

*March, 2015*

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*Some thoughts from your pastor...*

This season of Lent, these forty days (minus Sundays) between now and our Easter celebration is such a multifaceted time for us as disciples. The traditional practices the “church” has encouraged for our Lenten time is that of prayer, fasting, increased attention to the Word in the scriptures, and selfless/sacrificial giving. Truth be told, that’s a lot of spiritual activity to practice, taken all together.

In Matthew, chapter 13, Jesus tells a teaching story known as the “parable of the Sower.” The seed-scatterer throws seed everywhere. Jesus says of the seed that falls on rocky ground: *these are the people who gladly hear the message and accept it right away. But they don’t have deep roots, and they don’t last very long. As soon as life gets hard or the message gets them in trouble, they give up.*

Dean Dadasdy, in a Lenten devotion writes: *A father was asked to share his faith story at a Lenten Vespers. He spoke of losing his only son in the war in Afghanistan. His grief was still fresh. He wept as he spoke and we who worshiped wept with him. At the close he said, “Only the promises of God will get me through this.”*

*What marks the difference between those who break from the faith under pressure and those who hold fast? What makes spiritual survivors out of those who endure pain and lose? Is it courage? Is it fortitude? Jesus says it is depth, the seed of the Word so deeply rooted in heart and mind that we follow, even when it is hard.*

It seems to me that each of those traditional Lenten practices will help us achieve what Jesus suggests for us, not only for the hard times but for every time in life...allowing the spirit of the Lord to go deeper and deeper into us. To be make people of greater depth of spirit.

So, this Lent feel free to choose whatever you sense from God will allow the Lord to make that “going deeper” happen for you...prayer, fasting, increased attention to the Word in the scriptures, selfless/ sacrificial giving or any combination thereof.

For after all, Lent’s primary focus for us individuals and as a community of disciples together is to become more and more a people of God with depth.

**CELEBRATING  
GOD  
CONNECTING  
PEOPLE**

In his name,



## CHURCH COUNCIL

### *Officers*

#### *Julie Boscia*

President.....610-398-2859

#### **Darlene Wenhold**

Vice Pres.....610-366-2008

#### *Darrell Correll*

Treasurer.....610-435-8210

#### *Shirley Schleicher*

Secretary.....610-395-4461

### *Members*

Jason Barnett

Jeff Berdahl

Justin Grim

Ken Gross

Bill Hendricks

Amelia Jensen

Irene Johnson

Michael Kerschner

Terry Naugle

Kevin Murphy

John Weremedic

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### *March*

#### **Second Sunday in Lent (3/1)**

8:00 – WOV Worship Service

10:30 – GIA Worship Service w/comm.

#### **Mid-Week Lenten Service (3/4) at 7:00 p.m.**

#### **Third Sunday in Lent (3/8)**

8:00 - ELW Worship Service w/comm.

10:30 – ELW Worship Service

Girl Scout Sunday

#### **Mid-Week Lenten Service (3/11) at 7:00 p.m.**

#### **Fourth Sunday in Lent (3/15)**

8:00 – ELW Worship Service

10:30 – ELW Worship Service w/comm.

#### **Mid-Week Lenten Service (3/18) at 7:00 p.m.**

#### **Fifth Sunday in Lent (3/22)**

8:00 – GIA Worship Service w/comm.

10:30 – WOV Worship Service

#### **Mid-Week Lenten Service (3/25) at 7:00 p.m.**

#### **Palm/Passion (3/29)**

8:00 & 10:30 – Worship Services

### **Jordan Lutheran Church**

Office Hrs. M-F, 9:00-4:00

#### **CONTACT INFO**

5103 Snowdrift Road

Orefield PA 18069

Phone: 610-395-5912

Fax: 610-395-2423

[jordanlutheran@verizon.net](mailto:jordanlutheran@verizon.net)

[pastorjordanlutheran@verizon.net](mailto:pastorjordanlutheran@verizon.net)

[www.jordanlutheran.org](http://www.jordanlutheran.org)

