

Christ Episcopal Church, Red Wing, MN

March 2023

### Bishop

The Right Rev. Craig Loya

### Deacon Youth & Young Adult Coordinator

Rev. Vicki Lambert deacon@christchurchrw.org

#### **Music Director**

John Albright albright303@hotmail.com

#### **Sunday School Director**

Heather Flueger-Whalen heather.flueger@gmail.com

#### **Christ Church Vestry 2023**

Sr. Warden: Angela Shefveland Jr. Warden: Kris Blanev Zoe Malinchoc-DeVoe (2024) Hugh Wronski (2024) Elaine Hoisington (2025) Erik Prink (2025) Ron Weitnauer (2026) Brendan Kelly (2026) Teri Van Allen (2026)

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#### **Christ Episcopal Church**

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### Lent

While the word "Lent" has Germanic roots referring to the "lengthening" of days, or springtime, today we observe Lent as a way to look within ourselves and reflect on the spiritual disciplines which help us grow our relationship

Historically, practices included fasting from all food or certain foods for periods of time. In the Gospels, Jesus spends 40 days in the wilderness to from judging fast and pray. (By the way, this was one of the factors that inspired the final length of Lent.) Early Christian practices in the Roman Empire varied from area to area. A common practice was weekly fasting on Wednesday and Friday until mid-afternoon. For a long time, at least in my experience as a Jesus follower and Church goer, Lent has long been associated with giving up something, prohibitions from eating meat on Fridays and other forms of self-denial, where one is supposed to forget oneself and just concentrate on God. Sometimes the idea of Lent is dark and depressing.

I suggest we look at Lent through a different lens this year. I suggest we look at Lent like Advent preparing for the joy of Easter and the resurrection and the expectancy of Christ's second coming. Lent has been traditionally a time of prayer and fasting, turning back to God and restoring our relationship. This is a special time to reflect and

### by Deacon Vicki Lambert

meditate, setting aside the hustle and bustle of busy lifestyles. Let's fast from busy-ness. Let's fast from selfishness. Let's fast others.



Let's make time

to focus on our connection to the divine Creator and to invigorate our prayer life. Now is a perfect time to try new forms of prayer discipline, spend quiet time with God, and set aside the space in your life so that the Spirit of Christ will commune fully with your spirit. As part of your spiritual practices, consider coming to Wednesday evening prayer at 6pm.

Try something new this season in turning back to God as you reflect on the Spirit within. How about you determine to learn one new thing about Jesus? Strive to begin afresh while preparing your heart for the pain of the crucifixion and then experiencing the overwhelming joy of the Easter resurrection.

In Jesus.

Deacon Vicki



### Why do we read our prayers?

It's sometimes said that we Episcopalians, since we read our prayers, don't really know how to pray. (Well, there is a grain of truth there, and one might be wise to have a few memorized...if you are ever put on the spot.) But there are deeper and more powerful reasons why. When asked, Jesus' gave his disciples a format, a structure for prayer. Likewise, our Common Prayers are the product of much

careful thought and cleave to Jesus' model of a structured prayer. There is no bad theology in our prayers, no "issue of the moment", no personal passions, no "sermons with your eyes shut", no rambling on. We pray as a body, in deep respect, with passion for God and our tradition:

> "What we pray is what we believe. What we believe is what we pray."



Christ Episcopal Church, Red Wing, MN

March 2023

### Sacrifices by Kris Blaney

In my last month's article, I mentioned that we are rounding the corner to seeing the snow melt and we start shedding layers. I think mother nature is playing a funny trick on us with this last round of snow. Hopefully we have seen the last of another snowstorm until the leaves fall off the trees. On a positive note, this additional snow will help with putting much needed moisture back into the ground. Spring starts on March 20!!

Lent has begun and it brings opportunities of reflection on what it means to be a Christian. Just as Jesus made sacrifices, have you chosen anything to "give up" or sacrifice during Lent?

I can honestly say that I have not. Does that make me a bad follower of Jesus? I say no. We are all humans, we are flawed, and additionally in my case...will -power challenges.

Here's the best part, Jesus loves us despite our flaws. I think it's harder to give

up something than it is to start something. Habits are solid, we are set in our ways, and we don't like to be inconvenienced. I invite you to think outside the Lenten box for a minute with me. Instead of finding something to "give up" for these 40 days, is there something you can "add" that can be considered a sacrifice? What if...you added an hour to serve to your daily or weekly schedule? Take an hour a day to go see someone homebound or fix a meal for someone that just recent-

ly had surgery or is in a grief moment? Think about it, it's really a win-win situation.

