

Holy Lamb Lutheran Church

2541 Forestbrook Road

February 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. During this season, Christians remember that our sins are what made it necessary for Jesus to die on the cross. The season is 40 days long, the same number of days Jesus was in the wilderness being tempted by Satan. However, if you count the days on a calendar, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Saturday, April 3rd, the day before Easter, you will count 46 days. This is because the Sundays during the Lenten season are considered to be ‘in’ Lent, but not ‘of’ Lent.

This is a bold proclamation of the church that the overwhelming message of the Bible is the Good News of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life for all believers. This is so important that even during the penitential season of Lent, each Sunday is still a celebration of the resurrection of our Lord. Our Sunday services are slightly more subdued – we do not sing the Gloria in Excelsis or the Alleluias, or any hymns with ‘Alleluia’ in them. And we don’t have flowers on the shelf in the Chancel area. But our Sunday mornings, like every Sunday, are still a mini-Easter.

These clarifications underscore the value of our midweek Lenten services. These services *do* focus on the passion of our Lord. With a penitential tone they *do* remind us of our sin; and they *do* call us to repentance.

That penitential tone is heard, literally in the music of our Lenten hymns. Even more pointedly, that penitential message is heard in the words of our hymns. Which brings me to our midweek theme this year: ***Hymns of Repentance and Joy***. Our sermons in these services will each dig into the lyrics of one of hymns, expanding on the words to provide a deeper understanding, even of the well-known hymns we have been singing for years.

I used this format for Advent once and the concept was very much appreciated. We may be very familiar with hymns, can even sing them from memory, perhaps. Yet, we often don’t think about the words we are singing. In some cases, in order to make the rhythm and rhyme work, hymn-writers have used unusual word choices or word order, which can make comprehension difficult while singing. We will take time to examine these issues, explaining the meaning and context, so that our singing of the hymn becomes even more meaningful.

An added bonus this year is some variety in our preaching. Pastor Hollar and I are going to alternate our midweek preaching responsibilities between Risen Christ and Holy Lamb. We will both be doing hymns (we will be careful not to repeat any) but both congregations will be blessed by a different approach to our hymnody.

Unfortunately, it looks like we will not be back in our Sanctuary, at least at the beginning of Lent, and it will be too dark and cold to worship on the lawn. So we will join online at 7:00PM on Wednesdays. The bulletins will be emailed ahead of time, as we currently do for Sunday mornings.

Contents:

From the Pastor’s Desk.....	1 & 6
Stewardship.....	2
LWML.....	2
Bible Studies.....	3
Women Bible Study.....	3
Birthdays/Anniversaries.....	4
Blessings Bags.....	4
Board of Evangelism.....	5
Praying in Color.....	5
Lenten Worship Services.....	6
Ladies Society Luncheon.....	6
Financial Page.....	6
Altar Guild.....	7
Flowers and prayers.....	7
Worship & Bible Study.....	8

(continued on page 6)

Stewardship

As I was doing my Thursday Bible study, *Faith in Practice*, this quote was in the study and I would like to share it with you all.



"Everybody can be great because everybody 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 and a soul generated by love."

Martin Luther King Jr.

In this light, the committee would like to thank all those in our congregation that serve in any way. We always have room for more volunteers to serve in many ways in the church and to others outside our church to show God's love. We have openings on the council. There is room for more prayer partners for *Praying in Color* and on the prayer chain. There is opportunity to serve as tech support for our worship services.

We invite you to join a Bible study. These are done on Zoom. We are studying Genesis on Tuesday mornings. On Wednesday evenings we are looking at 1 John and our Thursday night women's Bible study, is *Faith in Practice*. The next study will be the book of Esther. We have room for you.

In a recent Sunday service, we sang *Take My Life and Let it Be*. The first verse was "Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord to thee; Take my moments and my days. Let them flow in cease-less praise". And the hymn goes on about hands and voice, and feet and lips, and so on, willing God to use our lives for Him. Where is God calling you to serve Him?

Eileen St. Clair, Board of Stewardship

LWML NEWS

Thank you for all your donations to Abigail's Closet at Coastline Women's Center. There will be a list of items donated in the Narthex.

We are excited to begin our next project, with your help – *Shoebboxes for Operation Christmas Child* later this month. Shoebboxes will be available beginning February 21st for you to take home and fill with items suggested monthly over the next 7 months. The beginning of each month a new group of suggestions will be on the board in the Narthex, the notes and the newsletter. You only need to purchase at least one (1) item off the list each month to put in your box. Some months you may want to purchase two (2) or three (3) items depending on the room left in the box. When you pick up your box, you will decide to fill it with items for a boy or girl and of a specific age. In each box, is a tag which you will tape to the cover of the box after marking the age group. In addition to items suggested monthly, each box must contain \$9.00 in cash to help with shipping to the various countries from Samaritan's Purse. As you put an item in the box, a prayer can be said for the child that will be receiving this Christmas gift which may be the only gift they receive. In September, you will have a filled box that we will collect and bring to a collection center to go to Samaritan's Purse for distribution to children all over the world for Christmas 2021 and beyond.



