

RESURRECTION NEWS



FEBRUARY 2018



Pastor's Letter

February, 2018

"Who Are You?"

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In Arthur Miller's famous play, "Death of a Salesman," the main character, Willie Loman spends his whole adult life trying to find satisfaction and fulfillment. For Willie, satisfaction and personal fulfillment are measured by the people he is able to impress and by the number of people he dreams will turn out for his funeral. "Why when I die," he says to his son, Biff, "there will be hundreds of people at my funeral." "Dad," Biff replies, "you don't have to do this."

The final scene of the play takes place in a funeral home. It's Willie's funeral and only a small handful of people are present. The casket is open and Willie's wife comes forward and places a few flowers on his casket. She says, "Willie, I made the last payment on the house today, Willie." And then she turns to her son Biff and says, "You know, all he needed was just a little more salary." But Biff replies, "Nah, he never knew who he was."

How about you? Are you looking for satisfaction and fulfillment for your life, and if so, where are you looking? Willie Lohman sought fulfillment in the acceptance and admiration of others. Willie's wife thought that all Willie needed was a little bit more money, then he would have been satisfied. We can look at ourselves in relation to the world around us and see all kinds of things that beg us to say, "if only..." "If only you had this or if only you didn't have that. Then you'd be satisfied, then you'd have a meaningful and fulfilling life."

When St. Paul writes to the Ephesians, he writes to people who HAVE IT ALL! **"Blessed be the God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places..."**

Wow! You may not have every earthly blessing there is. If you try to define yourself by the earthly blessings you possess you will probably never be satisfied because there's always more and better out there that you don't have and probably never will. But as one who is "in Christ," you have every spiritual blessing, the forgiveness of all your sins, life, eternal life and the deepest satisfaction and fulfillment of all – you are accepted and loved by God.

Who are you? You are in Christ, blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. That makes us very rich people. We may not have the riches and success or the recognition of others, but we are someone for whom God Himself suffered death on a cross for. We are someone for whom He rose from the dead for. We are someone who God has made heirs of the riches of the Kingdom of God. If this is the way we would take the measure of our life, how can we be anything but satisfied and content with our life? Frankly, this is the way God takes the measure of our life.

To know who we are "in Christ," casts a whole new light on our identity in relation to the world. We can be done with making all of those comparisons to others who seem to be so happy and have it all together according to their Facebook or Instagram page. In Christ Jesus, we are blessed, chosen, redeemed. We are children of God.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Nielsen

Notes from your Deaconess

February, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters of LCR,

This month we will begin the Lenten season, our annual lengthy time (forty days) of preparing ourselves for our Lord's passion, death and resurrection. After Epiphany and its "Aha!" moments realizing who Jesus truly is, in Lent we ponder our need for him that we may joyfully receive what he freely has given us, and what he prepares for us.

In our journey through the Divine Service, we pause to consider the **Words of Institution** (or *Verba* from Latin). Every time we celebrate the Lord's Supper we hear from the Pastor these words of our Lord, found in the first three gospels and also in St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. These words spoken at the Last Supper which Jesus shared with his disciples, a Passover meal, ushered in a new reality as Jesus took bread, blessed, broke, and gave it to his disciples, telling them to take and eat—for it was (and would be) his body broken for them. He also took the cup of wine, blessed and shared it with them all, telling them to drink this, his blood of the new covenant.

That first Passover in Egypt, each family of the people of Israel had consumed the flesh of a male lamb and used its blood to mark their homes to protect them from the "Destroyer of the firstborn" (Hebrews 11:28). In this new covenant Jesus, the only begotten son of the Father, gives his flesh and blood for his people to consume, be rescued from sin, death and the devil.

We believe that God's word does what it says, and we believe that Jesus is God incarnate. So here we receive the food which is Jesus himself, which transforms and restores us. We also see this spiritual meal as food for the journey, like the manna provided for the people of Israel in the wilderness, which our Lord provides when we gather together around His table and He serves us through our pastor.

Right now I plan to have Saturday morning women's Bible study meetings on the second and fourth Saturdays—February 10 and 24. These are informal times of fellowship, reading scripture together and seeing what God is saying to us through the word. Questions and suggestions for study are certainly welcome. We have mainly read accounts of many different women in the Bible, and still have not exhausted the possible individuals who could be considered. Hope to have you join me!

