



## Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Bi-Weekly newsletter Feb. 27.24 to Mar. 10.24



Gloria Dei Folk:

How's your Lenten journey going? If you gave something up, are you still doing it? If you took on a new habit, has it continued? Lent is a good time to continually re-evaluate and reboot if necessary. I love the computer principle that says "almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you."

Lent is an appropriate time to constantly start over; to unplug when necessary. As we look to the cross and the gift of grace that was accomplished for us through the suffering of our Savior, this time between Ash Wednesday and Easter is an opportune period to ponder our faith and how we live it out before, during, and after Lent. In other words, it's really about our focus.

A piece I came across recently attributed in part to one of my favorite authors Rabbi Harold Kushner says it well:

As a new week is about to begin:  
When we focus on death, we ultimately rob life of meaning.  
When we focus on our fears, we give them more power to control our lives.  
When we focus on our struggles, we only increase our despair.  
But when we focus on life and the day we have before us, we rob death of an early victory.  
When we focus on our loved ones, we empower ourselves and remember that life matters.  
When we focus on the struggles of others, we increase our own strength and find hope that in love, we can overcome any challenge.  
(Inspired by the words of Rabbi Harold Kushner and Pastor Forrest Church)

Continued blessings on your Lenten journey.

Peace,  
Pastor Ted Kerr

**"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)**

### Join us for Soup Suppers & Lenten Worship

We continue to have 6:00pm Soup Suppers throughout Lent followed by 7:00pm Guided to the Cross Lenten worship series. The February 28th topic is Guided to Love as we contemplate how to live lives of love in response to the love Christ showed us on the cross. March topics are Guided to Peace, Guided to Trust and Guided to Perseverance.

### Holy Week services:

March 24th	9:30 am Palm Sunday
March 28th	7:00 pm Maundy Thursday
March 29th	12:00 pm Good Friday
March 31st	9:30 am Easter Worship

Mark your calendar for Easter Breakfast at 8:30am!

### Share the Love

Thanks to all who donated items for the Catherine Cobb Shelter. We collected many bags of personal hygiene items, blankets, sheets, socks, underwear, children's shoes, boots & winter coats.

### March Birthdays

Birthday Blessings to all who have a March birthday! We will celebrate with you at the coffee hour on March 3rd. If we missed your birthday here, please let us know your date!

<b>Ken Knorp</b>	March 4
<b>Mike Brooks</b>	March 4
<b>Shirley Warner</b>	March 5
<b>Jim Felton</b>	March 12
<b>Bill Dahn</b>	March 15
<b>May Butler</b>	March 21
<b>Riley Martin</b>	March 22
<b>Mark Tommelein</b>	March 22
<b>Deb Lawson</b>	March 23



### Transportation & Meals

One way we can reach out to others is by offering transportation to appointments and making meals. If you are willing to be on a rotation to offer transportation to a church member, please contact the church office. Also, if you would like to make a meal or have an extra container of food when you make dinner, we are stocking the church freezer in order to offer freezer meals to those who need it at anytime. Please label your meal and add a date.

### 4Gs Women's Bible Study Group

Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> is the next Bible study. We will finish up with Week 3 in the Devoted book with Bathsheba, Huldah, and Ester.

### Kids of the Kingdom

The next young youth group, Kids of the Kingdom, will be on Sunday March 10th at 4pm. Bring your favorite game and a snack or beverage to share.

### Youth Group

The youth group recently had an afternoon of bowling planned, but unfortunately the bowling alley was very busy and we weren't able to get a lane. We made the best of it by going to Spotted Cow instead for ice cream and fellowship! During the month of March, the youth group will be assisting with a soup supper and a coffee hour at church.



### Easter Lilies

Easter Lilies may be purchased to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. Envelopes are available in the narthex. Purchase your Easter lily by filling out an envelope in the narthex and place in the offering plate with \$16.50 per plant.

### New Member Class

The next New Member Orientation will be on Saturday, March 16th at 10am. New Members will be received on Palm Sunday, March 24. If you have been attending and wish to take the next step, please RSVP the office.

### Family Movie Night

Join us on Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm for Family Movie Night! Bring your own beverage.

We will supply popcorn and fellowship.

### Celebrating 99 years!

May Butler will celebrate her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 21<sup>st</sup>! Help her celebrate with a visit to her at home that Thursday anytime between 9:30 am and 4:00 pm. No gifts please.



### Prayers

Rick Webb, Diane Kerr, Rick Brighton, David Kirsch, Rachel Raymond, Fred O'Quinn, Michael Kroth, Jill Kamphefner, Todd, Debbie Brighton, Michael Wood, Brian Wild, Martha, Bob, Roger, Cheryl, Nan Herring, Jim Hook, Jim Lofgren, Donna Borsvold, Juliana Kurutz, Bill Preston, Pastor Sarah, Pastor Hank, St. Luke's, Temperance- Pr. Robyn Kistemaker, our Confirmation class: *Carsyn and Juliet*, and the people of Ukraine, and those impacted by wildfires, earthquakes and tornadoes.

