

Arlington Hills
Lutheran Church
"LIGHT FROM THE
HEIGHTS"
March 2022



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2ND AT 12:00 P.M.

Midweek Lenten Services of Reflection and Healing

This year, we will be holding weekly services in the Reception Room at AHLC (and on Zoom) on the five Wednesdays of Lent at 12 o'clock noon. The services offer three things: an additional opportunity to reflect on the gospel reading from the previous Sunday, repetition of Psalm 103 and its themes of God's providence, and a time of silence followed by prayer. The intention of these services is to create an oasis of quiet and space for the healing and restoration that we need between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday. Dates are March 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6.

**Minnesota
FoodShare**
March Campaign

Let's fill the ship of food. During the month of March we will be collecting food for the East side food shelf.

CAN WE COLLECT 2022 lbs. of food and monetary contributions? We can do it!

Bring any food contributions on Sunday or Monday thru Thursday. 9-3. Thank you to everyone for their help.

Mitch's Ministerial Musings

Last month, we began our year-long “Shipbuilding” theme with our first month’s focus on Worship. Our theme for this month was inspired by the fact that we will be observing Lent during March. Therefore, our “ship” for this month is “Hardship.” Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which reminds us of our mortality, the ultimate “hardship” of the human condition.

During Lent, many of us will likely give up something to remind us of the ultimate “giving up” that God did in Jesus,

“who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.”

—Philippians 2:5-8

“Hardship” maybe isn’t a strong enough word for the kind of sacrifice Jesus made in coming to earth to model God’s way for the world, but you see the connection.

I have typically given up chocolate for Lent. I’m not a huge chocolate fan, but I do like it. Whenever I deny myself chocolate during Lent, I think what a small hardship that “sacrifice” is compared to all that Jesus gave up for me and you. (If you are considering what to give up for Lent, there is also the option of giving up some of your time, talent, or treasure for the sake of spiritual development or helping others.)

Of course, there are much more significant and more difficult hardships than denying oneself something for Lent. There are tragic and gut-wrenching events that affect us for the rest of our lives. And this is where it is a tremendous comfort to know that the ship, which is the church, which is our Arlington Hills Lutheran Church, is here to offer care, support, and understanding. Our community cannot remove the pain that profound hardship brings, but it can provide comfort and support to share in the burden.

So as you encounter hardship, know that we are here, and as you see others experiencing hardship, I trust you will be there in the name of Jesus to walk with them through their troubles, pain, and suffering.

Grace and peace,

Pr. Mitch Kinsinger

Hardship Please read Luke 18: 1 - 7

The book DANGEROUS PRAYERS contains 50 brief biographies of theologians, authors composers, politicians and ordinary citizens who have made significant contributions to the practice of Christianity. The biographies are accompanied by a portrait and a prayer.

Biographies of Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman appear on pages 172 and 176 respectively of the book. Both of these ladies are commemorated by the Lutheran Church on March 10th. As slaves they had endured much hardship. Ms. Truth was born in in 1797. Her original name was Isabella Baumfree. Following her release from slavery she experienced a dream in which God commanded her to travel as a speaker advocating the abolition of slavery and to escort slaves to freedom. Sojourner Truth was her choice of a name that expressed her obedience to that command. Ms. Truth's prayer, on page 175, asks God for help in assisting escaping slaves to their freedom and contains the words "I will never give you peace until you do." She must have been acquainted with the passage from Luke.

Harriet Tubman was raised as a slave escaping in 1849. She felt compelled to help other slaves escape. She returned to the south nineteen times and escorted at least three hundred slaves to freedom. Her strategy was clever. She began each journey on a Saturday night. The slaves wouldn't be missed until Monday morning and had Sunday to travel with the greatest safety. Ms. Tubman was recognized by fellow abolitionists as have great confidence in God's leadership. Her prayer which she repeated regularly while escorting slaves to freedom was "I'm going to hold steady on You. You've got to see me through." Is that also an example of the influence of the passage from Luke?

On March 17th the Lutheran Church commemorates Bishop Patrick, missionary to Ireland. This is his prayer: "Christ with me. Christ before me. Christ behind me. Christ within me. Christ beneath me. Christ above me. Christ to the right of me. Christ to the left of me. Christ in my lying. Christ in my sitting. Christ in my rising. Christ in the heart of all who think of me. Christ on the tongue of all who speak of me. Christ in the eye of all who see me. Christ in the ear of all who hear me." Pages 152 through 155 of DANGEROUS PRAYERS contain the biography of Patrick, his portrait and prayer. He spent six years beginning at age sixteen in slavery during which he suffered hunger and other hardships.