During the first couple of weeks of February, the daily lectionary readings turn our attention to the book of Job in the Old Testament, and the gospel of John in the New Testament. While the season of Epiphany focuses on the revelation of who Jesus is for the world, Job struggled with the hidden ways of God's work specifically in his life. His "comforters" confidently and erroneously explained the reasons for Job's sufferings. The apostle John helped to unveil some of that mystery of our Lord's work and ways. On Ash Wednesday, our readings return us to the beginning, Genesis in fact. We read once again about where we have come from and how God first graciously worked on our behalf through quite messed-up families, just like ours. We also will read Mark's Gospel throughout Lent, jumping "immediately" into Jesus' work on our behalf.

"For the grace of God has appeared, bring salvation for all people..." Titus 2:11

Under his mercy,

Sharon M. Conover

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR FEBRUARY

2/4 Paul and Timothy - Acts 15

2/11 Lydia - Acts 16:11-5

2/18 Paul and Silas in Prison - Acts 16:16-40

2/25 Paul Sails for Rome - Acts 27

(It is help if parents read the text together with children before Sunday School)

ADULT BIBLE STUDY FOR FEBRUARY

2/4 Psalm of the Month: Psalm 147 - "He heals the brokenhearted"

2/11 Exploring Genesis with Luther: Chapters 5-10 - Noah and the Flood

2/18 New Testament Review: Hebrews

2/25 Luther's "The Freedom of a Christian"

ASH WEDNESDAY / LENT 2018 - ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH.

The season of Lent begins on February 14th. We will have mid-week services during Lent at Noon and 7:00pm. The holy season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday with the Divine Service and the Lord's Supper. Lent is a 40 day journey to the cross of Christ. We are marked with ashes as a symbol of our mortal nature. Yet, by His taking on our mortal nature as He did, we live with the sure and certain hope that our ashes will be replaced with holy perfume and our sorrow will be transformed into joy. **Please set aside either noon or 7:00pm. to begin the season of Lent in the Lord's house.**

MID-WEEK LENT - 2018

"WE FOLLOW CHRIST TO THE CROSS"

SERVICES AT NOON AND 7:00PM.

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2/14 - ASH WEDNESDAY | - THE MOUNT OF OLIVES |
| 2/21 - WEDNESDAY | - THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE |
| 2/28 - WEDNESDAY | - BEFORE THE HIGH PRIESTS |
| 3/7 - WEDNESDAY | - BEFORE THE SANHEDRIN |
| 3/14 - WEDNESDAY | - BEFORE PILATE AND HEROD |
| 3/21 - WEDNESDAY | - BEFORE PILATE WITH BARABBAS |
| 3/29 - MAUNDY THURSDAY | - THE UPPER ROOM |
| 3/30 - GOOD FRIDAY | - GOLGOTHA |

LOOKING BACK TWO YEARS - DEDICATION OF THE NEWLY RENOVATED SANCTUARY - FEBRUARY 14, 2016.

Two years ago, we moved back into the beautifully renovated sanctuary after 6 weeks of worship in the Fellowship Hall. The project was financed with a 25 year building loan from Lutheran Church Extension Fund for \$80,000. As of 12/31/17, the principle balance due is \$24,484. Through the generous giving of the congregation, 70% of the original loan has been paid off in two years! We are well on our way toward the goal of paying this loan off in four years. Keep up the faithful stewardship.

2018 DIRECTORY ADDRESS CORRECTION:

Karen Hilton's address should be: 95 Oakland St. Apt. F.

LIFE-LINE SCREENING EVEN AT L.C.R. - MAY, 1ST -

Discounts Available For Members And Friends.



Let's Be Healthy Together!

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings will be in our community on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at Lutheran Church Of The Resurrection. Ultrasound screenings to Identify risk factors for Cardiovascular disease include; **Carotid Artery** (plaque buildup-a leading cause of stroke), **Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm** (an enlargement or weak area in the main blood vessel that carries blood from the heart to the rest of the body), **Peripheral Arterial Disease** (hardening of the arteries in the legs), a **Heart Rhythm Screening** (an EKG to detect Atrial Fibrillation-irregular heartbeat) and an **Osteoporosis Risk Assessment** for men and women. Being proactive about your health by knowing your risks helps you and your doctor address problems early.

