Many scholars/historians of the Church rightly emphasize the penitential nature of 40 days till Holy Week and Easter, and we do well to pay attention to those things. Repentance means much more than merely 'feeling sorry' or 'gloomy' for one's broken life. It carries with it the honesty, and the hope, of turning away from self and toward the ways of God. For Christians, this means following Jesus, his ministry, his crucifixion, resurrection, and empowerment for daily life now, and into eternity.

Reminders at worship include the dominant color of purple, traditionally associated with repentance and this season soon upon us. Our Order for Confession and Forgiveness, right after the Prayers of the People and before the Sharing of the Peace, help to aim us in a deeply repentant trajectory. Our hymns are more reflective than celebratory, yet the minor key most of them are presented with may well move us in our spirits to a deeper place than when we always have plenty of 'Alleluias' to perhaps keep us at arms length from serious discernment of broken lives, between each other, and between we and God.

Please take the opportunity given this coming season to grow individually, and as people together, learning for the first time, perhaps, that being repentant is a gift of the Church we boldly, humbly attend to, confident in a God who means us well through Jesus Christ. Consider how rare it is to find such an emphasis of repentance in the worlds of politics or sports or entertainment; in the world of practicing our faith, what a gift and opportunity it is for ALL the world to benefit from those who, as John the Baptist exhorted, bear the 'fruit of repentance' now.

Lenten Services

02/10—Ash Wednesday Services are at 12 noon and 7:00 pm.

02/17—Midweek Lenten Services: 5:45 pm is the Soup Supper, 6:45 pm is the Midweek Service, followed by Choir Practice.

Quote of the Month—

Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Tom Doxey

Meet & Greet Tom Doxey

By Michelle Guillory—In case you haven't noticed yet, coming to church can be dangerous...so far I've met each of my interviewees as they were walking in the door on the day that I needed to come up with an interview. I must say that God seems to like my plan as all have been good sports! This month it's Tom Doxey who took a few minutes to answer my 20 questions...Thank you, Tom!

To start things off, he just turned 69 for the very first time. He's married to Mary and even though they were not first time spouses, they came together as a family of 14...2 adults, 8 kids (now grown and with their own additions), and there's the 4 dachshunds...they've got a new one...I've not met him yet, but he's adorable and Tom will happily share pictures.

He was born a Methodist and has been a Lutheran for the last 30 years. As an adult, he served in Vietnam as a Marine which he followed up with a career as a therapist for 30 years specializing in Mental Health & Chemical Dependency.

His favorite charity is the Make A Wish Foundation. As for hobbies, he says he doesn't knit/crochet/tat/sew/quilt/etc...he says that's Mary's bag. He does fish and hunt and would like to start golfing again if his back will let him. His favorite hobby though is clocks...he makes them...he's made over 500, including a grandfather clock from scratch!

He likes Chinese food. He can cook, but doesn't as Mary won't let him when she's home...but he says nobody complains about the food when she's not. His favorite book is Ashley Bell by Dean Koontz. He hardly ever watches TV, but X-Files was his show and he was excited that it's coming back.

As for sports, he roots for the Seahawks (good man!) and he's also a Detroit Lions fan. His favorite sports are football and basketball, although he lettered in all four (including baseball and track).

His favorite present was his Harley Davidson from Mary...well, she said "it's okay..." He's a recovering addict/alcoholic coming up on 33 years in May. He's here every week helping to lead the AA group...Oh, and he's got Rei's approval.

Foster Care Quilt Workshop Schedule:

This vibrant group will be meeting **weekly on Wednesdays**, beginning this month. The sessions run from **9:00 to 11:00 am**.

On the odd weeks (1st and 3rd) we will be meeting to learn a new pattern. On the even weeks (2nd and 4th) we will practicing what we learned the previous week. The 5th week, well that's special...come see!

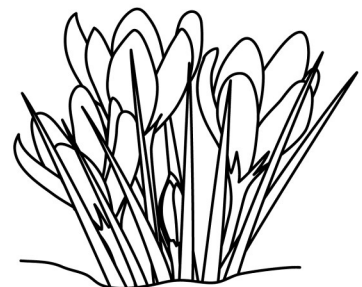
Michelle Marroquin and Miriam Jones are your contacts. Come, join, help foster kids and learn new quilting techniques along the way.

Book Group

For February, we will be reading What Once We Loved by Jane Kirkpatrick and we will meet at 11:30 am on Thursday, **February 25** and we will let you know the location once it's settled.

