

THE MONITOR

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church – Lindsborg, Kansas

Volume 114, Issue 12

March 2020

Greetings, Church!

Lent is here and we are fast into the season of repentance and renewal.

These words, Repentance and Renewal are connected in a deep manner. They tell us that the dark of our fears, the depth of our pain, the angst of our suffering is real. It is part of our human journey. Those moments of being suffocated under the dirt of our sin pressure us to open into new ways of being. We are called in those moments of unbearable discomfort to seek a new way, to turn from that which has been and find the light of something new, even if it is not the best “new” for us.

This cycle of repentance and renewal is not a one time event. For some of us, it is daily. We seek to overcome some habit, some addiction, some internal tape, taking enormous energy to move us from inertia of complacency and status quo to a new way of being, of taking care of our spirit, of hearing who we are and to whom we belong.

Our church year reflects this for us collectively...the advent of new life begins in December. The days of epiphany and discovery, following the stories of Jesus’ early ministry, offer us time to grow and become as young adults in faith. Then transfiguration comes and we have a super epiphany—something really fits and, more often, something we believe or do, we discover, does not really fit who we want to be or is not what we originally thought—and we are enlightened. From that moment of enlightenment, we also find suffering. The disciples were asked to hold their tongue; we are asked to be held in grace even as we seek to find a new way to be, turning from that which was and lent is upon us, Spring awaiting the bloom of new life. We die to ourselves and then there is the moment of resurrection! Easter brings the bloom of new, the hope of a start, the reassurance that there is a “next” for us. Pentecost is the moment when the old is definitely burned off and we are empowered for our next length of the journey...only to find ourselves in a time of gentle movement once again as we hear Christ is the King, naming for us that we are not to rely on ourselves, only on God as we begin again the journey through a new life, cemented in the innocence of faith that draws us ever forward.

Individually, we experience these movements of life at our own pace. Collectively, we celebrate them annually as a community of faith, practicing together that which we experience individually, offering us awareness that allows us to support one another, growing us in faith, and bringing us to conversations that both challenge and grow us as disciples.

For Messiah, we are in the time of Lent. We need to look at our budget realistically, we need to think about what exactly we are doing to put the Faith of our Fathers into the words of our Children—how are we sharing the faith with the world, the children of our day, unbelievers and estranged alike? This time of Lent is a time to reflect individually and collectively on what God is calling us to in order for us to proclaim the gospel, the good news of belonging, forgiveness, and resurrection, to everyone, even yourself. Try walking through this Lent with a daily moment of reflection alone or with a friend

(<http://www.melclindsborg.org/2020/02/21/2020-lenten-devotional/> or pick up a hard copy outside the office). Pray about what God is doing for you and for the Church.

We are God’s people, called to be disciples. We are God’s people, called to be community through the church, Messiah Evangelical Lutheran. We are God’s people, claimed and loved by the one who understands deeply how it is to live as a human in this world. We are God’s people, loved and held in grace.

May we find ways to end suffering. May we find ways to share love. May we share experiences of repentance and renewal such that people we encounter might know God is with each of us. May we find God’s peace in our own hearts that it might be shared with the world through us.

Peace be with you as you journey this Lent.

~Yours in Christ, Pastor Amy

Approximate number of people who used Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church during the month of February:

- Worship Services **384**
- Others in February **400**
- Daily (includes staff, daycare & coffee groups) **47**

March Anniversaries

Tvler and Rachel Ann Atkinson 3/19

March Birthdays

Neal Roch	3/01	Andy Carlson	3/09
Carla Wilson	3/01	Kennedi Hendricks	3/13
Bud Benson	3/02	Mark Lucas	3/14
Bill Lindholm	3/02	Diana Saunders	3/16
Jeanne Lucas	3/03	David Carlson	3/20
Chock Hefner	3/05	Bryant Wilson	3/27
Linda Hubalek	3/07	Gaylia Lindholm	3/29
Sharon Bruce	3/09		

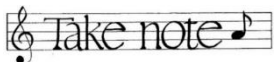
Women's Ministry

Women ^{of the} ELCA 

What's Up in March



- **Thursdays 9:00 AM at church – Women's Coffee** (Come as you are, relax and visit)
- **Thursdays 12:00-1:00 PM – Moms in Prayer** at Barbara Peterson's, 405 N. Chestnut. Join in prayer for our children locally and around the world.
- **Thursday, March 5, 3:00 PM – Visiting at Bethany Home Assisted Living.** Drop by for coffee to enjoy time with residents and each other men and women invited.
- **Friday, March 6, 2:00 PM – World Day of Prayer** at Bethany Church. Men and women are invited to attend this annual event. This year's program, "Rise, Take Your Mat and Walk", was written by the Women of Zimbabwe.
- **Wednesday, March 25, 10:00 AM – Messiah Church Women** meet in the Fellowship Hall. Lesson Leader: Linda Lewis and Hostess: Mary Lindgren



by Jeanne Ahlers

Have you ever wondered why we don't use alleluias during Lent?

