

St. Thomas Lutheran Church

March 2017
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The Real Work

I came across a poem by Wendell Berry this week. It seems to me appropriate to the season of Lent that begins this year on the first day of March.

It may be that when we no longer know what to do
we have come to our real work,

and that when we no longer know which way to go
we have come to our real journey.

The mind that is not baffled is not employed.

The impeded stream is the one that sings.

("The Real Work" by Wendell Berry, from *Standing by Words*. © 1983)

Lent may be a spiritual opportunity for the "real work" and "real journey" of which Berry speaks.

- a time to admit that we often find it difficult to know what to do
- a time to recognize and steep ourselves in our need of God
- a time when our own devices are insufficient for setting a clear path ahead
- a time to meditate upon what God may be calling us to be and do

May Lent be for all of us an experience of real work as we consider God's calls. May Lent be a blessed experience of spiritual journey as we reflect upon the direction of our lives. And may God keep us mindful that our searching and our questions—our being "baffled"—give a singing voice to the streams of our lives.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Lyle



Lent – A Time to Revisit the Small Catechism

Plan to be present at special worship services during Lent for a refresher on Martin Luther's Small Catechism. You most likely studied it when you were in confirmation way back when. Since we are celebrating the 500th year of the Reformation, we have an opportunity to be reminded of Luther's foundational teachings on the chief symbols of the faith.

Here's the schedule:

Ash Wednesday – 3/1	Confession & Absolution
Midweek Lent 1 – 3/8	The Ten Commandments – Tablet 1
Midweek Lent 2 – 3/15	The Ten Commandments – Tablet 2
Midweek Lent 3 – 3/22	The Apostles' Creed
Midweek Lent 4 – 3/29	The Lord's Prayer
Midweek Lent 5 – 4/5	The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
Maundy Thursday – 4/13	The Sacrament of Holy Communion
Good Friday – 4/14	The Office of the Keys



First Communion Classes

March 26 and April 2, 2017, after late service--

All children ages 10 or younger are invited to participate in First Communion classes Sundays March 26th and April 2nd after late service. This class either prepares children to receive Holy Communion or helps children already receiving the sacrament to gain a better understanding. Parents are invited to attend as well, as your child may have questions about the class. Even if your child has been communing for some time, we hope you'll come together and learn about the forgiveness, joy, and strength we receive at the table of our Lord. Those who attend the classes will be recognized at our Maundy Thursday worship service, April 13th at 7pm. Children at St. Thomas are welcome to begin taking communion as soon as they can handle solid foods. We affirm that they are an important part of our faith community. We also honor the choice of parents to have their children wait until age 10 or another familial milestone.



Adult Forums in March

Sunday, March 5 – TBD

Sunday, March 12 – Intergenerational Day – Join in with folks of all ages for a celebration of learning.

Sunday, March 19 – Spring Break – No Education Classes or Forums

Sunday, March 26 – Poetry – Jerry Smith will read poems from his book, "My Journey" and answer questions about his writing on Sunday, March 26 from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. in Conference Room. Twenty of his books will

be on sale on the table outside the church office for \$10:00 each. All proceeds will go to the St. Thomas flower and landscape fund. Only twenty books are left so when they're gone, they're gone. Put cash and checks to St. Thomas in the "Jerry's books" box.

If you buy a book, you may request poems to be read on March 26. You do not need to buy a book to attend the reading. All are welcome.



News from the Community Garden

We're gearing up for 2017! Join us at our season-organizing meeting Sunday, March 5 9:45-10:45 AM in the Conference Room. We will review policies, plan work days, consider education and fund-raising ideas and more. *You don't have to be a gardener to attend – just someone who cares about this growing ministry.*



2017 Garden Plot Sign-Ups All 2016 gardeners who want to keep their plot or plots (up to 2 per household) should contact the office by March 10. If you had one plot last year but would like two this year, or if you'd like to try a different location, please let us know that, too. As soon as we know how many plots are locked in, we will give last year's growers the chance to change or add beds. Then we will open the rest to new gardeners.

If you are new to the garden and would like to secure a plot for 2017, notify the office of your interest and we will place you on a waiting list.

Hands-On Learning Labs Mark your calendar!

- March 25 Seed-Starting Workshop 10:00AM-Noon in Rm. 16/17. Give your favorite annuals a healthy start at this family-friendly workshop. Learn to save seeds that you can share and plant for years to come. Supplies will be provided, including special potting soil (which we will mix on site), seed starting trays, and Ark of Taste seeds. Bring any additional seed varieties that you'd like to start. There is no charge for this workshop but registration is required. Contact Paula Perron at seedsavers474@gmail.com. This workshop will be led by Roger Hartwell, Paula Perron and Marie Fleming.
- April 2 Junior Master Gardener Seed-Starting. During the Education Hour, the 4th-6th grade will have a JMG "Plant Growth and Development" lesson. Students will make newspaper pots and start seeds for the ECHO Plant Sale.
- May 20 Seed-Saving 2.0 10:00AM-Noon in Rm. 16/17. Some plants require two years to produce seeds. This workshop builds on last year's SS 1.0 class to show you how to add variety to your seed production. Participation in SS 1.0 is not a prerequisite - there will be plenty of review- but please DO register at seedsavers474@gmail.com. Roger Hartwell will lead this session.

