



Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I write this to you at the end of what has been a rough day. Really rough. The temperature got up to 78° today and I have Spring fever. I have it badly. So badly that I am having trouble focusing. My newsletter article is overdue. There is a pile of other tasks to complete on my desk. Lessons for lectors need to be downloaded and formatted and printed out. Hymns need to be selected, Bible passages for midweek services picked. I have a meeting with a seminary intern. There is proofreading that needs to be done, and information that I need to process and then email to a renewal congregation that I am coaching. Visits need to be made, etc., etc.

All I want to do is gaze out my window, listen to the birds sing, think about what I want to plant this year, listen to the peepers, and dream of the beautiful sunshine. Then I walk out into the warm air and breathe in the perfume, "Eau de Moo-Moo." The manure piles have thawed. I want to be outside.

Then I think about it. Wait. It isn't Spring. It's still Winter. Nature is toying with us. Don't rush it. Don't wish your life away, just stop and savor it. Enjoy the journey.

That's what Lent is. It is a journey. We journey with Jesus through the last days of his mission. We sit with him and the other disciples at his last supper. We follow Jesus into the garden, and like the others we fall asleep when he needs us the most. The crowd that comes out to arrest him, we are a part of. We follow as he goes to trial, is beaten, crucified, and put in the tomb. Holy Week is like watching the Olympic skaters in slow motion. In slow motion we get to see every little movement, every little spin and turn. We experience every graceful hand motion, and the execution of every choreographed step. We get to experience the art, the grace and the beauty of poetry in motion.

Holy Week takes us through the last week, days, and seconds of Jesus' life. It's like slow motion. We can't just rush through it. We have to stop what we are doing, slow down, and pay attention so we can savor it. It is an intimately holy experience. It is the last days of Jesus, our master and friend and he wants us to spend time with him, accompany him, walk with him. That isn't too much to ask of us, is it? After all, the sacrifice he makes is our sacrifice. The sins forgiven through all of this are our sins.

Don't rush Lent. Take it step by step. Spend some time with Jesus. Savor Holy Week. Walk with Jesus, join with us on the journey. It's worth the wait. You'll see.

In His Name,

**CHURCH NEWS AROUND THE
CONGREGATION**



Our Prayers for the Following

Jane Pollard, Jean Boyer, Rick Gomer, Mary Ellen Bower, Roy & Nancy Snider, Esther McCulloh, Julie Funk, Mamie Martin, Glenn Knoll, Angie Stottlemeyer, Judy Crawford, Sabrina Gantz, Joann Tressler, Virginia Horn, Brooks Patrick and Lucille Ellen Livelsberger.



Happy Birthday to:

- Mar. 1st Robin McDonald
- Mar. 2nd Taylor George
- Mar. 6th Scott Bump
- Mar. 9th Paul Moore / Greg Funk, Jr.
- Mar. 16th Sherry Tresler
- Mar. 19th Tyler McDonald
- Mar. 27th Greg Funk, Sr.



Happy Anniversary to:

- Mar. 8th Mike & Pam Hildabridle



Anyone interested in becoming an assisting minister for worship, please see Pastor Denise.



Please Remember our Shut-ins

Here is a list of shut-in members who would either love to have a visit from you or receive a card from you. They are interesting people who can be an asset to our Christian lives and they have some great stories to tell. Please don't forget these wonderful members of our Christian family and go see them or send them a cheery card.

1. Mrs. Esther McCulloh
3794 Etter Road
Chambersburg, PA 17202
2. Mr. Glenn Knoll
1359 Brechbill Road
Chambersburg, PA 17202
3. Mrs. Ellis Martin
931 Swamp Fox Road
Chambersburg, PA 17202
4. Mrs. Jane Pollard
751 Warm Spring Road
Chambersburg, PA 17202
5. Mr. & Mrs. Roy Snider
631 Warm Spring Road
Chambersburg, PA 17202



Parish Round of Prayer

Susan Etter & Bob Knuff, Greg Funk, Sr., Greg Funk, Jr, Julie Funk, Paul, Tina, Garrett, & Taylor George, Harold & Martha Gomer.