The following items **CANNOT** be included in the boxes: Toothpaste; Candy; Gum; Chocolate; Fruit snacks; Used items; War related items; Liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; Breakable items or Aerosol cans. We are praying that many will take a box to fill. If you have any questions, please speak to Sylvia Stedina or myself.

Karen Bombria, President of LWML of Holy Lamb

Bible Studies

Tuesday Morning

9:00 AM

In our **Tuesday morning** study, we are studying the book of Genesis. We are not examining every verse of every chapter. In order to see the larger picture of God's relationship with his creation, as it is revealed in Genesis, we are looking at those interactions between God and his chosen people that shed light on how God developed his relationship with man and his process of revealing his method for redeeming that relationship through the coming Messiah, His Son, Jesus.

Wednesday Evening

6:30 PM

We are studying 1 John. Luther says in this epistle, John "teaches in many different ways that works are not absent where faith is.... He does this, however, not by harping on the law....but by stimulating us to love even as God has loved us."

Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study

6:30 PM

Details below on this page.

Women's Bible Study

The women's Thursday night Bible study meets Thursday evenings at 6:30 on Zoom. All women are welcome to join us! Use Holy Lamb's standard meeting code.

We are using the reading plans provided at www.shereadstruth.com. You can find the daily Scripture readings and devotion at their website or sign up for their daily email or download their app. The website and emails are free; some of the plans on the app have a nominal charge. There is also a weekly podcast that discusses that week's readings. ***We would love to have you join us! And whether or not you meet with us, this can be another easy way to develop a daily Bible reading habit.*** (For those men who are feeling 'left out', there is also a 'He Reads Truth' reading plan at the website! If you're still looking for a daily devotional plan for Advent, this would be a great time to explore this option!)



Our study of **Esther** begins Monday, February 1st. Although the book of Esther never mentions God by name, His presence and providence are evident at every turn. Join us as we spend two weeks reading the book of Esther, discovering how God uses unlikely people in uncertain times to accomplish His purposes!

Our Lenten study will be on the books of **Joshua** and **Mark** and begins February 15th. Walk with us through this Old Testament book and this Gospel as we reflect on our great need and God's eternal plan of salvation and redemption!

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

February Blessings on your Birthday!

7th	Linda Katai
8th	Maurice Bartelotte
11th	Les Cotton
11th	David Katai
12th	Nancy Rehm
13th	Andrea Nezich
16th	Tiffany Hirsh
18th	Taylor Gall
18th	Myrle Rumsey
22nd	Therese Cunningham
23rd	Dorothy Gardner
26th	Deborah Partenberry



Happy Anniversary!

16th Bill & MollieAnne Houghtaling



BLESSING BAGS

Have you ever been stopped at a light and someone comes up to your car needing help but you can't reach your money quick enough, or are unsure how to respond? The following is an idea that you could keep in the pocket on the door or on the side of your seat to give to them. You could also make these bags and take them to a shelter or someplace that feeds people so they can hand out such as *The Shepherd's Table* in Conway. We all need to be thankful for everything God has supplied to us and be willing to share with those less fortunate.

Ingredients

Gallon Size Ziploc bags

Chapstick

Packages of tissues

Travel size toothbrush and toothpaste

Travel size mouthwash

Warm pair of socks

\$5.00 or \$10.00 OR gift card to Food Lion/McDonalds

A nice note or card telling them God loves them

Band aids

Hand wipes

Comb

Soap

Hotel size shampoos

Razor and shaving cream

Trail mix

Granola Bars/Breakfast Bars

Crackers

Pack of gum

Bottle of water

The ideas are endless. Assemble items in the bags. Make as many bags as you might need.

Board of Evangelism

An anonymous sibling (in our Holy Lamb Family) put the following handout in my church mailbox:

Evangelism - The sharing of the Good News of Jesus Christ with others in hopes of leading them to eternal salvation.

There are many ways you can be a part of evangelism at Holy Lamb, here are just a few:

- Become a member of the Evangelism Committee
- Brainstorm with others to come up with ways to reach out to the community and let them know that we are here, and here for them.
- Sign up to volunteer with events held throughout the year.
- Become the webmaster for our website to keep the information up to date.
- Become a Facebook administrator and/or a sharer of the Facebook news so we can get the info out to more people.”

Thank you, whoever you are, my dear sibling in Christ, for sharing this with me! Those who have ever had a pump in their house know that when it breaks, after you fix it, you must prime it with water so that it will once again pump water. Covid-19 broke our conventional ways of sharing the Good News with our community. May the above words “prime” your heart pump like they did mine.

On that note I'd like to invite you all to a Zoom brainstorming meeting on Wednesday, February 10 at 2:00pm using Holy Lamb's standard meeting code.

Contact me if you need more information or help.