#### **STAFF**

Pastor: Rev. Jimmy Lee Werley

Visitation Pastor: Rev. Jerel Gade

Administrator: Monica Unangst

Christian Ed.: Jamie Edelman

Organist/Choir: David Diehl

Asst Organist: Janice Kistler

Bell Choir: Greg Grove

Inc/Exp Coord: Marlene Peters

Canon Choir: Janice Kistler

Cherub Choir: Marlene Peters

Sexton: Erich Gessitz

#### **DEADLINES**

**Newsletter** – 15<sup>th</sup> of the month  
prior to publication

**Bulletin** – 10 a.m. Thursdays

#### **HOSPITAL CODE**

256

## 2015 SPONSORSHIPS

**Altar Flowers:** 3/1, 8; 4/12, 26; 5/10, 31; 6/7, 14, 21, 28; 7/5, 12, 19, 26

**Pulpit Flowers:** 3/1, 8, 15, 22, 29; 4/12, 19, 26; 5/17, 31; 6/7, 14, 28; 7/5, 12, 19, 26

**Bulletins:** (2 weekly)

**EPP Newspaper Ad:** call for available months

**HOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIP:** Contact Donna Hahn at 610-395-0613 with your choice of date(s) and sponsorship(s). Altar or pulpit flowers are \$35. No need to order flowers - they will be provided weekly by our contracted florist. Checks may be made payable to JELC and either mailed or dropped in the offering plate. You are asked to pick them up by 11:30 am on Sunday if you would like to take them home. Any flowers not picked up by that time will be given to shut-ins.

**SPONSORSHIP POLICY:** Flowers and other sponsorships may be reserved no earlier than one year from the chosen date. If you wish to reserve the same weekend for the following year, you may do so the day after the current year's sponsorship. No dates will be held; the first request for a date within the one year limit) will be taken regardless of the previous year's sponsor.

The following parishioners recently volunteered their time and talents to enhance our Sunday worship services:

**Altar Guild**

Lynn Daniels  
Chris Heilman, Sandra Hamil

**Lectors**

Carolyn Flemish, Kathy Leonard, Deb Gingerich, Boy Scouts, Melanie Werley, Karen Boardman, Shirley Miller, David Godshall, Andrea Russell

**Ushers**

Dave Figner, Dan Stark, Donna Stark, Cindy Stauffer, Michael Wertman, Donald Laudenslager, Herb Hullinger, John Weremedic

**Bell Tollers**

Drew Budlong, Anna-Mari Martz, Rich Alright, Nick Wertman, Dan Stark, Bruce Stettler, Russ Dalrymple, Mike Wertman

**Acolytes**

Jamie Silvonek, Keely Schofield, Samantha Klotz, Michael Boscia, Summer Kozy, Kyle Heston, Keely Schofield, Logan Edelman

**Communion Assistants**

Melanie Werley, Shirley Schleicher, Carolyn Flemish, Ken Gross, Jamie Edelman

**Pantry Volunteers**

Darrell Correll, Carolyn Flemish, Julia Krueger, Sharon and Terry Naugle, Sue Tough

**Pantry Needs for March: pasta sauce and spaghetti, tuna, cereal**

*"You can do more than pray after you have prayed; but you can never do more than pray until you have prayed."  
- A.J. Gordon*



**Bell Toller Schedule for March**

**TBA**

If you are interested in participating as a bell toller, please contact the church office. We can always use a few more and training will be provided.

**Treasurer's Report for January 2015**

	<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Operating Income	\$20,956.07	\$ 20,956.07
Bldg Fund/Mtg.	3,006.00	3,006.00
Benevolence	1,747.00	1,747.00
Debt Reduction	655.00	655.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$26,364.07</b>	<b>\$ 26,364.07</b>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Administration	\$ 1,891.06	\$ 1,891.06
Ministries	677.53	677.53
Payroll	20,276.93	20,276.93
Property	14,064.67	14,064.67
Bldg Fund/Mtg.	4,993.00	4,993.00
Benevolence	2,366.67	2,366.67
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 44,259.86</b>	<b>\$ 44,259.86</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$(17,895.79)</b>	<b>\$ (17,895.79)</b>

**Winter Weather Cancellations:** In the event that church services must be cancelled due to inclement weather, you can keep informed by: (1) calling the church office to hear a recorded message regarding the status of the services, or (2) listen to these radio stations - 99.9 The Hawk, or WAEB-FM 790, or (3) watch WFMZ TV or check their website, or (4) check [www.waeb.com](http://www.waeb.com) (Operation Snowflake), or (5) check the Jordan Facebook page.

**By Including A Gift to Endowment Fund In Your Will, Your Commitment to Jordan Lives On**

As you plan for the future and make commitments within your will, please consider including a gift to the Jordan Evangelical Lutheran Church Endowment Fund. These gifts can provide tax advantages\* for you and can have a tremendous impact on our ability to complete our church mission now and in years to come. \* Check with your tax advisor for details.



