

Holy Lamb Lutheran Church

2541 Forestbrook Road

March 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

If you have been monitoring the news regarding the coronavirus, you are aware of the significant improvement in numbers. If you have not been watching these numbers, let me give you some brief overviews:

- The daily ‘new case count,’ for both the state and Horry County, is dropping significantly.
- The other numbers (hospitalizations, ICU beds, ventilators, and deaths) are all dropping, as well.
- The number of people (especially our members) who have been, or are in the process of receiving vaccinations is increasing rapidly.

This is all good news for the community in general, for our congregation, and, specifically, for our desire to gather indoors for worship.

While we can look forward to that day being sooner rather than later, we must not forget that many in our congregation are not yet eligible to receive a vaccination. That *does not* mean that we must wait until all are vaccinated to resume some semblance of normalcy. It *does* mean that, as we begin the reopening process, we *do not reduce* the opportunity for those not yet vaccinated to participate safely. As we re-engage in person, indoors, we must continue to provide opportunities for those not vaccinated to remain engaged.

It is also important to note that those who are not eligible to be vaccinated now have the highest risk for infection’ since they are the ones still in the workplace on a daily basis. A case in point: a member of Risen Christ, still employed, tested positive. He had no symptoms and only got tested because several coworkers tested positive. Just because the numbers are improving does not mean that the risk has disappeared. I urge you, who are now vaccinated, to remember the deep concern you had about public contact when you had the greatest risk, and realize that others are still in that position. This means that masks are still important. The medical community has not yet determined whether or not you are able to carry and transmit the virus even if you are vaccinated and cannot contract it.

So, even with all the good news and the anticipation of reopening, we must remain vigilant.

At the same time, let’s begin a discussion of what reopening the Sanctuary for worship looks like. Clearly, we still need capacity limitations; we still need masks; we still need careful attendance records for contact tracing; and we still need to allow for those who will not be able to join us in the Sanctuary for any of the following reasons:

- Those who were not able to register for worship indoors because the registration was already full;
- Those who are still uncomfortable in crowds due to non-vaccination;
- Those who, even if vaccinated, prefer not to engage in close contact to avoid exposing coworkers.

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Stewardship



We are all stewards of all God has given us. All that we have has come from God and he has charged us to be good stewards of all. Each of us has a choice on what we do with what God has given us and what we do with our time. How much time do we spend in prayer, studying God's word alone, Bible study, participating in worship services or doing good deeds with our time?

Then there is our possessions and how we use them. I know when someone sees a *buy 1 get 1 free* while grocery shopping, they take the free one and donate it to a food bank (we have a basket in the narthex to donate food items) which we take to *Help for Kids* right down the road from us.

Lastly, we'll address our money. God has asked us to tithe, he does not command this, but leaves it up to us. We are a very blessed people . Through our church, we have many opportunities to be good stewards. We are in the Lenten season. Some people practice giving up something for Lent so that they can spend time in prayer. Some people decide to add a new practice to their routine to draw closer to God in this season. May I suggest adding Wednesday evening services to your week.

Eileen St. Clair, Board of Stewardship

LWML NEWS

March 7th is Mite Box Sunday. Please return your mite box or a Ziploc bag with your collection. Don't forget to pick up another box if you are leaving yours. Checks are also accepted made out to *Holy Lamb* and in the memo area put *LWML MITES*. We are grateful for all your support.

Have you picked up a shoebox, decided whether you are going to fill it for a girl or boy and of what age group according to the tags and taped the appropriate tag on your shoebox(es)? Now we are ready to begin filling the box. At any time during the month of March you may purchase one of the following for whom your box will be going to: doll; stuffed animal; harmonica or recorder; or an article of clothing. 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. We will be suggesting items March – August to fill the box. The following items **CANNOT** be included in the boxes: Candy; Gum; Chocolate; Seeds; Food; Toothpaste; Used items; War related items; Liquids; Breakable items or Aerosol cans. We are praying that many have taken a box or two to fill. If you have any questions, please speak to Sylvia Stedina or myself.

Our next meeting, will be on Saturday, March 13th at 10:00 am on ZOOM. Any woman can join us. If you need the code, please email me. Eileen St. Clair will be the Bible study leader.