Register online TODAY at www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle and receive your "Community Circle" discount and your Preferred Appointment!

THANK YOU FROM LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS

Dear Friends.

In 2018 as LBW celebrates 75 years in ministry, your partnership is more important than ever! You already bless many thousands of people with Braille and Large Print Christian books. Thank you for your gift of \$370! With your increased generosity, we will be able to offer Christ-centered books in audio and electronic formats, something that will give even more people access to God's precious Word.

In His awesome service,

Rev. Dennis W. Stueve - President

THANK YOU FROM LUTHERAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Dear Rev. Nielsen,

Thank you very much Lutheran Church of the Resurrection for your generous gift to LHF of \$1,000. At the LHF, we proclaim those truths that our Lord has left with us through His holy Word. That is why we translate, publish, distribute and introduce books that are Bible-based, Christ-centered and Reformation-driven. This year we will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of LHF's founding. Your gifts continue to help us proclaim The Word become flesh! Thank you for your generosity to the mission of LHF.

God's blessings to you in 2018.

In Christ,

Rev. Matthew Heise - Executive Director

THANK YOU FROM THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

We thank God for you and your gift to the LC-MS of \$1,000. It will be used in support of Rev. Charles and Deborah St-Onge.

Pastor Matthew Harrison

President - LC-MS

(These letters are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex)



The monthly meeting of the LWML was held on January 25. 14 women were in attendance.

The main item on the agenda was deciding the disbursement of the monies from the Craft Fair in December. The disbursements are as follows:

| | |
|---|---------------|
| New England District LWML (10% of total receipts) | \$240.00 |
| Garuna Foundation (Sponsorship of one child) | 360.00 |
| LCMS Human Care (Global Mission Fund) | 200.00 |
| Bethesda Lutheran Home (Watertown, Wisconsin) | 100.00 |
| The Lutheran Hour | 100.00 |
| Lutheran World Relief (Water filters) | 200.00 |
| Trinity Lutheran School (Minneapolis, Minnesota) | 200.00 |
| Waterville Boys and Girls Club | 150.00 |
| Maine Children's Cancer Fund | 200.00 |
| Waterville Food Bank | 150.00 |
| Waterville Women's Initiative | 100.00 |
| Elizabeth Larsen (LCR college student) | 100.00 |
| Maine Children's Home | 100.00 |
| Travis Mills Foundation | <u>200.00</u> |
| | \$ 2,390.00 |

It was decided to set up a "Books & Totes" area in the Fellowship Hall for the month of February. All LCR members are asked to donate books and tote bags to share with other church members. Come and pick out some "new" books (and totes to carry them in), to read during these cold winter months. A good will donation is appreciated. The proceeds will go to the LWML Mites to help meet the current goal.

We will be collecting donations of non-perishables to the Waterville Homeless Shelter for February and March.

The NED Spring Convention will be held on April 13th and 14 in Enfield, CT. If you are interested in attending, please contact Deb Nielsen for further details.

The next LWML meeting will be held on Feb. 22nd at 9:00 am.

With God's Blessings

Deb Nielsen, Pres.



Monthly Worship

February 4, 2018

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm: 147:1-11

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9:16-27

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

February 11, 2018

The Transfiguration of our Lord

Psalm: 50:1-6

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12 or Exodus 34:29-35

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 3:12-13 (14-18) ; 4:1-6

Holy Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

February 14, 2018

Ash Wednesday

Psalm: 51:1-13 (14-19)

First Reading: Joel 2:12-19

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 5: 20b – 6:10

Holy Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 18, 2018

First Sunday in Lent

Psalm: 25:1-10

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-18

Epistle: James 1:12-18

Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

February 25, 2018

Second Sunday in Lent

Psalm: 22:23-31

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Epistle: Romans 5:1-11

Holy Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

BIBLE QUIZ

1. What was the visible sign that the Holy Spirit entered into the disciples?

- A) they all had cloven tongues of fire above their heads
- B) they all started singing and dancing before the Lord
- C) all their hair became white as the prophet Moses' did after he had talked with God
- D) all their faces became bright as the prophet Moses' did after he had talked with God