Jesus came to serve, live, and die for our sins. In the words of Jesus (Acts 20:35) "It is more blessed to give than to receive". Jesus continues to give us the

answers on how to be a good Christian, we must be willing to listen, are you? I invite you to think about a sacrifice you can make that will benefit others and share it with the church. Let's celebrate this church community and the great things we do to help others. I'll leave you with an Irish Blessing since that is coming up on March 17<sup>th::</sup>

In Christ,

Kris Blaney,

Jr. Warden

An Irish Blessing

May the sun shine bright
on your windowpane,

May the rainbow be certain
to follow each rain,

May the hand of a friend
always be near you,

And may God fill your heart
with gladness to cheer you.

Happy St. Patrick's Day

It is important to recognize that translations of the Bible can be quite different depending on what "philosophy of translation" was used. Scholars and serious students of scripture may consult 4 or more translations when seeking a deep understanding. For example, the King

James Version could be seen as a translation from one language I don't understand (Greek) into another language I don't understand (Olde English). This graphic shows where the most common translations fall on a spectrum of philosophies. Translations in **red** are those au-

thorized by our church.

Also highly recommended: biblegate-way.com a searchable online bible with over 100 different translations available.

Also, get a good Concordance and a Bible dictionary. Reading a different translation might change everything for you.

sar		NASB					Living Bible
nterline	NKJV NKJV	HCSB	NRSV ESV	NTV	NJB NET	NLT	The Message
							 <del></del>

Formal Equivalence

Literal, Historically distant, archaic language, symbols, idioms

Functional Equivalence
Keeps the meaning, updates to
more modern language, idioms

Free Translation
Paraphrase, more
like commentary



Christ Episcopal Church, Red Wing, MN

March 2023

### From the Altar Guild Concerning the season of Lent

Lent is upon us, even though we were not able to have our Ash Wednesday Service due to Mother Nature. Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent which brings changes to the church and how our Altars will look for the next 6 weeks.

Lent is a season of penitence and preparation. Similar to practices of fasting during this season, we also strip away particularly exuberant elements of our liturgies, including how the sanctuary is prepared.

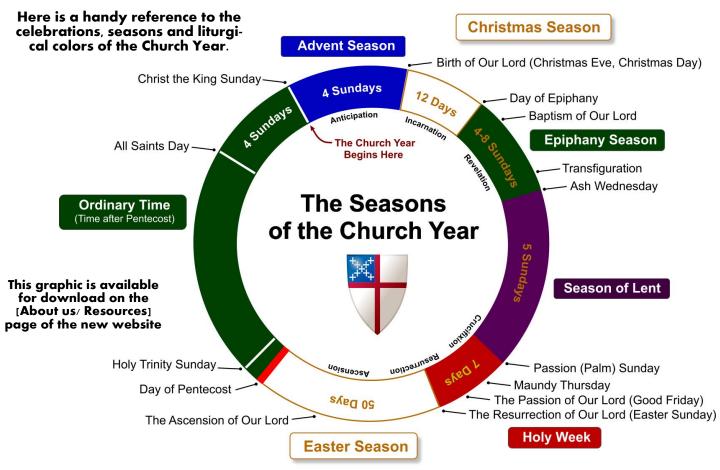
Simplicity is the theme for Lent. Just as

our service becomes more solemn and the nave and the chapel. Also, flowers are focused on penance, (no shouts of Allelu- not displayed during Lent. Simplicity.

The 5-branch candles have been removed shouts of from the church. During Lent only the communion candles will be used in both

ia) the physical aspects of the Altar be- On Good Friday the church becomes even come more modest. Here are some of the more bleak as the Altar is stripped of evechanges you will see for the Lenten Sea- rything as we reflect on how Jesus suffered for us. So our church will look hum-The hangings on the lectern and pulpit bler as we prepared for Christ's crucifixion have changed to purple. Also, the purple but than on Easter Sunday our Church frontal may be placed on the Altar. (Purple comes alive with the celebration of symbolizes penance, sacrifice and prepara- Christ's resurrection with White hangings, Easter Lilies, candles, joyful music and

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!





Christ Episcopal Church, Red Wing, MN

March 2023

### **CGS Kids! News**

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium and curriculum is Montessori based. Dr. Sofia Cavalletti, creator of Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, and Maria Montessori, creator of Montessori, were friends and collaborators. The Montessori method allows the children's natural interests to drive their activities in the classroom.

In February I presented Jesus's parable of the Wolf and Hireling, John 10:3-5, 10-16, to Level II/III. The presentation went OK, and the children appeared to be interested. After we discussed the parable, the children were asked to locate the parable in their bibles, copy the verses and illuminate the page. When that is finished there is free will expression. Yep, free use of the atrium, let hijinks ensue, right? This is when I step back, check on Level I children, the

angels that are my atrium assistants, and if assigned care for the atrium is understood and completed.

