



FAMILY of FAITH

LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMC

March 2024

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JOINING HANDS

Vol. 14 Issue 3 №. 162

Worship

Sundays 10:15 AM

Holy Communion

March 3 Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20:1-17
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 19:16-26

March 10 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4-9
Ephesians 2:1-10
Matthew 20:20-28

March 17 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Hebrews 5:1-10
Matthew 20:29-34

March 24 Palm Sunday

Zechariah 9:9-12
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 21:1-11

March 31 Resurrection of Our Lord

Isaiah 25:6-9
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Matthew 28:1-10

Sunday School

Sunday School 9:00 AM

From Pastor Phil

For Our Sin

Think about the cross, think about Easter, and almost every Christian will say, “Jesus died for our sin”. That is correct, but do we have a solid concept of what that means.

The reformers described human nature as “Total Depravity”. That sounds very harsh. It seems to imply that everything about us is as bad as it gets. The better way to understand it is that nothing about us is as pure as it was created to be. Even the best of who we are is polluted by sin. The Old Testament put it this way, the highest and greatest achievements of humanity are like a pile of filthy rags before a Holy God.

When Jesus died for sin, Jesus did not just die for the bad parts of who we are. In reality, there are no good parts that we retain while Jesus washes us clean from the rest. Jesus died to redeem everything about us.

This is why the Apostle Paul can speak of us dying with Christ. It is not just the things about us that we recognize as needing forgiveness, it is also about the rest of us where the sin is so hidden we do not even see it. On the cross Jesus did not just make us better people, Jesus made the way for us to be completely changed people.

Paul went on to say that as we died in Christ so also we are raised in Christ. Everything about us; our thoughts, attitudes, emotions, words, and actions called to complete transformation. We are a new creation.

Anyone who truly understands Easter knows that faith in Christ is not an add-on to life to help us cope with temptation or find relief from our guilt. It is life itself. Life as it was created to be. Relationships as they were meant to be. Communities bound together as they were intended to be. We are talking about a total makeover not just a few cosmetic improvements. Easter is an “all-in” situation. Much more than just a part of our life – Easter is about all of our life.

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistants



March 3 Tim & Cindy Bridinger
 March 10 Tim & Cindy Bridinger
 March 17 Tim & Cindy Bridinger
 March 24 Tim & Cindy Bridinger
 March 31 Tim & Cindy Bridinger

Lectors



March 3 Jeff Shuey
 March 10 Jim Vassar
 March 17 Jeff Shuey
 March 24 Jim Vassar
 March 31 Jeff Shuey

Communion Bread Bakers



March 3 manna
 March 10
 March 17 Gail Foos
 March 24 Susan Bracht
 March 31 manna

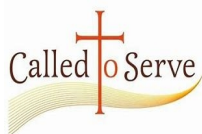
Coffee Brewers



The Java Café is open, with coffee being served Barista style and with snacks available.

Happy Birthday

March 2	March 16
Robin Dickman	Melinda Crawford
March 3	March 20
Barbara Berry	Randy Schwartz
March 4	March 23
Steve Cholodewitsch	Carl Redman
March 7	March 25
Don Arter, Jr.	Katie Cholodewitsch
March 8	Brent Kline
Kelly Cholodewitsch	March 26
March 9	Cleora Byers
Julie Elchert	March 28
March 10	Judy Coppes
Beth Nahm	March 29
March 11	Dave Murray
Nancy Ringle	March 30
March 14	Marisa Heldman
Beth Berglands	March 30
March 15	Kevin Johnson
Luke Jameson	



Serve from Home Opportunity

The GriefShare facilitators are looking for someone who enjoys sending out cards to people letting them know they are remembered and valuable. You would receive a mailing list, a schedule for sending out the cards, and suggested notes to be written into the cards. You would also be supplied with cards and postage. This is an ideal way to keep people going through grief connected with Christ without needing to come into meetings or events.

If this is of interest to you, please contact the church office. You can also talk to Beth or Peggy for more information.

Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Youth Sunday School

March 3- Elisha

March 10- Jonah

March 17- Seder Meal

March 24- Palm Sunday/Holy Week

March 31- Easter/Resurrection of Jesus

Journey Through the Bible
Bible Explorers



The March Mission Baskets we are collecting Peanut Butter for Haiti. So bring in those jars of peanut butter, and tape 50 cents to the top of the jar to cover the cost of shipping the peanut butter to Haiti.