Karen Bombria, President of LWML of Holy Lamb
bombria@optonline.net



(continued from page 1)

Given these necessary considerations, our reopening worship may actually have even more complexity than our non-indoor worship has. I can imagine worship indoors, with our PA system functioning for those on the lawn (perhaps watching on their phone or tablet), while also broadcasting on FM for those in their cars, and of course, Live streaming on FaceBook. Then the challenge of communion distribution arises. Of course, some of these contingencies would still be affected by the weather.

Now that I have laid out the various challenges, let me invite you to add your thoughts. If you have ideas for addressing some of the challenges above, please send me an email with your thoughts. I don't believe any one person has the full solution, just as no single person came up the operational plan we have now. It was the evolution of many ideas from many people. In opening up the discussion, now, I hope to hasten the process of coming to a workable, multi-faceted solution that meets the needs of our worshipping community.

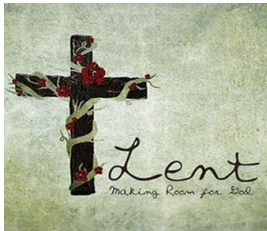
As we move forward to this next step in dealing with the coronavirus, let's continue to be open to 'thinking outside the box.' And as we do so, recognize that not all the ideas will be compatible with each other, and some may not be workable. But even those ideas not used may trigger one that will.

Above all, let's remember that our purpose in worship is to receive the blessings of God in Word and Sacrament, and to respond in thankfulness and praise for all that he has done and continues to do in our lives, in the lives of others, and in our congregation.

In His service,

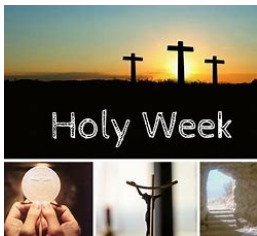
Pastor Panning

2021 Midweek Lenten Sermon Series



March 3 rd	What's in Your Heart?
March 10 th	Hearing Our Cry
March 17 th	TBA
March 24 th	A Reason to Boast

Holy Week



March 28th	Palm Sunday
April 1st	Maunday Thursday
April 2nd	Good Friday
April 4th	Easter Sunday

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

During Lent, there will be no Bible study on Wednesday evenings.

Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study

6:30 PM

Details below on this page.

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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.

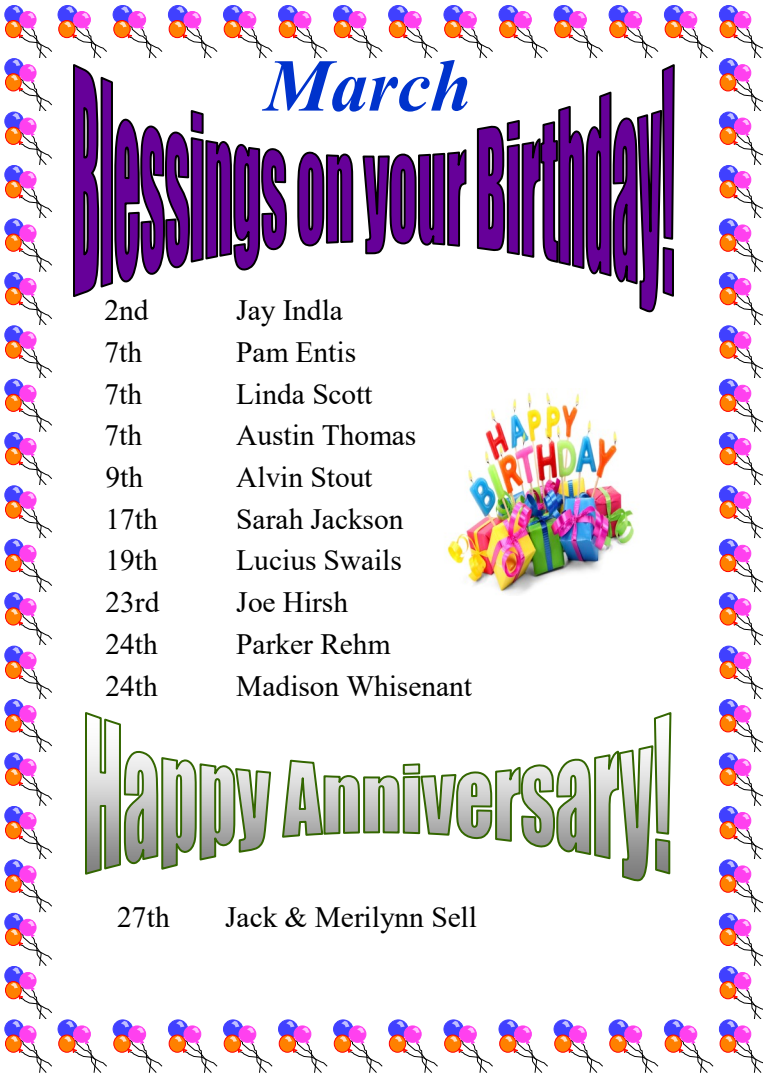
We are using the reading plans provided at www.shereadstruth.com. You can find the daily Scripture readings and devotion at their website or sign up for their daily email or download their app. The website and emails are free; some of the plans on the app have a nominal charge. There is also a weekly 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!)



