

Salem Lutheran
Church and School

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MARCH, 2025

Newsletter

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship
Newsletter Article – March
God's Instruments, God's Stewards

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Eph. 2:10) Some pastors refer to these words as “the most forgotten words in the Scriptures.” They are forgotten because they follow the familiar and critical words before it. The preceding two verses that overshadow Ephesians 2:10 are words of justification: “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Eph. 2:8–9). These are words preached regularly. They are assigned as confirmation verses. They carry with them the very heart of what it means to be a redeemed child of God! Precisely because the previous verses are so central to salvation, they often overpower our practice of stewardship! We have been saved by grace. This is certain and sure because of Jesus. Works play no role in our salvation. No credit taking for us! Grace is freely given. Faith is miraculously created by the Spirit and joyously received. This truth is so wonderful and so encompassing that we often miss out on WHY we are redeemed. The grace of God revealed in Jesus calls us to faith. But St. Paul doesn't stop with grace and faith. He continues to the logical conclusion. Just like the creation declares the handiwork of God, the redemption of sinners like you and me declares His greatest handiwork! Redeemed stewards are created to reflect the grace and mercy God showers on us to others. As Lutherans, we understand that good works flow from faith in Jesus Christ. They are the fruit of the tree of salvation into which we have been grafted by grace. Sanctification and stewardship are both ongoing and active confessions of what the Lord has done in us. These works are not always spectacular. Many times, they are simply parents showing Jesus to their children. They are compassionate actions that live out the truth of the Gospel to co-workers and even complete strangers. While they can be grand endeavors, more likely they are simple, beautiful works

which highlight what Jesus has done in us. These works aren't random either. They have been planned by God. God planned to use you as a faithful steward as you walk the road that leads you through your daily life. There are no chance encounters or coincidences. They have been planned by the Lord of the universe for the benefit of His creation. Good works are what point to God's greatest work: Jesus! He calls you and me to walk in this faith, which flows from this grace, which has been poured out on us in Jesus. But even this is not to our credit. We are simply called to be faithful stewards of God's grace so that we may share it with those who need it as much as we do. God's Spirit carries us along in this. We are just the steward — the instrument in His hand to accomplish His plan and glorify Him!

MARCH

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

MCCOMBS, Harrison H.	1-Mar
STEINACHER, Steven J.	1-Mar
SCHAEFER, Beth A.	2-Mar
EDDINGER, Kimberly S.	4-Mar
KLEINSCHMIDT, Daun E.	6-Mar
LOVEKAMP, Maci K.	6-Mar
KRAUSE, Michael A.	8-Mar
MASSEY, Nickole A.	8-Mar
HADDEN, Lauren E.	10-Mar
TOMHAVE, Sherri S.	10-Mar
WINTERS, Emily	10-Mar
DAVIS, Madison A.	12-Mar
ALEXANDER, Harrison C.	15-Mar
SHIREMAN, Crystal R.	15-Mar
BUMGARNER, Megan M.	16-Mar
KLOPPE, Thomas A.	16-Mar
BRODT, Kenneth	17-Mar
BROWN, Doris J.	17-Mar
BROWN, Emily I.	17-Mar
BROWN, Sarah M.	17-Mar
BROWN, Steven A.	17-Mar
LASHMET, Craig B.	20-Mar
ZACHARY, MORGAN	20-Mar
COOLEY, William R. (Billy)	21-Mar
OVERBY, Roberta A.	21-Mar
COX, Ruth L.	22-Mar
GILLIS, Alice M.	22-Mar
SPRADLIN, Robert A.	22-Mar
THIES, Michael E.	23-Mar
LUKEMAN, Shirley A.	26-Mar

OLIVER, James E. (Jim)	26-Mar
WYATT, Linda E.	26-Mar
WIEGAND Jr., James E. (Jamie)	27-Mar
ARING, Linda K.	28-Mar
DELONG Sr., William A. (Arnie)	28-Mar
SPRADLIN, Angela R.	29-Mar
WIEGAND, Jack A.	29-Mar
RIVERS, Bonnie J.	30-Mar
ROBINSON, Isabella C. (Bella)	31-Mar
ROBINSON, Sophia	31-Mar
SCHUMACHER, Arthur M.	31-Mar

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

REMINDERS: DON'T ASSUME that Pastor knows when you are hospitalized. Please call the Office 243-3419 to let us know when you enter the hospital.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL VOTER'S MEETING: There will be a congregational voter's meeting is today, March 2nd directly after the Sunday Service and before Bible Study in the cafeteria. Please plan on attending.