The biography does not mention Christian influences before his slavery but does state "that in captivity his faith grew, and he sought relief from the Christian God of his fathers." In his early twenties he escaped from captivity and traveled to Ireland as a missionary. He overcame opposition by pagans which dominated that country, He was one of the first missionaries to bring the gospel to a country outside of the Roman empire.

An author or editor of DANGEROUS PRAYERS is not listed in the book. There is no introduction describing the characteristics of a dangerous prayer. There is a lengthy list of references, many of them are websites for further information. DANGEROUS PRYAERS is in the bookshelf near the door of the church office. Please return books as soon as you have finished with them.

Thanks. *Clair*

A Preview of The Book of John, Chapter 19

Hello Bible Study Friends! This month I will write a preview of John Chapter 19 that describes the crucifixion of Christ.

In chapter 18, we see our Lord's humiliation, in chapter 19 we see His suffering. In both chapters Jesus was in full control. Jesus was focused on being a sin offering to take our place for the punishment of sin. In John 19:10 Pilate tells Jesus "Don't you realize that I have the power to release you or to crucify you?" Jesus answers "You have no power at all over me unless

it were given to you from above." Until Jesus said those words "It is finished, and bowed his head and dismissed his spirit", Jesus stayed on that cross until His job of being the Sacrificial Passover Lamb was completed. Jesus was our sin offering.

The Gospels make it very clear that Jesus died during the Jewish Passover. From the time of Moses and the Exodus, the Jews remembered the blood of the lamb on the doorpost of the Jewish homes, where the Angel of Death would "pass over" their homes. During the Passover Holy Days, priests would be given a lamb without a blemish. The priest would place his hands on the lamb and sins would be confessed. Symbolically, the sins passed from the person to the lamb. The lamb without blemish would be killed, and then the carcass was taken outside the camp and burned because it was now unclean. In verse 17 Jesus was "taken out of the city, carrying His Cross". Jesus was crucified outside the Holy City of Jerusalem because he was also counted unclean. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, God's appointed King of Jerusalem (the lineage of King David) was taken out of the Holy City to die. Just like the sacrificial Passover lamb Jesus was bearing the sins of mankind.

John 19 is so much more than just the facts of the crucifixion. There is a lot of symbolism and fulfillment of prophecies from the Old Testament. I believe you'll find this important chapter very enriching.

Hope to see you Monday, March 7th!

Valerie Robertson-Osmundson

651-457-7032

Greetings Collaborators!

March is here, Lent is upon us, and it's the beginning of round four! Over this last round of my time with each congregation, I've had the opportunity to learn with confirmation students, to ponder and to plan with all of you at your annual meetings, and to imagine with many of you the possibilities of our shared ministry work together. It has been a very busy and fruitful new year already... And we're just getting warmed up!

As we move through this next round, I am looking forward to exploring with you what it means to bear the promise of our baptism as beloved children of God both throughout our lives and particularly during the holy season of Lent. As we begin our slow and somber journey toward the cross, we will meet weekly—both virtually *and* in person—to explore the covenant established between us and our God at the baptismal font. I hope you can join me! (*Please see the Lenten Bible Study article in this newsletter for the particulars*).

I am also excited to be continuing my work with the shared ministry group when we meet again at the end of this month. Imagining the amazing possibilities that can come from working together is not only important and invigorating work, it is also the future of the church! And you can be part of it, too! If you'd like to know more, please reach out to me or to one of the pastors about participating in this group.

This Lenten journey can often feel like a difficult one, filled to the brim with solemnity, sacrifice, and silence. But it can also be a time of deep contemplation and an opportunity to reconnect with the foundations of our faith. Just as we spent Advent leaning into the “both/and” of it all, I am excited to experience the fullness of this season with all of you!

-Per



2022 Easter MEMORIAL GARDEN



This year's Easter Memorial Garden will again feature Easter lilies. If you would like to memorialize or honor a loved one, please complete the information as indicated below. Please check your choices below:

Easter flowers (\$15.00) _____ General _____

Payment must accompany this form and be returned to the church office by April 11, 2022

PLEASE PRINT

Name of Donor _____ Envelope #: _____

In Memory of

PLEASE PRINT In Honor of

If you purchased a Easter flower, you may pick it up after the service on April 17th If you would like your flower to be delivered to a shut-in, make a note on this form . Use back if you wish.