2. What did Elisha do upon deciding to heed the call to follow Elijah?

- A) asked for three months' time so he could say good-bye to his family
- B) slaughtered his oxen and used the wooden yokes as firewood to roast his oxen
- C) ignored Elijah so Elijah had to use more forceful measures to convince him
- D) explained to Elijah that he needed a year of grace to close his business

3. In the parable of the four soils, which soil represented the worldly cares and worries?

- A) hard soil
- B) weedy/thorny soil
- C) thin layer of soil
- D) good soil

4. What was Simon Peter's original occupation?

- A) shepherd
- B) fisherman
- C) carpenter
- D) tax collector

5. How did Jezebel die?

- A) of old age
- B) of a massive stroke followed by ten days of paralysis
- C) she was assassinated by her son
- D) she was thrown out of an upper window and trampled beneath horses' hooves

6. Who said this: "If I perish, I perish"?

- A) Queen Esther
- B) Queen Jezebel
- C) King David
- D) King Ahab



2/4 Darryll Zahner
 2/10 Steven Farr
 Elizabeth Ann Larsen
 2/11 Chester Gilbert
 2/19 Brad Fitzpatrick
 2/22 Kay Gideon



BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

2/1 Caden Fitzpatrick
 2/13 Becky Cote
 2/14 Vesta Holt
 2/23 Robert Sieber
 2/24 Andrew Farr
 2/25 Lee Anne Larsen
 2/?? Natalie Crowley

Bible Quiz Answers

1. A (Acts 2:1-4)
2. B (1Kings 19:19-21)
3. B (Matthew 13:22)
4. B (Matthew 4:18)
5. D (2 Kings 9:33)
6. A (Esther 4:15-16)



Confirmation Anniversaries

2/8 Fernando Gouvea
 Mari Gouvea
 2/20 Arthur Conover
 Siena Fitzpatrick
 Elizabeth Larsen
 Taylan Thomas
 Tiana Thomas

Just for Laughs (and groans)

Faces

Watching Sunday school pupil Wily making faces at the kids around him, teacher Miss Betsey, stopped the lesson and said, "Willy, when I was your age, I was told that if I made ugly faces, my face would freeze that way."

Bobby looked up and replied innocently, "Well, Miss Betsy, you can't say that you weren't warned."

Where Jesus Is

Four year old Brianna was at the pediatrician for a check- up. When the doctor looked in her ears, he asked, "Do you think I'll find Big Bird in here?" Brianna only giggled.

Next, the doctor took a tongue depressor and looked down her throat. This time he asked, "Do you think I'll find the Cookie Monster down there?" Brianna giggled again.

Then the doctor put a stethoscope to her chest. As he listened to her heartbeat, he asked, "Do you think I'll hear Barney in there?"

"Oh, no!" Brianna replied. "Jesus is in my heart. Barney's on my underpants."

The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

Calendar of Events

February, 2018

Week of February 4th

Sunday - 2/4

8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study

10:00am. - Worship

Tuesday - 2/6-7

Pastor Nielsen away at Circuit Meeting – Manchester, N.H.