Labyrinth Walkers will find information and instructions in the beautiful box made by Tim Kirsch at the main gate.



Easter Brunch is around the corner!
Watch for a sign-up board to bring supplies and be
ready to join us in the annual
Easter Brunch tradition lead by St. Thomas Youth.
Nothing says Easter Brunch like quiche!

Intergenerational Fiber Arts Group:

A big thanks to Marie Fleming and Ruth Rives for teaching children and adults how to knit this past meeting. We all had a great time!

Plan to come Saturday, March 25th to enjoy one another's company while working on any type of fiber arts project you would like. We meet from 10 am - 12 pm at St. Thomas. Contact Leah Iversen with questions: 812-320-2017



Faith Forte

Faith Forte! for toddlers and parents continues to meet every second Sunday of the month. Debbie Witt leads us in song and the kids get a chance to dance their wiggles out before or after church. We meet in Heritage Hall during the Sunday School Hour.



Youth Group Schedule

Tuesday, February 28, 5:30-7:30pm – Shrove Tuesday Dinner & 60 Seconds or Less Talent Show.

March 5, 5:30-7:30pm - Regular youth group at St. Thomas

March 19, 5:30-7:30pm - Regular youth group at St. Thomas

April 2, 5:30-7:30pm - Regular youth group at St. Thomas

Saturday, April 15 – Easter Brunch Work Day

April 16 – Easter Brunch

Where's My Mug?

While most of us who use the new appliances in the kitchen appreciate our two dishwashers, they have proven to be very efficient at washing off your names. Beginning on Sunday, February 26, (this Sunday!) all of you coffee and tea drinkers will have an opportunity to re-label your coffee mug! A variety of markers will be provided: black for the white and pale-colored mugs; gold & silver for the dark colors.

For those of you who are not visitors, but have been using the "visitor" mugs, there will be a selection of "orphan" mugs available for adoption. Mugs that do not get labeled will be removed from the service carts and put in storage.



Happy Birthday To Members Celebrating In March

- 3/1 Susan Mari
- 3/3 Dan Seegert
- 3/4 Dawn Bakken
- 3/5 Erica Goldsworthy, Jim Pankow
- 3/8 Debbie Moore
- 3/11 Birch Foley, Katcha Papesh
- 3/12 Margaret Harter
- 3/13 Debbie Witt
- 3/16 Margrethe O'Connor
- 3/20 David Ellies, Gary Ingersoll,
Jo Anne Namy
- 3/21 Willow Dimick
- 3/23 John Bush
- 3/25 Kay Isaacson (will be 96)
Anna Sloss

Sandy Taylor's artwork will be on display and for sale at By Hand Gallery for the month of March. There will be an opening reception on Friday March 3 from 5-8. By Hand Gallery is located inside Fountain Square Mall downtown.

Happy Wedding Anniversary

Edwin and Pauline Caldwell	3/3/82	35 yrs
John and Judy Bush	3/28/64	53 yrs

MCUM Food Pantry needs for March

Canned Meats
Instant Cocoa
Peanut Butter
Dried Beans
Cooking Oil

Closet needs:

Deodorant, Adult Socks, Men's Underwear (size small)

Our mailing address is:
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Bloomington, IN 47401
www.stlconline.org

Unsubscribe from this list by emailing or update your preferences by emailing: kayehill@stlconline.org

March 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Ash Wed Service at Noon & 7 pm Friday Musicale 9:30 am	2 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	3	4 Property Com 10 am
5 Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Education Hour 9:45 am Community Garden 9:45 am Bread Delivery 9:45 am	6 Mission Co 6 pm Community Band 7pm	7 UClub Yoga 10am Personnel Co 6:00 p Worship Com. 6:30	8 Service at Noon & 7 pm	9 Girl Scouts 4 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	10	11 Ricketts memorial Service 2 pm
12 Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Intergenerational Day	13 Community Band 7pm	14 UClub Yoga 10am	15 Service at Noon & 7 pm	16 Finance Co 6 pm <i>Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm</i>	17	18
19 Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 No Education Hour	20 Community Band 7pm	21 UClub Yoga 10am	22 Service at Noon & 7 pm	23 Girl Scouts 4 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	24	25 Seed saving workshop 10 am Bach Rehearsal 1 pm
26 Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 Education Hour 9:45am First Communion Class Bach Cantata 2:30 pm Pipers Society 4:00 pm	27 Communications Co 7:00 pm Community Band 7pm	28 UClub Yoga 10am Education Co 6:30 pm Lace Guild 7:00 pm	29 Service at Noon & 7 pm	30 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7 pm	31	