**Time to plan your week at Bear Creek Camp**

Materials are available from the church office or you can explore Bear Creek Camp AND register online at [bearcreekcamp.org](http://bearcreekcamp.org). Don't forget, half the campership fee is granted to all Jordan members by the Endowment Disbursement Committee when they attend! Additional financial assistance may be available if you qualify. Call the church office.

Church emails are sent to every member who has shared their email address with us. Even if you notified us that you prefer to receive your newsletter by USPS, you will also receive one by email if we have your address on file. Feel free to delete it if you wish! Don't forget to keep the church office up to date if your address/email address changes!

**2014 Thrivent Choice Dollars expire on 3/31/2015**

Don't miss this opportunity to recommend where some of Thrivent Financial's charitable outreach funds are distributed. Thank you for taking the time to direct Choice Dollars. Your participation in the Thrivent Choice® program helps Thrivent Financial for Lutherans distribute these funds effectively. Because of you and other members, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is able to make a difference every day, across the country. Giving back is important to Thrivent Financial because we know it's important to you.



**Council Highlights, February 2015**

- Offering envelopes will be changed mid-year to reflect that there will no longer be a mortgage payment.
- Technology Committee is working on having wi-fi through the building.
- Mortgage balance is approx. \$20,000.
- 2014 giving statements were not mailed this year – available for pick up in the Memory Room after services

# Lent 2015

Please join us for Lenten fellowship at our Wednesday evening Soup and Salad Suppers immediately prior to Mid-Week Lenten Services. The meal begins at 5:30 p.m. Soups, breads, and desserts are needed. Kitchen help and assistance setting up and cleaning up are also requested.

*The Service is held at 7:00 p.m.*



- I/We will
- make soup for 10 - 15 people
  - make salad for 10 - 15 people
  - provide bread for 15 people
  - provide dessert for 10 - 15 people
  - provide salad toppings (bacon, cheese, eggs, croutons, etc.)
  - co-ordinate one supper
  - help in the kitchen to set up
  - help in the kitchen to clean up
  - help set up/take down tables and chairs

on:

*please circle preferred date(s)*

Feb. 18   Feb. 25   Mar. 4   Mar. 11   Mar. 18   Mar. 25   April 1

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

*Please bring a copy of your recipe so we can share them!*

*A free-will offering for World Hunger will be received at the suppers.*



This year's **Outdoor Worship & Picnic** is scheduled for August 16<sup>th</sup> at Lone Lane Park.

## MACUNGIE BAND SPRING CONCERT MARCH 15TH

Put on your Ghillies (Irish dancing shoes) and bring your sweetheart to Macungie Band's spring concert "Sweethearts and Shamrocks" on **Sunday, March 15 at 3:00 in the Family Center.**



Admission is \$5.00 per person with children under 12 are free and there will be refreshments for sale. The band will be playing such titles as Crazy for You, Brigadoon, Riverdance, Eire, Nessun Dorma and several others to commemorate Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day

# Mid-Week Lenten Worship 2015 – Grace – A video series by Max Lucado

We talk as though we understand the term. The bank gives us a *grace* period. The seedy politician falls from *grace*. Musicians speak of a *grace* note. We describe an actress as *gracious*, a dancer as *graceful*. We use the word for hospitals, baby girls, kings, and pre-meal prayers. We talk as though we know what *grace* means.

But do we really understand it? Have we settled for wimpy grace? It politely occupies a phrase in a hymn, fits nicely on a church sign. Never causes trouble or demands a response. When asked, "Do you believe in grace?" who could say no?

In this series, which will be the center of our mid-week Lenten worship opportunities, Max Lucado (internationally renowned Christian author and minister) asks a deeper question: Have you been changed by grace? Shaped by grace? Strengthened by grace? Emboldened by grace? Softened by grace? Snatched by the nape of your neck and shaken to your senses by grace?

God's grace has a drenching about it; a wildness about it; a white-water, riptide, turn-you-upside-downness about it. Grace comes after you. It rewires you. From insecure to God secure. From regret riddled to better-because-of-it. From afraid-to-die to ready to-fly.

Grace is the voice that calls us to change and then gives us the power to pull it off.

So, this Lent, let's make certain grace gets you. Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. during Lent.