The book after that is The Quilter's Apprentice by Jennifer Chiaverini. The date is **April 7** and more details will be coming.

Contact Darlene Wood for details. She can be reached at darlenewood1.dw@gmail.com.



LWR Projects

There is a booklet in the office that lists, in detail, all the various projects we can participate in with LWR. You may also choose some to do by yourself. You can also go to www.lwr.org for more ideas and an opportunity for online giving.

Here is a brief list of the standard projects that are always needed:

- School Kits/ Backpacks
- Baby Care Kits
- Personal Care Kits
- Fabric Kits
- Mission Quilts
- Fleece Tied Blankets

There are specific requirements for each item, so be sure to either check out the booklet or the website for that list. All items are needed all year round. All items are greatly appreciated by those who receive them.

Thank you for joining with us in contributing to the greater world in need.

www.lwr.org

Lutheran World Relief
700 Light Street
Baltimore, MD 21230

Let it Lent!

By Pastor Erik—'So, what are you giving up for Lent?' This is a phrase that has had some genuine meaning for people over the centuries. Behind the practice is a specific spiritual focus as with a fast, that is, purposely refraining from something important to make room for something else. Food, for instance, was often used in this way: our Lord Jesus was tempted by the Devil in the desert for 40 days and 'ate nothing' (Luke 4). At his weakest point (imagine yourself going without food for even four days!), he resisted the Devil and his temptations. A paradox to consider: when Jesus was understandably weak, he was strengthened.

Like Jesus, then, we are to take the 40 days of Lent (starting Ash Wednesday), and refrain from a particular need (or, as fasting evolved over the years, keep from indulging in chocolate, or alcohol, or _____) and replace that with the disciplines of Lent. This can include more attention to prayer, or acts of charity, and Bible reading—things like that. To me, there is an exchange that takes place, where something personally important is swapped for a spiritual endeavor that may well benefit someone else, too; for at least 40 days, if not a lifetime. Like Jesus, we too can move from weakness to strength.

People have practiced Lenten disciplines since the early centuries of the Church. Some haven't practiced them at all since it was 'too Catholic' in their eyes. My own practice is this: why let the Catholics (and Orthodox and Anglicans) have all the fun? Lenten disciplines are good things to do, but IF you do give something up, keep news about that between you and God. My biblical understanding of this comes from Matthew 6, our Ash Wednesday Gospel, where Jesus talks about a variety of spiritual practices (including prayer, fasting, and generosity) and says to 'beware of practicing your piety before the people in order to be seen by them' and, instead, do so without showing off—even a little bit—and 'your Father who sees in secret will reward you.'

I hope and pray that when we practice a Lenten discipline (or two or three) we are brought closer to how our Lord lived his life, and taught his first disciples, about what the Kingdom of God he embodied presented an alternative to the kingdoms currently running the show. I would love to talk with you about this more if you like; call me up for coffee (not giving that up!) and let's deepen the discussion! Perhaps God will reward us with spiritual strength for Lent and forever, for God's glory and purposes...

Giving Opportunities

By Michelle Guillory—I've been nosing around and this is what I've come up with in just a few minutes of searching:

- Interfaith Family Shelter is being run out at Emmaus Eugene from February 1-7.
- The Bulletin Board by the office has these items: Meals on Wheels, Eugene Mission, ELCA Good Gifts, and others.
- I don't remember where I saw them, but I wrote down The Dining Room at 270 W 8th Avenue, Eugene (contact Jackie at jackbar6@hotmail.com) and Café 60 at 1135 Olive Street, Eugene (contact Gwen at gjaspers@lcog.org).
- Our two big Lenten pushes this year are the LWR Baskets of Promise and ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving ...Look in the Narthex for the flyers, posters, and Sunday bulletins for more information.

Join us in helping those in need...whether in prayer, money, goods, or service...it all helps.



Lenten Faith Discipline Options

By Pastor Erik—Lent provides a time to focus on the things of God; you will notice in this current newsletter some brief articles about its history and practice. The classic Lenten disciplines, including acts of charity, fasting, and prayer, are ideally accomplished without calling attention to oneself. In addition, there is a call to assess some things in life that may be less important than one usually realizes. Some of those things may include "March Madness", presidential primaries, favorite columnists, movies. What's on your list?

Like many of you, I like those items above, and others, to some degree. Yet, during Lent we have a chance to assess matters of faith very seriously, and get a perspective. Consider trying this: for the weeks of Lent, starting with Ash Wednesday (Feb. 10) through Good Friday (March 25) replace some of the above (sporting events, politics) with prayer, fasting, or acts of charity.