SALEM LUTHERAN ANNUAL SPRING AUCTION: The Salem Lutheran Annual spring auction will be held on April 5th. There will be a Spaghetti Dinner. They have started accepting items for the auction. Just give David Hannel a call if you need more information about donating. (217)491-0722. Looking forward to spring and the Spring Auction festivities.

LWML CID MISSION GRANT #7: Servants of the Gospel Through Dots - \$10,000. Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) uses funds to produce at least 1,500 volumes of the Braille Bible, Large print Bibles, prison Bibles, and other Christian materials, such as scripture calendars. These funds will be used to do just that.

Greetings in Christ, Swaddling Clothes assisted 22 families with 43 children assisted in February. We gave away 35 packages of diapers, 35 packages of wipes, and 13 baby hygiene items. We gave away 3 cans of formula and various food items. We gave away multiple clothing items, shoes, underwear, socks, winter coats, hats, gloves, blankets, toothpaste, toothbrushes, bottles, eating utensils, and crib sheets. We also gave away a crib, mattress, highchair, potty seat, changing table, changing table pad, bouncy seat, baby health care kit, ride on toy, two baby carriers, and a car seat. This month we continued to feature dresses. We are in need of winter boy's and girl's toddler clothing, especially sizes 4T and 5T. If you wish to donate any new or lightly used winter attire, please contact me. Other donations are also appreciated. The application for the LCMS Million Dollar Life

Matching Grant for the 2025 cycle has been submitted. The grant recipients will not be notified until May 2025. Please continue to keep the Swaddling Clothes Ministry and their clients in your prayers. Thank you for your support, Deaconess Linda Strubbe.

EASTER FLOWERS: Spring is coming, and flowers will be blooming. We will be placing orders for Easter Flowers. Lillies \$20, Azalea's \$35, Hydrangea's \$35, Tulips (various colors, not able to specify which color) \$18 and Hyacinth \$18. Please place your order along with your payment in the office. Looking forward to making our sanctuary beautiful for Easter. Thank you
LENTEN SUPPERS: Salem Lutheran will be having Lenten Suppers starting on Wednesday, March 5th. The Suppers will run from March 5th to April 9th each Wednesday All Lenten Supper dates have been filled except April 2nd. Mealtime will be 5:30 pm and Church Service at 6:30 pm. If you would like to host this one Lenten Supper, please sign up on the schedule on Pastor's door. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the Office. Thank you

LOOKING FOR A KINDERGARTEN TEACHER: Salem Lutheran School is seeking a faithful and passionate Kindergarten Teacher. We are looking for a dynamic teacher who is committed to fostering a Christ centered learning environment. An LCMS trained teacher, or an LCMS member is preferred but not necessary for this position. Please help our school in the search for this teacher: Encourage qualified applicants to apply. Pass along any leads to Salem office. Above all, pray that the Lord Jesus would send us the teacher we need to train up our students in the way they should go.

CAJUN MISSION MEAL – You are invited to celebrate "Fat Monday" with us on Monday, March 3, 4:30-7:00 at St. John's Lutheran, Bath. You are invited to enjoy a wide variety of Cajun food and at the same time support our District's work with Spanish speaking people offering services at St. John's Lutheran Church of Beardstown, Illinois. The menu will include: jambalaya, etouffee, gumbo, muffuletta, red beans and rice, beignets, cold spinach salad, virgin hurricanes, and a wide variety of desserts all for a free will offering. (For those of you using google maps the church's address is: 10844 N Co Rd 1400E, Bath, IL 62617.)