Then I stop, amazed once again by the cheerful but not loud buzz of the atrium. How in the world do 9 children ages 3-12 make so little noise and disruption?!?! At the end of CGS, low and behold, Level II/ III race to coffee hour with an entire puppet show created. The puppet show was called How the Criminals Became Good.



Holy smokes! The puppet show is loosely based the parable of the Wolf and Hireling! I asked if the play was about the parable, only 1 child said yes, the rest were a resounding no! But it was! Even though I had felt ho-hum about my presentation and the response from the children they had

picked up on the teaching of the parable!





God is here, we are loved, we will be found and loved, even if we stray.

Shalom.

Heather Flueger-Whalen





According to the eminent bible scholar Dr. Kamal Farah, who is a Coptic Christian, grew up in Nazareth, and whose mother tongue is Aramaic (!), this is the authentic type of bread and the size of fish that Jesus would have used in these miracles.

### Something to ponder:

The disciples were there when Jesus fed 5,000 people with five loaves of bread and two fish.

The disciples were there and saw Jesus feed 4,000 people with seven loaves.

Yet, in a boat with Jesus, in Mark 8, the disciples are fretting about only having one loaf for 13 people.

Hmmmm...





Christ Episcopal Church, Red Wing, MN

March 2023



JESUS...A PRETTY HIP DUDE!

A DAY TO RELAX, RELATE, AND REFLECT

Presented by The Rev. Chelsea Stanton, Deacon Saturday, March 18, 2023 – 9am to 3pm Registration at 830am Light Breakfast and Lunch provided

<u>Click Here to Register</u> or call and leave a message on the office phone



Join in a day of reflection on the actions of Jesus. What do they tell us about God's priorities?

Maybe Jesus healing folks wasn't just a way to signal divinity, but a demonstration that God cares about our bodies, our day-to-day lives, and our connections to

community? What does it mean when Jesus doesn't act in the way we expect?

This will be a day of mutual learning and wondering, along with insights from theologian-activist Ched Myers' classic work on the gospel of Mark, Binding the Strong Man.

Presented by the Rev. Chelsea Stanton

DURING THE PERIOD OF LENT, PLEASE JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 6PM FOR EVENING PRAYER.

LENT IS THE TIME TO GATHER AS THE BODY OF CHRIST FOR REFLECTION AS WE PREPARE FOR THE JOY AND CELEBRATION OF HOLY WEEK.



Christ Church has a long tradition of Easter Lilies for Easter Sunday. Parishioners can sign up for one or more plants in memory of, or in thanksgiving for special ones in their lives. **Easter this year is April 9**. The cost is \$15.00.

<u>Click here to sign up</u>, or sign up on the Bulletin Board

Please sign up to bring treats for coffee hour!
See the bulletin board in the hallway on your way to the Parish Hall



A congregation in New Jersey finally raised the funds to build a new Education Wing adjacent to the church. At the dedication, they hung an appropriate verse of scripture over each door:

#### SENIOR CENTER

Let the days speak, and many years bring wisdom.
Job 32:7

#### YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

O God, from my youth thou hast taught me. Psalm 71

### NURSERY

We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.

I Corinthians 15:51



Christ Episcopal Church, Red Wing, MN

March 2023



Junior Guild has pecans left over from the Fall Bake Sale.

There are 10 bags available (which have been frozen).

Call Marilyn Potswald at (651) 388-8025 to get yours for Easter baking.

Sad news: Family Fare grocery store will be discontinuing the collection of grocery receipts as of March 1, 2023.



Thanks to all of you who saved and turned in receipts over the years. We earned over \$4,000 that went to the Sunday school and youth group.

## Our New Partners in God's Work: Goodhue County Resource Center



Helping families and individuals access resources in our community.



Sunday 12pm—5pm Tuesday 12pm—7pm Friday 10am—3pm

- Housing
- Physical & Mental Health
- Chemical Dependency
- Legal Services
- Child Care
- Eviction Litigation
- Transportation
- Education
- Employment
- Pregnancy
- Food
- Social Services
- And More...

### The Hospitality Team Needs Help!

This team of hard-working folks provides hospitality for a number of events throughout the year. We are a small group and we need help from more parishioners.

The duties are quite simple and we need a list of volunteers who would be willing to provide baked goods, and help with cleanup after events.

Please contact Marm Nihart at (651) 385-9140 and add your name to the list.

