

GOOD NEWS

Volume 37, Number 2

February 2012

Special points of interest:

- February Bible Studies
- Installation of Michael Kipp
- Young Mother's Group
- Lent begins Feb. 22
- Women of Faith
- Youth Activities
- Marriage/Cohabitation Policy Reviewed
- Preschool Registration



“Were You There...”

Are there any moments in history where you said, “I wish I had been there?” What would it have been like to stand at Gettysburg? Be with Washington crossing the Delaware? With Martin Luther at Worms before Emperor Charles in 1521? What about with Jesus in the first century? There was even a hymn written about it entitled, “Were You There”.

During the Wednesdays of Lent we are going to explore how it is that we were, in a sense, with Jesus. Done in reader’s theater we will ask, “Were You There...

- When He Was Betrayed”
- When He Was Denied?”
- When He Was Accused?”
- When He Was Condemned?”
- When He Was Crowned with Thorns?”
- When He Was Crucified?”

The last three topics will be sermons on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. “Were You There... When He Gave the Holy Supper?”

“When He Was Laid in the Tomb?”
“When He Rose from the Grave?”

We will once again have the privilege of hearing again the old, old story of God’s amazing love for sinners. You see, the characters we will hear about are no different than you or me. While 20 centuries may separate us, one thing is a constant—sin is sin. Betrayal, denial, fleeing are all things you and I have done with Jesus also. Yet He accepted these sins and all others and with great resolve went to the cross, giving life and blood to pay the price. By doing so He opened heaven for us.

It all makes the season of Lent a mixed bag of emotions—sorrow over what we did to put Jesus on the cross, joy over the forgiveness and life we have through faith in Him.

Plan on joining your fellow believers as we are asked the question, “Were you there?”

Christian Humor *Light-hearted humor with a spiritual lesson*

Actual label instructions on consumer goods...

- On a bag of Fritos: “You could be a winner! No purchase necessary. Details inside.” (The shoplifter special?)
- On the packaging of an iron: “Do not iron clothes on body.” (But wouldn’t this save me time?)
- On Nytol Sleep Aid: “Warning—may cause drowsiness” (And I’m taking this because...?)
- On Sainsbury’s Peanuts: “Warning—contains nuts” (Talks about a news flash) Labels are designed to protect us from harm. Some would like

to brand the Bible as a dangerous book due to its violent nature—but they don’t understand it. God has given us His Word to warn us of what eternity is like without Him, and that He has provided a way of being saved through Jesus Christ.

You Are Mine!

In love He predestined us for adoption to son-ship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—
Ephesians 1:5

Isaiah 43:1

But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are mine.

On Valentine's Day isn't it fun to dig through a bag of those little candy hearts that have the words printed on them? They say cute little things like "SWEET", "CUTE" or "HUG ME". But the one that I like the best says, "YOU ARE MINE!"

Isaiah 43 gives a beautiful picture of God saying those exact words to His beloved children of Israel.

Even though they had wondered away from Him and He had to discipline them, He declares, "Don't be afraid! I made you and I will take care of you. You are mine!"



Then, as their loving Father, He gives them the promise of His presence, His protection, and His provision through it all.

Ephesians 1:3-14 says that as a believer in Christ, God

the Father does the same thing for you. He created you, He redeemed you, and He calls you to Himself saying, "You are accepted in the Beloved — in essence, "You are Mine!" As a loving Father cares for His children, so He cares for you day after day, week after week, year after year. He loves you! You are His!

Father, what a thrill to hear Your words and to know that I belong to You! Thank you for creating me, for caring for me, for calling me Yours and for the security that brings.

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February Bible Studies

Sunday School

Kids ages 3—grade 8 are invited to grow in God's word every Sunday morning at 9am.

Monday Aft Bible Class

Consider joining this group on Monday's at 2:30pm as they "Weave Christ" into your life, through study of His word. Leader: Sue Smith

Tuesday Morn Study

Class meets Tuesday's at 6:30am at the Chippewa Family Restaurant. Bring your Bible and your appetite (cost of the meal is on your own). Topic: Romans Led by Pastor Plautz.

Junior Instruction (gr.7 & 8)

Class is offered Wednesday's at 7pm (immediately following worship) in the sanctuary. No class February 22—Ash Wed.

High School Bible class

Come Sunday's at 9am to Bible class with leader, Sue Smith. Seek answers to some tough questions on current issues... through the study of His word.

Thursday Morn Bible Class

Come to class Thursday mornings at 9:30am. Topic: Psalms. Enjoy the fellowship. Class resumes Feb. 2.

Thursday Eve Women's Study

Would you like to get into the "heart of Jesus"? Study women in the gospel of Luke on Thursday's at 6pm and find your way! Leader: Laura Hills



Congregational News

Installation of Michael Kipp

The installation of Michael Kipp as our DCE of Youth & Family Ministry is planned for Sunday, Feb. 12 at 10:15am. A celebration dinner will follow in the fellowship hall. Michael and his wife, Andrea have moved here from Norfolk, Nebraska. We are excited to have them start this new venture with us at Faith Lutheran. Join us for this festive time of welcoming them.

Young Mothers Group

Meets on Saturday, Jan. 28 at 8:30am in the narthex here at church. Young mother's of the church are invited to breakfast and sharing time with fellow friends in Faith Lutheran. RSVP to ahelgeson@faithlutheranconf.org by Jan. 27.