Conference Round of Prayer

First Lutheran Church Chambersburg, Pastor Jane Nicholson, Freda Dorand-AIM, Second Lutheran Church Chambersburg, St. Thomas Lutheran Church St. Thomas, Pastor Marleen Griffith-Stull, Trinity Lutheran Church Rouzerville, Pastor Pam Illick.



Prayers of Thanksgiving

For those who contribute to SpiriTrust Lutheran Auxiliary to Luther Ridge, For those who contribute to Social Ministry projects, For those who contribute to Youth projects, For those who contribute to the Pat Armstrong Fund for Music.



Church Day Buffet

“Dinner at the Ridge” will be held at the Fleck Center on Wednesday, March 14th, at 12 noon. The menu is creamed lettuce, corn beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes, roll, a variety of desserts, and a beverage. Please call 717-264-3212 for reservations by noon on Friday, March 9th. The cost per meal is \$7.50.



Wellness Talk

The Wellness Talk for March is scheduled for Thursday, March 22nd at 1 pm. Hearing Instrument Specialist, Stacey Parker, from Chambersburg Hearing will provide education about the importance of treating hearing loss and the benefits of hearing aids. She will also provide complimentary hearing screening for those that are interested. The talk will take place at the Fleck Center at SpiriTrust Lutheran, The Village at Luther Ridge, 2998 Luther Drive, Chambersburg. Please RSVP to 717-267-1665 if you plan to attend this informative session.



Synod Weekly News

“W.E. Are Synod!” is the new weekly enews publication from our Lower Susquehanna Synod. It is mobile friendly and contains a great deal of information. Sign up by going to www.elca-lss.org and scrolling down to the bottom left side. Click where it says e communications and fill out the information.



Touch-a-Life

The SpiriTrust Lutheran Touch-a-Life program in Franklin County has a new volunteer on board who is interested in helping with minor household repairs and outdoor chores. If you or someone you know has a need for a handyman, please call Linda Beaver at 717-264-0737.



SpiriTrust Lutheran Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteers are currently needed in Franklin County to accompany staff and assist residents on off campus outings. Outings may include trips to restaurants, theaters, concerts, and other places of interest. If you would like to help with this current need or would like more information about this, please contact Linda Beaver at 717-264-0737 or lbeaver@spiritrustlutheran.org.



Auxiliary Membership News

It’s still not too late! Please consider joining the SpiriTrust Lutheran Chambersburg Auxiliary. Anyone can join with a minimum donation of \$1. The Auxiliary provides support for programs of SpiriTrust Lutheran in Franklin and Fulton counties. If you would like to join the Auxiliary or need more information, please contact Pastor Denise or Mary Jane Lindsey.



Inclement Weather

If the weather is bad on a Sunday morning, please turn to ABC27 snow watch on television for church cancellations or call the church and see if there is a message on the answering machine.



Power Pack Food Drive

We are collecting for the Power pack meals for 29 students in the Marion Elementary School. Items need and used for this project are microwavable cup meals (**most needed**), granola bars, individual servings of applesauce, crackers & cheese / crackers & peanut butter, and individual fruit cups. This program provides meals for hungry at risk children so that they have a little to eat on the weekends. We will continue with this collection throughout the school year and keep you updated on any items needed.



Mid-Week Lenten Service

We have joined Evangelical Lutheran Church Greencastle for our mid-week Lenten Services. On Wednesday March 7th and 21st Salem will host the mid-week Lenten meal at 6:15 pm and the service at 7 pm. On Wednesday March 14th Evangelical Lutheran Church Greencastle, 130 N. Washington Street will host the mid-week Lenten meal at 6:15 pm and the service at 7 pm. Please come and join us for these services with the theme being “**The Disciplines of Lent**”.



Salem's New Website

Salem's new website is up and running thanks to Michael Horn and Barry Boyer. The domain name is still www.salemmarion.org and the new look is great. If you have a chance to go on to it and check things out you should because they have new things each week.