The next **Women of Faith** gathering is scheduled for Wednesday, March 5, 2024, at 7 PM at Family of Faith.

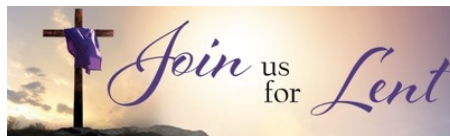


If you need a ride to church on Sundays, can provide a ride, please let Kathy Arnold know. Also, if you can visit any of our shut-ins, please let Kathy know.

Renovation Team Update: During the last month members of the renovation team have been working with the architects to clarify some of the infrastructure characteristics of the current Davis Street facility. There are details to be worked out on the plans in order to stay within budget while getting us out of the mall facility. Construction drawings have begun on portions of the renovation which are the last step before getting permits and putting out bids. Finance options are still being explored.

Facility Update: Several ceiling tiles have been replaced at the mall facility to maintain better insulation and appearance.

Discussions have begun with local companies regarding the heavier equipment needed to remove stumps, rocks, and old cement from the area slated to be the parking lot at the Davis Street location. The plan is to use a stone parking lot but prep it so it can be converted to an asphalt parking lot in the future. There may also be "Sweat Equity" opportunities where we can save some labor costs in this part of the project.



Lenten midweek services will be conducted each Wednesday at 1:30

PM and 7:15 PM. Our theme this year will be the Discomforting Jesus. We will use reader's theater drama to consider events during Holy Week from the point of view of those who would be shocked and offended by what Jesus says or does. Hearing it from a new perspective can lead us to rethink our own assumptions about Jesus and try to see Jesus through the eyes of those who are not disciples.



Grieving a loss?

Find hope and healing after the death of a loved one.

Join us at
GriefShare®

Weekly grief support group

Family of Faith Lutheran Church
870 W. Market Street Unit 15
Tiffin, Ohio 44883
419-448-4880

6:15-8:00 PM - Mondays
February 19, 2024 - May 13, 2024
(Tiffin Mall entrance in back)

Contact: for more information
& to register: 419-448-4880
or go to:
<https://www.griefshare.org/groups/177735>



Facebook



Website

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HOLY WEEK



Sunday, March 24, 2024: **Palm Sunday**

- Worship 10:15 AM @ FoF



Palm Sunday recalls the day Jesus entered Jerusalem. It is the first of a series of an eventful week that ended with the cross and burial before the next week burst forth in resurrection. This same Jesus comes to enter into our lives. Come explore and celebrate the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Thursday, March 28, 2024: **Maundy Thursday**

- Foot Washing 6:15 PM @ FoF

- Seder Meal - Holy Communion & Stripping of the Altar 6:30 PM @ FoF



Foot Washing On Maundy Thursday

The Gospel of John describes how, at the beginning of the Last Supper, Jesus washed the feet of the disciples. In an age of sandals and bare feet, foot washing was an act of service and hospitality to guests. Usually reserved for the lowest of servants or slaves, a bowl of water and a towel was taken to each guest and the dust and dirt wiped from their feet.

Jesus was emphasizing the humility of serving one another to the disciples who were too caught up in their pride and rivalries. Over the years, certain Christian traditions have incorporated foot washing into worship, especially worship conducted on Maundy Thursday.

This year we are offering the option of participating in a foot washing ceremony prior to the rest of our Maundy Thursday worship. If you want to take part, arrive fifteen minutes early (6:15pm) before the Seder Meal.



Seder On Maundy Thursday

The Last Supper was held during Passover. Many believe it was a Seder meal. The Seder meal is a Jewish Traditional meal during which the story of the freeing of the Hebrew slaves in Egypt is retold in story and symbolic foods. We will use a resource from Messianic Jewish sources (Jews who believe in Jesus as the Messiah) to share in the type of meal Jesus had with his disciples the night in which he was betrayed.

Note: This is a ceremonial and symbolic meal so you may want to eat a regular meal before you come. Meal begins at 6:30pm.