Perhaps, for every hour or article or whatever spent with that "usual stuff" of life, replace (or match) it with actively praying, or reading the Bible/devotional material. For any \$\$ spent on supporting a political candidate or cause, try to replace (or match) it with contributions to Lutheran World Relief appeals during Lent, our Trust Fund, our new Legacy Fund, or a local charity of your choice.

If you are not able to "match" or "replace", why not "add" something, like give someone the Peace of the Lord who may need that more than anything else. Call them, visit them with God's peace. Send them a card.

Truth be told: I tried this approach myself with varying degrees of "success" during the recent Advent/Christmas seasons. I found that I could at least get a grip on, if not a decent perspective about, the many things that tug/demand/assault our attention on a daily, even hourly basis! Presidential "debates", sports news addictions, annoying radio/media "experts" and opinion-masters, Facebook nonsense--challenge those things. You may be surprised at what you find out.

Besides, after six weeks you can go back to the old familiar pattern, right? I'm finding out I'm not going back. Gives me satisfaction on many levels. It's between you and God, a "get to, not a have to" proposal, but you may find this to be refreshing and helpful, a "spiritual arrow" to have in your "discipleship quiver"....Blessed Lent!

Monday Night Bible Study

Through out Lent, there will not be a Monday Night Bible Study. This practice will resume after Easter...Look to join us in April.

Midweek Worship

Throughout Lent, you can attend a midweek worship service with Holy Communion at 6:45 pm in the Sanctuary. There will also be a Soup Supper in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:45 pm. There is a signup sheet in the Narthex to bring dinner.

Choir Practice

Will be held after the Midweek Worship on Wednesdays...it typically begins about 7:30 pm. Contact Bill Maack with questions..



Your Council Members for 2016:

President:
Linda Loomis

Vice President/
Stewardship:
Bill Maack

Secretary:
Rita Grimes

Treasurer:
Gail Rogers

Budget:
Bill Maack

Financial Secretary
Liz Hurley

Property/Maintenance:
Ray Miller

Worship Committee:
Open

Hospitality:
Alicia Fisher

Social Concerns/
Outreach:
Susan Squire



President's Corner

Council met on 1-17-16.

- Our directive for this meeting was to go over the proposed budget of 2016 prior to the Annual Meeting. It was discussed and voted to present to congregation at the Annual meeting.
- Annual meeting will be held on 1-31-16 at 11 AM, this is right after the ten AM services. We ask that all voting members attend.

Annual meeting notes- January 31st, 2016.

- Minutes of the 2015 Annual meeting was read, motioned to approve, seconded, and passed.
- Pastor gave his report.
- President gave her report. She wished to thank the council for their hard work and is looking forward to 2016.
- Treasurer gave her report. We ended up in the black, however, with the rise in various bills, **SLC is required to pay \$500 more** per month in 2016 than we did in 2015. So, what this means is that we now have to gather **\$13,000** minimum per month just to meet the bare bones bills. Gail also presented the budget, as Vice President was home sick. Budget was discussed. Motion to approve and seconded and it was approved by all.
- Council member gave their reports.
- Elections of your 2016 officers were presented. And voted on. Your new officers are President- Linda Loomis, Vice President- Bill Maack, Treasurer- Gail Rogers, Financial Secretary- Liz Hurley, Secretary- Rita Grimes, Property/ management- Ray Miller, Social Concerns & Outreach - Susan Squire, Hospitality- Alicia Fisher, Worship- open, Stewardship- this will now be part of VP duties. Synod Assembly elections- Rita Grimes will be the female representative- our male representative is still needed. It will be held this year in Eugene. If anyone is interested please contact Linda Loomis.

Linda Loomis
President
541-746-0869

Every Week

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8:30 am Worship with Communion 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am Worship with Communion	Office Closed 12 noon AA	9:00 Quilting 9:00 Tai Chi 12 noon AA 5:30 NA	9:00 FC Quilting 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 Mid-Wk Worship	9:30 HS Cooking 12 noon AA	12 noon AA 12:30 Nar-Anon	12:30 AA

FEBRUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 Bible Study	2	3 7:30 Choir Practice	4	5	6
7 Transfiguration	8 1:30 SLCW @ Litts'	9	10 ASH WEDNESDAY 12 Noon & 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship	11	12	13
14 Lent 1	15 PRESIDENTS' DAY	16	17 5:45 Soup Supper 6:45 Mid-Wk Worship 7:30 Choir Practice	18 1:30 Fringe Benefits @ Ricksons'	19	20
21 Lent 2 11:05 Council	22	23 1:15 Wise Guys	24 5:45 Soup Supper 6:45 Mid-Wk Worship 7:30 Choir Practice	25 11:30 Book Group 7:00 MCCB	26	27
28 Lent 3	29					