It's not too late to join our Lenten study! For the first four weeks, we are studying the book of Joshua. As the people of Israel took possession of the long-awaited land promised to their ancestors, God continually reminded them of His faithfulness in their past, their present, and their future. The book of Joshua prompts us to remember and proclaim the work of the Lord in our lives!

For the second half of Lent (starting on March 15), we'll be reading the Gospel of Mark. We'll follow Jesus from His baptism in the Jordan River to His cross at Calvary. Along the way, we'll marvel at His compassion, power, and authority as He performs miracles and transforms the lives of the men and women He encounters. Finally, we'll arrive at Resurrection Sunday with a deeper understanding of Christ's once-for-all sacrifice that secures our salvation.

Contact Kathy Panning if you need more information or help obtaining the daily devotions and Scripture readings.



March Blessings on your Birthday!

- 2nd Jay Indla
- 7th Pam Entis
- 7th Linda Scott
- 7th Austin Thomas
- 9th Alvin Stout
- 17th Sarah Jackson
- 19th Lucius Swails
- 23rd Joe Hirsh
- 24th Parker Rehm
- 24th Madison Whisenant



Happy Anniversary!

27th Jack & Merilynn Sell

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE



Ladies Society Luncheon Ladies Society March Luncheon -

Our March 2nd meeting will be at 11:30 am at the restaurant - *California Dreaming*, 2657 Beaver Run Blvd, Myrtle Beach. Elections of officers and other business will be conducted prior to lunch. All Ladies of the church are welcome to attend!

Pat Marquardt



Holy Lamb Financial Profile

Financial Update - Giving

	Actual	Budget
Month of February to Date	\$28,519	\$28,312
Year to Date	\$28,619	\$28,312

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.

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.

Flowers purchased to the glory of God for March, 2021

March 7 ~ Open

March 14 ~ Open

March 21 ~ In honor of the birthday of Parker Rehm, given by his parents, Nancy & Doc Rehm.

March 28 ~ In honor of their wedding anniversary by Jack & Merilynn Sell.



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.



Prayer Requests

For Healing

Ann, daughter of Carol Stocum

Julia, great-granddaughter of Al Stout

Vivie, relative of John & Karen Bombria

Linda R., daughter of Jack & Merilynn Sell

Trish, neighbor of Jack & Meerilynn Sell

Jackie Anctil

Carol Boulet

John Orr

Linda Riley

Carol Stocum

Ron Hajduk

Mary Lee

Steven Rehm

Monica Steele

Brenda Tainter

Holy Lamb Lutheran Church

2541 Forestbrook Road
Myrtle Beach, SC 29588

Rev. David J. Panning, Pastor

Church
843-236-1344

Preschool
843-236-9645

Worship Schedule

Sundays—10:30 am

Sunday School & Bible Study

Tuesday Morning Bible Study 9:00 am
The Book of Genesis

Wednesday Evening Bible Study
Will resume in April

Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm
Joshua and Mark