Please Save These Items

1. **STAMPS**: Joanne Ott is still saving used stamps, so please take a moment and either turn in the envelope with the stamp on it, tear the envelope in half and turn in the part with the stamp on, or turn in a large area around the stamp on into the church office or put it in Sandy's inbox in the Narthex. **The stamps are used to benefit Cross Keys Village-The Brethren Home Community and those who live there.**
2. **TABS**: Budd & Mary Jane Lindsey are still taking tabs from soda or beer cans to Hershey, so please save them and drop them in the little church box or container on the landing in the Narthex. **The tabs are used for the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey for children with Cancer.**
3. **OLD CARDS**: Joanne Ott is still collecting used cards (such as any Holiday or Get Well cards) with no hand writing on the front cover for St. Jude's You may bring any old cards to the church and put them in Sandy's inbox or turn them in at the office.
4. **BOX TOPS**: The church secretary is collecting box tops for her granddaughter. So if you bring them to the church you can either give them to Sandy or put them in her inbox. The other choice you have is to mail them or drop them off at the church. **The box tops go to Kendolynn Heckman to take to her school.**

Please try to help with these causes. It only takes a second to remove the item from wherever and save them up. They are then used to help others.



Please note that we are no longer collecting Campbell's soup labels. We received a telephone call from Solheim Lutheran Home in California and we were told that Campbell's notified them that they are no longer accepting the soup labels. We are still collecting Box Tops for a young member of Salem for her school.



Twins

Congratulations to Maggie and Eric Livelsberger on the birth of their twins on December 16th, 2017. Their son, Brooks Patrick weighed in at 2.12 pounds and was 14 inches long and their daughter, Lucille Ellen (Lucy) weighed in at 1.6 pounds and was 12.5 inches long. Their grandparents are Trudy and Denny Hose and their great grandmother is Mary Ellen Bower. They are on a seven-day count down for being off of the ventilator. Brooks alarm went off and the seven-day count down had to start again but if everything goes right he may be released on February 22nd or 23rd. Lucy has to have eye surgery and will be reassessed after that to determine how well she is doing and when she can come home. Please keep them in your prayers.



A Little Girl

Congratulations to Ashley and Zach Sites on the birth of their daughter, Avery Grace on January 8th, 2018 at 9:31 pm. Avery is the granddaughter of Richard and Robin McDonald, the great granddaughter of Helen McDonald, and the niece of Tyler McDonald. Avery has a lot more relatives at Salem, so congrats to them all.



Thank You

We want to thank Mary Louise Harshman, Alice Davis, Sandy Heckman, and Pastor Denise Horn for supplying breakfast and lunch for the pastors who attended the Chambersburg Conference on Tuesday, February 13th. They enjoyed the food and as always said that the food was delicious. Thanks again.



Thank you

We want to thank Ann Schnabel for stepping in to be our new Church Council President. Thanks Ann!



Thank You

Thank you to Vicky Yeager for working on getting the kinks out of the new payroll system and handling many other items behind the scenes. You are greatly appreciated. Thanks!!



Thank You

Thanks to Ben Davis, Linda Shade, Sandy Heckman, and Pastor Denise for doing some of the snow shoveling. Your help is appreciated.



Get Well Wishes

Anyone interested in sending Judy Crawford get well wishes can mail them to Menno Haven Nursing & Rehab., 2075 Scotland Avenue, Mrs. Judy Crawford, Room 103, Chambersburg, PA 17201. Judy has been having health issues and needs our thoughts and prayers.

Anyone interested in sending Mary Ellen Bower get well wishes can mail them to Shook Home, 55 S. Second St., Mrs. Mary Ellen Bower, Room 103, Chambersburg, PA 17201. Mary Ellen will be spending some time at Shook for therapy and would love to hear or see you. If you wish to call her you can call Shook Home 717-264-6815 and enter 1022 which is her extension. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers too.



Thank you

Terry Ambrose has dropped off bags of food for our Power Pack meals several times now. Terry gets our newsletter and tries to help out when she can. We just want her to know that we really appreciate her kindness and thoughtfulness. Thanks Terry.