Pastoral Acts

Deaths

Jeanne Beneke

Tom Perry

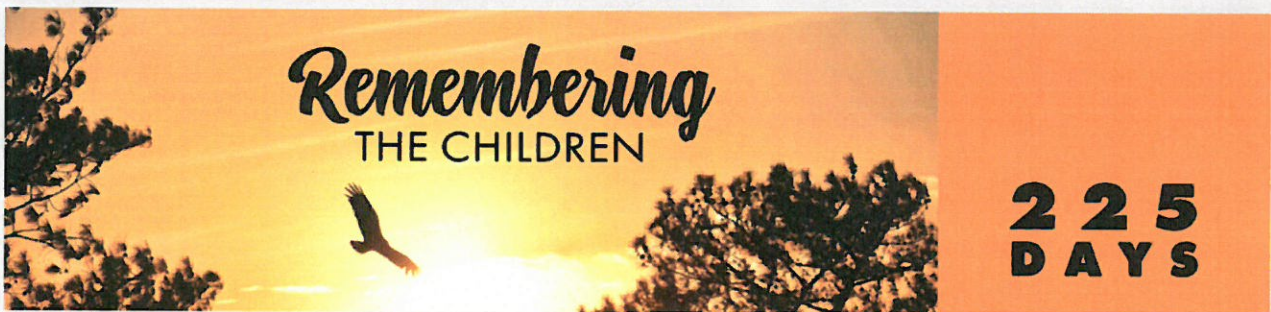
Ruth Hurtley

Ron Melander

Online viewing maybe
done on the church website
at www.ahlc-stp.org































Anyone that doesn't want to
go through Facebook has
this option. Any feedback is
welcome.

Trusting the promise of resurrection through Jesus Christ, I wish to inform you that Ron Melander passed away Friday, February 11, 2022. May the Lord comfort his family and friends as they mourn his passing. Funeral will be at a later date.



The Saint Paul Area Synod is dedicating Oct. 1 to May 14 as a time of remembrance, repentance and resolve to live in equitable partnership with neighbors of Native identity.

MARCH 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27</p>  <p>Transfiguration Sunday 9:30 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion and Live Stream 12:30 PM House of Praise Worship</p>	<p>28</p>  <p><i>I love my church family!</i> 2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>1</p>  <p>Worship Committee Alley Shoppe Clients by appointment 2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>Ash Wednesday Service at 12:00 2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>3</p>  <p>2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>World Day of Prayer 7:00 PM Iglesias Del Nazareno</p>	<p>5</p> 
<p>6</p>  <p>9:30 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion and Live Stream 12:30 PM House of Praise Worship</p>	<p>7</p>  <p>1:00 PM Naomi Circle 2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>8</p>  <p>2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>12:00 PM Midweek Lenten Services of Reflection and Healing 2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>10</p>  <p>Food Donations 2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00 PM Iglesias Del Nazareno</p>	<p>12</p> 
<p>13</p>  <p>9:30 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion and Live Stream 12:30 PM House of Praise Worship</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>15</p>  <p>2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>12:00 PM Midweek Lenten Services of Reflection and Healing 2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>17</p>  <p>2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00 PM Iglesias Del Nazareno</p>	<p>19</p> 
<p>20</p>  <p>9:30 AM Krista Lind, Assistant to the Bishop Special Guest 9:30 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion and Live Stream 12:30 PM House of Praise Worship</p>	<p>21</p>  <p>2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>22</p>  <p>2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>23</p>  <p>12:00 PM Midweek Lenten Services of Reflection and Healing 2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:00 PM Iglesias Del Nazareno</p>	<p>26</p> 
<p>27</p>  <p>9:30 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion and Live Stream 12:30 PM House of Praise Worship</p>	<p>28</p>  <p>2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>29</p>  <p>2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>30</p>  <p>12:00 PM Midweek Lenten Services of Reflection and Healing 2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>31</p>  <p>2:00 PM After school snack program</p>	<p>1</p> <p>7:00 PM Iglesias Del Nazareno</p>	<p>2</p> 