Lent, the forty days (excluding Sundays) before Easter, is a period of penitence. The word itself comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "lencten," meaning "spring." In the Northern Hemisphere, of course, this means a lengthening of the days and increase of light. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, the forty days recall Jesus' forty-day fast in the wilderness as well as Moses' forty-day fast on Mount Sinai.

Sundays are excluded from Lent because every Sunday is a celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Still, the expression "alleluia" is not used during this period because of the penitential quality of the season. "Alleluia" comes from the Hebrew words *hallelu yah*, which means "Praise the Lord." The practice of excluding it during Lent dates from at least the fifth century in the western church.

Traditionally, Lent was a period of fasting leading up to Easter. In the early church, it was a time of preparation for baptism at Easter for the catechumens, who would fast and spend days in intense preparation. Those already baptized renewed their faith by studying the Bible, the Creed and the Lord's Prayer. In all, it was a very solemn season, in which the joyful shout of "Alleluia!" was distinctly out of place.

So Lenten music, in keeping with the season, omits this expression. On Easter, it will reappear as light breaks forth and we celebrate Jesus' resurrection!

Messiah Lutheran Church Council Minutes

(these minutes will be approved at the March Council meeting)

February 19, 2020

Council Members present: Pastor Amy Truhe, Becky Anderson, Kirsten Bruce, Lois Carlson, Gavin Doughty, Linda Lewis, Muriel Gentine, Mary Lindgren, Robert Peterson, Ingrid Pohl.

Absent: Warren Olson, Pari Ford.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Amy Truhe

Devotions: Pastor Amy

Reports:

Secretary: Approval of minutes of the January 8, 2020 meeting with one correction. MSP.

Approval of minutes of the January 19, 2020 Annual Meeting. MSP.

Treasurer: Report was received by Treasurer Christine Reinert. MSP.

Pastor: see written report.

President's report: No report.

Old Business: Mark Flynn from Royal Flush has suggested that a pump and timer be installed on the hot water heater with a valve under the sink instead of the on-demand hot water heater.

New Business:

Council installation: March 1

Motion to designate 10% of Lenten offerings to a start-up fund for the Food Bank with the remainder going to the General Fund. MSP

Lenten services and soup suppers at MELC: March 11 & 25. At BLC: March 4, 18 & April 1. Kirsten Bruce, Lois Carlson, Muriel Gentine and Mary Lindgren volunteered to make soup for March 11.

A Grant will be written to start a Food Bank here at Messiah which will be moved to TACOL after their addition is built.

Becky Anderson reported having received 25 – 30 fundraising ideas. Saturday May 2 is the City-wide rummage sale and Messiah will participate with a rummage sale from 9:00 – 12:00.

Bread Ministry - A chance for all you bread makers to join in the fellowship of baking bread to "give away" using King Arthur Flour's free ingredients.

Survey information was reviewed and will be discussed at the Council retreat.

Council Retreat: March 7, 9:00 – 12:00

Committee Reports: Written report from Worship and Music.

Committee Liaisons: Christian Education, Pari Ford; Fellowship, Gavin Doughty; Finance & Stewardship, Becky Anderson; Global Missions, Warren Olson; Outreach & Caring, Ingrid Pohl; Property, Robert Peterson; Staff Relations, Kirsten Bruce; TACOL, Linda Lewis; Worship & Music, Lois Carlson; Youth, Jeanne Lucas; Messiah Church Women, Mary Lindgren; Memorial, Dixie Mattas.

Next Executive Committee Meeting: March 3 at 4:00

Next MELC Council Meeting: Wednesday March 18 at 6:30.

Devotions for March: Pastor Amy

Messiah Worship Assistants – March 2020

Thank you for your time of serving. If you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please trade with someone and call the church office at 227-3977 by noon on Wednesday.