Darcy Taiani
Evangelism Chairperson
724-840-0888
darcytaiani@gmail.com

Praying in color-- What is This?

It is a ministry where we color cards at home while praying for the person it is going to. We add a bible verse and say, “as I colored this card I was praying for you,” and sign our first name.

We have received several thank you cards from people grateful for the prayers and cards. God has arranged for some of the cards to arrive on a day when an uplifting message was most needed.



If anyone is interested in joining us in this ministry, please contact Eileen St. Clair and she will start you off with some cards to color and a list of people, and answer any questions you may have about this ministry. Thank you to those of you already praying in color, you have touched lives.

Praying in color reminder: If you have put a name on the list and there is a change in the person's condition, please contact Eileen St. Clair.

(continued from page 1)

As we enter this Lenten season, we are marking one year of worship outside of our Sanctuary. This is not a milestone any of us anticipated. The news is changing so rapidly that I can't even comment on the latest because it will be outdated by the time you read this.

In all of this uncertainty, however, there are some things of which we can be certain:

- God is still in control, even when he allows calamity. This is cause for comfort and peace, regardless of the latest news;
- The church still proclaims the Good News of forgiveness and eternal life, even if it is experienced in a different forum;
- You are still a redeemed child of God with the certainty of your own forgiveness and the confidence of an eternity in heaven..

May this assurance give you peace and hope,

In His service,

Pastor Panning

The Season of Lent



It is hard to believe that we will be starting our Lenten season in a couple of weeks. We will begin with Ash Wednesday on February 17th and then the next 4 Wednesdays.

Services will be online at 7pm. More to follow in our weekly notes.



Ladies Society Luncheon Ladies Society February Luncheon -

Tuesday, February 2nd at 11:30 am at California Dreaming,
2657 Beaver Run Blvd, Myrtle Beach. All Ladies are welcome to
attend. Please RSVP Merilynn Sell.

Pat Marquardt



Holy Lamb Financial Profile

Financial Update - Giving

	Actual	Budget
Month of January to Date	\$12,869	\$14,156
Year to Date	\$12,969	\$14,156

Altar Guild

If you are purchasing flowers for our altar, just a reminder, please use the Flower Fund envelopes from the Flower Chart bulletin board & place in the collection plate or drop off at the church office. The cost is \$30.00. If special flowers are requested, there may be an additional charge.

Please do not put flower payments in weekly offering envelope.

Flowers purchased to the glory of God for February, 2021

February 7 ~ Open

February 14 ~ In memory of her husband Scott, given by Barb Evans.

February 21 ~ Open

February 28 ~ In honor of the birthday of Jay Indla, given by his wife, Rebecca and their children.

Flower Chart 2021

The flower chart for 2021 is posted on the wall in the Narthex by the church entrance. We still have openings for a variety of dates. **NOTE:** Highlighted dates are those within the seasons of Lent or Advent. During these times, we refrain from placing flowers on the altar out of reverence to our Lord and Savior, however, you may still purchase flowers in memory or honor of a loved one or special event and have them in the **Narthex** as well as listed in the weekly notes.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Snyder or Marsha Dunn.

Prayer Requests

Unless otherwise requested, prayer request information will be announced in worship, shared with our prayer chain, and published in our bulletin or newsletter. To respect the privacy of those for whom we pray:

With regards to health issues last names will not be given in worship or in print unless they are members of Holy Lamb.

Information regarding conditions, diagnosis, or procedures will be given only at the initial church announcement, not in print.

Please update the church office of your prayer request by the newsletter deadline.

Called Home to Heaven

Bob Gagliardi, husband of Betty Gagliardi
Ward, 40 year old LCMS pastor in NC
Peter, neighbor of Rich & Kim Bertolone

Thanksgiving

Verna Bussard, pain alleviated and physical therapy
Bruce, continued healing

For Healing

Ann, daughter of Carol Stocum

Julia, great-granddaughter of Al Stout

Vivie, relative of John & Karen Bombria

Linda G., Goddaughter of Carol Stocum

Linda R., daughter of Jack & Merilynn Sell

Ron W., brother of Monica Steele

Maryann, S-I-L of Linda Snyder

Sammi, friend of David & Linda Katai

Trish, neighbor of Jack & Meerilynn Sell

Cindy, sister of Brenda Tainter

Diane & Jude, daughter and grandson of Camille August

Bob, husband of Kathy Orłowski

Jackie Anctil

Carol Boulet

John Orr

Linda Riley

Carol Stocum

Ron Hajduk

Mary Lee

Steven Rehm

Monica Steele

Brenda Tainter

Holy Lamb Lutheran Church

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Rev. David J. Panning, Pastor

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843-236-9645

Worship Schedule

Sundays—10:30 am

Sunday School & Bible Study

Tuesday Morning Bible Study	9:00 am
<i>The Book of Genesis</i>	
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	6:30 pm
<i>1 John</i>	
Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study	6:30 pm
<i>The Book of Ruth (2/1)</i>	
<i>Joshua and Mark (2/15)</i>	