EASTER BREAKFAST! What a wonderful way to start celebrating Easter! We will be serving Easter breakfast on Easter Sunday, April 20. We will be serving from 7:30-9:00 am. We will be serving biscuits and gravy, egg casserole, and sweet treats. If you would like to donate any sweet treats for Easter breakfast please bring them by the school cafeteria ahead of time. Please be sure to bring a friend. We are looking forward to seeing everyone! Thank you so much for helping us celebrate!

LENTEN SUPPERS

5:30 PM

March 5 th	Elders
March 12 th	The Tomhaves
March 19 th	Ladies Guild
March 26 th	Finance Committee
April 2 nd	
April 9 th	Evangelism

LENTEN CHURCH SERVICES

6:30 PM

March 5th
March 12th
March 19th
March 26th
April 2nd
April 9th



Why Ashes on Ash Wednesday?

“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin” (Psalm 51:1-2). Ashes are a reminder that we are born sinful and deserve God’s wrath. They are also a reminder that because of sin, our bodies will die and return to dust. The Lenten season is a reminder that our lives are sinful and that we don’t deserve Jesus’ love or to live with Him forever.

But the good news is that even though we are sinful, Jesus loves us. The hands of Jesus invite us to turn our sin over to Him and ask for forgiveness. St. Paul writes in

2 Corinthians 5:21: “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” The ashes that are put on our foreheads in the shape of a cross remind us of our dirty sins that were piled on Jesus when He died on the cross for us.

The ash cross on our forehead also reminds us of the first time the sign of the cross was made on our foreheads – in Baptism. There, in the water of our baptism, we were washed clean with the blood of Jesus, and the dirt of our sins was washed away forever. The ashes of Ash Wednesday help to remind us of all of this.

THOSE WHO March, 2025

USHERS

March 2nd

9:00 AM

Rodney Wellenkamp*,
Thomas Kloppe,
Ken Boehs

March 9th

9:00 AM

Danny Magelitz
Dwayne Middendorf

March 16th

9:00 AM

Gerald Warcup
Larry Baker
Karmy Schone

March 23RD

9:00 AM

Rodney Wellenkamp*,
Thomas Kloppe,
Ken Boehs

March 30TH

Danny Magelitz
Dwayne Middendorf

LECTORS

March 2ND

9:00 AM

Paul Reither

March 9TH

9:00 AM

Roger Ward

March 16th

9:00 AM

Darin Gehrke

March 23rd

9:00 AM

Rodney Dolen

March 30th

Paul Reither

SERVERS

March 2nd

Dennis Jarman

Paul Reither

March 16th

Dennis Jarman

Danny Magelitz

ORGANISTS

March 2nd

9:00 AM

Bruce Engebrecht

March 9th

8:30 AM

Bruce Engebrecht

March 16th

9:00 AM

Bruce Engebrecht

March 23rd

9:00 AM

Bruce Engebrecht

March 30th

9:00 AM

Bruce Engebrecht

ALTAR GUILD

March 2nd

9:00 AM – Setup & Cleanup

Setup – Andrea Price

Cleanup - Monika Warcup

Donna Moody

March 5th

6:30 PM – Setup & Cleanup

Setup – Elaine Jarman

Cleanup - Elaine Jarman

March 9th

9:00 AM – Setup & Cleanup

Setup – Sherri Tomhave

Cleanup – Sherri Tomhave

March 16th

9:00 AM – Setup & Cleanup

Setup – Elaine Jarman

Cleanup – Elaine Jarman

March 23rd

9:00 AM – Setup & Clean

Setup – Michelle Moeller

Cleanup – Michelle Moeller

March 30th

9:00 AM – Setup & Clean

Setup – Michelle Moeller

Cleanup – Michelle Moeller

CANDLES

Elaine Jarman

RADIO TECHNICIAN

March 2nd

Roger Ward

March 9th

Kevin Eckhoff

March 16th

Roger Ward

March 23rd

Kevin Eckhoff

March 30th

Roger Ward

KEY MAN

February 23rd – March 1st

Kevin Eckhoff

March 2nd – 8th

Paul Reither

March 9th – 15th

Darin Gehrke

March 16th – 22nd

Robert Magelitz

March 23rd - 29th

Randy Tendick

March 30th – April 5th

Jay Wiegand