Holy Communion & Stripping of the Altar

Immediately after the Seder Meal, we will be holding a communion service to commemorate the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples and stripping of the altar in preparation for Good Friday. If you are not planning to attend Seder the estimated start time for the communion service is 7:30pm

Friday, March 29, 2024: **Good Friday**

- Tenebrae Service 7:30 PM @ FoF



An old Christian tradition is the Service of Light and Shadow, or Tenebrae, held in the darkness of Good Friday evening. This year we will be reading from the Gospel of Matthew about the events leading up to the burial of Jesus in the tomb. The service is divided into short readings each of which is followed by a musical selection, traditional and contemporary, providing time to reflect as each reading brings us closer to the cross and tomb. The worship space is lit only by candles, one of which is extinguished after every reading until, as the tomb slams shut, there is utter darkness. Join us at 7:30pm on March 29th.

Sunday, March 31, 2024: **Easter Sunday**

- The Resurrection of Our Lord 10:15 AM @ FoF



Our Family of Faith will gather to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Please invite family and friends to hear and recall that Easter is so much more than bunnies and eggs.



Vision Team Highlights

● **Pastor's Report** - Pastor Phil: Pastor distributed the Worship Teams at Family of Faith Lutheran Church for 2024 document. There are six ministry teams plus the Volunteers Call to Action Making it Happen headed by Randy. Pastor reviewed each team's function. All decisions are done within the congregation; no one is above us. Each chair person is to gather a team to help. The pastor is not in charge, but is here to help if needed. He reviewed the ministry team coordinator guidelines. He may have a retreat to set goals. Advised not to set several goals and not get any of them done. Focus on one and complete it. If time, go on to the next.

Ministry Goals for 2024: Pastor Phil wants to be more accountable to the Vision Team. He wants to get the pastoral relations team back on track. He needs to complete his sabbatical project. It is about one hundred pages in length and two-thirds of the revisions are done.

Out of Town: He and Peggy will be out of town February 20 thru 22

● **Finance** - Mike Cholodewitsch: Mike distributed the Profit and Loss report for 2024.

All the invoices for the West Davis project have been paid. There is \$308,965 in the Building Fund. Someone has given a stock option worth \$50,000 toward the project. Dan Miller is checking with lenders concerning this stock.

We are getting a new copier this Tuesday and we will be saving \$200 each month.

Mike will get with Randy and have another workshop about having a will, etc.

● **Facilities** - Tom Nahm: Tom and Jim Vassar replaced 30 to 40 rain damaged ceiling tiles. Pastor Phil thanked them for doing that.

● **Worship** - Kathy Falter: Kathy is getting people to read at the Lenten services. Jim Vassar has been very helpful while she learns her new duties.

● **Spiritual Development** - Melissa Jameson: Pastor read Melissa's report: Women of Faith met February 7. There were seven ladies in attendance. It was a lovely evening spent learning about each other. We also discussed how sweet God's love is and how we can love others as ourselves. The next meetings will be Tuesday, March 5, at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday, April 3, at 7:00 p.m.

Youth Sunday School: Linda Grover and Peggy Moerdyk will be focusing on Lent and Easter in the upcoming weeks leading to Easter. They are reviewing

plans for events that will help teach the children about Easter.

Adult Sunday School: we continue to use the "That the World May Know" video series to study God's word.

● **Congregational Care** - Dave Murray: Dave reported that there will be soup, etc. at all of the Lenten services. There will also be a soup cook-off next Sunday, February 18.

● **Outreach** - Karen Kline: Karen reported that more baby bottles for Heartbeat Hope Medical will be delivered this week.

Next month we will be collecting peanut butter for Haiti.

There will be a Loss of a Spouse session at GriefShare February 19.

● **Volunteer Coordination/President's Report** - Randy Schwartz: Randy thanked Kathy and Dave for volunteering to chair their respective committees.

● **Other Business:** Pastor reported that Carl Redman is working on getting a handle on the electrical issues at West Davis.



Deadlines: Bulletins - Thursday each week.

Newsletter - the 25th of each month.

Please be mindful of the deadlines, so that the production of these important materials can be done in a timely fashion.

Contact Information

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/Familyoffaithlcmc

Praying Angels Ministry
Prayer Requests: 419.448.4604
or e-mail: hietgirl@aol.com

Office Hours: The church office is open from 2-5PM, through the week.

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E-mail: pastormoerdyk@gmail.com

Vision Team President: Randy Schwartz