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—

- **Monday Night Bible Study**—February 1 is the last meeting as Ash Wednesday is early this year (February 10) and that ends Monday Night Bible Study for Lent. Monday Night Bible Study begins again April 4.
- **Yoga**—Kate Morgan, our chair yoga instructor for the Wednesday afternoon Senior Circle Yoga class, is wanting to start a mat yoga class for seniors...any senior who is capable of freely getting up from and down to the floor is welcome to attend this free class. A yoga mat is required for safety and stability. Bring a water bottle and a small blanket. The class is scheduled to begin in February and will be held in the gym at 2:00 pm on Wednesdays (prior to the 3:30 chair class).
- **February 7** is the **Superbowl**...Go Team! Well, anybody but the Patriots!
- **Women's Circle**—The SLCW next meets at Linda Litts' home on **February 8**, beginning at 1:30 pm. Contact Miriam Jones with questions.
- **Ash Wednesday Services—February 10** at 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm—There is NO Choir Practice on Ash Wednesday.
- **Lenten Services on Wednesdays**—5:45 pm Soup Supper, 6:45 pm Midweek Worship, 7:30 pm Choir Practice
- **Wise Guys**—This group is now meeting at Hole in the Wall BBQ. The next meeting is **February 23**.
- **February 28** is the Luther House **Lutherfest Beer and Cheese Benefit**...See poster on the big bulletin board for details.
- **Holy Week Schedule:**
 - **Palm Sunday** (March 20) 8:30 and 10:00 am (Fellowship at 9:30)
 - **NO Midweek Wednesday Service**
 - **Maundy Thursday** (March 24) details to come
 - **Good Friday** (March 25) 7:00 pm
 - **Easter Vigil** (March 26) 7:00 pm
 - **Easter Sunday** (March 27) 8:30 and 11:00 am with Breakfast from 9:30-10:30 am

2015 Annual Giving Statements

By Michelle Guillory—These can now be found on the table in the Narthex along with any old items that should have been picked up by you previously.

The next planned printing will be January 2017 (to save on toner and paper, since most folks don't do anything with them, we are not printing quarterly statements.) If you would like to see a giving statement at any time, contact me in the office and one can be generated for you shortly...you can receive it in a paper or PDF format.

Camp Lutherwood News

By Michelle Guillory—The Spring work days out at Camp Lutherwood have been posted. Go on out and spend a lovely day in the country. The dates are April 23, May 14, and June 4. This is a great opportunity to help the camp get ready for summer campers. Contact the camp for more information. The web site is www.lutherwoodoregon.org

ELCA World Hunger's 40 DAYS of Giving

Edited by Michelle Guillory—In 2016, ELCA World Hunger is extending an invitation to our congregations: Lift up this life-changing work through new levels of giving - spiritually, intellectually, and financially - starting with Lent.

This is our opportunity to do more, together. As part of the ELCA World Hunger's year-of-emphasis in Always Being Made New: the Campaign for the ELCA, congregations across the ELCA will join together to raise \$2 million to benefit the ministries of ELCA World Hunger beginning Sunday, February 7 and extending through the season of Lent. Join us!

Check out the website (www.ELCA.org/40days) for more information. There will be a Lenten devotional available. There's a six-week study guide. There's e-blasts featuring the devotion of the day.

Some Hunger and Poverty facts:

- 795 million people (1 in 10) can't access the food they need to live active lives.
- 1 billion people live in extreme poverty, living on less than \$1.25 per day.
- In the US, more than 48 million people were unsure where their next meal might come from at some point last year.
- 46.7 million Americans are living in poverty.

Any giving for this effort should be made out to ELCA World Hunger and sent to: ELCA P.O. Box 1809 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 or give online with a credit card.

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.

SLCAncor@gmail.com

Visit us on the web at
www.springfieldlutheran.org

Baskets of Promise Collection Schedule

- Feb 14—Bars of Soap, 4-5 oz., in original wrapping
- Feb 21—Bath Towels, max size 52" x 27", dark colors preferred
- Feb 28—Toothbrushes, adult size, in original packaging
- Mar 06—Combs
- Mar 13—Metal Nail Clippers, attached file is optional
- Mar 20—More Soap