March 1, 2020	Service of the Lord
Acolyte	Jake Lucas
Lector	Ingrid Pohl
Liturgist	Pari Ford
Nursery Attendant	Anya Pohl
Ushers	Andy Carlson, capt; Bill Brock, Larry Elmquist, Dixie Mattas
Altar Steward	Carol Gusenius
Counters	Kelly Carlson and Brian Anderson

March 8, 2020	Holy Communion
Acolyte	Ellise Peterson
Lector	Sharon Hoffman
Liturgist	Pari Ford
Nursery Attendant	Macie Carlson
Ushers	Harvey Daniels, capt; Matt Toll, Julie Aeschliman, Dwight Ford
Communion Assistant	Barb Malm
Altar Steward	Carol Gusenius
Counters	Kelly Carlson and Brian Anderson

March 15, 2020	Service of the Word
Acolyte	Olivia Ford
Lector	Pari Ford
Liturgist	Pari Ford
Nursery Attendant	Jake Lucas
Ushers	Brian Anderson, capt; Don Anderson, Ken Peterson, Marc Anderson
Altar Steward	Carol Gusenius
Counters	Ingrid Pohl and Brian Anderson

March 22, 2020	Holy Communion
Acolytes	Matt Lucas
Lector	Cindy Daniels
Liturgist	Pari Ford
Nursery Attendant	Cayson Lindquist
Ushers	Dwight Swisher, capt; Arne Reinert, Ron/Carla Wilson, Aaron Yoder, Harvey Daniels
Communion Assistant	Barb Malm
Altar Steward	Carol Gusenius
Counters	Ingrid Pohl and Brian Anderson

March 29, 2020	Service of the Word
Acolytes	Anya Pohl
Lector	Sally Hefner
Liturgist	Pari Ford
Nursery Attendant	Ellise Peterson
Ushers	Ingrid Pohl, capt; Matt Toll, Chock Hefner, David Daire
Altar Steward	Carol Gusenius
Counters	Ingrid Pohl and Julie Aeschliman

Messiah Lutheran Church Calendar

March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 am Service of the Word 10:45 am Fellowship 11:00 am Council 4:00 pm Courage to Conquer Bible Study	2 10:30 am Chapel Break	3 4:00 pm Executive Council Meeting 5:15 pm Yoga - Pari Ford	4 10:30 am Chapel Break 5:45 pm Lent Supper BLC 6:30 pm Lent Service BLC 7:00 pm Fellowship Meeting	5 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's 3:00 pm Coffee-visit @ assisted living	6 10:30 am Chapel Break	7 8:00 am Men-Bible Study
8 9:30 am Holy Communion 10:45 am Fellowship	9 10:30 am Chapel Break 3:30 pm Executive Board	10 5:15 pm Yoga - Pari Ford	11 10:30 am Chapel Break 5:45 pm Lent Supper MLC 6:30 pm Lent Service MLC 7:00 pm Worship and Music	12 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's	13 10:30 am Chapel Break	14 8:00 am Men-Bible Study
15 9:30 am Service of the Word 10:45 am Fellowship 4:00 pm Courage to Conquer Bible Study	16 10:30 am Chapel Break	17 5:15 pm Yoga - Pari Ford	18 10:30 am Chapel Break 5:45 pm Lent Supper BLC 6:30 pm Lent Service BLC	19 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's	20 10:30 am Chapel Break	21 8:00 am Men-Bible Study
22 9:30 am Holy Communion 10:45 am Fellowship	23	24 5:15 pm Yoga - Pari Ford	25 10:00 am Messiah Church Women 5:45 pm Lent Supper MLC 6:30 pm Lent Service MLC	26 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's	27	28 8:00 am Men-Bible Study
29 9:30 am Service of the Word 10:45 am Fellowship 4:00 pm Courage to Conquer Bible Study	30 10:30 am Chapel Break	31 5:15 pm Yoga - Pari Ford				

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church



Contact Us

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mlchurch@mlc.kscoxmail.com

www.melclindsborg.org

office hours: 8-10 M-F

Call for appointment with Pastor Amy

Messiah Church Staff

Pastor	Amy Truhe
Office Manager	Alisa Jones
Custodian	Juan Redmon
Youth Directors	Jeanne Lucas <i>Ericka Lysell, Bethany Lutheran Church</i>
Organist	Tyler Breneman
Sr. Choir Director	Dr. Mark Lucas
Treasurer	Christine Reinert

MELC's Guiding Principles

Jesus is Lord ♦ Everyone is welcome ♦ Love changes people ♦
Everyone has gifts to offer ♦ God sends us as servants to the
world ♦ We commit to grow in faith

MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

402 N. First Street
Lindsborg, KS 67456