Watch for news of our 2023 FIRST SUNDAYS programs. We have some exciting events to announce, and dust off your favorite recipe for the Pot Luck.

## The Community Engagement Team

Would you like to be part of a group that tries to help out those in need in our community? We would love to have you join us. Our next meeting is Saturday, March 11th at 10:30am (our usual 2nd Saturday of the month). Here are the latest needs for our community. Please contribute as you are able.

- Food Shelf: baked beans, toilet paper, and other nonperishable food items. Labeled bins are located in the Parish Hall entryway and in the back of the church. We dropped off 3 large bags in early February, but we need to resupply!
- Coat Shed: men's coats. Please drop off on the bench outside the church office.
- Hope Coalition: diapers and wipes. Labeled bin in the Parish Hall entryway. Thank you

(The church is open on Wednesday and Sunday mornings for you to drop off your contributions).



Christ Episcopal Church, Red Wing, MN

March 2023

### March 2023 Scheduled Events

Tuesday, February 28

4:45pm Altar Guild - Parish Hall

Wednesday, March 1

9:30am Eucharist with Discussion

5:30pm Hospitality Meeting

6:00pm Evening Prayer - Rev Vicki Lambert presiding

6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 2

6:30pm MOPS

Sunday, March 5

8:00am Eucharist Service Rite II - The Rev. Nick Mezacapa

presiding

10:00am Eucharist Rite II - The Rev. Nick Mezacapa presiding

Monday, March 6

12:00pm Junior Guild Meeting

Wednesday, March 8

9:30am Eucharist with Discussion

6:00pm Evening Prayer - Rev Vicki Lambert presiding

6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 9

7:00pm Suicide Prevention Group

Friday, March 10

4:15pm Youth Group

Saturday, March 11

10:30am Community Engagement Team

Sunday, March 12

8:00am Eucharist Service Rite II No Music - The Rev. Nick

Mezacapa presiding

10:00am Eucharist Rite II - The Rev. Nick Mezacapa presiding

Tuesday, March 14

5:30pm Property Committee

Wednesday, March 15

9:30am Eucharist with Discussion

6:00pm Evening Prayer - Rev Vicki Lambert presiding

6:30pm Choir Rehearsal



Thursday, March 16

6:30pm MOPS

Friday, March 17

5:30pm Third Friday Fun for All Ages

Saturday, March 18

ECW Day of Reflection - Rev. Chelsea Stanton, Deacon

Sunday, March 19

8:00am Eucharist Service Rite II No Music - The Rev Chris

Beebe presiding

10:00am Eucharist Rite II - The Rev Chris Beebe presiding

Monday, March 20

5:00pm Vestry Meeting

Wednesday, March 22

9:30am Eucharist with Discussion

6:00pmEvening Prayer - Rev Vicki Lambert presiding

6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 26

Clergy's Discretionary Fund

8:00am Eucharist Service Rite II No Music - The Rev Aaron

Twait presiding

10:00am Eucharist Rite II - The Rev Aaron Twait presiding

Tuesday, March 28

4:45pm Altar Guild - Parish Hall

Wednesday, March 29

9:30am Eucharist with Discussion

6:00pm Evening Prayer - Rev Vicki Lambert presiding

6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

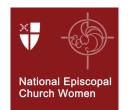
Sunday, April 2 Palm Sunday

8:00am Eucharist Service Rite II No Music - The Rev Colin

Maltbie presiding

10:00am Eucharist Rite II - The Rev Colin Maltbie presiding

### **Mark Your Calendars!**



Day of Reflection

Saturday — March 18, 9am to 3pm

Rev. Chelsea Stanton, ECW

Registration at 8:30am. Light breakfast and lunch provided.



Christ Episcopal Church, Red Wing, MN

March 2023

### **February Birthdays and Anniversaries**

### **Birthdays**

1 Ken Christianson

1 Mary Heckman

3 Stella Johnson

6 Marilyn Grosse

7 Angela Shefveland

8 Alan Smith

11 Anthony Jr. Hemenway

11 Ben Miller

15 Aiden Miller

16 Rex Miller

16 Teresa (Tari) Carpenter

17 Zachary Shefveland

19 Pat Welke

20 Roy Neufeldt

21 Jeanette Wilson

### **Anniversaries**

1 Mike and Pat Martin

8 Jared and Jill Fanslow

25 Keith and Linda Hase

29 Raymond and Becky Schafer

### **Altar Flowers for March**



There are no flowers on the Altars during the Time of Lent.

However...



Please contact Maureen Blue to sign up for a date during Holy Week, or any other time of the year. Phone 651-385-0574 or email: maureenblue108@yahoo.com