Marion Community Maundy Thursday Service

The Marion Community Maundy Thursday service will be on Thursday, March 29th at 7 pm at Marion First United Methodist Church, 94 Colorado Street, Marion. Pastor Denise Horn will preach.



Good Friday Cooperative Service

On Good Friday, March 30th we will have a Cooperative Service at Salem at 7 pm with Evangelical Lutheran Church of Greencastle participating.



Easter Sunday

On Easter Sunday, April 1st, 2018 we will have a 9 am breakfast and fellowship. At 10:15 am will have a Festival Service of Holy Communion. Happy Easter, Jesus has risen!



Time Change

It is that time again to change your clock to Daylight Savings Time. On Sunday morning, March 11th shortly after midnight the time springs forward one hour. Before you go to bed on Saturday night change your clocks to one hour earlier.



Consider a Lenten Facebook 'fast'

Along with the old standbys of chocolate, alcohol, smoking and soda pop, Facebook and social media have joined the list of common things people give up for Lent as they prepare their hearts and minds for Easter.

It's definitely a 21st century twist to the ancient practice of "fasting" to improve our willpower, strengthen our spirits, clear our minds, distance ourselves from distractions and bring us closer to God. And in our day and age, it's entirely necessary, too.

What's the stewardship connection? God entrusts us to treasure and use wisely all that we have and all we are. Growing evidence concludes that excessive digital media not only wastes our time but also may cloud our thinking.

Research shows people can become addicted – yes, addicted – to digital media. Scientists discovered that when folds get an affirmation on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat or other social media, it triggers a response in the reward and pleasure centers of our brains. We want more and more and have a hard time disengaging. (It's a real issue. Just Google "smartphone addiction" to learn more.)

Moreover, there is growing concern about the effects that excessive digital exposure has on the developing brains of children.

For those of us who use our phones for keeping up with news, texting, sending email, reading, or watching video streaming, excessive smartphone use can lower our attention spans and train us to crave a constant stream of new information.

And of course, all this digital media takes up time that we might be using for more healthful activities, such as praying, meditating, processing the important things of our lives, talking to friends, taking a walk, reading a book, exercising or playing a board game with family members.

So maybe giving up Facebook and other digital media is a perfect idea for Lent in the 21st century. Like those old standbys of chocolate, alcohol, smoking and soda pop, giving up social media and other digital applications for Lent may not be easy, but it will help strengthen our spirits, test our willpower, clear our minds, distance ourselves from distractions and bring us closer to God.

---Rob Blezard

<March> <2018>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 1 Peter 2:4-10	2 Acts 7:30-40	3 Mark 9:2-8
4 9 am S.S. 10:15 am Worship w/Communion/ 3 rd Sunday in Lent John 2:13-22	5 1 Corinthians 3:10-23	6 Hebrews 9:23-28	7 6:15 pm Lenten Meal & Service at Salem Mark 11:15-19	8 7 pm Council Meeting Ephesians 1:3-6	9 Ephesians 1:7-14	10 John 3:1-13
11 9 am S.S. 10:15 am Worship w/Communion 4 th Sunday in Lent Mother's Day Daylight-Savings John 3:14-21	12 Hebrews 3:1-6	13 1 Corinthians 10:6-13	14 6:15 pm Lenten Meal & Service at ELC Greencastle John 8:12-20	15 Hebrews 4:12-20	16 Hebrews 4:14-5:4	17 St. Patrick's Day John 12:1-11
18 9 am S.S. 10:15 am Worship w/Communion/ 5 th Sunday in Lent John 12:20-33	19 2 Corinthians 3:4-11	20 1 st Day of Spring Acts 2:14-24	21 6:15 pm Lenten Meal & Service at Salem John 12:34-50	22 Philippians 2:1-11	23 Philippians 2:12-18	24 Mark 10:32- 34, 46-52
25 9 am S.S. 10:15 am Worship Palm Sunday Mark 11:1-11	26 John 12:1-11	27 John 12:20-36	28 John 13:21-32	29 7 pm Marion Community Maundy Thursday Service John 13:1- 17,31b-35	30 7 pm Good Friday Cooperative Service John 18:1- 19:42	31 Romans 6:3-11