Thursday - 2/8

10:30am. - Mid-Week Bible Study

Saturday - 2/10

8:30am. - Women's Bible Study

Week of February 11th

Sunday - 2/11

8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study

10:00am. - Worship

Wednesday - 2/14

Noon - **Ash Wednesday Service**

7:00pm. - **Ash Wednesday Service**

Week of February 18th

Sunday - 2/18

8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study

10:00am. - Worship

11:30am. - Board for Missions Meeting

Wednesday - 2/21

Noon - **Mid-Week Lent Service**

7:00pm. - **Mid-Week Lent Service**

Saturday - 2/24

8:30am. - Women's Bible Study

Week of February 25th

Sunday - 2/25

8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study

10:00am. - Worship

Wednesday - 2/28

Noon - **Mid-Week Lent Worship**

6:00pm. - **Mid-Week Lent Worship**

The Daily Lectionary

A guide to help you be in the Word daily

| | |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| 2/1 | Zechariah 11:4-17 / 2 Timothy 4:1-18 |
| 2/2 | Zechariah 12:1-13:9 / Titus 1:1-2:6 |
| 2/3 | Zechariah 14:1-21 / Titus 2:7-3:15 |
| 2/4 | Job 1:1-22 / John 1:1-18 |
| 2/5 | Job 2:1-3:10 / John 1:19-34 |
| 2/6 | Job 3:11-26 / John 1:35-51 |
| 2/7 | Job 4:1-21 / John 2:1-12 |
| 2/8 | Job 5:1-27 / John 2:13-25 |
| 2/9 | Job 6:1-13 / John 3:1-21 |
| 2/10 | Job 6:14-30 / John 3:22-4:6 |
| 2/11 | Job 7:1-21 / John 4:7-26 |
| 2/12 | Job 8:1-22 / John 4:27-45 |
| 2/13 | Job 9:1-35 / John 4:46-54 |
| 2/14 | Job 10:1-22 / John 5:1-18 |
| 2/15 | Job 11:1-20 / John 5:19-29 |
| 2/16 | Job 12:1-6, 12-25 / John 5:30-47 |
| 2/17 | Job 13:1-12 / John 6:1-21 |
| 2/18 | Job 13:13-28 / John 6:22-40 |
| 2/19 | Job 14:1-22 / John 6:41-59 |
| 2/20 | Job 15:1-23, 30-35 / John 6:60-71 |
| 2/21 | Job 16:1-22 / John 7:1-13 |
| 2/22 | Job 17:1-16 / John 7:14-31 |
| 2/23 | Job 18:1-21 / John 7:32-53 |
| 2/24 | Job 19:1-12, 21-27 / John 8:1-20 |
| 2/25 | Job 20:1-23, 29 / John 8:21-38 |
| 2/26 | Job 21:1-21 / John 8:39-59 |
| 2/27 | Job 30:16-31 / John 9:1-23 |
| 2/28 | Job 31:1-12, 33-40 / John 9:24-41 |

(Daily lectionary readings taken from LSB #299-304)

Some helpful habits for home devotions:

- *Do one reading in the morning and the other in the evening.*
- *Keep a journal or make a mental note of one thought that you would like to remember from this reading.*
- *Read and discuss the daily reading with a family member or friend.*
- *Choose one verse to commit to memory, reciting it through the day.*
- *Speak to God in prayer about something from the reading that impressed or confused you in this reading.*
- *If you miss a day or two (or three) and fall behind, don't worry and don't quit! Either set aside some time to catch up or skip those readings and move on.*
- *If you're using another reading schedule or guide, stick with it. The important thing is to be in the Word daily.*

Stewardship

February, 2018

| | <u>Feb. 4</u> | <u>Feb. 11</u> | <u>Feb. 14</u> (Ash Wed. Noon) | <u>Feb. 14</u> (Ash Wed. Evening) | <u>Feb. 18</u> | <u>Feb. 25</u> |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| <u>Acolyte</u> | Caden Fitzpatrick | Emily Lynn Carlson | ----- | Allison Farr | Allison Farr | Mia Fitzpatrick |
| <u>Comm. Assistant</u> | Mark Larsen | Steve Love | Glenn Carlson | Chris Batson | Steve Farr | Dan Callahan |
| <u>Ushers</u> | John Ayotte & Chris Batson | Mike Hein & Tom Huesers | John Ayotte | Brian Watson & Mike Hein | Bill Jahnke & Brian Watson | John Gould & Steve Love |
| <u>Greeters</u> | Peter & Lois Doran | Moe & Becky Cote | ----- | ----- | Julie & Sarah Kohl | Avis Grant & Pat Kablitz |
| <u>Altar Care</u> | Andrea Watson | Esther Gould | Lee Ann Larsen | Lee Anne Larsen | Katie Huesers | Avis Grant |
| <u>Flowers</u> | Batsons | Batsons | Lent-No Flowers | Lent-No Flowers | Lent-No Flowers | Lent-No Flowers |
| <u>Fellowship</u> | Kitty Carlson | The Fitzpatricks | ----- | ----- | OPEN | The Ouellettes |