Also remember to join us, if you are available, for our Soup Suppers in our Family Center each of those evenings, beginning at 5:30 p.m. (sign-up sheet included with this newsletter)

## 2015 EASTER TRIBUTES

To honor or memorialize a loved one, please fill out this form and return it (along with your check or cash) to the church office or place in the offering plate no later than Palm Sunday. All tributes will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletins. Additional forms are available in the foyer or church office.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Your phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Env. No. \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Flowers (\$8.50 per memorial flower)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Hunger Donation

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Memorial Fund Donation

One tribute per form, please

In honor of (living)

\_\_\_\_\_ In memory of (deceased)

By \_\_\_\_\_

For office use only – do not detach

### Easter Tributes

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
CHECK \$ \_\_\_\_\_ CASH \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ENV. NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
Please check: \_\_\_\_\_ Flower \_\_\_\_\_ Hunger Fund \_\_\_\_\_ Memorial Fund



## MAKE A CALL ~ PAY A VISIT ~ SEND A CARD ~ SAY A PRAYER

**LutherCrest:** Jean Lee

**Lutheran Home at Topton:** Anne Hulme

**Saucon Valley Manor:** Elizabeth Fritch, Joanne Wentz

**Kirkland Village:** Jane Koch

**Manor Care:** Peg Smith

**St. John's Specialty Care Ctr., Mars PA:** Sharla Kistler

**At Home:** Grace Haas, Doris Koch, Viola Roberts, Russell Bear, John Hemmis, Marion Whitner, Olive Wood, Melvin Rau, Richard & Norma Grammes, Donald Werley

**Please keep these people in your prayers:** John Weremedic, Viola Roberts, Joe Flemish, Shirley Hamm, Dale Hahn, Jean Wisler, Keith Young Sr.



### March Birthdays

- 1: Karen Boardman, Tighe Parker, Nathaniel Phillips
- 2: Asher Pijut
- 3: Doug Clark, Glenn Wagner
- 4: Aiden Pitts, Joshua Smith
- 5: Madison Bartos, Carina Epting, Blake Greenawald, Christine Hivizdak, Ira Van Scyoc
- 6: Alice Schneck, Larry Schneider
- 7: Adam Daniels
- 8: Ian Christianson, Jaime Gray, Kyle Nagle, Amanda Schuler
- 9: Joanne Hemmis, Leslie Mayo
- 10: Keira Kohlbrenner, Connor Weir
- 11: William Hendricks, Amanda Schofield
- 12: Tiffany Bentson, Katherine Hamburger
- 13: John Weremedic
- 14: Laura Garrison, Michael Kerschner
- 15: Nathaniel Benner, Wesley Filipovits, Harry Kohlbrenner
- 16: Lee Kreidler, Teagan Tremba
- 17: Dominick DiMaggio
- 18: Darrell Correll, Alan Jones
- 19: Norma Grammes, George Hein, Teresa Laudenslager
- 20: Matthew Damminger, Richard Semmel, Mallory Sweeney, Jim Wagner
- 21: Lucas Heberling
- 22: Amy Barnett, Lamont Cope, Sandra Sponsler, Olive Wood\*
- 23: Rachael Hendricks, Sarah Keinert, Andrea Russell, Gretchen Wagner, Terrie Weidman
- 24: Samantha Klotz
- 25: Lynette Daniels, Carolyn Flemish, Jeffrey Laudenslager, Carol Ludwig, Lauren Nunn, Arden Pohlod
- 26: Richard Kulp, Jamie Sandrock
- 27: Derrick Gaugler, Robert Miller, Marjorie Wilt
- 28: Ronald Andersch, Phyllis German, Dennis Herbert, Kitty Tom
- 29: Dale Hahn, Lori Hamm, Kevin Vehovic
- 30: Keri Guth, Jennessa White

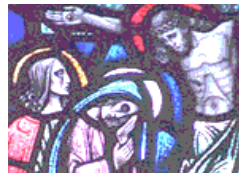
*\*these folks are shut-ins and would sure appreciate a card or phone call!*



### March Anniversaries

- March 26, 1960*  
Ilabelle & Norman Dietrich
- March 17, 1962*  
Shirley & Lawrence Wertman
- March 6, 1976*  
Linda & William Hendricks
- March 13, 1993*  
Terry & James Gannon
- March 22, 1997*  
Tracy & Deron Haught
- March 23, 2013*  
Michael & Marlayna Stofflet

### Praying Lent This Year



Lent offers us all a very special opportunity to grow in our relationship with God and to deepen our commitment to a way of life, rooted in our baptism. In our busy world, Lent provides us with an opportunity to reflect upon our patterns, to pray more deeply, experience sorrow for what we've done and failed to do, and to be generous to those in need.