Couples Bible Study

Do you feel overscheduled and under connected? Do you wish there was a surefire way to create more meaningful time together each day? Reclaim your time together and all the relational benefits that go with it. Your Time-Starved Marriage isn't about being more productive - it's about being more connected. Join our couples group on Sunday, January 29th, 6:30 p.m., at the home of Bill & Lynn Musser as we begin this new study - it will be time well spent - and spent together! For questions, contact Lynn Musser at 726-1148.

Marriage Policy/Cohabitation

The volunteers of the marriage/cohabitation review team are meeting at church Monday, January 30, 2012 at 6:00 pm. The purpose of the committee is to review/revise the current marriage policy and cohabitation policy. Members of this committee are: Brenda Musser, Bob Normand, Dale & Sharon Volrath and Jane Christian. Please pray for God's guidance as they serve our congregation in this capacity.

Lent begins on February 22

Worship services for Lent will be offered on February 22, 29, March 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 6pm. Lenten soup suppers will be served from 5-6pm. We are avidly seeking groups or individuals who would like to sponsor an evening of serving up this meal. Contact Bea Newman at 715.723.3900 for further details.

Choir Rehearsal

With Lenten season coming soon, now is an excellent time to join Choir. Come February 1 or February 15 at 7pm and share those singing talents!

Youth Group

Come to youth activities on Wednesday's at 7:15pm in the youth room. Whether you are in grades 3-6 or 7-12 we'd love to have you join us.

Youth Event

Saturday, Feb. 11th at 12:30pm
Ice Fishing with Dale Volrath in Chetek.
Potluck Dinner at 12:30pm—a parent or guardian needs to accompany their Youth. It is open to Middle and High School students. For more information and direction RSVP to Dale by Feb 6th at 715-438-2234

Upcoming youth events:

Feb. 25—YMCA Lock-In

Women of Faith

Join the women from our church on Tuesday, February 22 at 8am at the Chippewa Family Restaurant, 1701 Kennedy Road, Chippewa Falls. Program will include a Bible devotion and fellowship. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to join this event.

Preschool Registration

Registration for the 2012-2013 school year has begun! You may register by stopping by the church office weekdays from 8am-4pm. If you would like a brochure with information call 715.723.7754.

Preschool Activities for February

On February 9 & 10 the preschoolers will come to school in their pajamas and be served pancakes here at school. Students are learning about the letters: "O, P, Q & R". On Feb. 13 & 14, Valentine Day parties will give the children plenty of practice in writing their names. Library books are being borrowed and returned for parents to read to their children. There will no school on Feb. 27-March 2 as it's mid-winter break.

2011 O.E. Statements

Your 2011 Offering Envelope statements have been mailed. Please call the church office at 715.723.7754 if you have not received yours yet.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBPAGE!

The weekly Messenger, monthly Newsletter, and church photo directory schedule are available for viewing at www.faithlutheranconf.org.

Valentine Prayer

I said a Valentine prayer for you
And asked the Lord above
To fill your heart and bless
your soul
With the precious gift of
love.



I asked Him for sincere love
The kind that's meant to
stay
Just like the generous love
He gives to you each day.

I prayed for love from family
And from every cherished friend
Then I asked the Lord to give you
His love that knows no end.

-author unknown

**HAPPY
VALENTINE'S DAY!**

February Bible Studies

Happy Birthday!

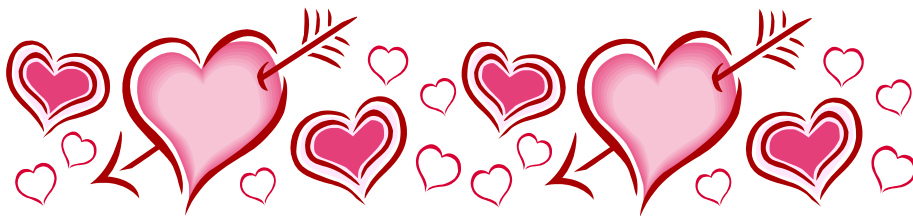
1-Cheryl Brock, Shelby Loebertman, Steven Missfeldt, Carol Rusch, Elaine Schmidt
2-Frank Christian, Judith Hacker, Harold Zempel
3-Claire LaBreck, Sharon LeDuc, Michael Musser, Charlie Wirtz
4-George Brock, Larry Schaller
5-Rosemary Horgen, Scott Loebertman
7-Morgan Chaussee, Justin Jaquish
8-Greg Musser,
9-John Felmlee
10-Paul Wucherpfennig
12-Cortney Grant, Sawyer Nesvacil, Alexander Wing, Valerie Wing,
13-James Isaacson
15-Joseph Pfankuch, Darra Sandvig
16-Carrie Andersen, Jaynee Ingraham, Bernie Wendt

17-Kayla Jepson
18-Skylar Anderson
19-Iris Johnson, Mike LaGesse, Michele Langhough
20-Julie Engel, Kenneth Schimmel
21-Dennis Schroeder
22-Sarah Atchley
23-Alex Dietze, Samantha Plasch
24-Donna Moldenhauer, James Peterson
25-Chad Webb
26-Laura Atchley, Jason Isaacson
27-Lyle Johnson, James Schaller, William Schaller
28-Crystal Moore

Happy Anniversary!

16-Julius & Millie Huth
18-BJ & Darlene Prickett
23-John & Kim Feirn
24-Pat & Susan Smith
25-Brad & Teri Goulet
26-Ed & Kathleen Heidtke
28-Milford & Bea Newan

Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. 1 John 4:7



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